

Balko beats Bobcats with second half play

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The Balko Bison trailed the Tyrone Bobcats by three at half, but with a strong second half came away with a 61-54 win.

Tyrone took the early lead, 16-11 in the first quarter with Nerlin Rivera nailing a pair of threes, and Willie Slater scoring six points inside.

Balko grabbed a 14-12 advantage in the second quarter by spreading their scoring between five different players, while Ethan Reece scored half the Bobcats points in the quarter. Tyrone's lead was cut to 28-25 at the half.

Balko outscored Tyrone 18-13 in the third to overcome the Bobcats and take a 43-41 lead into the fourth.

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The Bison again outscored the Bobcats 18-13 to win by seven.

Balko finished the game 9 of 11 at the line. Tyrone was 5 of 9.

Tristan Villians and Jordan Busch each scored 16 for the Bison. Busch did his damage from the outside with a pair of threes. Villians did his inside and at the line, going 6 for 6 at the charity stripe.

Casper Wyatt added 14, and Grady Frantz 8 for the Bison.

Ethan Reece scored 20 for the Bobcats, Willie Slater 16, and Nerlin Rivera 11.

Balko (13-9) will host the Buffalo-Hardesty winner for the district championship Saturday.

Tyrone (13-8) will take on the Yarbrough-Forgan winner Saturday in Forgan for the district championship.