

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

Christmas time is here! Honestly, I don't know what happened to 2006. It has been a blur. Each year seems to go faster the older I get.

But I can sure remember the Christmases of my past. As a boy I recall laying in bed on Christmas Eve, trying to will myself to fall asleep. My head was filled with the thought of ripping gift wrap from the presents under the tree with my name on a tag. It sounds crazy but I would imagine being at Disneyland.

With thoughts of the rides and Mickey Mouse, I would eventually make it to dream land. Usually my older brother, Rob, would get up first and wake the rest of us. It was hard for me, but I'm pretty sure Rob never fell asleep those nights.

It was always the same spectacle. Each of the five kids had their own stocking which was overflowing with small, gift-wrapped stuff. Boxes spread across the floor from the decorated tree. And the best thing of all was the life-sized, electric Santa.

Our Dad had bought it for his business and on Christmas Eve he would bring it home and set him up in the family room. Santa, in his red velvet suit and beard, would twist from side to side and lift up an arm, as if to wave.

I don't know exactly how many years Mom and Dad went through the same routine. However, each Christmas morning we couldn't wait for that magic to grace our young minds.

Here's wishing you and your's a Merry Christmas!

## Bulletin Board

### Post office Appreciation Day

The Bird City Post Office will hold a Customer Appreciation Day on from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 21, in the lobby of the post office. The day is held to thank customers for their loyal business and support.

### Birthday open house

The family of Lucille Price is holding a celebration from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 30, at the United Methodist Church, to help her celebrate her 85th birthday. You are welcome to attend. The family requests no gifts, please.

### Skateboard park meeting

There will be a skateboard park planning meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 4, at Zero's in St. Francis. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### 80th birthday

Gilbert Ochsner will turn 80 years old on Dec. 28. Greetings will reach him at 760 Rd V. St. Francis, K 67756.

### Address change

Dave Roberson has a new address as he continues recovery in Denver. Send greetings to him at Berkley Manor, 735 S. Locust St., Denver, CO 80224.

### Late publication

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times will publish one day later during the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The newspapers will go to the post offices on Dec. 28 and Jan. 4 instead of Dec. 27 and Jan. 3. The staff of The Herald and Times wish everyone a happy holiday.

### Christmas Open house

A Christmas Open House will be held at Girlfriends & Guys too on Dec. 21 and Dec. 22. Ad in classifieds.

### Hospital Board

The next meeting of the hospital board will be at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 28, in the meeting room in the clinic basement, St. Francis.

### Veterans' Affairs Representative

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. today (Thursday) at the County Clerk's office to assist veterans

and their dependents with VA claims work.

The representative will be in St. Francis the first and third Thursdays of every month.

If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs in St. Francis, you may contact the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. That phone number is 785-462-3572

### Bicycles still being collected

The Lions Club is still collecting bicycles to take to the Norton Correctional facility to be repaired. The bicycles made be taken to the Saint Francis Herald office for later pickup. Please bring to front door of Herald.

### Recovery Today/ Narcotics Anonymous

Recovery Today group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Sunday nights at the United Methodist Educational Building. Call (785) 332-6542 or 8607 for more information.

### Sainty Serenity Seekers/ Alcoholics Anonymous

Sainty Serenity Seekers open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday evening at the United Methodist Education Building at 104 W. Webster, St. Francis. Call (785) 332-6542 for more information

### Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children within the northwest Kansas area. For information or if you are in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

### Cheyenne County Wildlife

The Cheyenne County Wildlife club house will be open starting Nov. 29 from 10 to 12 am and 4:30-6:30 p.m. throughout deer season to check the deer for Chronic wasting disease. There is no cost to the hunter.



# Cougar basketball boys win one of three games played

Cougars get 2nd Win of Season. The Cheylin boys basketball team played three games last week, losing two close games and winning the third.

The first game was against the Oberlin Devils. The Cougars led the game from opening tip off and went into the 4th quarter with a 33-29 lead. With two minutes remaining in the game the Devils took the lead and never looked back.

"It was a heart-breaking loss when you have the game in hand and let it slip through your fingers". Coach Morgan Grippin said.

Leading Scorer was Lincoln Pochop with 20 points. Rebounds: Pochop with 14, Assists: Lucius White with 6.

Cheylin 53, Rawlins County 65 The Cougars played Rawlins County on Friday and once again a close defeat was handed to Cheylin. The Cougars battled back and forth with the Buffalo and went into half time with a 31-30 lead. The Second half was a constant battle with the Cougars even holding a small lead in the 4th quarter. The Buffalo however went on a run in the middle of the 4th quarter to close the game out and win 65-53.

Leading Scorer: Pochop 32, Leading Rebounder: Pochop 12, Assists: Sam Hengen 9

The Cougars after two tough close losses battled back on Saturday to defeat Stratton, Co. The tired Cougars struggled in the first half to find their rhythm going into half-time tied 21-21. In the third quarter the Cougars woke up and outscored Stratton 20-11 in the third quarter.

"The third quarter was important for us, establishing our intensity for the second half and playing Cheylin Cougar basketball". Coach Grippin said.

After two fourth quarter leads lost in the last two games, the Cougars took what they learned and confidently closed out the game getting their second win and bringing the record to 2-3.

