

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Chase County turned the tables on Perkins County Tuesday night, winning a 37-36 overtime battle in the SPVA Conference first round tournament game.

The win sends No. 5 seeded Chase County into the semi-finals Friday against top-seeded Hershey at 5 p.m. MT at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte.

Tuesday's win came five days after the Lady Longhorns lost a four-point contest to the Lady Plainsmen in regular season play.

Chase County led most of the game, but the fourth quarter became a nail-biter as Perkins County outscored them 15-12 to tie the game, 32-32, sending it into a four-minute OT.

The Lady Longhorns scored first in OT on a free throw from Morgan Fisher, and another from Valeria Cervantes. Bridget Langin scored a two-pointer with 2:35 to go, putting Chase County up 36-32.

Perkins County hit three straight free throws, pulling within one, 36-35, with less than 30 seconds left.

After Cervantes missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw, Paige Spady rebounded and was fouled, putting Chase County in the double bonus at the line.

With 14 seconds remaining, Spady hit the first of two free throws, but missed the second, pulling her team up 37-35.

Bethany Sorensen was whistled for a foul with eight seconds left. Perkins County's Prante missed the first of two at the line, but sank the second, again pulling Perkins County to within one, 37-36.

Chase County inbounded the ball, when Kristen Jussel was immediately fouled. She missed both free throws, Perkins County rebounded, and called time-out.

After the ball was in-bounded, Sorensen had a key steal and was fouled with less than a second remaining.

She missed both free throws, but Chase County held on to the 37-36 win.

Sorensen was the offensive game leader with 14 points. Others scoring were Spady 7, Cervantes 5, Langin 5, Fisher 4 and Kaycee Bubak 2.

Perkins County was led by Shania Metcalf with 10.

A full recap of the tournament will be in next week's issue.