

Before the West Washington girls' basketball team could blink they were in a whole against Northeast Dubois in the first round of Class A Sectional 61 February 8 in Campbellsburg. They never recovered and fell to the Lady Jeeps 66-45.

The Lady Senators fell behind 8-0, 17-3 and finally trailed 21-3 at the end of the first quarter.

Two reasons led to the deficit – rebounding and the Lady Jeeps hot shooting start.

By the time the lead grew to 17-3, NE Dubois had hit five threes and held an 8-1 advantage in rebounding with five of them coming on the offensive end.

Both the hot shooting and the rebounding continued throughout the game, but the Lady Senators did finally answer the bell.

“They are the best offensive rebounding team I’ve seen all year long,” said WW Head Coach Wade Tomlinson. “That was our number one concern. (Offensive rebounding) is a strength for them and a weakness for us. We spent a lot of time working on that, but we couldn’t do anything with the fact that they are longer and more athletic than us.”

West Washington stayed within 13-15 points for the next quarter and a half, primarily thanks to the hot shooting of junior Tori Packwood.

Packwood nailed two of her five three pointers and sophomore Shana Keller hit a three and had a chance at an old-fashioned three during a run in the second quarter that trimmed the lead to 14, 29-15.

A three by Carrie Miller kept the lead at 15 heading into half time.

In the third, West Washington made a more concerted effort to hit the glass, but the Lady Jeeps continued to hit from both inside and out.

Packwood, who became the schools all-time leading three-point shooter with 76, caught fire late to keep the score closer, but the Lady Senators never offered another threat.

Packwood’s record broke the former mark of 73, which was set by Jenisa Dennison in 2000.

“She shot the ball really well and had a good night,” Tomlinson said.

The Lady Senators finished the year with a 10-11 record with the entire starting lineup set to return next season.

Tomlinson said that why the scoreboard indicated a lopsided loss, he feels like getting the WW program to the level Northeast Dubois is playing at is not out of reach.

“. . . The level NE Dubois is playing at is the level we would like to get to,” he said. “We’ve got to get stronger and a lot of that will happen in the weight room.”