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**(Neb.)-Big Second Half Lifts Orediggers Over Eagles, 72-67**

By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 12/07/2012 09:51 PM

CHADRON – Colorado School of Mines went on a 25-9 scoring run during the opening nine minutes of the second half and made it stand up for a wild 72-67 Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference victory over Chadron State Friday night.

Chadron State, now 0-7, led by as many as 19 points in the first half and owned a 46-30 advantage at halftime but the Orediggers shot over 50 percent from the field and outscored the Eagles 42-21 in the second half to improve to 5-2 overall and 2-1 in the RMAC.

Mines tied the game at 55-55 with less than 11 minutes to play and the Eagles and Orediggers proceeded to trade punches the final 10 minutes. Mines started to pull away late in the contest, though, and made nine of its final 12 free throws in the closing two minutes to seal the win.

Chadron State built its large lead in the first half with some hot shooting, especially from long range. They clicked on over 58 percent of their shots from the field and sank nine 3-pointers.

However, the Eagles' shooting touch went away in the second half as they hit five of 19 from the field and just two 3-pointers.

Trevor Wages paced Colorado Mines with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Luke Meisch also scored 20 points and added eight boards and Brian Muller chipped in 12.

Zac Barga led Chadron State with 19 points, David Downey scored 11 points in the first half and point guard Justyn Anderson scored nine points and grabbed seven rebounds.

The Eagles will play at Colorado Christian today (Saturday). Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.