By Pastor Vince Carrig
Sports Writer

Quinton Hite hammered down both ends of a one-and-one from the line with 19 seconds left and led all scorers with 16 points to jockey the Plainsmen to a 47-42 victory over Wauneta-Palisade Friday night in Grant.

Guard Connor Kayton's "trey" and free throw off an alleged jump-step move brought the Broncos toward a photo finish with the Plainsmen at 45-42 with 56 seconds left.

Wauneta-Palisade shot 3-of-6 from the line down the stretch, however, allowing Hite to win a game for the Plainsmen with free throws for the second night in a row.

The Plainsmen have constructed a three-game winning streak and have won six of their last eight games.

Senior guards Hite and Jake Sexson fired off back-to-back three pointers to open the fourth quarter and distance Perkins County from the Broncos, 41-33.

Hite and fellow senior guard Elliot Carlson also went back-to-back in the third quarter, erasing Wauneta-Palisade's only lead of the second half (29-27) and surging the Plainsmen ahead 33-29.

The teams combined to sink seven three-point shots in the second half.

The Plainsmen used long-range strike capability to hold off Broncos junior forward Hayden Pollman's six third quarter points. Hite and Carlson (eight points) reaching from beyond the arc offset two transition baskets and a jumper from the 6-foot-2 Pollman.

Athletic swing forward Logan Bischoff glided to the goal for eight first-half points. The Plainsmen defense forced him to settle for foul shots in the second half, and he and Pollman both finished with 12 points apiece.

Hite's jumper from 14 feet had Perkins County galloping away at 20-13; he finished off his own steal to send the home team to halftime leading 22-17.

Bischoff kept Wauneta-Palisade competitive in the second quarter, scoring on a steal and after contact. Long range strikes from Sexson and Carlson enabled Perkins County to finish the first quarter on a 16-2 roll.

The Plainsmen penetrated right to the basket for five-consecutive field goals in a 13-0 first quarter run. Alex Johnston (eight points) bowled up close for a pair, finishing off a steal from Hite.

The Broncos raced out of the gate to a 7-0 lead on a double-pivot move from Bischoff and a "three" from Pollman.

Next Action

The 7-7 Plainsmen began the South Platte Valley Association conference tournament with a 54-42 win over 0-13 Sutherland (coverage to follow next issue). They drew a rematch with 6-8 Hershey on Friday at 6 p.m. Central Time at Mid Plains Community College's south campus. Hershey took a 38-37 decision from the Plainsmen in Grant on Dec. 1. The winner of that game plays for first place on Saturday at approximately 6 p.m. CT.

Wau-Pa 42, PC 47

Wau-Pa	9	8	16	9—42
Perkins Co.	16	6	13	12—47

Scoring leaders—Perkins County: Hite 3FG (2[x3]) 4/4FT—16; Carlson (2) 2/2—8; Johnston

4—8; Sexson (2) 1/2—7; Poppe 3—6; Wauneta-Palisade: Bischoff 4 4/6—12; Pollman 3 (2)—12; Anderjaska 2 (1)—7; Kayton 1 (1) 1/2—6; McGraw 1 3/4—5.