

PHOENIX, Ariz. – The Bradley Central girls basketball team defeated Beaverton (Ore.) 40-35 on Wednesday evening in a defensive battle at Power House Hoops.

Jamaryn Blair paced the offense with 13 points with four from the free throw line thanks to the 10 fouls the sophomore guard drew.

Bradley dug themselves a hole going down 10-6 as Laura Erikstrup scored half of the Beavers first quarter points.

The Bearettes responded tying the game up twice with the Kaleigh Hughes evening things with a three to spark an 8-0 run that ended with a Hughes three to go into the locker room up 21-16.

Bradley Central maintained that lead throughout the third and even stretched it to seven on a Blair jump shot.

Blair was able to stretch the margin double digits in the final period on a made three pointer with 7:29 left in the game to reach the apex of their lead. Beaverton responded with a run cutting the lead to one on an L. Erikstrup layup with 1:04 remaining. The Beavers then had to foul, and Hannah Lombard and Hughes were able to hit just enough free throws to ice the game in route to their five-point victory.

Blair and Hughes were the only two Bearettes with double digit scorers in the winning effort with 13 and 10 respectively. Hughes got her points going 2-3 from behind the arc while hitting all four of her free throws in the game.

L. Erikstrup scored 12 points to lead the Beavers while Mary Kay Naro was the next highest scorer with eight.

Bradley Central moves on to the semifinal round of the Joe Smith bracket and will take on Highlands Ranch (Colo.) at 10:00 a.m. MST. They will either take on Redondo Union (Calif.) or St. Mary's (Calif.) in the next round.