

By JASON EPP

• Dialy Leader

For the second year in a row, the Oil Center Classic in Woodward, Oklahoma came down to Beaver County rivals Turpin and Forgan. Forgan came away with a tough 54-46 win to bring home their second tournament championship of the season.

“I knew this game would be a grinder,” said Forgan coach Todd Kerr. “Both teams know what each other wants to do. Defensively they gave us big fits.”

Turpin did put the clamps on defensively and led 8-4 after the first quarter, with both teams struggling to get good shots off.

Ryan Radcliff took control in the second quarter scoring 11 of his game high 29, to help the Bulldogs take a slim 21-18 lead at halftime.

“We did a good job of holding (Jake) Regier down, but we could not get Ryan Radcliffe stopped,” said Cardinals coach Gary Wallace.

In the two previous meetings Turpin had struggled to keep Regier in check, but was able to shut him out in this game. The Cardinals also stayed even in rebounding to limit Forgan’s second chances.

“I thought they focused on having a body on us when the shot went up,” said Kerr. “They were real aggressive on the boards and stayed even with us. That’s something no one has been able

to do this year.”

Turpin came back in the third with balanced scoring and both teams headed to the fourth knotted at 33.

Keifer Hood tried to win it for Turpin with 11 of his 15 points coming in the final period, but the Bulldogs made enough shots from the field and took care of business at the free throw line, making 23 of 29. Ryan Radcliff was a perfect 15-of-15 at the charity stripe.

Both coaches see great value in competing in tough tournaments.

“It was a grind it out win against a really good team,” said Kerr. “I’m glad we don’t have to play again. For us, it’s all about getting better every time out, that’s our goal.”

“It was a game of runs,” said Wallace. “We had our chances to win. We had a lead in the fourth quarter, but made a few mistakes late. I was happy with our effort and know these games like this will get us ready for the playoffs.”

Forgan’s Ryan Radcliff was named the tournament MVP, Rhett Radcliff also made all-tournament, and Jake Regier won the sixth-man award. Turpin’s Konner Hood and Keifer Hood were both named to the all-tournament team.

Dusters take consolation

The Beaver Dusters won the consolation final 62-44 over the Waynoka Railroaders to finish 2-1 in the tournament and improve their overall record to 10-5.

Coe Triplet scored 15 points, Sameul Becker added 10, and Jacob Bridwell scored nine for the

Dusters.