

By JASON EPP Leader & Times



Senior guard Tori Dumler shot like she did not want the season to end. But even 21 points, including six 3-pointers was not enough to upset the No.7 Burlington Elks who prevailed 51-36.

Tyrone looked poised to pull the upset at halftime after a 7-0 run late in the second quarter had put the Lady Bobcats up, 20-16.

“I felt like it was some wasted opportunities,” Lady Bobcats coach Clay Witt said. “If we would have taken care of the ball like we should have we could have had a bigger lead. They had some good guards that pressured us, but we have to show patience on offense in those situations.”

But Burlington scored one more basket before half, then scored the first ten of the second half to go up 28-20 with 4:45 left in the third quarter.

Tyrone struggled with foul trouble throughout, losing one of their top scorers Alondra Avilez just two minutes into the second half when she was called for her fifth and final foul. Rayna Wall (10 points) was just getting going at the offensive end when she was hit with her third, fourth, and fifth fouls in just over four minutes of play and was out of the game a minute into the fourth quarter.

“We had to play good defense if we were going to have a chance, but our foul trouble was because by silly reach fouls and going over the back when we didn’t need to,” Witt said. “We needed to be smarter and save our fouls for better opportunities. It was the story of the second half.”

Dumler hit three of her threes in the fourth quarter to cut Burlington’s lead three times to eight, nine, then ten, but the Lady Bobcats could not close the final gap.

“They kept pulling away and she (Dumler) would hit a three and give us a breath of air to stay in it,” Witt said. “Toward the end we had so many girls out there who just didn’t have enough experience in our pressure defense. I was so proud of the effort.”

Back in the first quarter after Dumler opened the game with a three on Tyrone’s first possession, Burlington went on an 8-0 run as Tyrone committed six turnovers.

Turnovers proved to be a huge problem for the Lady Bobcats who committed 20 over the course of the game.

Dumler scored twice more in the first quarter to cut the lead to two (10-8) with a minute left in the quarter.

Lady Bobcats upset bid falls short in second half

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Wall's second bucket of the game gave the Lady Bobcats their first lead of the game (17-16) with 3:01 left in the half.

Tyrone finishes the season 13-11.