

By Pastor Vince Carrig

Sports Writer

Tanya Metcalf scored the Lady Plainsmen's first seven points and played great defense to lead Perkins County to a 50-29 win over visiting Ogallala last Tuesday night (Dec.21).

Tanya Metcalf kept moving to the basket and making shots: a short jumper, a roll to the goal and press finish launched Perkins County to a 9-0 lead that grew to 17-4 in the first quarter.

Tanya Metcalf also kept the defensive lane safe for Perkins County, intercepting four passes and pulling down seven rebounds. She hustled back to intercept the last pass of a Lady Indians' fast-break weave to preserve a 17-6 second quarter Perkins County lead.

Tanya Metcalf led all scorers with 10 points. Not far behind, teammates Jessi Day and Shalee Pollard scored eight points apiece. No Ogallala player scored more than five points.

The Lady Plainsmen defense helped turn Ogallala's offense into a turnover machine, with the Lady Indians committing a whopping 33 for the game.



A couple of handfuls of these came from Perkins County intercepting passes, but most fell into the “unforced errors” category—traveling, double-dribbling, and inaccurate passes that strayed out of bounds.

Day earned her points the hard way, repeatedly taking the ball to the rack. She received seven free throws for her pain, and scored on four of those. The senior guard Day also lined in an eight-footer.

Shalee Pollard finished two full-court press breaks for half of her points and also dropped in two free throws.

Despite a huge advantage in ball possession, the Lady Plainsmen headed to halftime ahead by just eight points at 20-12. Savannah Welsh helped free Ogallala from Perkins County’s pressing defense to cut the gap to eight at the second buzzer.

The Lady Plainsmen, however, opened fire in the third quarter, with Shania Metcalf banging home two close shots and Tori Osler canning two free throws. Perkins County scored 15 points in both of the last two quarters to win easily.

The game showed some unusual events, with the ball getting stuck between the goal iron and the backboard to bring play to a halt.

Chasing Tanya Metcalf from opposite angles, Ogallala sophomores Aryn Reimers and Kayleigh Berg collided violently near center court. Reimers did not get up immediately and eventually needed stitches to close a gash in her forehead from the impact.

Reserve freshman guard Carlie Waitley hit two free throws to give Perkins County its biggest lead of the night at 50-27 late in the fourth quarter.

Second-half surge earns Lady Plainsmen win over Ogallala

Ogallala 4 8 9 8—29

Perkins Co. 11 9 15 15—50

Next Action

The 3-4 Lady Plainsmen tried to avenge a 40-36 loss to Kimball earlier in the year in its game on Tuesday in Grant (results not available at press time). The Perkins County girls also played a second game in their invitational tournament on Wednesday.