

Eagle girls fall to Mullen 47-37

Written by Deb Egenberger
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Coach says Brady must prepare for the finish.

A lot can happen in a minute.

In four of five losses this season, the Brady girls basketball team has had the opportunity to tie or take the lead with less than a minute on the clock.

“We were still very much in the game with 40 seconds left,” Eagle coach Darren Tobey said of Saturday’s home matchup with Mullen.

But once the Broncos got the upper hand in those final seconds of the game, they never let up. Mullen defeated Brady 47-37.

“The girls battle and they play hard,” Tobey said. “They never give up. We just need to prepare to finish the game and I take some responsibility in that.”

The Eagles played evenly with the pre-season state-rated Broncos through much of the game.

At the end of the first quarter, Brady held an 11-9 advantage and at halftime Mullen was up 21-19.

“We were right there the whole time,” Tobey said.

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Even in the third period when Mullen pulled ahead 33-26, Brady never backed down.

“These girls are going to go hard every play,” Tobey said. “I just think when it came down to it, we panicked and that’s not like this team.”

With under a minute to play, Mullen held a one possession lead with stand-out post player Megan Hoelsing in foul trouble.

Brady went to the line 10 times in the fourth period, putting in seven free throws.

But when it mattered most, it was Brady’s fouls and Mullen’s pressure defense that made the difference.

The Broncos turned a three-point lead into a 10-point win in the last 40 seconds of the game.

“It doesn’t help that we missed seven straight two-foot shots,” Tobey said. “Again, you’ve got to finish.”

Hoelsing led all scorers with 25 points. Brady’s top scorer was Megan Polt with 18 points.

“We’ve got to be able to take a step forward and win those close ones,” Tobey said. “I think we’ll get there but we’ve got to start now.”

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Before Tuesday night's game at Maxwell, the Eagles were 4-5 on the season with a 61-52 loss to Wauneta-Palisade in the Brady Holiday Tournament championship.

Brady travels to Arthur County on Saturday to face the 2-4 Wolves.

MULLEN 47				
BRADY 37				
	FS	FT	PF	PT
BRADY				
D. Terry	0	2-2	0	2
D. Gutherless	0	3-4	4	2
M. Pfeiffer	1	0-0	1	3
S. Scarrow	2	0-0	3	4
J. Schrad	2	2-2	2	6
C. Wolck	1	0-1	1	2
M. Post	0	6-9	4	18
TOTALS	12	12-16	15	37

Three-pointers: Brady, Muggie Pfeiffer; 1, Mullen 1.
Field goals: Brady, 12; Mullen, 20.
Free throws: Brady, 12-16, 67%; Mullen, 5-10, 50%.
Fouls: Brady, 15; Mullen, 17.
Scoring by quarters:
Mullen.....9 12 12 14—47
Brady.....11 8 7 11—37