

# Bearden's layup lifts Tylertown over Choctaw Co.

By Jordean Arceneaux  
Enterprise-Journal

The Tylertown Chiefs are headed to the Final 4.

Dralen Bearden's layup with two seconds left propelled the Chiefs to a 39-38 win over the Choctaw County Chargers Saturday morning at the Mississippi Coliseum.

"Our concept going in was speed up the pace of the game, deny the ball and get the steal," said Tylertown head coach Jeremy Harrell. "It couldn't have been a better person to do it. He's a senior. At that point, the only thing I could think about was telling God thank you."

Kendarious Robertson's layup with 58 seconds left in the first quarter gave Tylertown its largest lead of the first quarter at 11-5.

A little over two minutes into the second quarter, Choctaw County claimed a 12-11 lead on Jeremy Miller's basket.

The team's traded baskets for the rest of the quarter, with

Tylertown holding on to a 17-16 halftime lead.

Key Triplett's three put the Chargers ahead 29-21 with 1:45 left in the third quarter.

Bearden's 3-pointer sent the Chiefs into the final quarter trailing 29-25.

Carey Gutter's jumper cut the deficit to 36-35 with 2:34 left in the game.

On Choctaw's next pos session, Miller extended the Charger the lead to 38-35.

Gutter made it a one-point game on a layup with 46 seconds left. Gutter earned a steal with nine seconds remaining that set the stage for Bearden's game-winning bucket.

"The kids were so excited," Harrell said.

Bearden led the Chiefs with 22 points. Other scorers were: Ja'rule Melvin (5) and Robertson, Jashon Baker and Gutter (4).

Robertson, Tylertown's leading scorer, had to leave the game early because of an injury, but Harrell said he expects him to be ready for



(Photo by Keith Warren, MHSAA)

Tylertown's Dralen Bearden attempts a layup during Saturday's game against Choctaw County in Jackson.

Wednesday's semifinal matchup.

The Chiefs shot nearly 35 percent from the field for the game, but held the Chargers to 30 percent shooting.

Tylertown advances to face St. Andrew's Episcopal at noon Wednesday.

St. Andrew's defeated

Panola 56-43 Saturday.

Harrell said St. Andrew's has a point guard that the Chiefs will need to contain to be successful.

"I'm just proud of these guys," the coach said. "You can't count them out. They work hard and the hard work paid off."

# Dickerson traded to Pittsburgh

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## Chiefs to semi-final

The Saturday win sets up a midweek game Wednesday, noon, at the Mississippi Coliseum as the Chiefs will take on St. Andrews.

A win Wednesday would mean a trip to the champion game Saturday at the coliseum and a possible 3A basketball championship.

Bearden was the Player of the Game.

WTYL will air the game on 97.7 FM and 1290 AM. Those with internet access will be able to hear the game via computer by going to The Times website:

[www.thetylertown-times.org](http://www.thetylertown-times.org) and clicking on the EZ-Stream logo.

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All-Star designated hitter Corey Dickerson has been traded to Pittsburgh. Tampa Bay made the swap in exchange for relief pitcher Daniel Hudson and minor league infielder Tristan Gray.

Dickerson, grandson of local residents Marion and Francis McKenzie, was the American League's starting designated hitter in last summer's All-Star game.

Dickerson batted .282 with 27 home runs and 62 RBIs last season. He came to Tampa Bay from the Colorado Rockies in January 2016.