

### By LaDonna Swedberg

*Sports Writer*

The Wallace Wildcats had another week of back-to-back games as they hosted the South Platte Knights on Thursday and then traveled to Paxton for a Friday night game. The Cats faced two very different teams in the double header which resulted in two very different outcomes.

Wallace got off to a great start in the Thursday night South Platte game putting up 22 first quarter points as they held the Knights to just five points.

Lane Scott got things started for the Wildcats when he found himself all alone under the basket for an easy put in off the glass. John Marquardt then took advantage of South Platte's defensive set up as he started driving a wide open lane putting in five lay ups and one three-pointer. Landon Swedberg added a couple baskets of his own and then drained a three-point buzzer beater to end the quarter.



Things slowed down a bit in the second quarter but the Wildcats continued to roll with a variety of players putting points on the board. Taylor Doell and Dustin Fosbinder each scored from beyond the arc, Jose Arvizo hit a jumper and Marquardt added another two baskets to his total. Wallace ended the first half with a 34 -13 lead.

The second half proved to be much like the first half. The Wildcats continued to find ways to score and their defense made things difficult for South Platte. In the third quarter Doell put down two more three-pointers and Josh Grauerholz, Ethen Scott and Swedberg each added a bucket apiece.

Wallace was able to play every player in the fourth quarter and a number of them contributed to the Wildcat score. Shane Anders came into the game and quickly put in two baskets off rebounds and then he added a layup. Kody Funk and Hayden Woodcox also came off the bench to score for the Cats.

John Marquardt was the leading scorer for Wallace as he put in a season high of 17 points. Landon Swedberg added 10 points and Taylor Doell nine to help the Wildcats defeat the Knights 65-25.

### Wallace vs Paxton

Friday night Wallace was up against a talented Paxton ball club. The experience on the Tiger team was evident early in the game as they went on an 11-0 scoring drive before Lane Scott was able to score a point on a free throw to get the Cats started.

Wallace had a terrible time getting the ball to fall their way and the tough Paxton defense only allowed a basket from Swedberg, Anders and Doell. By the time the first quarter buzzer sounded, Paxton was well in control with a score of 23-7.

Things didn't improve much for the Wildcats in the second quarter. Once again, they were only able to come up with three baskets, one each by Grauerholz, Swedberg and Lane Scott. Add a Marquardt free throw and two from Swedberg, and the Cats improved their second quarter scoring by just two points.

Wallace seemed to make some half-time adjustments because they had a little more success putting points on the board and the defense looked a bit sharper.

Josh Grauerholz lit things up scoring 12 second half points. Taylor Doell contributed a pair of treys and Marquardt, Swedberg and Ethan Scott each added a bucket to account for the 24 Wildcat points scored in the second half. The improvements were not nearly enough for Wallace as Paxton defeated them 79-40

Leading scorers for Wallace were Josh Grauerholz with 14 points and Doell and Swedberg with eight apiece.

### **Next Action**

The Wildcats will have another busy week as they hosted Dundy County/Stratton on Tuesday, Jan.17, then travel to Arthur on Thursday (tonight) and then they will begin RPAC tournament play in Hitchcock County on Saturday.