

The 10th-ranked Natchitoches Central Lady Chiefs open the playoffs Thursday night at home at 6 p.m. against the 23rd ranked Benton Lady Tigers in the first round of the Division I non-select basketball playoffs.

The Lady Chiefs (22-10, 11-3 in district 1-5A) enter the playoffs winning nine of their last 11 games including two wins over Thursday's opponent, Benton (18-15, 7-7 in 1-5A). NCHS defeated Benton at home, 58-32, back on Jan. 22 and then beat the Lady Tigers on Feb. 9th in the regular season finale on the road, 59-46.

The Lady Chiefs will look to Alyssa Christophe, Makayla "Tootie" Gallien and Akeelah Wade to shoulder most of the scoring load. Senior Molly Coleman is the team's sharpshooter while Morgan LaCour has been the team's leading rebounder.

With a victory over Benton, NCHS would play the winner of seventh-ranked Ruston (23-7) and 26th-ranked West Monroe (16-10) Monday night in the second round.

Fan follow the Lady Chiefs with live coverage available at [NCHSChiefs.Live](https://www.nchschiefs.com) or by listening locally on 97.5 KDBH. Live updates will also be available at the Inside Natchitoches Sports facebook page.