

BRAYMER EXTENDS WINNING STREAK TO 9

The North Platte Panthers traveled to Braymer Tuesday night, and for most of the contest gave the Bobcats all they wanted and more. A combination of 3 pointers by the visitors and an off shooting night by Braymer was enough to give North Platte a 29-28 halftime lead.

North Platte, a member of the KCI conference, was coming off an impressive second place finish in the Bill Burns Classic tournament in Lathrop last week. The Braymer coaching staff knew that they would be a quality opponent.

Coach Brad Cox made some halftime adjustments, including the use of a zone defense for the first time this season, and the Bobcats came out in the second half looking much more comfortable versus North Platte's motion offense. Braymer ratcheted up their defense forcing the North Platte guards into turnovers that were converted into easy baskets and held the Panthers to 16 points in the last 2 quarters.

When Braymer got into foul trouble early in the second half, Coach Cox was able to use his young, deep bench to the Bobcats advantage. Brandon Taylor, Jesse Utt and Dalton Owen all came in and gave some valuable minutes of playing time. The third quarter ended with North Platte still holding a one point lead of 37-36.

The lead continued to change hands back and forth for most of the remainder of the game with neither team able to stretch it over the other until Braymer took charge in the last 4 minutes to pull away for a 53-45 win.

Trent Utt paced the Bobcats with 16 points and added 5 rebounds. James Schreier had 14 points and 9 rebounds. John Haley added 10 points while Clayton Brown totaled 9 points and picked up 5 blocked shots. Brandon Taylor and Dalton Owen each scored 2 points, while Jesse Utt had 2 rebounds and an assist. Dylan Atkinson provided his usual outstanding defense and Caden Shonk contributed good minutes helping run the offense. The win was the 9th consecutive for the Bobcats and pushes their season record to 10-1.