

Fourth-quarter comeback falls short against South Loup

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Brady's boys turned a 14-point deficit at the end of the third quarter into a nail-biter game in the championship of the Maxwell Booster Tournament last week but the Eagles didn't have enough time to erase the entire deficit, losing to South Loup 48-43.

"We struggled to score in the third quarter and at one point it looked like it could get ugly but the kids pulled themselves out of it and made it interesting," said Eagle coach Rich Britten.

Tight throughout the first quarter, South Loup finished the period with a 9-6 lead.

With four and a half minutes to play in the second quarter, Brady tied the score at 11-11 on a bucket by junior Tyler Egenberger.

The Bobcats pushed ahead 23-17 at the half but the game was far from out of reach at that point, Britten said.

"We got a good stop right before half and had a chance to cut the lead to two or three but we gave up a rebound and they scored," Britten said.

Then Brady came out cold in the third quarter.

"I wish I knew what it was about the third quarter," the coach said. "More often than not, that's when we struggle the most."

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South Loup made a six-point run to start the third period and another six-point surge at the end to head into the final frame leading 38-24.

“They got some momentum on us but the kids battled back in the fourth,” Britten said.

Egenberger scored 11 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter, sparking the Eagles’ comeback with a three-pointer to open the period.

Brady kept South Loup from scoring a single field goal in the quarter but the Bobcats were 10-of-11 from the line to pull out the victory.

Egenberger was the leading scorer for the Eagles, followed by Sawyer Burke with eight points and 10 rebounds.

The Eagles got back on track Monday night with a 54-27 win over Anselmo-Merna in the opening round

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