

The Bandera PROPHECY

December 24, 2019

Bulldogs go 1-3 in second tourney of season

Bandera's varsity Bulldogs played in the San Antonio ISD Basketball Tournament last weekend and ended up with a single win against larger 6A and 5A schools and a defending state championship team.

The Bulldogs opened up with a tough foe, the Antonian Apaches, last year's TAPPS state champions and were beaten by an 81-32 tally.

"From the beginning of the game, we faced a lot of pressure from Antonian's pressure defense and committed many turnovers," coach Carl Lee said.

Bandera's next two opponents were 6A San Antonio Madison and San Antonio Lee.

The game against Madison resulted in a 76-43 loss for the Bulldogs, due to turnovers, both forced and unforced, and falling behind early in the contest, much like the earlier game against Antonian.

Against Lee, the coach said the team went into the game with a different attitude and more patience as they took care of the basketball, made some big stops on defense and forced Lee to make defensive adjustments as his team was able to attack the basket and get to the line throughout the game.

Things were going in the right direction for a Bulldog victory, leading by 8 in the fourth, but Lee rebounding along with some Bulldog defensive errors, allowed the Volunteers to come back and snare a 50-42 win.

Bandera's single win was against El Paso Jefferson, who was also winless up to this point in the tourney. The Bulldogs came out on fire,

taking a 9-0 lead early and cruised to a 41-32 victory.

"This was our best defensive performance of the season. We held them to two points in the first and just allowed eight at the half," Lee said. Even though the Bulldogs went 1-3 in the tourney, Lee was happy with the effort and attitude from his charges.

"Over the course of these past three days, our boys took on some very tough 6A schools and a very good shooting 5A team, who gave us a battle throughout the game. We competed in every game this tournament and did not quit, regardless of the score. These moments of overcoming adversity and not quitting are what makes teams and individuals better and tougher overall, not only in sports, but in life," Lee said.

Bandera will travel to San Antonio Holy Cross on Friday and then head down to the coast to Rockport-Fulton to close out the tournament season after Christmas.

Tournament scoring (ppg):

Trace Decker 14, Liberty Bomer 7, Liam Demarchi 6, Lukas Jackson 5, Tyler Moore 4, Taylor Brown 3, Ryan Perez 2, Solomon MacNeil 2, David Guerra 1, Joseph Kennedy 1, Ethan Langton 1