Lancers open league play with tight 'W'

Written by NIck Johnson Friday, December 07, 2012 2:13 PM -

By Nick Johnson sports@timesbulletin.com

HARROD — The Lincolnview Lady Lancers brought their collective basketball talents to Allen East High School on Thursday night to take on the Allen East Lady Mustangs for the start of Northwest Conference play for both teams, who each had very good records to start the year. The game was close but a run in the third quarter gave Lincolnview a lead that it wouldn't relinquish, winning a tight 58-55 game.

The Mustangs jumped out to an 11-5 lead in the first quarter due to four points by senior Jadin Salyers. After a timeout, the Lancers got four points from senior Katie Dye to end the first quarter and cut the Allen East lead to 12-9.

The second quarter was back-and-forth for both teams as a Hannah McCleery layup gave the Lancers a 16-14 lead over the Mustangs. Two made foul shots by Carly Clum and a basket by Kaycee Rowe gave the lead back to Allen East at 18-16 with four minutes left in the first half.

After a timeout, the Mustangs went on a 9-1 run to extend their lead over the Lancers with five points coming from senior Morgan Truex to put the score at 27-17.

Just before the end of the first half, Claire Dye buried a three from deep in the corner to cut the Mustang lead to 27-20 at the end of the first half.

Allen East jumped out to the big lead in the first half with eight points from Truex and eight from Salyers but the Lancers were kept in the ball game with six from Katie Dye and five from Kaitlyn Brant.

Brant went to work to start the second half, leading the Lancers on a 11-4 run to bring the score 31-31. Brant dropped eight points in four minutes to rally her Lancers back into the game.

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After a Kaylee Thatcher layup to end the third quarter, Lincolnview had a 35-33 lead that they would not lose for the rest of the game.

The Mustangs got into foul trouble late in the third quarter and early fourth quarter. This allowed the Lancers to control the game as they went to the charity stripe 22 times during the fourth quarter.

Allen East kept it fairly close due to Clum, who had nine points in the fourth. Katie Dye and Julie Thatcher went 6-of-9 and 4-of-6, respectively, from the foul line to give the Lancers a 58-55 victory over the Mustangs.

The leading scorer for the game was the Lancers' Katie Dye with 19 points; Brant also had double-figure points with 15, shooting 7-of-9 from the field.

Allen East had three girls in double figures: Salyers, Clum and Truex with 16, 12 and 11, respectively.

"It was a crazy game - back-and-forth the whole game. Luckily we made enough plays the second half especially the third quarter being down seven at half then going into the fourth quarter being up two that was huge for us. We didn't shoot well from the floor or the foul line but we made enough. We made enough to get the win and that's what it's about," said Lancer coach Dan Williamson.

The Lancers used a big second half to win the game.

"We really didn't do anything different. We started to make some shots and got some turnovers that turned into some easy baskets for us.

But we didn't make any strategic adjustments during half time. We got them in foul trouble and two key girls fouled out where if they are in the game at the end who knows want happens," added Williamson.

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Brant led the Lady Lancers with 19 points, Katie Dye added 15. The Lancers run their record to 3-1 on the season (1-0).

Lincolnview hosts Perry Tuesday.