

SPORTS

8th ranked Lady Panthers defense stymies Henderson

By M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@bullardnews.com

HENDERSON - Tenacious defense by the eighth-ranked, Bullard Lady Panthers led to a 60-17, blowout win over Henderson at Lions gymnasium on Saturday afternoon.

The Lady Panthers (2-0), got 21-points and 19 rebounds, from Lamar University signee, Danielle Heithoff, with nine points, leading to a 17-2, first quarter lead for Bullard.

The Lady Lions struggled from the field, going without a field goal until 4:30 of the second quarter, and committed 25 turnovers due to the aggressive, man-to-man pressure from Bullard in the game.

The Lady Panthers welcomed three players from the area champion volleyball team for their first game, and Calli Miller scored seven-points, and snagged six rebounds in two quarters of play.

Ally Covalt nailed a three-pointer, and added 13 points in the win for the Lady Panthers.

Bullard, freshman, Minta Spears knocked down two,

Girls Non-District Basketball at Lions Gymnasium, Henderson
Bullard 60, Henderson 17

BULLARD - Calli Miller, 7; Ashley Ricci, 3; Ally Covalt, 13; Samantha Phillips, 6; Minta Spears, 6; Kayla Welling, 4; Danielle Heithoff, 21.

TOTAL - 60.

HENDERSON - Tasha Neal, 2; Shanice White, 7; Ashley Horton, 6; Brooke Moore, 2.

TOTAL - 17.

THREE-POINT GOALS - B: Spears 2, Phillips 2, Covalt, Heithoff. H: White.

RECORDS - Bullard 2-0.

Henderson 0-2.

NEXT UP - Lindale at Bullard, Tues., 6:30 p.m.

treys, making six assists and four steals. Samantha Phillips went long-distance with two treys also for six-points in the game.

Kayla Wellington added four points and seven rebounds, while Ashley Ricci finished up the scoring with three points, adding six assists, five rebounds, and three steals in the win.

Henderson was held to sin-



Photo by Doc Smith

Freshman point guard Minta Spears feeds a pass inside to Kayla Welling in the 60-17 blowout over Henderson.

gle-digits in every quarter, led by Shanice White with seven-points.

The Lady Panthers will entertain Lindale in a boys-girls doubleheader on Tuesday night

at Panther gymnasium in Bullard. The girls varsity game is set for a 6:30 tipoff.

The boys team will play Fairfield at the conclusion of the girls varsity game.

Eight might not be enough

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@bullardnews.com

BULLARD - The eighth-ranked, Bullard Lady Panthers flexed their muscles and poured it on in the second half to take a 68-49 win over Robert E. Lee on Monday night at the new Panther gymnasium, as Bullard swept all three girls games on opening night.

The Lady Panthers turned up the intensity level and freshman, point guard, Minta Spears led a 15-3, run in the middle of the third period for a big Bullard lead. Spears nailed her fourth of five 3-pointers, and followed that with a steal and a basket to build a 44-29, Bullard advantage.

The Lady Panthers held a narrow two point lead after one period, and found themselves with a 33-27, halftime advantage.

When asked about the difference in the second half, the Lady Panthers head coach, Greg Gay said the girls just picked things up in the second half.

"A little bit more intensity in the second half, and a little bit better job of rebounding," said Gay. "It

was our first game and we're not in shape, I only had two of my posts so we really couldn't get into a rotation but I was pleased with their effort, and a win is a win.

"It was a good effort and it being the first game you expect it to be sloppy," Gay added.

Spears also finished off the 33-27, halftime lead with an NBA, 3-pointer, and added in 10 assists, and five steals for the Lady Panthers in the game.

Lamar University-signee, Danielle Heithoff led all scorers in the game with 26 points, nailing 8-of-10 from the free throw line for the Lady Panthers. Heithoff also grabbed 10 rebounds. Ally Covalt nailed two treys for Bullard to total out with nine points. Kayley Welling chipped in six points for Bullard but led all rebounders in the game with 11.

The Lady Red Raiders got a team-high 14 points from Squirtisha Moore, while Brianna Brooks added eight points in a losing effort.

