

Lady Chiefs Top 28 bid falls short, lose at Zachary 59-45

ZACHARY, La. - The sixth-ranked Natchitoches Central Lady Chiefs had the lead going into the fourth quarter before the third-ranked Zachary Broncos took control of the game on the way to a 59-45-win Thursday night in the quarterfinals of the Division I non-select playoffs at ZHS.

The Lady Chiefs (29-4) gave the Lady Broncos (24-4) all they could handle as NCHS had a 39-37 lead going into the fourth quarter. NCHS trailed for much of the game but used a 10-0 run at the end of the third quarter to take the lead.

However, the Lady Broncos outscored NCHS 22-6 in the fourth quarter as they pulled away for the win.

The Lady Chiefs were led by freshman Jordan McDaniel with 17 points while Annalise Newton had 10 to pace NCHS. The Lady Broncos were led by Tiarra McPipes with 17 points.

The Lady Chiefs season ends despite winning 10 of their final 12 games which also included an 18-game winning streak early in the season.

While the season fell just short of the goal of a Top 28 appearance, the Lady Chiefs continued the winning tradition as the program has now won 44 playoff games since 2003.

Zachary advances to the semifinals in Hammond, Louisiana at the University Center against an opponent and time to be determined.