Leading Scorer: Pochop 35, Rebounds: Pochop 14, Assists: Hengen 10, Steals: L. White 5.

The Cougars will travel to Triplains on Friday for a league game and then host Dundy Co. on Saturday. The Cougars would greatly appreciate any support the fans can give them.

### Cheylin 52, Triplains 59

The Cougars fell to 0-2 in league play Friday night with a close loss to Triplains. The Cougars went into half-time down by one point. The third quarter proved to be the Cougars Achilles heel. Scoring only 10 points to Triplains 19 the Cougars found themselves in an uphill battle. The Cougars did fight back to cut the lead to 4 with two minutes remaining. However the game of catch up proved to be too tiring as the Cougars just ran out of gas to finish off the run.

"The kids played well on all parts, we just didn't shoot the ball well and that hurt us, The way they battled back shows how much passion they have towards winning basketball games" Coach Grippin said.

Leading Scorer: Terry Jensen 22, Pochop 18, Rebounder: Pochop 13, Jensen 7, Assists: Hengen 5.

### Cougars 64, Dundy County 70

The Cougars lost a back and fourth battle Saturday night against Dundy County. The Cougars were tied 16-16 after the first quarter then fell into a slump in the second quarter finding themselves down by 10 points. Following a time-out the

## McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

Jerry and Betty Knapp went to Denver on Thursday and visited Betty's sister, Judy McKelvey and husband Don. On Friday they visited Brenda Knapp at Camp Id-Ra-Ha-Je. Enroute home they visited Doris and Lowell Martin in Strasburg, Colo. On Sunday evening the Knapps attended the Christmas program at the Goodland Bible Church in which Mac and Katie Jo Purvis were participants.

Joan Tongish and Betty Lewis enjoyed Christmas shopping in McCook on Friday.

Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson and Laddie and Vera Kacirek enjoyed the McDonald Christmas supper at Two Lee's on Friday evening.

Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson took Sue Heinbigner to Kearney, Neb. for a doctor's appointment on Thursday. They had lunch with Ryan Wilkinson who lives in Kearney. Enroute home they drove to North Platte where they

visited Rudy Faimon at the Rehab Center.

Members of the Federated Church enjoyed the Christmas program on Sunday evening.

On Sunday Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson attended the Children's Christmas Program and Brunch at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bird City.

R.J. and Susie Sabatka spent the weekend in Kansas City visiting relatives.

Amelia Banister and Karlyne Atchison were Thursday visitors of Irene Kehlbeck and Viola Jones in St. Francis.

Gail Miller attended the basketball games on Friday and enjoyed watching the little girls dance with the dance team.

Laddie and Vera Kacirek were Sunday morning visitors of Norman and Tessa Davis.

Sandy Lee and Craig Lamb traveled to Las Vegas, Nev. last week where they were married. Congratulations and Best Wishes.



TERRY JENSEN has a lot of coverage on this play during the game against the Tigers on Saturday night.

Times staff photo by Melinda Basnett

Cougars went on an inspired run closing out the half strong to go into half-time tied 36-36. The third quarter went the same as the previous quarters with both teams trading baskets, to go into the fourth quarter with a 48-47 Cougar advantage. The fourth quarter was an intense back and forth battle with the Cougars having the lead with around two minutes left. With one minute left the Cougars were down by three with the ball. A lay-up by Lucius White cut the lead to just one point, but that was as close as the Cougars could get. Dundy County stepped to the free-throw line and made just about every fourth quarter free-

throw to ensure a Tiger win. "Losing back to back intense close games is tough, plus combined with two other last minute losses could be rough on the players. They have responded positively and realize all we can do is just keep pressing forward and soon the close games will go our way". Coach Grippin said.

Leading Scorer: Pochop 21, Jensen 16, L. White 13, Leading Rebounds: Pochop 8, Jensen 8, Hengen 7, Assists: L. White 5, Hengen 5, Jacob White 5.

The Cougars are scheduled to travel to Sharon Springs on Tuesday before breaking for the holidays.

## Introducing

### Chase Alexander Bradbury

Chase Alexander Bradbury, son of Hadley and Mindy (Kite) Bradbury, was born Oct. 17, 2006, at the Overland Park Regional Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches. Chase has a proud older brother, Collin, 2 1/2.

Grandparents are John and Elaine Kite, St. Francis, and J. Clyde and Donna Bradbury, Wichita.



Chase Bradbury

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hour, 33 min.

Dec. 22 & 23  
No Show: Dec. 24

Deck the Halls

Comedy and Holiday

Starring: Danny DeVito, Matthew Broderick, Kristin Chenoweth, Kristin Davis, Alia Shawkat

Rating: PG for some crude and suggestive humor, and for language.

Cheyenne Theater St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747

Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

## CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS 785-332-2104

If you have not received your FLU SHOT there is still some available



at the Cheyenne County Clinic and Cheyenne County Health Department. No appointment needed.

Don't forget to check out the Cheyenne County Hospital's website. It provides many sources for health information and programming. Visit [www.cheyennecountyhospital.com](http://www.cheyennecountyhospital.com) to see how useful this is for our patients, their families, and those who may want to know what kinds of services or facilities we have.

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## Merry Christmas



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