

Lady Saints use huge runs to pass Pratt, 77-36

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Bailey Crandall draws two Pratt defenders Wednesday night at the Greenhouse. Crandall came off the bench to turn in her best performance in conference play, scoring 14 points for Seward in a 77-36 win.

Daily Leader photo/Rustin Watt

By Rustin Watt

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The Lady Saints began Wednesday night's game with a stumble but quickly regrouped themselves to sprint to a 77-36 victory over the Lady Beavers of Pratt.

Seward County came out a little slow to begin the game quickly down five 7-2. The Lady Saints tied it up with a little more than 13 minutes to play 7-7, and again at 10-10.

"Early on I was definitely not happy," Lady Saints coach Toby Wynn said. "We weren't efficient, we weren't taking good shots, and we weren't doing what we needed to do with the basketball."

Seward took the lead on an incredible run never to look back. After being tied 10-10, Seward began one of their many runs of the night, the first one a 14-2 run to double the Lady Beavers point total, 24-12.

"There was a point in there where our defense really created some turnovers and we got some offensive baskets in transition," Wynn said. "Rachel Barnes hit a couple threes to get us going, too, which was big."

Immediately following the end of their first run the Lady Saints would go on a 10-3 run to go up 34-15. They continued to pressure on the defensive side of the ball and score in transition and ended the half with a 43-20 lead.

The second half Seward clicked on all cylinders putting up 36 points and only allowing Pratt to score 16. Even though it was a blowout, the Saints' tenacious defense and drive can make it seem as though they are the team that is down.

"Even when we are ahead we want to make sure and stay sharp offensively," Wynn said. "You don't want to just come down and start having careless turnovers or take bad shots. Defensively as well. We want to stay sharp and make sure we're guarding the basketball. You still play to prepare all year long. You're just trying to prepare for the next game and that's something we try and focus on."

Seward finished with a 77-36 conference win, and looked hungry for the upcoming game with Cloud County Saturday night in Concordia.

"We'll be excited to play," Wynn said. "To try and win a conference

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title, you have to win games on the road, and if we can do that against the best team then that will be a big step for us.”

Three Lady Saints ended the game scoring double digits. Leading Seward was Amanda Pierson with 17, Rachel Barnes scored 16, and Bailey Crandall came off the bench to score 14.