

Lady Jackets roll over Bath County behind Smoot's 24

By Josh Shephard
For The Carlisle Mercury

SPORTS EXTRA

CARLISLE—The Lady Jackets had their hands full Monday night but prevailed over Bath County 76-67.

Three Lady Cat starters fouled out of the game.

The first quarter started tight with Bath County matching Nicholas shot for shot.

Nikki Smoot's foul shot 30 seconds into the game kept the Jackets leading by a slim 1-point margin.

However, with two points from Terri Caudill and Shawn Toy each, Bath moved into a three-point lead.

Nikki Smoot, on a 3-point play with 1:33 left in the first, reclaimed the lead for Nicholas County, 18-15.

Christa Auxier and Tary Earlywine continued the roll with layups and by quarter's end, the Jackets were ahead by five, 22-17.

Toy cut the lead to four in the second quarter, but after the score, the game turned to defense, with neither team scoring until the 4:00 mark. Earlywine stepped in to take a Lady Cat pass back to the goal for a 10-point Jacket lead, 30-20.

At 1:56, Kim Denkins went up for the layup three times before sinking the shot and drawing a foul in the bargain. The 3-point play kept the Cats at a distance, but only for a short while.

Toy rifled a jumper from the key and returned at 1:17 to slide in another two.

Nicholas went to a stall game for the remainder of the game, the Jackets clinging to a 6-point, 34-28, lead at halftime.

A technical called on Bath

County brought Nicholas ahead by seven.

Two consecutive technical fouls were called on Nicholas Coach Barbara Kenney. Toy made both foul shots and all but one of the four technical shots, to put Bath County back within catching distance of the Jackets, 37-37.

Jenny Adkins tied the score at 3:14 and though Denkins brought the Jackets ahead, Toy again made the tie.

Earlywine brought in three points off a shot and foul to move the Jackets ahead by three. As Hutton begged foul number four, Adkins aided in taking Bath County to a short-lived 1-point lead, 47-46.

Denkins brought the Jackets back up and by the end of the third, Nicholas had moved ahead, 50-47.

Ce Oldfield brought Bath to within one to start the fourth quarter and the score remained that close until Smoot and Earlywine brought in two apiece for a 56-51 score.

Kristi Barton slugged a strong jumper in from the key. By the middle of the fourth quarter, three of Bath's starters fouled out and the Lady Jackets rolled in for for the victory.

Smoot, high scorer for the evening, set a personal best with 24 points in the game and 16 for 19 on free throws. Earlywine brought in 21 and Hutton had 16.

Kim Denkins tied her earlier record with 20 rebounds and scored 13 points. She also had seven blocked shots.

Toy garnered 22 points for the Lady Cats.

Head Coach Barbara Kenney said the girls were quiet, despite the seasoned players on the Bath County team.



The Carlisle Mercury/Josh Shephard

Generating offense

Kristi Barton drives for a score in a recent Lady Jacket game. The Nicholas girls won games against Madison Southern and Bath County.

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