Tailor Lee (15) cut through three Lady Trojan defenders to find space for an open shot.

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

The Bronco boys' basketball team picked up its first win of the season at home Friday with a 42-39 win over Cambridge.

The Lady Broncos also came out on top versus Cambridge, winning 47-31.

Both teams traveled to Southern Valley Saturday and lost to the Eagles.

The boys lost 40-63 and the girls 32-41 to the Class C2 squads.

Broncos find offense

Hayden Pollmann tries to get to the baseline against a Cambridge defender.

The Broncos and Trojans played even through the first quarter as both teams struggled to find the bottom of the basket.

W-P got its first basket of the game on a Jack McGraw put back. McGraw's pass while falling down on the Broncos press break set up a Wes Anderjaska layup and Anderjaska hit another shot to round out W-P's scoring in the first quarter.

Tied at six heading into the second quarter, the cold shooting continued early on. Logan Bischoff scored twice off passes from Anderjaska and McGraw to put the Broncos up 10-6.

After being fouled on an offensive rebound, Bischoff hit one-of-two free throws to open up a five point lead, but Cambridge hit a three-pointer on the other end to cut the lead to two.

Jacob Maris found McGraw open for a basket and Anderjaska hit both ends of one-and-one free throw attempts to make the score 15-9 heading into halftime.

Despite W-P getting on the board first in the second half with a Bischoff free throw, the Trojans scored seven straight to tie the game at 16.

The Broncos' offense sputtered back to life after a three minute drought with two baskets by Bischoff, before shutting down completely for the final three minutes of the quarter. Cambridge, meanwhile, scored 10 points straight over the same time span to take a 26-20 lead heading into the final stanza.

Both teams' offenses finally kicked into gear down the stretch. Cambridge, which hit two three-pointers in the third quarter, added another three-pointer after Bischoff hit a basket to open the quarter.

Down seven, Maris' three-pointer cut the Trojans' lead to 29-25. Another free throw by Bischoff was answered by another Cambridge three-pointer.

Anderjaska brought the Broncos to within one, 32-31, with back-to-back baskets, first a two-pointer, then a three-pointer.

Along with Anderjaska's baskets, two three-pointers by Maris on consecutive possessions turned the Broncos four-point deficit with 4:05 left in the game to a five-point lead with 2:06 remaining.

Cambridge hit both ends of a one-and-one with 1:50 remaining and added a basket off an offensive rebound with 46 seconds left to make the score 37-36.

Anderjaska, McGraw and Bischoff combined to hit five-of-six free throws with less than 30 seconds left to give the Broncos enough of a cushion so that the Trojans' three-pointer at the buzzer didn't matter.

Bischoff and Anderjaska finished in double figures with 15 and 13 points for the Broncos.

Maris added nine points and McGraw five to round out the scoring.

At Southern Valley the following night, Anderjaska hit four three-pointers in the loss to the Eagles.

Anderjaska finished with 16 points to lead the Broncos. Bischoff added 12.

Southern Valley's Dakota Best hit five three pointers in the first quarter as the Eagles jumped out to a 23-10 lead after one quarter.

Despite outscoring Southern Valley 9-5 in the second quarter, the Broncos gave up three three-pointers in the third quarter and 16 total points, while only adding a basket by Connor Kayton.

Much like the Cambridge game, the Broncos got the most offensive production in the fourth quarter as both teams scored 19 points.

Girls get win number 2

Despite a slow start against the Lady Trojans, eight Lady Broncos scored in the win.

It was an ugly first five minutes for the Lady Broncos. W-P could only manage one shot while spotting Cambridge five points early on.

W-P finally got on the board with Cassidy Rathe's hoop at the end of a long possession. Following another two-pointer for the Lady Trojans, the dam broke for the Lady Broncos over the final two minutes of the first quarter.

The Lady Broncos went on a 9-2 run behind seven points by Abbie Fanning. Fanning converted a three-point play and hit two baskets to go along with a bucket by Brianna Einspahr off a pass from Rathe.

Leading 11-9, the Lady Broncos kept the pedal down in the second quarter.

After a put back by Cambridge tied the game, W-P steadily increased its lead. Cambridge could only answer baskets by Fanning, Brooklyn Nordhausen, a basket and later a free throw by Einspahr, with two free throws.

Fanning's basket off an offensive rebound and a three-point play by Einspahr put the Lady Broncos ahead, 23-13, heading into halftime.

Cambridge scored the first three points of the second half, but two free throws by Fanning kept the W-P lead at nine.

Tailor Lee sandwiched a basket between two buckets for the Lady Trojans to make the score 27-20.

Fanning, on the other hand, hit baskets on consecutive possessions with a Cambridge free throw in between.

Leading by 10, Hannah Nordhausen knocked the ball loose from the Trojans and scored a layup, then Sydnee Harchelroad added a long three at the buzzer to give the Lady Broncos a 36-21 lead going into the fourth quarter.

Cambridge scored first in the final quarter on a three-point play and added a basket before Einspahr added baskets on back-to-back possessions.

After Cambridge scored off an offensive rebound, both teams struggled from the free throw line.

Fanning was fouled on a drive to the basket and made the first of two. Both teams missed the front end of one-and-one opportunities on consecutive possessions.

Following a basket by Lee off a pass from B. Nordhausen, Fanning, once again fouled while driving to the basket, missed the front end of a one-and-one. Fanning made up for it, immediately getting a steal and finding Emma Skelton for a bucket.

Another steal by Fanning led to two more free throws, which she converted to give the Lady Broncos a 47-31 win.

Fanning finished with 20 points in the victory. Einspahr added 12. Each also had six rebounds. Fanning had four assists.

Against Southern Valley on Saturday night, Einspahr was the only Lady Bronco to finish with double digit points. Einspahr scored 13 against the Lady Eagles and Skelton added nine points.

Einspahr had five rebounds and Fanning had four boards.

Take out a poor second quarter and W-P hung right with Southern Valley, 30-29. The Lady Broncos could only manage a three-pointer by Skelton in the second quarter and were outscored 11-3.

Coach Betsy Johanson said Southern Valley plays at a different pace than most teams W-P will face.

Upcoming Action

Following a girls only game Tuesday, Dec. 11, against Dundy County-Stratton, the boys' and girls' teams will travel to South Platte Friday and host Hayes Center Saturday.

JV teams busy, too

Much like the varsity girls' team, the JV girls split games with Cambridge and Southern Valley.

The younger girls got 14 points from Einsphar to defeat Cambridge 37-18.

Harchelroad and Nicole Strand each scored six points in 47-20 loss to Southern Valley.

The JV boys lost to both Cambridge and Southern Valley.

The Broncos lost to Cambridge 36-24 in three quarters.

Weylin Davis scored nine points for W-P. Cambridge's Taylor Kubik scored 16 points in his one quarter of action.

The Broncos lost 52-29 to Southern Valley in four quarters.

Lorenzo Cavanaugh scored eight points for the Broncos.