

Cougar Sports *By Bru & the Crew*

The Cheylin basketball teams wrapped-up the regular season last week with home games against the Rawlins County Buffaloes and the Golden Plains Bulldogs. How did the Cougars handle these final regular season games? Let's take a look at the highs and the lows of the final week of the regular season.

Cheylin vs Rawlins County

The first game of the week came on Tuesday when the Cougars faced off against the Buffaloes of Rawlins County. This is always a rivalry game as well. Both of these teams always hold a deep desire to best each other. This game is perhaps most important to the McDonald and Beardsley students of Cheylin, as it is their Battle for the Courthouse. This night followed the script perfectly with both teams playing their hearts out.

The junior varsity girls lost a tough one in their game. The junior

varsity boys didn't have a game due to Rawlins County's player issues.

Next came the varsity ladies game. The ladies came out a bit sluggish, but still held a 14-13 lead after the first quarter. However, the ladies slipped a bit in the second quarter and fell behind 30-24 by half time.

The third quarter made things even worse, and the ladies faced a 44-31 deficit heading into the final quarter. The ladies tried to mount the comeback and they cut the deficit to four, but that was as close as they ever got.

Our ladies suffered a disappointing loss by a final score of 57-51.

The Varsity men played the final game of the night. The Cougars came out slow and were down 5-0 right off the bat.

The end of the first quarter came and the Cougars were still down 13-9. The second half was a back-

and-forth battle as well, with both teams going all out. The Cougars trailed 24-22 headed into the locker room at halftime.

The third quarter was really the turning point for the Cougars. They were able to gain the lead for the first time and were able to hold that lead, 39-36, heading into the fourth. The Cougars were able to hold strong in the fourth, playing hard defense and shooting well from the free throw line. This effort gave the Cougars the win by a final score of 55-47. Another great win for our Cougar men.

Cheylin vs Golden Plains

The final games of the week, and regular season, came on Friday against the Golden Plains Bulldogs. This was a last chance for many seniors to play on their home floor, so naturally there was an abundance of emotion.

The junior varsity ladies suffered a difficult loss in their three-quarters game. The junior varsity boys came out gunning and were able to pick apart the Bulldog junior varsity. The JV boys led 23-12 at the half and they were able to play tenacious defense in the second half, giving up only five points to the Bulldogs. All five points came in the fourth quarter, meaning of course that the Bulldogs were held scoreless all third quarter. A great win to finish the season for our JV men. Final score: Cheylin 42 Golden Plains 17.

The Varsity ladies were upset minded heading into their final home game. The Bulldogs had beaten the Lady Cougars twice already this year and the Cougars were ready to put that streak to an end. They got out to a good start and led 14-11 after the first. The lead slipped away in a rough second quarter and the ladies were down 28-25 at the half.

The third quarter was a stalemate; neither team losing nor gaining ground and the Cougars still trailed 42-39. The Cougars gained a one point lead early fourth quarter and they were able to stay ahead heading into the final moments.

The ladies had several chances to ice the game at the free-throw line, but they were unable to do so. The ladies were up 47-45 with just a little time left.

The Bulldogs had the ball and missed, but they were able to tie the game on an offensive rebound and put-back shot with just 3.9 seconds left. The Cougars had the ball for the final shot. However, the ladies couldn't get the ball in and they turned the ball over on a five-second call.

The Bulldogs would now have the ball for the final shot of the game. The Bulldogs inbounded the



TY CARMICHAEL gets past the Bulldog defender at Friday night's game.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez



ELIZABETH KELTZ and Danae Magnani are ready to rebound the ball against the Bulldogs.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

ball and the shot was up going..... going..... swish! The Cougars had lost it at the buzzer.

Final score: Golden Plains 49 Cheylin 47. This was a truly heart-breaking loss for our Cougars.

The men's varsity game was the final game of the night. The whole first half was a defensive battle and the Cougars led 14-9 heading into half time. The second half was considerably less successful. The Cougars failed to find their touch when it came to shooting and the hard defense just didn't continue.

The boys fell behind mid third quarter and could never pull themselves out of the funk. The boys suffered a disappointing loss on senior night. One interesting statistic from this game is that the Bulldogs shot 33 free throws and the Cougars shot 11. At any rate a lot of hard, emotion-filled losses on this senior night.

Regular season stats

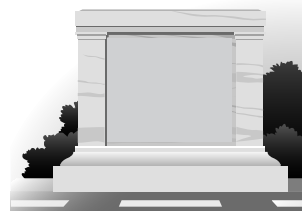
The Cougars men finish the

regular season with 10 wins and 11 losses. They will be a four seed in this week's sub-state tournament in Grinnell. The Cougar Ladies finished the season with 13 wins and 7 losses. They will be a three seed in the sub-state tournament.

I would like to give my best to seniors Ty Carmichael, Walker Janicke, Eddie Frisbee, Russell (Rusty) Porubsky, Casey Vandike, Matyas Cimbulka, and Shayla Hubbard. Your contributions to Cheylin basketball have been immeasurably valuable and you all provide inspiration and serve as

leaders on the court for your teammates. Let us also remember our other seniors: Connor Hazuka, Ellie Pochop, Susannah Jones, Blaine Burns, and Rocio Flores. All of you serve as classroom leaders and your contributions are great as well. I'm sure the whole community agrees when I wish all of our senior's success in whatever aspect of life they may find it. I also wish them luck in the rest of basketball and the rest of the school year. GO COUGARS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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For more information Contact: Mila Bandel, RN, County Health Nurse 785-332-2381. Sponsored by Cheyenne County Hospital, Clinic & Health Department

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