



Coaches vs. Cancer game raises hopes and \$\$\$

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@bullardnews.com

The Bullard Lady Panthers embarked on a mission supporting Coaches Vs Cancer this last Friday night, as BHS took a sweep over Tatum in District 17-3A play.

Before the game, Tatum joined in by wearing pink T-shirts, and both the Panthers boys and girls teams sported pink headbands and socks to show their support on the court.

However, it was off the court that made the difference at the game, as the Lady Panthers collected a combined \$1,600-plus in a group effort.

"Kala (Morrow) and Nanci (Dixon), the BHS volleyball coaches, had their girls doing some sales and donations and Mrs. Spears and Minta really got the drama department involved, and it really grew into quite an event," said the head girls hoops coach, Greg Gay.

"Minta did a lot of extra work with the headbands and socks for the team, and the entire student body and community really showed a lot of support packing out the gym," Gay added.

The drama club alone chipped in

a hard-earned \$414 to the cause, and the volleyball team added in another \$460 to the count.

Donation basketballs were posted at one end of the floor for all money donations made, while T-Shirts and wristbands were sold throughout the game.

The American Cancer Society has flourished monetarily, due in part to different programs that have taken on the fight against cancer.

This past weekend, coaches nationwide used a wide variety of fundraisers and charity causes to support the never-ending battle against cancer.

"It all started back when Norm Stewart (former Missouri coach) had been battling cancer for a while," Bullard head girls head basketball coach Greg Gay began. "He began by getting people to donate freely and then Jim Valvano passed on due to cancer, but started the Jimmy 'V' Foundation as just one of the many avenues the American Cancer Society has for support, as well as from the NBA, NCAA and other sports venues."

The Lady Panthers tried to get the

program implemented last season, but just didn't have the time to get it started. This year was a different situation, with added incentive.

"We all knew on the team last year about Mrs (Cindy) Covalt and her battle with cancer, and we wanted to do something last year," said team captain, Minta Spears, "but this year we made sure that we got it going early on, and it has been an inspiration to the team to see Mrs Covalt put up the fight the way she has and is always so positive around the team...it's just amazing."

And in the words of Cindy Covalt a few weeks ago, "the only way to get through something like cancer is family, friends, and faith."

Mrs. Covalt said after the presentation, "I am so proud of the girls, and what they did, I think, really set a precedence and awareness for the school and community," Covalt said. "Just how far cancer research has come, and with their volunteer help and donations, it really can make a big difference."

Great job, BHS, in your above-and-beyond the call support of the American Cancer Society.



(Banner Staff Photo by Doc Smith)

Lady Panther, Ally Covalt, gives her mom, Cindy, a hug after presenting her with a pink autographed basketball from the Lady Panthers during a pre-game ceremony at the Coaches vs. Cancer game against Tatum last week.

Lady Panthers look pretty in pink; bomb away on Tatum for 74-47 win in district to maintain top spot

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@bullardnews.com

BULLARD – The Lady Panthers Coaches vs. Cancer was a huge success both on the court and in the stands, as it was a pink-laden audience and Bullard teams, as the Lady Panthers swept Tatum last Friday night.

Minta Spears started the scoring with a 3-pointer, and finished with only 12 points, but her down the court passing led to numerous Bullard lay ups.

Spears finished the game with 14 assists, for a double-double.

The game began with a special presentation to Cindy Covalt, the mother of player Ally Covalt, for her courage while enduring her current battle with cancer.

It was all the more fitting as daughter, Ally scored the final 10-points in the game, for the 74-47 thrashing of the

Lady Eagles of Tatum.

The win gets the second round of district play, with a 22-8 overall record and a 6-0 league mark, meaning Bullard started as the first round ended, undefeated and ranked 17th by the current TABC poll.

The junior varsity Lady Panthers got two 3-pointers and a game-high 14 points from point guard, Kylee Nichols, as Bullard improves to 5-2 in JV loop action.

The Lady Panthers played at Gladewater on Tuesday night, and will travel to play at Chapel Hill on Friday night.

