

Last Second Shot Costs Bulldogs the Win

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs lost a 1-point game to the Palco Roosters in Rexford on February 21 with a last second three shot from the Rooster giving Palco the win 47-46 in Golden Plains' last game of the regular season.

The Bulldogs and Roosters started off the first with a close game before the Roosters pulled ahead 8-7. A basket by Jaime Infante regained the Bulldogs lead but the Roosters controlled the last couple minutes of the quarter to lead 14-9.

Fabian Cepeda stole the ball and made a layup to start off the second. Another Infante basket brought the game back to within one but the Rooster continued to make shots as both teams added 10 in the second to go into the half with a 24-19 Rooster lead.

Wade Rush opened the third with a couple of three point shots for Golden Plains. Infante continued to work the ball in underneath the basket while Ashton Schiltz added another bucket to help the Dogs outscore the Roosters 13-9 in the third making it a one point game 32-33 with the Roosters still holding the lead.

Both teams played with emotion as the fourth quarter clock clicked down. Palco extended their lead early in the quarter but shots from Rush and Cepeda brought the game to within two midway through. The Rooster hit again only to have Schiltz answer with his own basket.

A couple of baskets from Harley Weese kept the Dogs with two with under a minute and a half to play. With 28 seconds on the clock, Infante hit once more to tie the game up at 44. Weese then made two free throws to give the Bulldogs a 46-44 lead with just seconds remaining. Palco called a timeout and came back on the floor to hit a long three with just 10 seconds remaining. The Bulldogs took the ball but ran out of time giving the Roosters the win 47-46.

"It was an intense game," said Jaime Infante who led the Bulldogs with 12 points. Harley Weese and Wade Rush each added 11. Ashton Schiltz put in 6, Fabian Cepeda 4, and Joseph Yanez-Perez 2.

Weese led the team with 12 rebounds along with Rush 9, Schiltz 5, Jaime Infante 4, Colby Lathrop 4, Cepeda 1, Jovanny Infante 1, and Kole Butts 1. Cepeda had 6 assists and 7 steals. Rush had 3 assists, 1 steal, and 1 block. Weese had 2 assists and 3 steals. Austin Patmon had 1 assist and Lathrop had 2, while Jaime Infante had 2 steals and Schiltz 1.

"We are playing more as a team than at the beginning of the season after we adjusted to everyone's strengths. We realize we need to get the next game to continue the season." The Bulldogs, who are now 4-17 on the season, will face Palco again on February 24 for the quarter final game of Regionals in Rexford.