

The Natchitoches Central Chiefs' and Lady Chiefs' basketball teams swept a district doubleheader Friday night on the road over Airline with the Chiefs winning 57-55 and the Lady Chiefs dominating 64-32.

The Lady Chiefs (15-8, 4-2 1-5A) took a 23-6 lead after the first quarter and a 32-14 halftime lead as they were never tested Friday night. NCHS was led by Alyssa Chandler with 17 points while Makayla Gallien had 16 points and five steals. Akeelah Wade and Morgan LaCour scored 12 and 10, respectively, while also snatching seven rebounds to help the Lady Chiefs cruise to the win. Airline dropped to 15-9 and 2-4 in district play

The Chiefs (17-3, 3-1 1-5A) had to grind a little bit more for the win as they led by as many as 10 points 46-36 before having to hold off a late rally for Airline. The Chiefs shot 20-for-34 (58 percent) but was just 10-for-17 (58 percent) and committed 17 turnovers. However, NCHS had four players in double figures to help them to a hard-fought road win. Logan Smith led the way with 17 points and 10 rebounds while JaCorien Beard and Ja'Dell Demery both scored 13. Jaden Braden had 10 to help the Chiefs' efforts.

Next up, NCHS will return Tuesday night at home against Benton beginning with the girls' game at 6 p.m.