



By Pastor Vince Carrig

Sports Writer

Senior point guard Jessi Hoffert plunged four consecutive fourth quarter free throws through the net and led all scorers with 14 points to propel the Lady Plainsmen over Hayes Center 61-32 last Thursday night in Grant.

Hoffert mixed in a pull up transition jumper and a three-pointer with 7-of-9 shooting from the line to close Perkins County's regular season with a 13-8 record.

Seniors Michi Prante and Shania Metcalf along with freshman guard Brandie Ross also amassed 12 points apiece.

Prante bolted to the opening right of the goal twice for four points in the fourth quarter, while Metcalf turned and hit an eight-foot jumper to go with her field goals from right under the net.

"I can't say enough good things about the seniors on this team," Lady Plainsmen Head Coach Deanne Bishop said after the game. "Early in the season Jessi [Hoffert], Michi [Prante], Shania [Metcalf] and Matisyn [Humphrey] set team goals of wanting to be known as a squad that hustled and one that approached all facets of the game in a classy manner. Tonight's game was no exception."

Third quarter baskets began to come easily for Perkins County; a loose Lady Cardinals defense made scoring like taking candy from a baby for the home team.

Prante got two open scores right near the net and fed Shania Metcalf an inbound pass for another easy score in the third quarter. Brandie Ross and Courtney McClenahan also put up points with little difficulty as Perkins County doubled up Hayes Center at 38-18 in the third quarter.

A 13-1 second quarter run highlighted by Courtney McClenahan's steal and breakaway basket gave the Lady Plainsmen a commanding 30-11 lead. Jessi Hoffert stroked three of four from the

line in the second quarter as well.

Metcalf and Ross ruled the paint in the first quarter, scoring three field goals apiece from close range.

After forward Kasey Clifford knifed from baseline to basket to cut Perkins County's lead to 10-7, a 6-0 Lady Plainsmen run included a McClenahan steal and breakaway score.

Next Action

The Lady Plainsmen began post-season playoff action with a game against the number-one seeded, 19-3 Hershey Lady Wildcats on Tuesday at McCook High School; look for coverage in the next issue.

Hayes Center 32, P.C. 61

Hayes Center 7 11 6 8—32

Perkins Co. 16 16 15 14—61

Scoring leaders—Perkins County: Hoffert, J. 2FG (1[x3]) 7/9FT—14; Metcalf 6—12; Prante 5 2/2—12; Ross 6—12; McClenahan 4—8; Hayes Center: Clifford 3 (1) 1/2—10; Howard 3 (1)—9; Cox, C. 2 2/4—6; Cox, S. 1 (1) 1/2—6.