

Chiefs pull away for win over Parkway, Lady Chiefs fall drop second straight

NATCHITOCHES, La. - The Natchitoches Central Chiefs and Lady Chiefs split a doubleheader with the Parkway Panthers Friday night at NCHS in district 1-5A basketball action as the Lady Chiefs fell, 47-26, while the Chiefs pulled away for a 69-56 win.

The sixth-ranked Lady Chiefs (18-3, 0-2 in 1-5A) trailed 10-8 at the end of the first quarter but didn't score again until the five-minute mark of the third quarter as they trailed, 21-8. NCHS mounted a rally as they cut the hole to 25-17 but the division I non-select top-ranked Lady Panthers (17-2, 1-0 in 1-5A) would pull away as the Lady Chiefs never got closer than eight the rest of the way.

The fifth-ranked Chiefs (16-4, 2-0 in 1-5A) picked up the win over the 13th-ranked Panthers (11-10, 1-1 in 1-5A) in a game that featured 52 fouls called combined and 60 free throws shot with NCHS being called for 31 of the fouls.

The Chiefs led 31-23 and led by as many as 17 late in the third quarter, 47-30. But the Panthers cut the deficit to 10, 47-37, before the Chiefs pulled away.

Natchitoches Central was led by Jaden Braden with 28 points while Ja'Dell Demery had 12 points and 10 rebounds with Harold Remo chipping in with 11.

NCHS shot 13-for-24 from the charity stripe while Parkway was 27-for-36. The Chiefs dominated the glass outrebounding Parkway, 39-14.

Next up, the Chiefs and Lady Chiefs will play Monday on the road in non-district action against Negreet beginning at 6 p.m. with the Lady Chiefs.