

By EARL WATT

• Leader & Times

By the time Liberal scored its first points Tuesday against Guymon, the Lady redskins were already trailing 9-0.

Liberal played even after that, but the early damage was too much in a 39-28 loss.

The Lady Redskins rallied to narrow the score to 9-7 by the end of the quarter, but Guymon knocked down two three-point shots to spark a 16-6 run before half to take a 25-13 lead.

Liberal got as close as six in the second half but had to foul late, and Guymon was able to maintain their lead for the win.



Megan Besecker had to sit on the bench after getting two fouls in the first three minutes of the game, and Jai Chapman struggled with her first three shots before she was able to get on the scoreboard.

Lady Redskins never recover from slow start

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The Lady Tigers used a zone, but Liberal coach Bill Baird believed his team had the shots they wanted, they just didn't make them.

"We missed a whole bunch of shots," he said. "We got the shots we wanted. Ultimately, when they pack a zone in like that and we get the shots we want, we have to make a few buckets. We had 20 or so that we could have made. We make two of those, and it changes the game."

For the second straight game, Baird didn't believe his team had a good start.

"We don't get out to the start we need to meet the intensity," he said. "They got two and three shots, that gives them more chances. In the second half it was different. We held them to one shot. Ultimately, you have to make shots. We don't have a lot of depth. We get a couple in foul trouble, we have to make decisions to play them or not. I did that. It hurt us last game, not as much this game. We have to keep our hands off and move our feet better, but you have to make shots."

Chapman led the Lady Redskins with 12 points.

"Jai played a heck of a defensive game," Baird said. "She is getting better as a leader. It really hurt her to lose the game. She is a great young lady."

Liberal will host Lawton Friday and Bartlesville Saturday in the Conestoga Classic.