

Rebels take third in Holiday Tournament



Senior Jerod Nelson was a huge factor in the first half as he made some easy shots underneath the basket, helping the Rebels hold the lead over the LPGE Thunder. —photo by Blake Borst

by Coach Ray Benning

The Rebels went 1-3 for the week. It was a very difficult part of our schedule. We played five games in eight days—four of them with no practices in between.

Browerville

On Monday, December 19, we faced the undefeated Browerville Tigers in the first round of the Parkers Prairie Holiday Tournament.

We had another slow start which you can't afford to do against a good opponent. We missed our first eight layups and with 7 minutes left in the half we found ourselves down 6-20. Going into the half we cut the lead to 10 at 18-28.

The second half was much of the same. We just couldn't buy a bucket. You're not going to win many games shooting 26% from the field like we did.

The final was 39-57. Oftedahl had another double double, leading in scoring with 14 and he pulled down 12 boards. Jerod Nelson has been very consistent for us. He added 13 points and 7 rebounds. Logan Riedel led in assists with four on the night.

	Pts	Rbd	Ast	Stl	Blk
Riedel	2	3	4	1	1
Oftedahl	14	12	1	2	2
Bailey	0	0	0	0	0
Benning	3	6	1	1	1
Meyer	0	1	0	0	0
Nelson	13	7	1	2	2
Mock	7	7	1	1	1
Zimmer	0	4	2	1	1

Verndale

The third place game was held in Parkers Prairie on Fri-

day, December 20. We were the home team against the Verndale Pirates.

We came out of the gates ready to play and took the lead from the start. But fatigue was starting to set in.

We used our bench a lot in this game and they did an exceptional job when called upon. Jacob Schauer and Skyler Meiners played their first varsity game. Schauer also scored his first varsity points.

The Parkers gym was not a very friendly place for us. Our percentage from the field again wasn't very good, shooting at 29%

Going into the locker room at half we held a 33-26 lead.

In the second half, Nelson was our go to guy. He scored 13 of his 16 points in that half.

It wasn't a pretty win by any means as we also had 20 turnovers, but a win is a win all the same. The final was 65-57.

Nelson led all scorers with 16, Tate Benning added 14 and Tyler Oftedahl had another double double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Derek Meyer had a very good night on defense. Meyer and Benning each had 3 steals and 1 block on the night.

	Pts	Rbd	Ast	Stl	Blk
Riedel	9	4	3	3	0
Oftedahl	10	11	1	0	0
Bailey	2	0	2	1	0
Benning	14	3	1	3	1
Meyer	3	2	1	3	1
Nelson	16	6	0	0	2
Mock	9	6	4	3	0
Zimmer	0	0	0	0	0
Schauer	2	3	0	1	0

Long Prairie-Grey Eagle

The undefeated Thunder came to town for our first conference matchup of the season on Thursday, December 22.

We finally came out and started strong in a game both on defensive and on offense. We finally showed some patience.

It was a tight game in the beginning. We put a lot of pressure on them early and didn't give up many uncontested shots.

With nine minutes left in the half we had a 12-11 lead. We then went on a 12 to 3 run to go into the half with a score of 21-14. Nelson played another solid first half, scoring 10 of his 12 points in that half.

In the second half the Thunder came out with some attitude and created some turnovers early.

With six minutes left in the game the Thunder took their first lead 35-36.

It was a tight game until the end. We were down 43-42 with under 20 seconds on the clock when we committed a foul which sent Duane Miller to the line. He made both.

We called a time-out to set up our final shot. It didn't go exactly as planned and the three to tie came up short. The final was 42-45.

Benning played a solid second half for us. He scored all of his 12 points in the second half.

But the Thunder shot 52% in the second half on the heels of Miller who finished with 20 points.

This by far was our best game of the season. The Thunder was averaging scoring 72 points per game coming into our gym. So holding them to 14 in the first half says something about the potential we have. We just need to convert the easy buckets we continue to miss.

Our field goal percentage on the night was a little better. We shot 33%, but there is still alot of room for improvement.

Leading all scorers were Nelson and Benning with 12 apiece. Luke Mock, who also has been playing very consistently, added eight. Neil Zimmer, who played his best defensive game of the season, had 3 steals on the night.

