ROCHESTER, Mich. - After a back and forth game, Oakland fell short to St. Thomas at the OU Credit Union O'rena.

The first quarter was very back and forth between the two teams as the Golden Grizzlies, with the score 10-6 after the first five minutes of action. <u>Sereniti Roberts-Adams</u> was very active early on as she contributed four of the Golden Grizzlies first eight points.

The Golden Grizzlies came out hot following the first media timeout extending their lead to 17-8 after a 7-2 run. The run was jump started by a <u>Maddy Skorupski</u> three point basket that seemed to energize the Oakland offense.

St. Thomas would end up getting a few points back, but the Golden Grizzlies still held a 19-14 lead at the end of the First Quarter.

Oakland and St. Thomas would stay even to make the score 22 -17 starting the second quarter. The Golden Grizzlies were active in the paint as <u>Madison Royal-Davis</u> cashed in a layup, and an aggressive <u>Maddy Skorupski</u> got a point at the free throw line.

Danni Grim would help Oakland extend their lead with a basket before the buzzer making the score 31-24 at halftime.

The Golden Grizzlies took advantage of their shots in the first half as they led in field goal percentage (,444 FG%), and 3 point percentage (.286 FG%) against the Tommies.

The Tommies however dominated the boards as they led the Golden Grizzlies in both Rebounds (24-to-15), and Offensive Rebounds (12-to-5).

<u>Maddy Skorupski</u> led the Golden Grizzlies in points (9), and assists (2), while <u>Sereniti</u> Roberts-Adams led the team in rebounds with five.

St. Thomas opened the half strong as they cut into the Oakland lead making the score 35-33. The Tommies used a combination of fast break points in the paint and some made three pointers to get back in it.

The run would continue as St. Thomas would take the lead, and go up 46-37 as they continued to score in bunches.

With the momentum turning in the Tommies favor they held the lead over Oakland 51-43 at the end of the Third Quarter.

Oakland would make a run back at St. Thomas, closing the gap to 53-48, <u>Macy Smith</u> hit a three pointer and <u>Maddy Skorupski</u> made two free throws in a five point swing to help inch the Golden Grizzlies closer.

Capitalized by another <u>Maddy Skorupski</u> triple, the Golden Grizzlies would continue to fight back making the score 61-55 in favor of the Tommies with 4:30 to go.

<u>Maddy Skorupski</u> would continue to put the team on her back as she hit a big and-one layup and free throw to cut the deficit five with less than three minutes to go.

Unfortunately it wasn't enough as the Golden Grizzlies couldn't overcome the Tommies strong second half performance as St. Thomas took the victory 73-62.

The Golden Grizzlies had one of their best offensive nights of the season, shooting nearly .400 from the floor and reaching their second highest scoring total of the season.

<u>Maddy Skorupski</u> finished with a game-high 24 points (7-of-12 FG) along with three steals, three assists, and three rebounds. Roberts-Adams ended the night with six points and a team-high five rebounds.

For St. Thomas, Jo Langhben and Amber Scalia combined for 44 points (22 each) as they scorched the Golden Grizzlies in the paint.

The Golden Grizzlies will be back in action on Sunday Nov. 24th at 1 p.m. as they make the short trip to Mount Pleasant to take on Central Michigan the game will also air on ESPN+.