District 17-3A Girls Basketball

Bullard 74, Tatum 47

Tatum 6 12 17 12 - 47

Bullard 16 21 20 17 - 74

TATUM - Jessica Shane, 13; Sydni Cantreera, 6; Loren Glezen, 8; Kathryn Turner, 5; Haley Hartt, 2; Kelsey Gonzales, 3; Hope Sim-

mons, 5; Sam Gage, 4.

BULLARD – Ashley Phillips, 4; Ashely Ricci, 14; Ally Covalt, 15; Samantha Phillips, 5; Minta Spears, 12, Ashlee Shidler, 9; Christina Hatten, 9; Kayla Welling, 6.

THREE POINT GOALS - B: Spears (2), Phillips, Hatten, Ricci.

RECORDS - Bullard 22-8; 6-0.

NEXT UP – Bullard at Chapel Hill, Fri., 6 p.m. .JV plays at 5 p.m.

Junior Varsity

Bullard 42, Tatum 21

Tatum 2 4 4 11 - 21

Bullard 9 9 19 5 - 42

TATUM – Hatfield, Roberts, 3; Pea, 7; Nickerson, 8; Wilson, 3.

BULLARD – Kylee Nichols, 14; Chelsie Southerland, 9; Chelsea Foreman, 3; Heather Anding, 8; Devin Soto, 2; Deborah Thompson, 2; Ashley Hawkins, 2.

THREE POINT GOALS - B: Nichols (2), Anding (2), Southerland.. T:none.

RECORDS – Bullard 15-10; 5-2.

Lady Buckeyes no test for 13th-ranked Bullard

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
news@nullardnews.com

GILMER - The 17th-ranked Lady Panthers remain undefeated in district 17-3A action, with a 60-22 win over Gilmer on Tuesday, at Buckeye Gymnasium.

After a slow start, Heather Camp broke the ice for Bullard with a 3-pointer at the 5:20 mark, as Bullard took a 12-6 lead after the opening period.

Lady Panther, Christina Hatten led all scorers in the game with 16 points, and hit a 3-pointer for three of her eight first-half points for a 18-8 lead, with 5:25 left before intermission.

Hatten continued to lead the way, scoring with two more 3-pointers for another eight points in the third period, for a 43-20 advantage.

Once again, substituting 'by-committee', the Lady Panthers stretched the lead in the final period as Samantha Phillips knocked down a jumper in the lane ,for a 52-22 cushion.

Paige Waters led the Lady Buckeyes (5-15 0-6), with a team-high, eight-points in the loss.

Earlier in the afternoon, Chelsea Foreman

scored a game-high 14 points, to lead the junior varsity to a 42-30 win over the Lady Buckeyes.

Gilmer travels to play at Chapel Hill on Friday, while Bullard entertains Tatum on Friday, with both games set for 6 p.m. tip offs.

District 17-3A

Girls Basketball

Bullard 60, Gilmer 22

Bullard 12 18 13 17 - 60

Gilmer 6 6 8 2 - 22

BULLARD – Ashley Phillips, 3; Ashley Ricci, 2; Heather Camp, 3; Ally Covalt, 2; Samantha Phillips, 11; Minta Spears, 11; Ashlee Shidler, 4; Christina Hatten, 16; Kayla Welling, 8.

GILMER – Marketa Brown, 2; Paige Waters, 8; Taylor Jones, 4; Jasmin Bennett, 2; Mikela Noble, 4; Liz Perez, 2. .

THREE POINT GOALS – B: Hatten (4), S. Phillips, (2), Camp, A. Phillips, G. .

RECORDS – Bullard 22-8; 6-0. Gilmer 5-15; 0-6.

NEXT UP – Bullard at Chapel Hill, Fri. 6 .m.

Junior Varsity Game

Bullard 42, Gilmer 30

Bullard 11 9 6 16 - 42

Gilmer 5 3 9 13 - 30

BULLARD – Kylee Nichols, 10; Chelsie Southerland, 9; Chelsea Foreman, 14; Heather Anding, 6; Savannah Pinion, 3.

GILMER - Sykes, 3; Potter, 1; Ayers, 2; Ogelsby, 3; Jones, 9; Shaw, 8; Johnson, 4.

THREE POINT GOALS – B: Anding (2), Nichols, G; Shaw.

NEXT UP - Bullard at Chapel Hill, Fri. 5 p.m.



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