Bullard won the junior varsity game in a nail-biter, 34-33, and the Lady Panthers made it a sweep with a 52-40 win in freshmen action.

Panthers basketball new era begins

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@bullardpaper.com

The new era of boys Panther hoops kicked in with the hiring of former East Chambers, and a district Coach of the Year, Hank Hargraves just before school started.

The Panthers hosted a herd of Mustangs to a Saturday morning scrimmage, against Martin's Mill and Slocum.

The Panthers beat both teams in the round-robin of quarters played between the trio of teams as Josiah Rosebury showed the advantage of off-season basketball, leading the team in scoring.

Added help from the football team is still a little banged up while most played.

Lance Anding is returning as one of the top point guards in the district and state, saw limited action as he heals from football flair-ups.

The same holds true for a truly banged-up, Charlie Miller. Brandon Beavers, Daniel Howard, R.J. Horton, Nick Rumbelow, and Koby Greene join Anding and Moore in transition to the hardwood and the Hargraves 'Hoops Cleft Notes Sessions.'

Replacing Ryan Tomlin, now at Whitehouse High School, will be tough getting started with a limited off-season program, but the 2008-09 Panthers have the potential to live up to recent successes and then-some once everybody get's healed and on the floor.



Photo by Doc Smith

After only three days of practice, football standouts, Daniel Howard (with the ball), and Koby Greene (in background) work for a shot against Slocum in the three-way scrimmage on Saturday.

"We are blessed to have a lot of great athletes in Bullard and it's nice to get the guys over from football," said Hargraves, now in his ninth-year as a head coach. "All coaches have got their own system initiated with the way they do things, and the football players are just going to have to take in a lot in a hurry and try to get their basketball feet under them at the same time."

As far as what the coach could see in the scrimmage, the first-year Bullard head man said, "I have seen a lot of good things and some we need to work on, especially rebounding the ball.

"Koby (Greene) has been a really nice surprise, but we are going to have to work on our

rebounding at both ends of the floor if we re going to be successful."

Give it some time, and remember, it's the district record that counts.

Hargraves might argue that fact because he is accustomed

to winning.

The Panthers will debut on Tuesday night as they entertain Fairfield. For the complete game story see next week's edition of the Bullard Banner Sports.

Girls Non-District Basketball				
VARSITY		JUNIOR VARSITY		
Bullard 68,	Robert E. Lee 49	Bullard 34,	Robert E. Lee 33	
REL 15	12 9 13 -49	REL 4	7 11 11 -33	
BUL 17	13 17 18 -68	BUL 2	11 13 8 -34	
REL - Squirtisha Moore, 14; Brianna Brooks, 8; Shomaria Roberts, 7; Jasmine Hayter, 3; Tasia Washington, 4; Satcey Malone, 2; Mercedes Mosley, 7; Jasmine Ross, 4. TOTAL - 49.		REL - Chantelle Jones, 9; Chelsea Palmer, 7; Mariah Casarez, 4; Portia Ross, 7; Cierra Davis, 6. TOTAL - 33.		
BUL - Emily Philpott, 2; Ashley Ricci, 4; Abby Covalt, 9; Samantha Phillips, 2; Minta Spears, 19; Kayle Welling, 6; Danielle Heithoff, 26. TOTAL - 68		BUL - Emily Voyles, 9; Felecia Sigman, 8; Heather Anding, 5; Brianna Ellis, 4; Susan Lowrie, 2; Erica DeLaTorre, 6. TOTAL - 34.		
THREE-POINT GOALS - REL: Hayter. BUL: Spears 5, Covalt 2.		THREE-POINT GOALS - REL: Jones. BUL: Sigman 2		
RECORDS - ROBERT e. Lee 0-1. Bullard 1-0.		RECORDS - Robert E. Lee 0-1. Bullard 1-0.		
NEXT UP: Winnsboro at Robert E. Lee, Friday, 7 p.m.		NEXT UP: Winnsboro at Robert E. Lee, Friday, 6 p.m.		
Bullard at Henderson, Saturday, 4 p.m.		Bullard at Mabank Tournament, Thursday, TBA.		

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