

West Hancock came out pushing the pace and kept it up throughout. Its reward is a berth in the Class 1A semifinals.

The youthful Eagles, who have no seniors, shot 56.7 percent in building a 41-28 halftime lead and went on to beat North Mahaska 67-54.

Sophomore Rachel Leerar scored 19 of her 23 points in the first half to lead the way in the school's first state tournament appearance since 2012. Her numbers for the half would have stood up well for an entire game -- 8-for-9 shooting, three assists, four steals, a block and no turnovers.

Mahayla Faust added 12 points for West Hancock, Amanda Chizek had 11 points and 13 rebounds and Kennedy Kelly scored 10.

West Hancock's shooting dropped off slightly after halftime, but the Eagles kept safely ahead in hiking their record to 24-1, their only loss coming to Class 3A Osage in their regular-season finale. They rebounded from that to win their regional games by margins of 53, 28 and 32 points.

North Mahaska, which also has no seniors, finishes 15-5. Emma Tyrrel went 5-for-7 from the field and led the Warhawks with 16 points. Jade Hay scored 13 and Cheyenne Shaw had eight.

West Hancock, in the tournament for the third time, advances to a semifinal game at 3:15 p.m. Friday.