



### By Larry Pritchett

*Former Activities Director*

The Perkins County Plainsmen boys hosted the Kimball Longhorns in the home season opener for the host team and fell victim to the Kimball boys by a 47-33 score.

The Plainsmen stayed competitive by forcing 23 Longhorn turnovers but their inability to put the ball in the basket with any regularity caused them problems the entire contest.

The Longhorns turned the ball over on their first possession. Plainsman Jake Sexson answered with a three pointer and the Plainsmen jumped to a 3-0 lead. Then the Plainsmen offense began to struggle and Kimball promptly ran eight straight points before the Plainsmen could get a couple of two-pointers. The first period ended with the Plainsmen trailing 8-7.

The second period started much like the first with Jake Sexson hitting another three and the Plainsmen had a 10-8 lead. Quinton Hite added another three-point score to stretch the Plainsmen lead to five and after Sexson hit one of two free throws, PCS had pushed the lead to six points.

Blake Poppe and Sexson matched the Kimball team on field goals for the next couple of possessions before the Longhorns then ran the last six of the quarter to lead at the half 23-18.

After the half, the Plainsmen started to struggle both offensively and defensively and Kimball began the quarter with five straight points that pushed their lead to double digits at 10.

Alex Johnston answered with a 15-footer to cut the lead to eight, but then the Plainsmen offense couldn't generate enough points in the second half to keep up and the Longhorns outscored the Plainsmen 15-24 to take the 33-47 win.

For the game, the Plainsmen hit on only 13-51 from two for 25 percent and 6-23 from three for 26 percent. Also the Plainsmen only got to the free throw line four times hitting just one for a 25 percent effort for the night.

Kimball hit on 18 of 46 shots from two for 39 percent and only one of six from three. The Longhorns did get to the line 24 times but only connected on 10.

In the rebounding battle, the Longhorns controlled the boards picking off 26 rebounds to the Plainsmen's 16.

For the Plainsmen, they were led in scoring by Jake Sexson and Quinton Hite who each had nine. Sexson also had seven rebounds and Tim Johnson had six. Taylor Boldt led the team in steals with four. The loss left the Plainsmen with a record of 1-2 as they travelled to Gothenburg

on Saturday to play the Swedes.

### **Next Action**

The Plainsmen host Sidney Friday night, Dec. 16, and travel to Dundy County Saturday. They play the Indians in Ogallala on Tuesday, Dec. 20.