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## WIAA girls basketball: Zastrow does it all

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JEFFERSON - Those 22 seconds late in the third quarter Thursday night seemed like a lifetime to Jefferson coach Dena Smith.

She never looked at what was happening on the floor in the prep girls basketball game between the Eagles and Lake Mills, instead choosing to watch the Jefferson trainer treat a small cut on the right knee of her senior star, Lin Zastrow.

"We needed her on the floor," a somewhat relieved Smith said. "But it always seems like it takes forever."

Forever can be just 22 seconds when your leading scorer, rebounder, press breaker and best passer is getting treatment. But forever was the only 22 seconds the 6-foot-4 senior missed in the Eagles' 39-26 victory over the L-Cats in a WIAA Division 2 regional semifinal.

Jefferson advances in the Sun Prairie sectional to face Lakeside Lutheran in a regional final Saturday at Watertown.

Just how dominant was the University of Wisconsin recruit? She scored 25 points on 9-for-20 shooting. Her teammates combined to hit five field goals on 19 shots.

Zastrow was at her best in the first quarter, scoring 14 points on 5-for-8 shooting as the Eagles jumped to a 19-7 lead.

The closest Lake Mills (18-4) got was 32-24 with 6 minutes left. But Zastrow scored off an inbounds pass with 5:11 to go to erase any doubt.

"I know I have to do it. I know a lot depends on me," Zastrow said. "But I don't feel like I have to do it all."

"I hope I don't put any extra pressure on myself. But I want to win this, for my teammates and me."

While the Eagles (21-1) sputtered after that, there was Zastrow when she was needed most, either scoring, passing, rebounding or helping break the L-Cats press.

"If you had asked me earlier in the season, I would have said we don't depend on her too much," Smith said. "For whatever reason, the rest of us are in a little bit of a slump right now and we're not playing as well as I had hoped."

"But she takes up the slack."

Lake Mills coach Pat Hauser decided to let Zastrow do her damage and instead try to control her teammates.

"It worked, for the last three quarters," Hauser said. "That first quarter was the whole difference."

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