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(Neb.)-Eagles facing tough teams in Metro State tourney

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 11/15/2012 03:17 PM

CHADRON – The Chadron State College women's basketball team will be exposed to quality competition this weekend during the Holiday Inn Select Classic hosted by Metro State in Denver.

The Eagles are 0-1 this season after losing their opener to Montana State University-Billings, 79-64 Sunday afternoon in Chadron.

On Friday at 5 p.m., they'll play fellow Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference member Colorado Christian in a non-conference game before meeting Lubbock Christian Saturday at 5 p.m.

Friday's game will be the season opener for the Cougars, who finished the 2011-12 campaign with an 18-16 record. CCU, which is led by All-American guard Christina Whitelaw, is projected to finish third in the RMAC, according to the Preseason Coaches Poll.

Saturday's opponent is an NAIA power. Lubbock Christian went 28-6 last season and the Lady Chaparrals (6-0) are currently ranked No. 1. Four of their five starters are averaging in double figures and the first player off the bench is second on the squad in scoring at 13.2 points a game.

The Lady Chaps are shooting over 50 percent on the season and have an average margin of victory of over 20 points.

Despite the loss, the Eagles had some bright spots in Sunday's game. Three players scored in double figures, led by Kattie Ranta's career-high 22 points, and CSC shot over 47 percent from the field.

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