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The Guymon Daily Herald

TURPIN — Dylan Koehn nailed a 3-pointer at the final buzzer to lift the Texhoma Red Devils to a 46-45 win over Turpin on Tuesday night in a game the host Cardinals out-played Red Devils. The winning play wasn't exactly what Texhoma head coach Greg Higgins had drawn up after the Red Devils (4-3 overall) got the ball with 31 seconds left in the game, down two after Turpin's Davian Ratzlaff hit two free throws to break a 43-all tie.

"We were actually going for the two," Higgins said. "We went inside, they stopped it, we kicked it back and hit the three."



Nathan Knitig got the ball in the paint, but was met by a wall of Cardinals, so he kicked it back to Koehn, who calmly nailed the shot at the buzzer.

Up to that point, Turpin out-played Texhoma in just about every facet of the game.

"Give credit to Turpin, they played their butts off," Higgins said. "They out-played us in all aspects of the game — offensively were having success, defensively they were getting loose balls, they were on the floor, out-rebounded us, out-shot free throws.

“We just found a way to win.”

Turpin jumped to an early 9-3 lead thanks to Isaac Resendiz and Jordan Lujan, who was the offensive juggernaut for Turpin with a game-high 22 points.

But the Red Devils wouldn't go away, cutting it to 9-8 at the end of the first period thanks to Knitig and Koehn, who got a steal and a hoop, then made a free throw to bring it to a 1-point game.

Texhoma took a brief lead in the second quarter after Lujan put the Cards back up by three. Koehn made it 1-point again and Knitig got a steal and basket to give the Red Devils a 14-13 lead, which the Cardinals quickly erased and surged out to a 19-16 halftime advantage.

Turpin led by as much as six points in the third quarter, with Matt Young, Kyler Musgrave, Isaac Resendiz and Lujan leading the charge.

But down six, Texhoma ended the period on a 6-0 run that was capped by a Javier Amaya trey at the closing buzzer of the third to tie it at 32.

Texhoma would surge ahead by as much as five thanks to Knitig, who scored a team-high 18 points, and Koehn, who added 16 points for the game.

Texhoma led 43-39 when the Cardinals made their move.

Young hit a 3-pointer to cut it to one and a turnover and foul by Texhoma put Ratzlaff on the line with 1:37 to go for the tying free throw.

## **Buzzer-beater lifts Texhoma over Turpin 46-45**

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Knitig missed the front-end of a 1-and-1 opportunity, giving Turpin the ball in a tie game with a minute to play. The Cardinals passed around looking for an open lane, when Ratzlaff was put on the line with 31 seconds left, making both free throws and setting up Texhoma's game-winning shot.

"We we shot 21 percent in the first half," Higgins said. "We missed a lot of easy shots. We shot 28 times in the first half, 18 of them were inside the lane and we scored six baskets.

"That's just horrible. Give credit to Turpin, they roughed us up and played physical with us."

The Red Devils pressed a little more in the second half, forcing Turpin to make some bad shots.

Turpin will host Laverne Friday for their final game before the Christmas break.