

Warriors wallop Lakers

By Zach Silva
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Allowing just two points to be scored against them in the first quarter, it was another dominant performance for the North Douglas girls' basketball team last Saturday as they beat Triangle Lake 50-16 at the Elkton Tip-Off Classic.

And while the score was high, for the Warriors it was not about their offense but about the work on the defensive end.

"We've always hung our hats on our ability to play defense, you know, even in years past when maybe we don't press all the time. Play good half court D," said head coach Jeff

Davis.

The Warriors, who finished the game with 18 steals and 27 points off of turnovers, were too much for the Lakers to handle. Stymied by the North Douglas full-court press, Triangle Lake struggled to get into their offense and when they did were rushing their shots.

On offense, North Douglas had a balanced attack that saw 11 players score and none in double digits. Sofia Alcantar led the team with nine points and Abby Whipple added eight.

"I think the personality of this team will be that you have to pass because right now we don't have a lot of great, it's no secret, a lot of great perimeter shooters. That's really a work in progress for us," said Davis.

"Well, I should back up and say, maybe it's not - we've just had great shooters. We had Kalli Frieze and Dani Baker. They're kids that would make 70 percent of those shots when they're left open so maybe that wasn't

well phrased. I think we have, we're going to be better shooters but we're just not at that efficiency yet."

North Douglas shot one-of-three on three-pointers during the game.

As the Warriors got deeper into their bench, there was not an apparent drop-off in skill or effort level as every loose ball, even when they were up 30 points, was met with a diving North Douglas player.

"Well, I think if you're going to be a pressing team you're going to want to have, you're either going to wear down your opponents in a certain area or over the course of 32 minutes just by running fresh bodies at people," said Davis.

On Friday night, the Warriors defeated Mohawk 57-17. Nikki Derrick led the team in points and rebounds with 10 and eight respectively. Whipple added seven points, while Alcantar added six points and 11 steals.

North Douglas is currently ranked second in the state in OSAA's rankings and fourth in the 1A girls coaches poll.

NORTH DOUGLAS continued from B1



North Douglas' Caleb Parks contests Parker Wynn's shot.

At the start of the second quarter Parks hit a three, got a block and then landed another three to give the team a lead. Their advantage grew to five but the game was all tied up at the half.

But with a 10-0 run to start the second half, it was the Lakers, who had just seven players suited up for the game, who never relinquished the lead. Plagued by 14 turnovers on the game and shooting 4-of-12 from the free throw line, North Douglas was able to get the game within three but could not complete the job.

In the fourth quarter, the Laker defense ramped up, especially on Parks who is the engine that makes the North Douglas offense go. With extra defenders thrown his way, the offense stalled and was unable to recover.

"The first loss is always hard. Flying high, starting the season 4-0, first loss is the tough one," said Vancil.

"We have four Ws and one L. You have these pre-season games to get ready for league. League are the games that count. We can go 0-10, and it would suck for non-league, but if we turned it around and got ready for league and played well in league, those are the games that matter and get you into the playoffs and that's our goal. We want to get into the playoffs. Got to learn from it."

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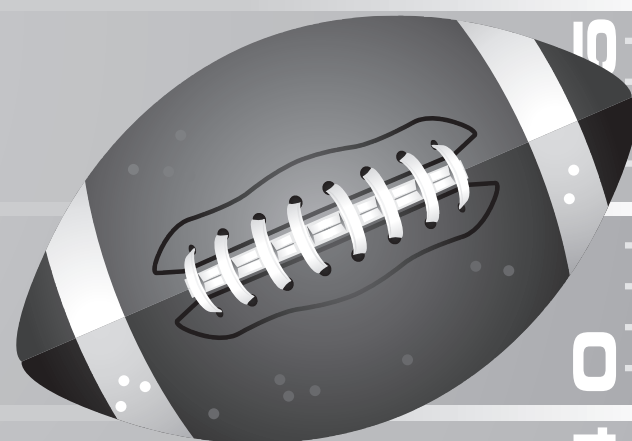
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