

Women's Eagles Charge Past Camosun



METRO VANCOUVER, BC (January 28th, 2013) – Beginning a stretch of home games in Week 9 of PACWEST league play, the Women's Eagles (8W-7L) welcomed the Island rivals to Kwantlen for a weekend of match-ups against the Camosun College Chargers (5W-8L) on Friday, January 25th and the Vancouver Island University (VIU) Mariners (8W-5L) on Saturday, January 26th.

The Eagles struggled in the first 20 minutes of the game against the Chargers both offensively and defensively, missing a number of free-throw attempts and only accumulating a total of 19 points to the Chargers' 38 points. With an amazing second half, the Eagles found their momentum and chipped away at the 19 points deficit gathering 16 points in the third quarter and an additional 18 points in the fourth quarter. Only allowing the Chargers to collect 10 points in the entire second half, the Eagles' massive 34 points on the scoreboard in the last 20 minutes of the game was enough to pull them ahead and take the win with a score of 53 – 48. Three Eagles contributed double digits against the Chargers. Third-year centre, Samantha McPhail (Vancouver), was the Eagles top performer grabbing 14 points and 4 assists combined with 8

rebounds, 2 blocks, and 2 steals. McPhail was closely followed by first-year forward, Amber Kavanagh (Langley), who added 12 points (6 of 8 free throws for 75%), 1 assist, 8 rebounds and 1 steal. Second-year guard, Jessica Villadiego (Surrey), complete the double-digit club with 11 points, 1 rebound, and 1 steal.

Compared to the Chargers' 44% (8 of 18), one of the deciding factors in the game came from the Eagles' skills at the line. The Eagles finished with 64% as a team in free throws thanks to Kavanagh who boosted the Eagles' second half stat to 79% (16 of 25) in sinking free throws versus 46% in the first half.

"In the first half, we struggled both offensively and defensively," stated Head Coach, Dan Nayebyzadeh. "In the second half, we came out with a lot of energy, played full court defense and just continued to eat away at their lead. We were down 9 points with less than three minutes left. What brought us back was our pressure defense, free throw shooting and execution. I'm really proud of the girls in the way that they fought through adversity of being down big and clawing back for the win."

On Saturday, the Eagles faced the VIU Mariners. Taking on one of the top teams in the league at the moment, the Eagles played a very close game leading the Mariners in the first quarter and only slightly trailing in the second for a tight 27 – 29 deficit at the half. Despite out-shooting the Mariners in free throws (73% to 62.5%) and out-playing the Mariners in rebounds collecting a percentage total of 54% (45% offensive and 66% defensive) to the Mariners 46% (34% offensive and 55% defensive), the Eagles were unable to overcome a point deficit in the third quarter and finished the game with a 61 – 71 loss.

Second-year guard, Jeannine Yngreso (Surrey) led the Eagles with 14 points (9 from three-pointers and 5 of 6 free throws), 4 assists and 1 rebound. Second-year guard, Christina Brown (Langley), added 11 points, 4 rebounds and 2 steals while Kavanagh added an additional 10 points to her weekend tally along with 2 assists, 2 blocks, 2 steals and a massive 13 rebounds.

"We played a very close game with a very good team," said Coach Nayebyzadeh. "[We] gave up way too many transition buckets to VIU in the middle of the game. They have two of the best players in the league (Shayna Worthington and Jocelyn Jones) and we just didn't make the game difficult enough for them. I was very pleased with our person-to-person defense and our overall intensity. Next week, we have two very tough games at home which will be a very good test for us."

The Women's Eagles remain in 5th place in the PACWEST Conference with an 8W-7L record. The Eagles continue to host their home-game streak this coming weekend facing the 1st place Capilano University Blues on Friday, Feb. 1st and 4th ranked Quest University Kermodes on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Tip-off for both games is 6pm.

Complete information can be found at: www.kwantlen.ca/eagles
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