

# Lady Cubs drop nail-biter

## Early deficit too much to overcome

The Brownfield Lady Cubs trailed by as many as 14 points more than once in Tuesday night's district 2-2A match-up with the Denver City Lady Mustangs, but fought back to within three as the seconds ticked off the clock.

In the end, a trip to the foul line after a Lady Cub was called for pushing off on an in-bound play with under five seconds, nudged the Lady Mustangs over the top, 48-43, in a nail-biter that could have gone either way down the stretch.

Denver City opened scoring and continued to widen the gap until the first quarter closed with the Lady Cubs trailing the Lady Mustangs, 22-8.

Brownfield fought to overcome the deficit for the rest of the game, outscoring the Lady Mustangs 14-9 in the second frame to narrow the score to 31-22 by halftime.

Both teams scored eight points in the third, to head into the final quarter with Denver City on top, 39-30.

The Lady Cubs kept up their full-court assault on the Lady Mustangs throughout the fourth and shrunk their lead to just three points with 20 seconds on the clock.

With fans on both sides of the court on their feet, Lady Cub Ashley Zambrano got off the tying 3-point shot, which hit the inside of the rim, but

bounced out.

Brownfield's defensive efforts forced Denver City out of bounds on the next possession, giving the Lady Cubs the in-bound with just under five seconds on the clock, but before the ball could be put into play the whistle blew, sending Denver City to the charity stripe.

Two buckets from the free throw line put the game out of reach for the Lady Cubs, who move to 1-1 in District play with the heart-breaking loss.

Sophomore Lady Cub Lexi Cruz led all scorers with 14 points on the night, all from inside the paint.

Tessa Hope, another sophomore, followed Cruz with

eight points, including four free throws.

Sloane Holt and Tabby Casteneda both contributed six points on the night.

Dallas Bruns was good for four, while Zambrano added three and Madison Ellis had two.

The Lady Cubs will be back

in action Friday night when they travel to Lamesa along with the Runnin' Cubs for that squad's District 2-2A opener against the Golden Tornados.



**ABOVE --** Lady Cub Tabby Casteneda passed the ball to a teammate late in the game Tuesday night as the Brownfield varsity fought back from an early deficit to make it close against District 2-2A foe Denver City.



**RIGHT --** Lady Cub Sloane Holt made a move into the lane during the third quarter of Tuesday night's District 2-2A match-up against the Denver City Lady Mustangs.

## Broncos slip past Ropes by 1

The Meadow Broncos traveled across the Terry-Hockley County line to earn a narrow 46-45 victory over their longtime foes, the Ropes Eagles.

The Broncos led the Eagles 14-11 at the end of the first quarter and 25-19 at halftime, but were down 31-32 at the end of the third before they managed to barely outscore them in the fourth.

Head Coach Kyle Johnson attributed the hard-fought win to great teamwork and added that he anticipated it would pump them up for some upcoming tough matches.

"This was a total team effort, probably the best one we've had so far this year with all nine guys on the team contributing," he said. "We've been talking about needing to have a 'big' win, and (Tuesday) we got one. We made some mistakes that we need to correct, but I'm proud how the boys handled adversity and continued to compete to get the win."

Christian Herrera led the Broncos with 14 points, followed by Brandon Flores with nine. The Broncos' season record is 4-1 in district and 11-7 overall.

The Lady Broncos lost 19-42 to Ropes. Individual scores and coach's comments were unavailable as of press time.

Both teams will be back home Friday to face New Home.



**Lady 'Cat Ali Lindsey went up and over a Klondike defender for a shot Tuesday night in Wildcat Gym.**

## Klondike too much for 'Cats

Wellman-Union suffered an unfortunate 32-63 Klondike loss Tuesday night.

Head Coach JoeBob Ussery attributed missed baskets to his team's latest defeat.

"We missed a lot of open shots that were makeable," he said. The 'Cats' deficit steadily grew to 4-13 at the end of the first quarter, 11-28 at halftime and 25-44 going into the fourth.

Scorers included Martin Loewen 4-0 2-2 10, Luis Gonzales 1-1 7, Kirk Martin 2-0 2-4 6, Kirby Bailey 2-0 0-2 4 and Braden Caldwell 1-0 1-4 3.

About a third of the way into their district season, the winless Wildcats, though, are far from ready to give up.

"We need to work on execution of our plays and we need to keep working on fundamentals," Ussery said.

The Lady 'Cats also suffered a loss, 20-33.

They scored only once the entire first half, going into the second 3-15 but coming back quickly in the third quarter to land two lay-ups and some free throws in a single possession. They managed to cut the Lady Cougars' advantage to 17-13 at one point, but were back down by double digits the last five minutes of the game.

"The girls were cold and couldn't find the basket in the first half," said Head Coach Todd Ellis. "We played good defense, but couldn't score."

Sierra Wheatley and Tori Browne contributed six points each for the Lady Wildcats. The team is now 2-4 in district and 4-13 overall.

The Wildcats and Lady 'Cats will be on the road Friday to face O'Donnell.