

Borden Braves hosted the Salem Lions on Friday night. Though the Braves had a strong first half the Lions stormed back in the second half. The Braves managed to hang on to win 45 to 42.

Salem's offense was kept to the outside and unable to penetrate limiting their scoring to a free throw in the first quarter. Borden's Garrett Vick was able to penetrate inside for three buckets and a couple of free throws as Borden pulled out to an 8 to 1 lead.

The second quarter Salem came alive finding offensive opportunities for scoring from six different players with better ball movement. Borden answered with three 3's and a couple baskets from Josh Vollstedt. Throughout the first half virtually all the rebounds were on the defensive end limiting second opportunities for both teams. The half time score ended at 25 to 16 Borden.

Early in the third quarter Borden's Vick picked up his third foul taking him off the court till the fourth quarter. Salem took advantage and forced four turnovers and limited Borden's offense. The Lions continued their balanced offense with six players scoring in the quarter. With less than a minute in the quarter Salem's Jordan Baker hit a three to give them a 31 to 28 lead. Borden's Brady Knight answered with a three of his own. Salem picked up a couple free throws versus a Borden basket left them tied 33 all to end the quarter.

The fourth quarter the Braves, with Vick back on the floor, took better care of the ball and got their offense back on line. But the Lions were not done. Challenging the Braves with a couple of threes, a basket and a free throw they found themselves trailing by three with 47 seconds to play.

With the ball and an opportunity to tie, the Braves forced an offensive foul and a turn over. Though the Braves didn't score they chewed up precious seconds. The Lions had a last opportunity with 12 seconds to play but were unable to convert it to points. The Braves won 45 to 42.

Salem coach Weedin commented, "We're moving in the right direction. Borden boxed us out in the first and turnovers gave us opportunities but we couldn't get down the lane. Borden's defense slowed us down."

Borden's coach Nash said, "With Vick out no one really stepped up. Vollstedt did give us a big lift making some key shots. We fought and played hard but so did Salem." When asked why his 6'4" center Gillam did see any action he added, "Grades, we have talked about it before but there was a problem." The grade issue is a standard Nash places on all his players.

Salem's leading scorer was Seth Hobson with 8.

Borden leading scorers were Vollstedt 20 and Vick with 11.

Against West Washington, the Braves defense kept the Senators at bay. The Braves rolled off nine points before West Washington's (WW) Ty Bolton hit a three point shot. The quarter ended 11 to 3 Borden. The second quarter WW picked up a few rebounds and a couple more threes but Borden still played near even leading into the half 19 to 13.

Lady Braves season ends with tough loss at Regional

Last Updated Wednesday, 05 March 2014 09:55

In the third quarter The Braves went back to tough defense and kept WW bottled up. WW's Bolton hit his third and last three but was answered by Borden's Josh Vollstedt and Brian McGee's threes. Borden pulls out to 30 to 18 lead.

In the fourth Borden struck first but WW rolled off 10 straight. WW had shifted their defense to a zone and as Borden Coach Nash would comment, "We just lost our focus." Thought WW outscored Borden 16 to 7 in the quarter they still came up three points short losing 34 to 37.

Borden's leading scorer was Zach Gillam with 13.

WW leading scorers were Lanes Hoover 16 and Ty Bolton with 15