

Brady boys never lacked effort

Written by Austin Benson
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Positive: Two leading scorers return next season.

A young basketball team will have problems.

With only two seniors on the roster and returning starters both being underclassmen Brady's lack of experience showed.

The Eagles basketball team did about as well as they could this season, head coach Dave Jacobs said.

The Brady boys, 7-14 on the season, battled an up and down year that ended in a subdistrict loss to North Platte St. Patrick Feb. 25.

Jacobs said his team was fairly green with limited varsity experience. He did have two returning starters in junior Troy Lusk and sophomore Nate Sitorius who did their best to lead a young team.

"They stepped up and did what was expected of them," Jacobs said. "Those two carried the load in scoring, showed leadership and worked hard each day."

Sitorius was the Eagles' leading scorer posting 14.5 points per game. Lusk was Brady's outside threat most the season and complemented Sitorius with 11.4 points a contest.

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Brady loses two seniors in Eric Roe and Austin Widick.

Jacobs said these two provided good leadership and made their teammates compete harder.

Widick started this season for the Eagles and was a positive influence in the locker room and on the floor for Brady.

Roe had a great attitude and worked hard each day, Jacobs said, and took advantage of his playing opportunities.

As a team the Eagles stuck together all season even through their struggles, the coach said.

He added the Eagles looked to expose people defensively.

“There were a few teams that we just didn’t match up with,” Jacobs said.

At times Brady’s defense caused havoc in the opponents’ offense and gave them opportunities on offense.

However with its strength being on the defensive side of the ball Brady’s inability to score was its Achilles heel.

“The biggest negative of this season was our shooting,” Jacobs said, “and our free throw percentage was pretty bad. We could have won a few more games with better shooting.”

As a team the Eagles shot 35% from the field which isn’t bad, he said, but Brady suffered with

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47% at the charity stripe.

Jacobs said his team needs to be better shooters and that happens in the off season. He said he thought strength gains could help in being successful next year.

Even though the players and coach may not have had desired success on the court Jacobs thinks his team learned some life lessons.

“I’m proud of the guys and how they continued to fight through the season,” Jacobs said. “You always want to see them be successful, for them.”



And although the Eagles didn’t have a winning record they did beat rival Maxwell twice, including in the opening round of D1-11 subdistricts.

Jacobs said his players talent grew by the end of the year.

“As a coach you want to see improvement as the season goes on,” Jacobs said. “In the end we were better than we started.”

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