

Brady girls earn No. 5 seed in SHC

Written by Deb Egenberger
Friday, 22 January 2010 14:31 -



Eagles face Sandhills-Thedford in first round.

Although the Eagles landed in the fifth seed for next week's Sandhills Conference basketball tournament, Brady coach Darren Tobey said the girls go in optimistic about their shot at a title.

"I know it's hard for everybody else to feel as confident as we do with the fifth seed but I like our chances," Tobey said.

The Eagles (7-6) will face Sandhills-Thedford (7-3) in the opening game of the tournament at 4 p.m. MT in Arthur on Monday.

The winner of that game gets a shot at top-seeded, unbeaten and No. 3 state-ranked Stapleton-McPherson County on Thursday.

The girls championship is set for 5:30 p.m. MT in Arthur on Friday. The consolation game will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday.

Brady gets a tournament preview against the Cyclones on Friday but it is not the first time the two teams have met.

The Eagles pushed SMC to the limit during the championship of the Maxwell holiday tournament in December, losing 39-37.

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To beat the Cyclones, Tobey said, the Eagles are going to have to overcome their inconsistent shooting and power up the stingy defense they usually play.

Over the past weekend, Brady's offense saw both ends of the spectrum.

At Hayes Center Friday night, the Eagles missed 14 layups and shot just 13-of-31 from the line in their 37-33 loss to the Cardinals (4-8).

"We shot horrible," Tobey said. "But we learned that even though we didn't have good offense, our defense kept us in the game."

The Eagles led 7-4 after one quarter but gave up 15 points in the second period to trail 19-16 at halftime.

The Eagles never made up the difference.

"It was a frustrating game to say the least," Tobey said. "We took the lead with about four minutes to go and couldn't make a basket down the stretch."

It was the sixth game of the season determined in the final 40 seconds, he said.

Sophomore Megan Polt was the leading scorer with 14 points. She was 10-of-14 from the line.

The Eagles' shooting improved Saturday night against Callaway as Brady downed the Bears 61-42.

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"I don't know what the difference was," Tobey said. "It was almost like we couldn't miss in the first half."

The Eagles jumped to a 12-7 lead in the first quarter and then put 28 points on the board in the second period.

"We only score 33 points in the whole game at Hayes Center and then put up 40 in the first half against Callaway," Tobey said. "That doesn't make any sense."

Brady never allowed Callaway an opportunity to get back in the game, using a trap defense much of the game to frustrate the Bears.

Megan Pfeifer and Polt scored 15 points each to lead the Eagles.

After traveling to Stapleton Friday for a 6 p.m. varsity matchup, the Eagles will host Arnold (0-10) on Saturday.

There will be no reserve game against the Cardinals. Varsity is set to start at approximately 6 p.m.