

Eagles suffer disappointing loss

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Season ends with 43-22 defeat by Callaway in sub-district.

Brady boys basketball coach Rich Britten hoped to throw Callaway off Monday night by adding a wrinkle to the Eagles' offense.

It might have worked, he said, if Brady had been able to execute it even one time.

Instead, the Eagles had to struggle for every point they got in the first round of the D1-11 sub-district at North Platte, falling to the Bears 43-22.

"It's not the way you want to see the season end," Britten said. "We didn't play well at all and I've been scratching my head trying to figure out why."

The Eagles managed only two points in the first quarter, a pair of free throws by sophomore Tyler Egenberger on Brady's first possession of the game.

The Eagles didn't score again until a layup by junior Christian Arterburn sparked a comeback effort.

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Brady held Callaway to three points in the second period while making a run.

In the final two minutes of the first half, Nathan Montoya made a basket and Egenberger drained a three-pointer to pull Brady within four points 13-9.

Then with 13 seconds left on the clock, Arterburn knocked down a pull-up jumper to make it a two-point game at 13-11.

“We put ourselves back in the game in the second quarter,” Britten said, “because our defense stepped up and we made a few plays. Unfortunately that didn’t carry over into the third quarter.”

The Eagles struggled again in the third period as Callaway went on a 5-0 run to set the tone for the second half.

The Bears’ advantage hit double digits two minutes into the fourth period and the Eagles never recovered.

Egenberger led Brady with eight points.

“It wasn’t the same team we put on the floor against Sand-hills-Thedford on Friday,” Britten said.

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The Knights defeated the Eagles 80-56 but it wasn't the kind of stomping that the score might indicate.

"We played right with them all night until right at the end," Britten said of the 15-6 Knights. "They had some amazing shots go in that normally wouldn't fall. They're a good team."

Still, the Eagles shot one of their best field goals percentages all season, hitting 20-of-47 for 43%.

Egenberger led Brady with 13 points. Kyle Pohlman added 12 points and Brad Ward offered 11.

The Eagles end the year with a 4-16 record.

"It's not what we planned, not what we wanted," Britten said of the losing season. "Now we have to start looking at next year. The kids have to decide what they're willing to do to change things."

SANDHILLS-THETFORD 80.

BRADY	FG	FT	PF	RA	PT
C. Arterburn	1-6	2-3	1	3	4
C. Bleds	3-7	0-0	1	1	6
L. Bleds	0-0	0-0	2	4	0
E. Callahan	0-0	0-0	1	3	0
S. Finell	1-3	0-0	1	0	2
T. Egenberger	3-6	6-6	2	3	13
A. Luskwitz	0-1	0-0	0	0	0
N. Montoya	3-5	0-0	0	1	6
K. Pohlman	4-9	1-4	0	2	12
D. Polt	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
D. Reed	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
B. Ward	5-7	1-2	5	11	11
TOTALS	20-47	16-15	14	24	56

Three-pointers: Brady Kyle Pohlman, 3; Corbin Bleds, 2; Tyler Egenberger, 1; Sandhills-Thetford, 8.
Field goals: Brady, 20-47, 43%; Sandhills-Thetford, 21-40, 49%.
Free throws: Brady, 16-15, 67%; Sandhills-Thetford, 6-12, 67%.
Fouls: Brady, 14; Sandhills-Thetford, 15.
Rebounds: Brady, 5 offensive, 19 defensive, 24 total; Sandhills-Thetford, 10 offensive, 23 defensive, 33 total.
Turnovers: Brady, 17; Sandhills-Thetford, 8.
Scoring by quarters:
Sandhills-Thetford .26 23 13 18-80
Brady.....12 23 14 7-56

CALLAWAY 63.

BRADY	FG	FT	PF	PT
C. Arterburn	2	0-0	1	4
C. Bleds	0	0-0	4	0
L. Bleds	0	0-0	1	0
E. Callahan	0	0-0	0	0
T. Egenberger	2	3-4	3	8
N. Montoya	2	0-0	2	4
K. Pohlman	1	0-0	1	2
D. Reed	0	0-0	2	0
B. Ward	2	0-1	3	4
TOTALS	9	3-5	19	22

Three-pointers: Brady, Tyler Egenberger, 1; Callaway, Cotton Schied, 1.
Field goals: Brady, 9; Callaway, 14.
Free throws: Brady, 3-5, 60%; Callaway, 14-25, 56%.
Fouls: Brady, 19; Callaway, 10.
Scoring by quarters:
Brady.....7 9 5 6-22
Callaway.....10 3 11 19-43