

## Dusters drop regional championship to Cheyenne

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By JASON EPP

Leader & Times

A late rally by the defending state champions Cheyenne proved too much to overcome as the Beaver Dusters fell in the regional championship game, 48-33.

“It was a really good for two-and-half quarters,” Dusters coach Garrett Bebermeyer said. “They shut us down at the offensive end. We didn’t do a bad job defensively; we just couldn’t score.”

Beaver had cut Cheyenne’s lead to just three at half (22-19), and scored the first six points of the third to take the lead with five minutes left in the quarter.

Cheyenne did not allow Beaver to score the rest of the third, and led 34-25 heading into the fourth.

“I think it was one of those things where once we had the lead we thought we had it,”

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Bebermeyer said. "They have a lot of big-game experience and it didn't rattle them at all. They punched back and we didn't handle it."

Cheyenne outscored the Dusters 14-8 in the fourth to win by 15.

Cheyenne started the game on fire, missing only one shot in the first quarter, while building a 17-10 lead.

"It took us a little time to warm up," Bebermeyer said. "I think we were a little unsure of ourselves at first, but then woke up and put together a pretty good little run."

Beaver shut down Cheyenne's offense in the second quarter, holding them to just five points. But Beaver could only muster nine, and still trailed.

Garrett Weber led the Dusters in scoring with 13 points; Kaleb McDonald added 11.

Beaver (15-11) still advances to the Area tournament at the Chisholm Trail Expo Center in Enid, but will have to win three straight games to make it to the State tournament. The Dusters will take on fellow Panhandle Conference foe, Laverne, Thursday at 3 p.m.