

Siefker, Beining lead Lady Green past Rockets

Written by Bob Weber

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PANDORA — The Lady Green of Ottoville put their undefeated record, #1 ranking in Division IV and Putnam County League lead on the line when they traveled to Pandora-Gilboa Tuesday night for a showdown with the Lady Rockets.

After a slow start, the Lady Green used its height and experience to come away with a 48-32 win.

The home Rockets came out strong in the first quarter and battled the Lady Green to a 7-7 tie after the first eight minutes of play. The Lady Green, struggling to find its offensive flow, got five of the seven first-quarter points from 6-2 senior Abby Siefker. On the other hand, the Lady Rockets notched their seven points through a deep 3-ball by 5-6 senior Ashley Williams and two points off the bench from both juniors Olivia Maag and Ashley Alt.

Lady Green head coach Dave Kleman knows he needs to prepare for everybody to throw their best shot at his team: "We kind of expect everybody's best shot, especially early. You could tell when they were warming up that they were ready to play. We absorbed the blow in the first quarter and gave a lot back to them compared to what they threw at us the first eight minutes."

The second quarter saw the Lady Green start g on track with their inside-outside game as Siefker connected on five more points, followed by 6-0 senior Rachel Beining with four points. Senior Rachel Turnwald and junior Taylor Mangas buried threes of their own, helping the Lady Green pull away to a 22-13 lead at halftime.

The Lady Rockets struggled from the field in the quarter going 3-12 and only having two girls: Megan Maag with four points and Keri Conine with two; dent the scoring column.

Lady Green junior Tonya Kaufman left the game at the 4:00 mark in the second quarter with an apparent knee injury. She returned to the bench in the second half with her knee wrapped in ice and did not play the entire second half.

The third quarter saw the Lady Green's Beining getting the ball down low, hitting the boards

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aggressively and torching the nets for eight of her 16 points as they extended their lead to 37-20 after three.

The third quarter, much like the second quarter for the Lady Rockets, was a cold shooting performance; they could only garner seven points in the quarter behind 1-6 shooting from inside the arc and 1-8 from 3-point land.

The last eight minutes of play saw both teams emptying their respective benches as the game was out of reach for the Lady Rockets as the Lady Green moved on to push their overall record to 14-0 and 5-0 in the PCL.

Coach Kleman was pleased with his team and especially the play of Beining: "I thought Rachel Beining had a great game for us tonight, as did the whole team. We expect a lot out of our girls every night and that's what makes us tough because we have several girls, as Rachel did tonight for us, that can step up and lead the team on any given night."

The Lady Rockets (8-5, 3-1 PCL) were led in scoring by Williams and Maag with 11 and 9 points, respectively. They were 12-49 (24%) from the field, 5-8 (63%) from the stripe, hauled down 19 rebounds and committed 12 turnovers.

Siefker, the second part of the twin towers, added 16 points for the Lady Green. They shot 43 percent for the game on 18-43 shooting. From the stripe, they added 53 percent on 9-of-17 attempts.

Both teams will be back in action this week as Pandora-Gilboa will host Van Buren Thursday night and Ottoville will host the Minster Wildcats Saturday.

The JV game went to the Lady Green 24-18.

Courtney VonSossan led the Lady Green with seven points.

VARSITY

Ottoville (48)

Rachel Turnwald 0-1-2-5, Nicole Vorst 1-0-0-2, Tonya Kaufman 0-0-0-0, Rachel Beining 7-0-2-16, Abby Siefker 6-0-4-16, Taylor Mangas 0-2-1-7, Kendra Eickholt 1-0-0-2. Totals 15-3-9-48.

Pandora-Gilboa (32)

Ashley Williams 1-3-0-11, Vanessa McCullough 1-0-0-2, Hunter Hermiller 0-0-0-0, Megan Maag 3-0-3-9, Keri Conine 2-0-2-6, Ashley Alt 1-0-0-2, Olivia Maag 1-0-0-2. Totals 9-3-5-32.

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Score by Quarters:

Ottoville 7- 15- 15- 11 — 48

Pand.-Gilboa 7- 6- 7- 12 — 32

JUNIOR VARSITY

Ottoville (24)

Monica Sarka 0-0-1-1, Courtney Von Sossan 2-1-0-7, Haley Landwehr 0-0-0-0, Annie Lindeman 2-0-1-5, Lexie Wannemacher 2-0-1-5, Lindsey Wannemacher 1-0-0-2, Nicole Kramer 0-1-0-3, Chelsey Boecker 0-0-1-1. Totals 7-2-4-24.

Pandora-Gilboa (18)

Breanna Hovest 1-0-0-2, Mackenzie Swary 3-0-1-7, Shea Watkins 3-0-0-6, Karrisa Dorn 0-0-1-1, Serena Maag 1-0-0-2. Totals 8-0-2-18.

Score by Quarters:

Ottoville 3- 9- 5- 7 — 24

Pand.-Gilboa 8- 1- 9- 0 — 18