

Lady Saints provide 'worst effort in 9 years' in 69-44 loss

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By EARL WATT

• Leader & Times

After Seward's loss to Butler last week, coach Toby Wynn was complimentary of his team.

That was not the case after Tuesday's humiliating 69-44 loss to Garden City in th Green House.

"This was a terrible night of basketball for us and our program," Wynn said. "In my nine years associated with the program, this is the worst game I have been associated with. In front of our home fans and home crowd to come out and play with no emotion, no energy, no desire, not step up and make plays, not rise to the occasion — I've never had a team not do that. We have always had teams respond. This is the most disappointing night that I've been a part of."

The Lady Saints competed for most of the first half and had a 14-10 lead with 9:19 to play.

Garden City went on a 9-0 run to take a 19-14 lead, but Seward hit back-to-back baskets to cut the lead to one.

That's when Seward's offense went stone cold, and the Lady Broncbusters made the Lady

Saints pay.

Seward made one basket over the next 11 minutes while the Lady Broncbusters went on a 23-2 run.

When Fabiana Monte made two free throws with 13:44 to play. Seward was down by 20.

Wynn received a technical when a scramble for a loose ball ended with a time out being awarded to Garden City.

Nothing would fall for the Lady Saints to try to spark a rally. The Lady Saints missed 17 of 18 three-point shots including 11 consecutive misses in the first half.

"We needed three point shots to go in," Wynn said. "You would feel like shooting at home in your own gym, you have open shots, you would be able to make shots, but we had nobody rise to the occasion."

The game continued to get physical, and with five minutes to play, Wynn pulled the starters.

"There was no way we were coming back, so we have to win (against Hutchinson)," Wynn said. "I was trying to save some legs, have some sort of energy. Now we are behind the eight ball with Hutch coming in tomorrow night, won't get any easier for us."

Seward is currently in fourth place, the last place to get a first-round home game. But the Lady Saints are only one game ahead of Cloud who will be playing a struggling Barton team tonight while Seward faces first-place Hutch. A Seward loss would most likely force a tie with Cloud, and that could force Seward on the road to open the Region VI tournament.

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