

By JASON EPP

Leader & Times

FORGAN, Okla., — The Balko Lady Bison suffered their third loss of the season and fell just short of repeating as regional champs, losing to the Shattuck Lady Indians 57-54.

Balko rallied from being down seven in the fourth quarter, cutting the lead to just one with a two minutes left to play.

Jaylee Mays (16 points) hit two of her three 3-pointers in the fourth, and Briana Brown, who scored all nine of her points in the second half, nailed another to help the rally.

But Shattuck's Daniela Galindo proved to be too much. Galindo was 9 of 13 from 2-point range and 9 of 11 at the free throw line for 24 points.

The game was tight throughout with Shattuck holding a slim 15-14 lead at the end of the first. Madison Dearmin assisted in keeping the Lady Bison in contention by scoring half of her 14 points in the first quarter.

The Lady Indians extended their lead by five in the second, and led 29-23 at a half.

Balko outscored Shattuck 11-10 in the third and 20-18 in the fourth, but fell three short of sending the game to overtime.

Balko finished the game 12 of 27 from 2-point range, 8 of 26 from 3-point, and 6 of 8 at the free throw line. Shattuck was 8 of 24 inside the arc, and 9 of 24 outside. The biggest difference was at the line where Shattuck made more free throws (14) than Balko attempted (8).

Balko (23-3) still has a chance to make their third straight appearance at State by winning three straight games at Area. Balko will start by taking on Vici at 1:30 Thursday in Woodward.