

Eagle boys hang on tight for win over Arnold

Written by gothenburgtimes

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Brady now 2-12 on the season.

It's been a long five weeks since the last time the Brady boys tasted victory.

They've been in overtime and they've come down to the wire but they haven't notched a win since the third game of the season.

That makes Saturday's 47-45 victory over Arnold taste so much sweeter.

"We've been waiting a long time for this," said coach Rich Britten.

After a one-point loss to Callaway last week and a disappointing 66-54 defeat to Stapleton-McPherson County on Friday, the Eagles took the floor with more determination than ever Saturday night.

"This is a team we knew we could beat," Britten said, despite losing to the Cardinals 53-41 in the Maxwell holiday tournament last month.

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But the Eagles showed the Cardinals something a little different this time.

SMC 66					BRADY 67						
BRADY 54					ARNOLD 45						
BRADY	FG	FT	PF	Rb	PT	BRADY	FG	FT	PF	Rb	PT
C. Artzmann	1-8	4-8	3	8		C. Artzmann	1-7	1-4	3	4	3
C. Blide	4-14	1-2	2	1	12	C. Blide	3-12	3-3	1	1	11
L. Blide	1-2	0-0	0	1	3	E. Callahan	2-2	1-2	0	1	5
E. Callahan	2-2	0-0	1	4		S. Rosen	0-1	1-4	1	3	1
S. Frenell	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	T. Egerberger	3-5	6-6	1	2	12
T. Egerberger	4-6	3-3	5	1	12	N. Montoya	1-1	0-0	2	4	2
A. Lenkwitz	0-0	0-0	1	1	0	K. Pohlman	1-4	1-2	5	0	3
N. Montoya	1-4	2-2	3	6	4	D. Riedel	4-6	0-1	2	9	8
K. Pohlman	4-9	0-0	4	3	8	B. Ward	1-4	0-0	5	4	2
D. Riedel	1-3	1-2	4	3	3						
B. Ward	0-7	1-2	7	1							
TOTALS	18-57	12-18	26	27	54	TOTALS	16-42	12-22	28	28	47

“We usually play man-to-man defense,” Britten said. “We took a chance that they wouldn’t shoot well from the outside and we played a zone. For the most part, it worked.”

It was a back-and-forth battle in the first period with the score at 4-4 midway through the quarter and Brady leading 5-4 at the end.

The teams kept it tight through the first part of the second period as well, with the score knotted 11-11 with five minutes to play in the half.

A pair of quick shots by Brady junior Dalton Riedel sparked the Eagles and the momentum carried Brady to a 30-22 advantage at halftime.

“We were much more aggressive this time,” Britten said. “We did a much better job of attacking the basket.”

The Eagles struggled in their usual third-quarter slump, scoring only six points. At the same time, though, Brady held Arnold to 10, maintaining a 36-32 advantage heading into the fourth period.

The difference in the game, Britten said, came at the free throw line.

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“The last time we played Arnold, they beat us at the line,” Britten said.

Not this time.

Brady made 13-of-22 free throws for a mediocre 59%. But when they counted most, the shots were there.

The Eagles made 7-of-12 free throws in the fourth quarter to help stymie an Arnold comeback attempt.

Sophomore Tyler Egenberger was the leading scorer with 12 points. He was 6-for-6 from the free throw line.

Senior Corbin Blede added 11 points while junior Dalton Riedel pulled down nine rebounds.

Against SMC Friday night, Egenberger was also the high scorer in the losing cause with 13 points. Blede scored 12 and Brad Ward had seven rebounds.

The Eagles are now 2-12 heading into the Sandhills Conference tournament.

Brady played Cody-Kilgore late Tuesday night in Arthur.

The Eagles lost to the Cowboys 58-51 in the second game of the season.

Britten said a renewed sense of confidence for several of the boys has the team feeling good about it's chances.

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“Had it not been for a lousy third quarter last time, I think we could have beat them,” Britten said.

Look for complete SHC coverage in next week’s edition.