

## **Lady Eagles earn victory against West Washington Senators by 57-46 score**

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 20 November 2013 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 20 November 2013 09:47

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The halls of Austin High School were filled with anticipation on Saturday night, November 16, as both the Lady Eagles and the Lady Senators of West Washington were hoping for a win.

After being defeated by Seymour in their first game of the season, the Lady Eagles came into this game with a weary confidence.

Coach Jared Petersen stuck with his lineup of Megan Smith, Taylor Jeffries, Brenna Riley, Kaitlin Embrey and Holli Reynolds, and it paid off. Riley tipped to Reynolds to start the game, but their possession didn't last long. The Senators opened up the scoreboard with a three-pointer one minute into the game.

Austin continued to be hesitant in their shots, and when they did shoot, they could hardly get the ball to fall through the hoop. The first period ended with the Senators on top 15-9.

Reynolds set a trend for herself early in the second period with a trip to the charity strip that allowed the Eagles to begin to draw closer 15-11. West Washington completed several blocks under the bucket, so the Lady Eagles took their shots behind the arc.

After being down the whole game, the Eagles got ahead after Jeffries went on a three-point marathon near the end of the half.

Her teammates followed her example, and, when the halftime buzzer sounded, the Eagles were ahead 27-26.

The Eagles came back on the court in the third period with a hyped attitude and a strong desire to hold onto their slim lead, and that is just what they did.

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Scoring came in from all over the court, thanks to a weakened defense by the Lady Senators. The quarter ended with the Eagles up 10 points, 45-35.

Smith set the tone for the rest of the game with a long trey 4 seconds into the final period. A new-found confidence guided the Lady Eagles' offense as they finished the game at the free throw line and took the victory with a score of 57-46.

Leading scorers for the Eagles were Reynolds with 16; Kami Owens 12; and Smith and Jeffries, 10 each. Embrey contributed 5 points, Akaya Walker 3 and Riley 1. The Eagles had a 50% free-throw average in this second game of the season.

Coach Petersen noted later, "I'm really proud of the girls, but we still need to find a way to get points under the basket too."

The junior varsity did very well against West Washington in that game. They won by a score of 57-15.