

Eagle win goes down to wire

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Late three-pointer lifts Brady over Med Valley.

Brady was a mere 4-of-17 from behind the three-point line Friday night against Medicine Valley.

Luckily for the Eagles, one of those four long shots went in with 6.8 seconds left on the clock to give Brady a 47-44 victory over the Raiders.

“We’ve been down that road several times this season,” said coach Rich Britten. “It’s nice to come out on top of one of them.”

The Eagles led 14-10 after one quarter and were ahead by as many as seven points in the second period.

A pair of missed free throws and the next thing Britten knew the Eagles were fighting to keep it close.

“They went on an 11-point run in the second quarter,” Britten said of the Raiders. “We had to battle back and the kids did a good job of keeping their heads.”

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At halftime, Brady trailed 26-24.

BRADY 42		MEDICINE VALLEY 44	
BRADY	Fg FT Fb Pt	BRADY	Fg FT Fb Pt
C. Artburn	2-11 0-2 1 4 6	C. Artburn	2-11 0-2 1 4 6
C. Blode	5-5 0-2 0 3 7	C. Blode	5-5 0-2 0 3 7
E. Callahan	1-4 0-0 0 0 2	E. Callahan	1-4 0-0 0 0 2
S. Finelli	0-1 0-0 0 0 0	S. Finelli	0-1 0-0 0 0 0
T. Egenberger	6-11 3-4 3 6 12	T. Egenberger	6-11 3-4 3 6 12
M. Montoya	3-4 0-0 1 2 6	M. Montoya	3-4 0-0 1 2 6
K. Pahlman	0-4 0-0 2 2 0	K. Pahlman	0-4 0-0 2 2 0
D. Rudek	2-2 0-0 1 0 4	D. Rudek	2-2 0-0 1 0 4
B. Ward	4-7 2-3 1 5 10	B. Ward	4-7 2-3 1 5 10
TOTALS	19-50 5-9 12 23 47	TOTALS	19-50 5-9 12 23 47
Three-pointers: Brady, Christian Artburn, 2; Corbin Blode, 1; Tyler Egenberger, 1; Medicine Valley, 2.			
Field goals: Brady, 19-50; 38%; Medicine Valley, 19-50; 37%.			
Free throws: Brady, 5-9; 56%; Medicine Valley, 9-9; 100%.			
Fouls: Brady, 12; Medicine Valley, 13.			
Rebounds: Brady, 9 offensive, 14 defensive, 23 total; Medicine Valley, 17 offensive, 21 defensive, 38 total.			
Turnovers: Brady, 8; Medicine Valley, 13.			
Scoring by quarters:			
Medicine Valley..... 10 10 12 6-44			
Brady..... 14 10 12 11-47			

“We did a lot of good things,” the coach said. “We just had too many shots in the first half that rattled around and fell out.”

The lead went back and forth through the third quarter and much of the fourth.

With just over three minutes to play Brady led 41-40 and when there were 47 seconds left on the clock, the Eagles had a 43-42 advantage.

Brady sophomore Tyler Egenberger was fouled as the Eagles deliberately passed the ball around the perimeter.

He missed the front end of a one-and-one but a Raider lane violation gave him another chance.

Egenberger hit the next free throw attempt but then missed giving Medicine Valley an opportunity to tie.

Raider freshman Lucas Gleisberg got a shot to fall with 20 seconds left on the clock to tie the score 44-44.

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"I think the kids truly believed they could win," Britten said of the attitude during the final time-out.

With Medicine Valley in full-court pressure, Brady quickly worked to get the ball up the court.

Egenberger caught the ball just off the left baseline, faked a drive and sank a three-pointer with 6.8 seconds left to put Brady up 47-44.

Medicine Valley called a time-out to set up a play and Gleisberg got a three-point shot off but it didn't fall.

Egenberger finished with 12 points and six rebounds to lead the Eagles. Brad Ward added 10 points and five rebounds.

"We didn't do a lot of bad things," Britten said. "We're averaging between 20 and 21 turnovers a game and we only had eight Friday night."

Hopefully, he said, the win offers some momentum as the season draws to a close.

Brady moves to 4-14 with one regular-season game remaining. The Eagles host 14-6 Sandhills-Thedford on Friday.

The D1-11 sub-district begins Monday in North Platte. Teams involved are Brady, Callaway, Eustis-Farnam, Maxwell and Wauneta-Palisade.

Brackets will not be released until later this week but Britten is confident Brady will be the No. 5 seed and play Callaway (10-8) in the opening round Monday.

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The Eagles fell to the Bears 44-43 in mid-January.

“Callaway is a team we know we can play with,” Britten said. “We’re looking forward to the rematch.”