

Misamore's 'buzzer beater' doesn't deny 51-49 win for Paoli over Lady Eagles

Written by Administrator

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The Austin Lady Eagles made the long bus ride to challenge the Lady Rams of Paoli on Thursday, November 21.

A change in the starting lineup by Coach Jared Petersen allowed the inclusion of freshman Kami Owens along with Megan Smith, Brenna Riley, Kaitlin Embrey and Holli Reynolds.

In the opening seconds, the opposing team made what was determined to be an illegal grab at the ball being tipped, which gave Austin the first possession. The Rams then fouled Riley 15 seconds later, so she made the first point of the game at the free throw line. Though they suffered from clumsy offense and ended the first period with 8 turnovers, the Eagles managed to hang onto a 10-5 lead. Paoli began the second quarter with a quick break and a two-pointer to which Taylor Jeffries answered with a fast lay-up to even the score. The Rams battled back, however, and took the lead with three minutes left in the first half.

Reynolds was sent to the charity stripe with 2:52 on the board, hitting the first basket but missing the second. The Rams then got the whistle blown on them for another violation, so Reynolds made the "remake" shot, tying the score at 19.

When the halftime whistle blew, the Eagles had a slim lead of 22-21.

Both teams retook the floor after the break with heated anticipation in the third quarter. Lots of fumbles and scramblings for the ball led to even more turnovers by each squad. The Eagles

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could not set their defense properly and gave several wide open shots to Paoli, including three-pointers. The score remained almost identical throughout the period but the Rams finally claimed the lead at the buzzer, 38-37.

Austin continued to struggle defensively in the final period and lacked in rebounding. But both teams fought hard and the score again bounced back and forth.

After being down by 4 with mere seconds to go, the Eagles called in their substitutes to finish the game, and they sure did. Hailey Misamore got off a long distance buzzer beater to end this barn burner of a game 51-49 in favor of the Rams.

Scorers for Austin including Owens with 12; Smith 10; Embrey 9; Reynolds 7; Akaya Walker 5; Misamore 3; Jeffries 2; and Riley 1. The Eagles were 8 of 17 at the free throw line.

Junior varsity players also got the evening heated up with their own barn burner, with Austin taking that game 29-24.