

Gallup girls crush Grants, 74-29

Written by By Bernie Dotson For the Sun
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Lady Bengals get big lead, don't look back

The Gallup Lady Bengals blew out Grants Jan. 12 74-29 in a basketball game played at Gallup High School, but couldn't muster the same wherewithal against Cibola 24 hours later.

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The Grants game saw Gallup get out to big leads, before the team went ultimately ahead by a large margin toward the end of the first quarter. Grants never led the entire game.

The Lady Bengals led after the first quarter by the score of 24-4. Grants wasn't able to establish a fluid offensive flow in the first half and that continued into the second half. The Lady Bengals started the game with a 3-point shot by junior guard Amanda Mitchel. Senior guard Lanae Notah followed with another 3-pointer for Gallup.

It was pretty much all downhill from there for Grants until sophomore forward Angel Valdez got the Lady Pirates on the scoreboard with a short jumper.

"Sometimes you have these kinds of games," Grants head coach Jackie Sanchez said. "We missed a lot of shots. We also had a few defensive breakdowns."

The Second Quarter

Grants (6-10) got back in the game at the start of the second quarter, though. Junior forward Kaylee Morris was aggressive on the offensive and defensive boards and hit six quick points. Morris was active inside, at times grabbing her own rebounds off of missed shots.

But every time Morris scored, Gallup was there to respond. Gallup's defense enabled the Bengals to get points off of turnovers.

The Lady Bengals (11-5) led 50-14 at the close of the first half. "We were very precise in the plays we ran on offense and we played tough on defense," Gallup head coach Todd McBroom said. "I was pleased with our effort in the whole game."

A huge part of Grants' problem was handling the red-hot Notah. When the Lady Pirates were able to converge on Notah and prevent a long or short jumper, junior forward Ashley Antone was roving and picking and looking for passes from junior guards Hanna Toledo or Kamryn

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Antone finished with 15 points and Notah scored 18 in the win for Gallup. The Lady Pirates were led by senior guard Devyn Griegom, who scored 9 points.

Gallup lost the next day's game to Cibola High by the score of 42-24. Gallup plays 5A foe Farmington this week at Farmington.

***By Bernie Dotson
For the Sun***