

The Bandera PROPHET

November 7, 2022

Bulldog Hoops Report

By Brady Keane
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The Bandera varsity boys basketball team tipped off the 2022-2023 season with a set of three scrimmages Saturday morning at San Antonio Burbank High School. The Bulldogs got started with nine of 12 players competing in their first varsity action, and the team walked away with several positives to build before the season officially gets underway next week.

Bandera opened with a tightly contested game against Kennedy. The Bulldogs trailed 40-38 with less than 30 seconds to go before junior Cale Barnett drove to the rim and connected on a layup while being fouled. Barnett knocked down the free throw to give Bandera a 41-40 lead, but the Rockets got to the free throw line in the final seconds and converted to take a 42-41 win at the buzzer.

Senior Kayden Brown led the way with a team-high 13 points while sophomore Eli Salas added 12 points. Barnett had six points, Logan Bourgeois and Salvador Enriquez added four points apiece and Hank Pate finished with three points.

The Bulldogs bounced back well in a shortened scrimmage against Burbank, outscoring Burbank 25-19. Brown again led all scorers with 11 points while Enriquez, Salas and Bourgeois scored four points apiece. Barnett added two points in the win.

Bandera finished the day against Lytle, which enters the season ranked No. 10 in the state in Class 3A. The Pirates got off to a fast start before the Bulldogs were able to settle in, and Lytle outscored Bandera 32-21 in the shortened scrimmage. Enriquez scored eight, Salas had seven and Barnett, Bryson Holden and Brown finished with two points apiece.

The Bulldogs will return to the court Monday morning to prepare for the start of the season next week. Bandera will host Class 5A Comal Pieper Wednesday night for a JV and Varsity scrimmage, with the JV teams competing at 5 p.m. and the varsity team set to tip-off at 6:30 p.m.

The Bulldogs will open the regular season Tuesday, Nov. 15, at home against Floresville. The freshmen and JV teams will play at 5 p.m. while the varsity team gets started at 6:15 p.m. The game will be a “White Out” event, with fans and spectators being encouraged to match the Bulldogs in their white home uniforms to open the season in front of a packed crowd.

Bandera will also host Little Bulldog Night on Friday, Nov. 18, against San Antonio Fox Tech. All participants from the 2022 Bandera Basketball Camp are invited to attend and wear their basketball camp t-shirt. Campers will receive free admission and will be honored at halftime of the varsity game.