



GOLDEN PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL

The Golden Plains junior varsity boys basketball team worked hard during the game against Cheylin. Team members shown include Joseph Koerperich, Camron Spresser, Jose Bermudez, Trey Schwarz and Chance Hoeting.

Junior varsity 'Dogs beat Dighton 35-33

By Judy Rogers
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Freshman Joseph Koerperich led the Golden Plains junior varsity boys to a 35-33 win in a two-quarter basketball game against Dighton.

The boys played close throughout the first quarter as Koerperich posted 6 field goals, along with a three-pointer from Grant Spresser and two baskets from Trey Schwarz for a 19-15 lead.

In the second quarter, Golden Plains mistakes gave the Hornets the opportunity to pull ahead 24-19 in the first few minutes. The boys fought back and worked hard, but the Hornets still led 31-

29 with three minutes remaining in this short game.

The game was tied at 31 before they finally pulled ahead 34-31 with 52 seconds on the clock. Dighton answered with a two-point bucket and called a timeout to strategize.

With Dighton returning to the floor and missing a free shot, Camron Spresser grabbed the rebound and passed off the ball. Koerperich got fouled and went to the line, where he added his seventh free throw of the second quarter to make the score 35-33 with 12 seconds remaining.

Dighton called another timeout in a last-second effort to tie things up, but tough Bulldog defense and a steal by Zach Spresser gave the

'Dogs the ball and the win as the clock ran out.

Koerperich finished the game with 27 of Golden Plains' 35 points. Additional points came from Schwarz with 4, G. Spresser 3 and Z. Spresser 1. Others helping get the ball down the floor on offense and holding off Hornets on defense were Thomas Ferenchak, Domonic Luna, Tom Koubek, Benny Martinez, Jacob Griffith, Chance Hoeting and Spresser.

"With only two quarters in a game, you can't make a whole lot of mistakes," Koerperich said. "We made a few, but we did more good things. Our defense was great; we still need to work on running our offense. In the end, we played as a team and won the game."

Lady Bulldogs win at home

By Judy Rogers
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The Golden Plains High School girls varsity basketball team won another game on their home floor as they defeated the Cheylin Lady Cougars 48-31 on Jan. 31.

The girls started the game off with both teams looking for a basket for a full three minutes before Jordan Christensen got the first shot to fall. Hailee Spresser added another bucket to put the girls up 4-0 before Cheylin made a free throw and two baskets to pull ahead 5-4.

Paulita Ramirez put the Lady 'Dogs back on top only to have Cheylin tie it up at 6. Additional baskets from Spresser and one each from Leea Juenemann and Angela Ritter gave the Lady Bulldogs a 12-6 lead by the end of the quarter.

Kylie Jones stepped to the basket in the second quarter with three consecutive shots along with additional buckets from Christensen and Ritter to add 10 to the Lady Bulldogs' score. The Lady Cougars also uncapped the basket with 10 of their own to go into the half with the Lady 'Dogs still leading 22-16.

The third quarter proved to be the best for the Lady 'Dogs and an exciting one to watch as the girls worked well as a team and pumped in 16 points. Mean-

while, the defense held the Lady Cougars to 7 points to extend the lead to 38-23.

While the Lady Cougars went to the line for 4 points in the fourth, the Lady Bulldogs put in another 10 points to the Cougars' 8 to finish the game 48-31.

The 48 Golden Plains points came from Kylie Jones with 14, Hailee Spresser 10, Angela Ritter 10, Jordan Christensen 8, Leea Juenemann 2, Paulita Ramirez 2 and Brooke Wark 2. Jones grabbed 11 rebounds as Christensen captured 9. Other rebounds were snapped up by Spresser with 5, Ritter 4, McKayla Lobato 3, Juenemann 3, Ramirez 3 and Macayla Easton 2.

The girls demonstrated their ability to work as a team as they totaled 18 assists including Ritter with 7, Christensen 4, Spresser 2, Jones 2, Easton 1, Juenemann 1 and Lobato 1. Their efforts on defense were rewarded with 2 steals by Spresser and 1 steal each by Ritter, Easton, Wark and Lobato.

"When we step up and play as a team, we can really do well," Jones said. "It's always fun playing on our home court knowing we have so much support. Hopefully, we can just keep improving."

This win gives the girls from Golden Plains a 6-8 overall record and they are sitting with a 2-2 record in league action.

Equestrian team helps at event

Members of the Colby Community College equestrian team attended EquiFest 2012 from Friday through Sunday in Wichita.

