

## Eagle boys look to build new identity

Written by Deb Egenberger

Friday, 30 November 2012 15:41 - Last Updated Friday, 30 November 2012 15:44

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With only a couple of starters returning from last year's 19-4 Brady boys basketball team, second-year coach David Jacobs has a lot of unanswered questions.

"We're probably going to be feeling our way for little awhile," Jacobs said. "We'll definitely be a lot different team toward the end of the season."

In the meantime, there will likely be a few growing pains as the Eagles work to replace two of the top three scorers and rebounders from a year ago as well as a host of playing experience.

"It's a new year and a new team," the coach said. "We're going to build around the experience we do have and find a new identity."

Guards Zach Mann and Bryley Roper, both seniors, provide the core for the Eagles as returning starters.

Classmates Michael Neiman and Cole Viter offer a small amount of experience.

"We're probably going to see a lot of opponents key on Zach and Bryley," Jacobs said. "That means we need some new guys to step up and I think we will see that."

Exactly who that will be is one of those unanswered questions.

"It's always fun for me as a coach to watch the kids develop," Jacobs said. "There's always that

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one kid who really surprises you, who does more than you ever thought he could. I can't wait to see who that will be."

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| <b>EAGLE BOYS BASKETBALL</b>                           |
| Nov. 20—at Wauneta-Palisade, 7:30 p.m.                 |
| Dec. 7— <b>PAXTON</b> , 8 p.m.                         |
| Dec. 8—at Cody-Kipore, 8:30 p.m.                       |
| Dec. 14— <b>HITCHCOCK COUNTY</b> , 7:30 p.m.           |
| Dec. 15—at Lovesh, 7:30 p.m.                           |
| Dec. 20-21—at Maxwell Booster Tournament               |
| Dec. 28-29— <b>BRADY HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT</b>            |
| Jan. 5— <b>ARTHUR COUNTY</b> , 5:30 p.m.               |
| Jan. 11— <b>HAYES CENTER</b> , 7:30 p.m.               |
| Jan. 12—South Loop at Callaway, 7:30 p.m.              |
| Jan. 17—at Mullen, 7:45 p.m.                           |
| Jan. 18— <b>STAPLETON/MCPHERSON COUNTY</b> , 7:45 p.m. |
| Jan. 22-25—Sandhills Conference Tournament             |
| Jan. 29— <b>WALLACE</b> , 7:30 p.m.                    |
| Feb. 1— <b>HYANNIS</b> , 7:30 p.m.                     |
| Feb. 2— <b>MAXWELL</b> , 7:30 p.m.                     |
| Feb. 8—at Medicine Valley, 7:30 p.m.                   |
| Feb. 15—at Sandhills, 7:30 p.m.                        |
| Feb. 21, 23—D2-9 sub-district at Cozad                 |
| Feb. 26—District final                                 |
| March 8-10—State tournament at Lincoln                 |

Several teams in the Sandhills Conference were young last season and will come back with loads of experience.

Jacobs expects Sandhills/Thedford to come in as the conference favorite with Stapleton/McPherson County being much improved and Mullen offering athletic players.

The D2-9 sub-district includes Anselmo-Merna, Bertrand, Brady, Eustis-Farnam and Loomis.

Jacobs said Loomis will be a tough team and both Anselmo-Merna and Eustis-Farnam should be improved with Bertrand always developing solid athletes.

"We're looking forward to seeing how the year unfolds," the coach said.

Brady opens the season on Friday at Wauneta-Palisade, a team that went 11-11 last year.

Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

Members of the 2012-13 Brady boys basketball team are (\*denotes letter winner):

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**SENIORS**—Kaleb Arterburn, Josh Boon, Marc Kramer-Davis, Zach Mann\*, Michael Neiman\*, Bryley Roper\*, Cole Viter.

**JUNIORS**—Eric Roe, Sean Thomas, Austin Widick.

**SOPHOMORES**—Levi DeStefamo, Troy Lusk, Trevor Mann, Dalton Mays, Jon Taullie, Chase Viter .

**FRESHMEN**—Brant May, Dayne Porter, Nate Sitorius, Alec Trobaugh.