

By Phil Sandoval

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Turpin boys basketball coach Gary Wallace said having a flock of veterans to turn to was the difference for the Cardinals in their 41-27 win over Guymon. In fact, he depends on it.



“Our top seven (players) are seniors. I thought experience played a big key,” Wallace said.

Fittingly, it was Turpin’s seniors who shifted the game from a tight battle with the Tigers to an easy win.

After watching a four-point lead, the Cardinals had fashioned at the end of the first quarter lead shrink to 11-9 when Guymon’s Trey Fankhouser hit a basket to start the second period. Turpin’s seniors responded.

Braydon Robinson and Konner Hood each had a bucket in the next 50 seconds to raise Turpin’s lead back to six points. Hood put Guymon away a couple of possessions later with a 3-pointer after the Tiger’s Ricardo Vazquez missed from downtown on the opposite end.

The six-point switch put Turpin up 20-11. Turpin never let the lead drop below six points after that.

Holding Guymon to one shot defensively maintained Turpin’s big lead, Wallace said.

“The key was we got offensive and defensive boards,” he said. “That was a big difference.”