

Freeport girls fall to Shady Side Academy

The Lady Yellowjackets score only 6 baskets in the Class AA game.

**SHADY SIDE ACADEMY 52,
FREEPORT 22**

BY BILL BECKNER JR.
VALLEY NEWS DISPATCH

MUNHALL — Shady Side Academy sophomore guard Raediah Lyles said her team had extra energy against Freeport on Saturday afternoon because, "We ate raisins and almonds before the game."

After their snack, the Lady Indians drove Freeport nuts.

Shady Side Academy held the Lady Yellowjackets to six field goals and easily won their WPIAL Class AA preliminary-round game, 52-22, at Steel Valley.

The Lady Indians (18-7), who reached the semifinals last season before losing to eventual WPIAL champion Greensburg Central Catholic, will face Riverside (20-4) in the first round 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Fox Chapel.

"I think this is a team with a lot of discipline," said Lyles, who had a game-high 14 points, including 12 in the second half. "I mean, we have a lot of fun, but we know we have to go out and play hard every game."

Freeport (7-15) shot 2 for 14 in the opening quarter and fell behind 13-4.

A 3-pointer by senior guard Stephanie Clowes made it 18-9 in the second quarter, and another three by junior guard Jordan Dunn got Freeport to within 23-15 late in the first half.

Shady Side Academy 52, Freeport 22

Freeport — Sam Campbell 1 0 5-10 7, Stephanie Clowes 0 2 0-0 6, Jordana Dunn 1 1 0-1 5, Cassie Smolic 0 0 2-2 2, Kirsten Almqvist 1 0 0-0 2. Totals: 37-13 22.

Shady Side Academy — Raediah Lyles 6 0 2-2 14, Kathy Sheerer 3 3 1-4 12, Kelsey Olander 4 0 3-4 11, Laura Daigneau 1 1 0-0 5, Maria Macpherson 2 0 1-2 5, Tatayanna Cox-Taylor 1 0 1-2 3, Jen Briston 0 0 2-2 2. Totals: 15 10-16 52.

Freeport	4	11	4	3	-	22
Shady Side Academy	13	12	13	14	-	52

"Our defensive play has been a very strong point for us," Shady Side coach Amy Szlachetka said. "It's been a key to our success."

But Shady Side opened the third on an 11-1 run to take a 36-16 lead. Freeport went 7:38 of the second half without a point, and when junior forward Samantha Campbell made a free throw to break that streak with 4:38 left in the game, Shady Side was ahead by 25 (45-20).

"We knew Shady Side was a good team and they were going to put pressure on us," Freeport first-year coach Kevin Smetak said. "We knew we had to get back in transition and limit their second shots, and we didn't do that well enough."

Senior guard Katie Sheerer added 12 points, and junior forward Kelsey Olander chipped in 10 for Shady Side.

Sheerer hit three 3-pointers in the first quarter.

Campbell led Freeport with seven points, with five coming at the foul line.

"Getting to the playoffs is something we haven't done in three years," Smetak said. "This was a good experience for us. We hate to say goodbye to our seniors, but we have a solid nucleus coming back."

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