

Lady Saints lose 17-point second half lead

Thursday, 24 January 2013 11:12

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By EARL WATT

Leader & Times

GARDEN CITY — When Tamara Jones sat on the bench for the Lady Broncbusters, Seward was able to have its way.

But when Jones was on the floor, Seward did little to stop her. Jones scored 25 points to help the Lady Broncbusters erase a 17-point second half deficit and defeat the Lady Saints 65-56 Wednesday in Perryman Arena.

Garden City took the lead with 1:26 to play, and the Lady Saints never scored again despite the large lead they enjoyed 15 minutes earlier.

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Seward was the first team to put together a rally after falling behind 7-0 in the first minute-and-a-half.

Seward went on an 11-0 run including a basket and a three-pointer from Madison McLain to take an 11-7 lead.

Kelsey Blair added another three, and Sheree Ryan kicked in a basket to help stretch Seward's lead to 18-12.

But Jones rallied the Lady Broncbusters by scoring the next six points that sparked an 8-0 Garden City run that gave the Lady Broncbusters a 20-18 lead.

Seward had its chances to counter the Lady Broncbuster surge and ran the same play three times in a row, hitting a wide open McLain in the corner for a three-point shot, but all three missed.

Ryan tied the game with 7:38 to play in the first half, and Seward went on a 9-2 run that included a three from Fabiana Monte that gave the Lady Saints a 29-22 lead.

By half, the Lady Saints built a nine-point lead, and Seward started the second half on a tear.

Shanise Brooks, who did not score in the first half, opened the second with a three-pointer.

Monte, Brooks and Ryan all followed with baskets while the Lady Broncbusters went five minutes between the first and second halves without scoring a basket, and Seward jumped out to a 41-24 lead.

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But two Garden City three-pointers and a basket put the lead back to nine with 15:05 to play.

Avery Burns connected on a three-pointer for Seward to push the lead back to 12, but the Saints went on a four-minute scoring drought and committed four straight fouls that allowed Garden City to trim the lead to six. Deni Jacobs added another basket for Garden City, and the lead was cut to four.

Brooks pushed the lead back to six for Seward, and Monte hit a break-away basket and was fouled. She missed the free throw but stretched Seward's lead back to eight with 9:47 to play.

Garden used two three-pointers to cut the lead, and with 3:48 to play Garden City tied the game 52-52.

Jones gave the Broncbusters a 54-53 lead with 3:02 to play, but McLain hit a three to put Seward ahead by two with 2:48 to play.

It was the last points Seward would score. Garden City went on an 11-0 run to take the lead and prevent a Seward rally in the 65-56 loss.

Seward (13-6, 4-2) will host Butler (16-4, 4-2) at 6 p.m. Saturday for homecoming.

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