Eagles come alive to beat Olyn

By Linda Hamilton
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It took a Tuesday loss to Highland, a Friday the 13th and a home game with their biggest rival to do it, but the Skyline Eagles came alive Friday night.

Coach Paul Jeppesen's team arrived, as they say. It made almost no mistakes in fending off Olympus 66-57 in a Region Three prep basketball headliner.

In the Region's other games, sixth-ranked West whipped 10th-ranked Cottonwood 89-65 for the Colts' second straight loss and East nudged Granite 66-65 for the Leopards' second straight league win.

Last Tuesday's loss to Highland "made us more determined to play the game we were capable of," Jeppesen said after Friday's victory. "Steve Clark finally played his best, started moving," said Jeppesen, who thought it was Skyline's best game.

The Eagles shot better than 60 percent from the field the first half, made 12 of 17 free throws and were guilty of just 11 turnovers and 12 fouls. The first 11 fouls came in the game's first 16:04 minutes, and the first seven turnovers were also in the first half.

And that's what really, pleased Jeppesen: whose team has played better in the first half than the second. That and the fact that when Olympus mounted a drive that took the Titans from 14 points down to just two down, the Eagles — mainly on the determined shooting of Brandon Bennett — had the tenacity to slam the door.

Bennett muscled up a shot from the lane to give Skyline a 57-53 lead, and an Olympus turnover under its basket combined with Clark's free throws kept the Titans at bay.

Ron Ence shot 6-for-9 in the second half as Olympus took advantage of the Eagles' 2-3 zone. The Titans sneaked bounce passes to Ence in the lane, and he was deadly. But Skyline reverted to its man-to-man coverage and fared better.

Ence made a last effort, stealing the ball from dribbler Eric Slaymaker, rushing the court's length, dribbling behind his back when he nearly lost ball control and dunking a layup. Ence added a tipin, but Greg Snyder's free throws kept Skyline ahead.

Jeppesen said Paul Rasmussen, who scored 13, was more of a factor defensively, holding Olympus' fine swingman Fred Trovato to 11 points. Sophomore Willie Wright also had 11, and Bobby Hall had 12. Ence led rebounders with 11, but Skyline held a

Eagles had hoped to do and practiced boxing out for.

West 89, Cottonwood 65

The Panthers won their second of the week, and again there was balanced scoring. Not just balanced, really, a whole lot of it. Brent Shingleton picked up 10 in the first quarter (he blocked two shots and had two steals, too), Craig Child had 11 points, Arnold Slowman 10 and John Ottosson nine. Then there was Tom Hewitson, who exploded for 27, nearly double his average. West shot 48 free throws but didn't make a great percentage.

For Cottonwood, Perrin Anderl picked up 21 points.

East 66, Granite 65

East won only after squandering a comfortable lead. Doug Milne picked up 20 points, Chris Fergis 14 and Brad Boyle 10.

Granite's Kevin Walker pumped in two free throws with 40 seconds left, but East clung to its lead. Mick Cornia rated 14 points, David Adams 19 on 13-for-13 free throwing.

REGION FOUR

Ben Lomond 72, South 48

Coach Ron Carling got a fine effort from his starters, who rocketed away from a 14-13 deficit to take an 11-point halftime lead. "Our halfcourt trap was the difference," Carling said. "They scored eight points in the second and eight in the third, and bu that time, were were well ahead."

Robby Tillman hit 20 for the winners. South sophomore Anthony Nelson paced the Cubs with 11.

Woods Cross 56, Bear River 37

Woods Cross also went to the press to dislodge a sticky Bear bunch and win its first 3A league game. Coach Wayne Baker's Wildcats got 18 points from Jeff Ostler and 14 from Mark McCleery, who "got a bundle of rebounds.

"Our fullcourt press took Bear River out of the game," Baker said. "I was disatisfied with our first half, but they were prepared for us. We did a super job defensively. Our pressure, and doing what we wanted to offensively, paid off."

Logan 60, Davis 57

Logan senior guard Tab Smith stole the ball with seconds left and converted a three-point play to upend Davis.

The lead changed several times until Smith's heroics during a fullcourt press with time running out and the score tied at 57.

Davis got 18 points from Troy Howard, 12 from Ryan Hill, 16 from Mike Mounteer, and 10 from Todd

Skyline's Dave England hauls in a rebound during F