	Pts	Rbd	Ast	Stl	Blk
Riedel	2	1	0	2	0
Oftedahl	3	9	3	2	0
Bailey	0	0	0	0	0
Benning	12	6	2	1	1
Meyer	2	0	0	0	0
Nelson	12	3	0	0	1
Mock	8	4	3	0	0
Zimmer	3	4	1	3	0

The Rebels travel to Menahga on January 5 and host Upsala on the 6th.

Bears upset returning section champs



Senior power forward Matthew Frethem proved to be too much for the Cardinals' defenders to handle as he found his way to the basket time and time again. Frethem led the team in scoring as he collected 29 points and 11 rebounds for the Bears. —photo by Matt Ganz

by Coach Dale Finck

The Bears hosted the Upsala Cardinals who are the returning section champions and a pre-season favorite to make a run for the section championship again this year. The Bears greeted the Cardinals with a 10-0 run to start the game. The Cardinals answered back with a run of their own and both teams were tied at 11 with 10:21 remaining.

The Bears then put together ten minutes of great basketball. Grewe ignited the Bears offense with back-to-back 3's. The team scored inside and out hitting four additional 3's in the stretch to help surge them to a 40-23 halftime lead. The trio of Matthew Frethem, Michael Grewe and Zach Tranvik helped spark the Bears offense and continued the pressure on the Cardinals' defense in the second half.

Upsala wasn't going to go away and they proved that early in the second half. They brought energy and attacked the basket, while the Bears relaxed hustle getting back on defense allowed the Cardinals to attack before our defense was set up. If the initial pressure didn't get a basket the Bears were in defensive trouble and the Cardinals took advantage. However, the Bears offense was moving the ball and finding scoring opportunities for the team and we were able to capitalize on those opportunities shooting 48% from the field during the game.

When the Cardinals cut the lead to single digits the Bears were able to answer back with some key baskets. With a 13 point lead and a minute remaining, the Bears seemed to have it under control, yet the Bears committed two fouls under the basket allowing the Cardinals traditional 3-point plays and allowing the clock to stop. However, the Bears were able to make enough free throws down the stretch to seal a 79-72 victory.

The Bears record improved to 4-1 with a great performance against the Cardinals.

Frethem led the team with 29 points and 11 rebounds, Grewe tossed in a career high 18 points and Tranvik had 14. Murphy scored 9 and hit critical free-throws down the stretch.

Sebeka powers past Lady Tigers

by Coach Matt Middendorf

Sebeka 71—Browerville 26
The Lady Tigers fell behind 30-3 in the first six minutes of the game as Sebeka used their size advantage to pound Browerville on the boards as the Trojans cruised to the 71-26 non-conference victory on Tuesday evening in Browerville.

The Tigers could only muster four field goals in the first half and trailed 48-10 at the break. Sebeka's size and balance continued to dominate in the second half as each starter finished in double figures, led by senior Jessica Lilquist with 19.

Eighth grader Paige Callahan led the Tigers in scoring with 7 points and 6 rebounds. Fellow classmate Crystal Pearson dropped in 5 points, while sophomore Haley Piotrowski chipped in four points. Kate Kellen played another solid game for the Tigers off the bench as the sophomore contributed three points to aid in the scoring effort. Kate Middendorf, Kendra Buchta and Andi Buhl each scored two points for the orange and black.

Sebeka drilled 11 of 23 free throw attempts while the Tigers made 6 of 16.

Browerville is now 0-3 in the Prairie Conference and 0-6 overall. On Wednesday, December 28 the Tigers will travel to the Upsala Holiday tournament to face Holdingford at 5:45 p.m. On Thursday, December 29, the Tigers will face either Foley or Bertha-Hewitt to finish the tournament.

On Tuesday, January 3, the girls will resume Prairie Conference play when they travel to St. John's Prep.

Tigers win Holiday Tournament



Junior Max Goligowski provided a spark off the bench for the Tigers as he came into the game and hit two quick 3-pointers, helping to extend the Tigers lead over Eagle Valley. —photo by Jason Nelson

by Jim Roberts

The Browerville Tigers extended their record to 7-0 with two wins in the Parkers Prairie Holiday Tournament on December 19 and 20.

