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BEAVER Okla.—Leading by just four points after a last minute surge by Hooker to end the third quarter, the Beaver Dusters responded with a 10-0 run to start the final period that put the game out of reach. Beaver went on to win, 59-46.

“I was proud of the way we finished that game,” Dusters coach Craig Schlessman said. “We didn’t let up, and got after it in a convincing fashion in the fourth quarter.”

And for Beaver, this was just 24 hours removed from a down-to-the-wire game against Southwestern Heights that was played at a fast pace.

After both teams traded baskets and started the game tied at six, Beaver went on an 11-2 run to end the first quarter up 17-8 with Jorge Rivera tallying 8 of those points.

“I noticed early they were trying to take away Garrett (Weber) and that opened things up for Jorge (Rivera),” Schlessman said. “Some of our other guys picked up the slack. Hadley did a good job scoring as well.”

Hooker bounced back with an attacking, driving style of play that got them to the free throw line where they made 11 of 15 in the second quarter. Hooker went on a 16-7 run to tie the game at 24 with 2:14 left until half.

Beaver led by three, 28-25 at the half.

Hooker's John Godfrey tied the game less than thirty seconds into the second half with a three, but Beaver answered with a 15-4 run that included holding Hooker scoreless for over four minutes.

"We switched over to a zone and it forced them to make passes that they didn't want to make," Schlessman said. "It also changed the pace of the game."

"They went zone on us, and we didn't handle it well," Hussey said. "We had some silly turnovers."

With Beaver now leading 43-32 with a minute left in the half, Hooker looked to be on the ropes, but the Bulldogs rallied to score the final seven points of the quarter to cut the lead back to just 43-39 heading into the fourth.

"When we dribble penetrated we did well, but when a shot or two didn't fall, we got our heads down," Bulldogs coach Chad Hussey said. "It happens with young players. Our kids are getting better, but you can't make mistakes against good teams like Beaver."

Beaver's Jorge Rivera finished with 21 points on 9 of 13 shooting and 3 of 4 at the charity stripe. Garrett Weber tallied 16 on 6 of 12 shooting, and 4 of 5 at the free throw line.

Hooker was led by Dakotah McBride with 17 points on 8 of 15 shooting; and John Godfrey

finished with 14, including 7 of 7 at the free throw line.

Beaver (14-9) will take on the winner of the Boise City-Texhoma game Saturday night in Texhoma for the district championship.

Hooker (5-14) will travel to Guymon Saturday.