

Weber falls short in 5A showdown

Battle of early contenders goes Bingham's way in front of noisy crowd

By Bruce Smith
Matchup

Just one month into the girls basketball season, one team has emerged at the top of Utah's 5A ranks.

Tuesday night, the Bingham Miners got a chance to match up against Weber's Erin Reichle and last year's state runner-ups.

Bingham passed another test. This time, Mackenzie Bruggeman scored 17 points as Bingham claimed a 53-35 non-region victory.

"I like to play teams whom I know will give me a chess match," said Bingham coach Rand Rasmussen. "I was proud of the girls for the way they reacted."

Bingham led the entire game. At halftime, the Miners had a 27-15 advantage and senior Ashton Henderson had helped contain Reichle, limiting her to just six points.

But Reichle started the second half with a basket, and then added a three-pointer to start a 7-0 run. With the lead down to five points, Bingham called timeout to regroup and try to regain the momentum.

"I told the girls, 'we have to find out if we're any good,'" Rasmussen said.

At the pivotal moment,



Alyssa Potter (left) and Erin Reichle battle a Bingham player for a loose ball.

Bruggeman took control. She scored Bingham's next eight points. The Miners led 40-30 by the end of the period. More importantly, they had survived. At that point, their depth made a big difference and the Miners added to the lead when Weber was forced to foul.

Weber coach Rick Stoeckl hoped his team learned something from this game. The Warriors fell to 6-3, but two of

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-Coach Rick Stoeckl



TOP LEFT: Haley Nelson gets position for a rebound.
TOP RIGHT: Megan Bedwell, Erin Reichle and Alyssa Potter.

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their losses have been to unbeaten teams.

“Little things made the difference ... like a turnover here, and their shots fell,” he said. “With a good team like Bingham, if you don’t score for 4-5 possessions, you’re going to fall way behind.”

The team’s shooting percent was actually pretty similar (just under 40 percent), but Weber committed 22 turnovers.

Reichle finished with 17 points, a little below her season average so far. Hannah Charlton added eight points and Hanna Buswell was a beast underneath with a game-high 12 rebounds, which earned her Weber’s player of the game award.

“We like playing teams like Bingham,” said Stoeckl. “We are a young team, and need to learn quickly. They are a challenge and, at least we held them for a few minutes.”

Sheradyn Parker had 11 points for Bingham.

GAME SUMMARY

Weber	8	7	15	5	- 35
Bingham	17	10	13	13	- 53

WEBER (35) – Erin Reichle 5-9 6-6 17, Haley Nelson 0-0 0-0 0, Hannah Charlton 2-6 3-4 8, Maren Ulrich 1-2 0-1 2, Hanna Buswell 2-7 0-0 4, Megan Bedwell 1-2 0-0 2, Abbie O’Neill 1-3 0-0 2, Alyssa Potter 0-1 0-2 0, McKenna Dahl 0-0 0-2 0, Kandice Jensen 0-1 0-0 0, Hanna Johnson 0-0 0-0 0, Abri Carney 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 12-31 9-15 35.

BINGHAM (53) – Madison Aulai-Roe 0-0 1-2 1, Ashton Henderson 0-5 1-2 1, Mackenzie Bruggeman 6-10 5-9 17, Jilian Powell 3-12 2-2 9, Sheradyn Parker 5-9 0-0 11, Cheril Lyman 1-5 1-2 3, Whitney Daniels 2-4 0-1 4, Monique Washington 3-4 1-4 7, Holly Sorensen 0-0 0-0 0, Molly Erickson 0-0 0-0 0, Emily Anderson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 20-49 11-22 53.

Total fouls: Weber 18, Bingham 11. **Fouled out:** None. **Technical fouls:** Washington.

Three-point shooting: Weber 2-9 (Reichle, Charlton). Bingham 2-11 (Powell, Parker).

Rebounds: Bingham 31 (Henderson, Bruggeman, Washington 6), Weber 26 (Buswell 12).

Turnovers: Weber 22, Bingham 8.