

Game helps fight pediatric cancer



JOHN CEBALLOS/STAFF

Bloomington High social studies teacher James Booth defends an inbound pass from Bulls senior Greg Holland during the student-faculty basketball game May 6.

By TBO.COM

Published: May 16, 2011

VALRICO -- For the first time this season, Bloomington High basketball players were the visiting team in their own gym.

On May 6, the school hosted its second annual Beef 'O' Brady's student-faculty basketball game. Proceeds benefited Lyrics for Life and the fight against pediatric cancer.

The "home" squad was comprised of Bloomington teachers, who avenged last year's loss by defeating the students 65-51. The faculty built a 35-25 lead at halftime, but the game got considerably tighter toward the end of the fourth quarter.

"It was a four-point game with a little over a minute to go," said Joseph Willis, Bloomington's boys hoops coach. "We hit some foul shots to pull away in the end."

More importantly, the contest raised more than \$1,500 for Lyrics for Life, an increase from the \$1,300 raised last year.

Lyrics for Life was founded by Sister Hazel front man Ken Block to honor his younger brother, Jeffrey, who was 14 when he was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoma and died four years later.