Monday night's game featured two teams with undefeated records. Eagle Valley came in with a 4-0 record and Browerville was 5-0. These two teams play twice in the regular season as conference foes, but this game was the first round of a four team tournament. Parkers Prairie was host to the Verndale Pirates in game one. Parkers Prairie came out on top in that game, 63-51.

Browerville started things out with some outside scoring by Seth Kellen and Mitch Heid. Each player connected from 3-point range for an early 8-2

lead. Max Goligowski entered the game and also sank two 3-pointers of his own to extend the Tigers lead to 14 points.

The scoring slowed down for Browerville in the final nine minutes of the half. Tyler Oftedahl starting taking over on the inside on both ends of the court and the Rebels decreased the Tigers lead to 10 points at the half.

In the second half, the Rebels worked their way back in the game behind some good outside shooting. EV recorded three 3-pointers and sneaked their way to within four points. Connor Burns scored on the inside, followed by a Heid 3-pointer to get the lead back to nine for the Tigers. Oftedahl scored for EV with 8:37 remaining. The score was 44-35, Browerville.

The Rebels were then held scoreless for the next five minutes as Browerville opened up a 52-35 lead. EV scored one more basket (Oftedahl) and two free throws by Jerod Nelson. Those would be the final points scored by the Rebels. Brad Dreher scored 7 of the Tigers final 13 points as Browerville went on to win this one 57-39.

Oftedahl led all scorers with 14 points and pulled down 9 rebounds for Eagle Valley. Nelson was also in double digits with 13 points.

Browerville was led by Seth Christensen's 13 points, 9 rebounds and 3 steals. Heid scored 12 points, to go along with 5 assists. Dreher finished with 11 points. Kyle Petermeier had 8 rebounds and Kellen scored 9 points and dished out 4 assists.

The championship game on Tuesday night in the Parkers Prairie Holiday Tournament featured the Parkers Prairie Panthers against the Browerville Tigers. In the third place game, Eagle Valley defeated the Verndale Pirates.

Before the game, Coach Schueller had this to say about the game. "I think we will see a lot more zone defense tonight compared to last night. (Parkers Prairie) also will be willing to shoot the ball from 3-point range."

That was exactly what Browerville saw; a 2-3 zone. The Panther's zone defense was very active and was able to keep pressure on the Tigers' shooters. Browerville's defense was also able to keep the Panthers in check, and jumped out to an early eight point lead. Eric Ronning scored from 3-point range to bring the score to 10-5, Browerville.

After a couple of baskets by the Tigers, Heid sank a 3-pointer from the wing to give Browerville a 10 point advantage. Heid would make his third 3-pointer of the half with 2:56 remaining to give the Tigers their largest lead at 34-15. Unfortunately for Browerville, that would be the last basket scored before the break as the Panthers scored seven points including another 3-pointer by Ronning. Browerville took a 12 point lead into the locker room.

"Mitch hit some big threes

for us, but I just felt we got a little too satisfied with the outside shots instead of going inside where we had a clear advantage," said Coach Schueller.

The second half started with a quick basket by Kellen. Browerville then picked up the pressure on Parkers Prairie and forced the Panthers into several turnovers. By the time PP called a timeout, the Tigers had extended their lead to 23 points, 47-24. The Panthers cut into the lead over a five minute span getting back within 13 points.

With just over five minutes remaining, Browerville called a timeout to talk about some adjustments on the offensive end.

"We just wanted everyone on the same page. Use the clock, get the ball inside and continue playing solid defense." This is what the Tigers' coaches emphasized during the timeout.

Browerville got the ball to their big man, Christensen, for four of their final six baskets, each of which were assisted by Kellen. The Tigers lead went back up to 21 points and the game ended with a final score of 64-44.

Christensen led all scorers with 25 points (16 in the 2nd half), and had 7 rebounds and 4 blocked shots. Heid scored 18 points, had 5 steals and 7 assists. Kellen finished with 8 points, 9 assists and 3 steals. Petermeier pulled down 6 rebounds and dished out 6 assists.

As a team, the Tigers had 27 assists and forced Parkers Prairie into 19 turnovers. They also controlled the boards with a 36 to 24 advantage.

Browerville opens at home after the Christmas break with a game against St. John's on January 3. Then back on the road to Osakis on Friday and Pillager on Saturday.