

Brady girls move up to No. 7 rating

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Eagles earn three more wins

The Brady girls basketball team jumped from No. 9 in the Class D-2 state ratings by the Omaha World Herald to No. 7 this week with three straight wins as the regular season winds to a close.

The Eagles easily handled Wallace 65-50 on Jan. 29 followed by a 68-41 victory over Hyannis on Friday and a 64-25 win against Maxwell on Saturday.

Coach Lance Arterburn said he thinks this year's team might be even better than last year's Eagles, which were ranked No. 4 this same week in 2012.

"We had a long winning streak last year and we might have gotten a little complacent," he said. "I think this year's team has a little more fire in their bellies."

After a loss to Mullen in the Sandhills Conference final the previous week, Arterburn said the girls were out to prove a point this week.

Senior Dakota Terry scored 19 points to lead the Eagles past Wallace (6-11). Fellow senior Brittney Christophersen and sophomore Autumn Hild added 10 points each.

Against Hyannis, it was junior Valerie Most who led the way with 18 points, followed closely by Terry with 15.

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And again Saturday night against Maxwell, Terry was high scorer with 20 points and Most added 10.

The Eagles held the Wildcats scoreless until 5:30 to play in the second quarter when Maxwell scored its first bucket, followed by a free throw.

“Our offense performed better this week and the defense got back to clicking,” Arterburn said, noting that all 12 players on the varsity roster made it into all three games. We’re having luck with any combination of players we put out there and that not only makes it fun for everyone but it also makes us a pretty hard team to defend.”

The Eagles move to 17-3 on the year and hope to continue their run as they travel to Medicine Valley for their final regular-season game on Friday.

The Raiders shouldn’t pose much of a challenge, Arterburn said, with a 2-15 record.

Then all that remains for Brady is the D2-9 sub-district, which begins Monday at Gothenburg.

The Eagles should have the No. 2 seed behind Loomis and will likely face Bertrand (10-10) in the semi-finals on Tuesday.

Official brackets for the Class D-2 sub-districts will be released with game times on Thursday.