

By Pastor Vince Carrig

Sports Writer

Senior point guard Cade Reinick hung in the air through the middle of the lane, scored and drew a foul shot to nudge his Eagles to a 58-55 overtime victory over the Plainsmen Friday night in Wray, Colo.

Reinick made a comfortable living by drawing contact while driving to the basket, gaining 12 free throws that helped him score a game-high 22 points. He scored the last trio of points with 3.1 seconds left in extra time.

The Plainsmen almost overcame heavy disadvantages to win, with four players fouling out which added to two injured senior starters.

The Eagles took 33 shots from the foul line, but Perkins County took just 14 in the game.

Senior swing forward Caleb Breazeale's three pointer in tight quarters and free throw gave the visiting Plainsmen a 55-54 lead with 39.6 seconds left in overtime.

The left-handed Reinick scored eight points in overtime for Wray, constantly dribbling to the basket.

Down 45-40 with 1:42 left in regulation time, Perkins County needed some heavy-duty heroics just to force overtime.

Breazeale nailed two free throws and Tim Johnson knifed to the basket from the left wing to yank the Plainsmen to within one point of the lead with 50.5 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

Perkins County pressured the inbound pass and freshman forward Christian White clamped onto the bobbled catch in Wray's backcourt; Christian White then had the presence of mind to dribble around a defender and go right to the basket for a 46-45 Plainsmen lead.

Wray forward Keaton Arkulari, who piled up 18 points by inserting his large frame into the post, sent the game into a fifth period with a free throw, however.

Five Plainsmen cashed in from beyond the arc, with senior point guard Quinton Hite looking like a scoring machine in the first half. Hite sandwiched back-to-back "threes" around a blocked shot to create the biggest margin for either team, a 21-15 Perkins County lead.

Hite struck four times from three-point land, Jake Sexson twice, Johnson, Breazeale and Chase Miyamoto did as well.

Sexson, who got pushed from behind and injured his head in the second quarter, returned to have Reinick knock him in the nose on a drive and have the foul call ironically go against Sexson.

Hite shot 4-of-7 (57 percent) from beyond the arc.

Next Action

The Plainsmen roll 126 miles west to engage the 2-0 Kimball Longhorns, who hosted a tournament in which they took away double-digit wins over Dundy County-Stratton and Morrill. The Plainsmen remain at home in Grant on Saturday to take on the 1-1 Gothenburg Swedes, who lost to 2-0 Lexington on Friday and handled Hershey easily (53-39) Saturday.

PC 55, Wray 58 OT

Perkins Co. 10 13 14 9 9-55

Wray 11 10 15 10 12-58

Scoring leaders—Perkins County: Hite 1FG (4x3)—14; Johnson 3 (1) 4/6FT—13; Breazeale 2 (1) 4/6—11; Sexson (2) 1/2—7; Wray: Reinick 7 8/12—22; Arkulari 7 4/9—18; Centa 2 3/4—7.

