

By Pastor Vince Carrig

Sports Writer

Senior guard Jessi Hoffert's two three pointers started a 21-3 Lady Plainsmen second quarter run that gave Head Coach Deanne Bishop her first win, a 44-42 victory over the Lady Eagles in Wray, Colo. Friday night.

Jessi Hoffert added another three pointer from the right corner to give Perkins County a 37-32 fourth quarter lead and led her team with 15 points.

"I'd like to think that the time [Jessi] spent working on her shot [over the summer] is paying off now in terms of shooting percentage and her confidence in wanting to take some of those tough shots," Coach Bishop said of her performance.

Senior center Beth Lenz staged a Wray comeback almost entirely by herself, outscoring the Lady Plainsmen team in the third quarter, 12-5. Lenz led all players with 20 points.

Forward Kasse Swisher scored all eight of her points in the fourth quarter; a three pointer soared the Lady Eagles right back into contention at 34-32.

Jessi Hoffert neutralized Swisher's damage with a "three" of her own to open a 37-32 Lady Plainsmen lead.

"I thought that the kids worked hard and showed composure in some tough situations. Ultimately they found a way to win," Coach Bishop said of her first win.

Senior guard Michi Prante volleyed a pass from the lane to an open center Shania Metcalf to sew up Perkins County's win in the opener, making the score 43-35.

Metcalf paced the Lady Plainsmen offense early, scoring the team's first six points. The 6-foot-1 center deposited a backhanded baseline pass from forward Courtney McClenahan and sank a foul-line jumper to prevent the Lady Eagles from taking a huge early lead. Metcalf posted 10 points.

McClenahan scooped in a layup for two of her seven points; forward Matisyn Humphrey scored in transition and hit three free throws for seven points as well.

Freshman Brandie Ross provided solid defense in the game's critical moments, notching a steal and spotting a wide-open Prante for points.

Lady Eagles' forward Katy Peterson put Wray ahead 12-8 in the first quarter with six points on a pair of short jumpers and a pair of free throws.

P.C 44, Wray 42

Perkins Co. 8 19 5 12—44

Wray 12 2 14 14—42

Scoring leaders—Perkins County: Hoffert, J. 3FG (3x3)—15; Metcalf 5—10; Humphrey 2 3/4FT—7; McClenahan 3 1/4—7; Prante 1 3/4—5; Wray: Lenz, B. 5 (1) 7/9—20; Peterson 4 1/3—9; Swisher 1 (2)—8.