



**By Tim Linscott**  
*Managing Editor*

For all intents and purposes, the Perkins County boys basketball team had a good SPVA tournament.

PCS started out the tournament with a close loss to Sutherland, 48-42.

Sutherland held a 11-10 lead after one period and a 24-22 lead at the half.

Despite several scoring surges in the second half, the Sailors kept the Plainsmen at bay, outscoring PCS 11-10 in the third quarter and 13-11 in the fourth quarter.

PCS led in several key statistical categories, including free throw percentage (8 of 11 for 72

percent) and rebounds (29 for PCS, 23 for Sutherland).

PCS pulled down eight offensive rebounds compared to Sutherland's four. PCS had a 12-7 assists advantage and a 7-3 advantage in the steals category.

Sutherland led in turnovers, 10-7.

PCS head basketball coach Shawn Cole felt his team was close to earning a victory, but the defensive pressure necessary to win the game just wasn't there against Sutherland.

"Lots of moments could have been the difference in the game. I feel that we needed to play better defense to give us a chance to win," Cole said.

Scoring was evenly distributed among the Plainsmen players. Six PCS players put points on the board with Zak Kurkowski racking up nine points, two blocks and six rebounds.

Matt Sestak had eight points and six rebounds while Tim Johnson had seven points, two steals, six assists (team high) and seven rebounds. Derek Sis posted seven points, one steal, one assist and seven rebounds against the Sailors and Chase Miyamoto chipped in six points, two steals, three assists and one board.

Christian White scored six points, with two steals, two assists and two rebounds.

### **PCS vs. Maxwell**

In the fifth place game PCS faced Maxwell and established a lead in the first half that it never relinquished.

PCS was up 14-10 after one period and posted a 12-4 second quarter score to be up 26-14 at the half. Despite a fourth quarter points flurry by the Wildcats, PCS was able to cruise to a 48-34 victory.

"Keep playing hard. That was the main goal for our team against Maxwell. We knew we had a chance to win but it was going to take a full game of hard work," Cole said.

The Plainsmen shot 41 percent (19 of 46) from the floor, holding Maxwell to 28 percent shooting.

PCS was 9 of 14 from the free throw line and dominated the boards. The Plainsmen had a 38-26 rebounding advantage, including a 32-20 defensive board lead.

The Plainsmen guards were distributing the ball around all game, picking up 18 assists in the contest (Maxwell had six). Seven different players had an assist in the game for the Plainsmen.

"The players were executing the offense the way it was designed to run. We were looking for each other and making shots when we had them open," Cole said.

PCS guard Derek Sis could not be contained by anyone from Maxwell trying to guard him. Sis scored 28 points, shooting 10 of 17 from the floor and 8 of 9 from the line. He also put up six rebounds, one assist with two steals.

Johnson had five points, four assists and nine boards while Miyamoto picked up three points, five assists (team high) with seven rebounds.

Finishing the game with four points was Kurkowski, picking up three assists and seven rebounds.

Sestak had four points, one lock, two assists and four rebounds while White had four points, one steal, two assists and one rebound.

PCS will travel to Maxwell on Friday.

"We will play pressure defense and try to get the ball inside," Cole said about his team's upcoming match-up against the Wildcats.

The Plainsmen is slated to face Chase County on Feb. 3 and Sidney on Feb. 4. Both contests are home games. The final two home games for the Plainsmen will be Feb. 10 against Ogallala and Feb. 21 against Hershey.

Sub-district action will take place Feb. 24, 25, 27 and March 3.