The team, coached by Shanda Mattix, assisted with several events during the three-day event put on by the Kansas Horse Council, Horseplay Promotions, EquiFest of Kansas and Rusty Eck Ford. EquiFest bills itself as Kansas' premier all-breed horse fair and exposition.

"CCC students helped in a variety of ways at the event," said Mattix. "They were working the admission gates, passing out programs, helping in the Kids Corral area and serving meals."

The event provides clinics, demonstrations, breed showcases, stallion reviews, competitions, entertainment and shopping.

In addition to helping with EquiFest, the team joined volunteers in several community service activities, including the Salvation Army, Genesis Food Drive, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts merit badge days, 4-H and horse project meetings, a district FFA horse judging contest and the High



SHANDA MATTIX/Colby Community College

Colby Community College equestrian team members (from left) Stephanie Jenkinson, Marci Scripser and Savannah Isely helped with kiddie rides at EquiFest 2012 from Friday through Sunday in Wichita.

Plains Horsemen's Day.

Colby has the only two-year equestrian team in Kansas. The team is a member of the Intercol-

legiate Horse Show Association and competes against schools in Zone 8, Region 5, covering Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, Ne-

braska and Kansas. Riders can compete in Hunt Seat and Western riding with any level of riding experience.

Five-state ban given to 'Piggyback Bandit'

By Matt Volz
Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. — The stocky man showed up in a basketball uniform for a game at Century High School in North Dakota. Players and coaches assumed he was a fan who had come with another team, so nobody objected when he began to pitch in around the bench.

"He helped lay out uniforms, got water. He even gave a couple of kids shoulder massages. Creepy stuff like that," said Jim Haussler, activities director for the Bismarck Public School District.

After the game was over, the man joined the winning team on the court and asked if he could get a piggyback ride. One bemused player gave it to him.

"He makes himself appear as if he's limited or handicapped. I think he plays an empathy card, so to speak," Haussler said. "We didn't realize what we were dealing with until several days later."

What they were dealing with the night of Feb. 4 was the Piggyback Bandit — Sherwin Shayegan of Bothell, Wash., a 28-year-old man who ingratiate himself with high school sports teams, then hoists his 5-foot-8, 240-pound frame onto the backs of the student athletes.

Shayegan's antics stretch back to 2008 and had been mainly confined to Washington and Oregon. But since last fall, he has worked his way east to Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota, leaving a

trail of befuddled athletes in his wake.

Shayegan has asked for piggybacks, attempted to pay for piggybacks and just sprung one upon an unsuspecting kid. He favors basketball games, but he also has leapt onto hockey, soccer and football players.

He has pretended to interview athletes for a term paper, acted as a team manager or just tried to blend in with the crowd for a piggyback payoff.

Why he does it is unclear, as is who came up with the "Piggyback Bandit" nickname that now follows him wherever he goes. Shayegan, contacted on his cellphone Tuesday, politely declined to speak of the piggyback rides until he could talk to an attorney.

"I'd prefer not to comment, if that's OK," he said.

Shayegan has a lengthy criminal rap sheet in Washington as well as nine outstanding warrants in one town in that state. Because of his piggyback antics, he has been banned from high school sporting events in Washington, Oregon, Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota.

In October, Shayegan was arrested in Helena, Mont., for jumping on two unsuspecting high school soccer players during a state tournament.

Shayegan said something to a motel clerk in Helena that day that prompted the clerk to call police. A plainclothes officer went to the tournament and watched Shayegan jump on the back of a player.

Bulldogs lose to Cougars

By Judy Rogers
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The Cheylin Cougars broke down the Bulldogs for the second time this season, defeating the Golden Plains boys varsity 56-41.

The game on Jan. 31 was the second time the Bulldogs had faced the Cougars and second time the Cougars had won.

The Cougars started off the game leading 13-7 by the end of the first quarter. They continued to rule the court, as they held the Bulldogs to 7 again in the second, but added 18 to their score to lead 31-14 at the half.

The Bulldogs did not go down easily, putting in 15 points during the third quarter, including 8 from senior Cole Christensen, 5 from Grant Spresser and 2 from Andrew Luna. The Bulldog defense held the Cougars to just 10, narrowing the lead to 41-29 going into the fourth.

The final eight minutes saw both teams playing strong until the end, as the Bulldogs added 12 to their final score while the Cougars added 15 for the 56-41 win.

Christensen continued to lead the Bulldogs' in scoring with 18 points. Spresser finished with his 5 from the third quarter and Tristan Schwarz also had 5. Other points came from Trey Schwarz 4, Chance Hoeting 3, Luna 3, Camron Spresser 2 and Kalyn Weber 1.

The boys did cut their turnovers from their previous game against Dighton, down to 20. Christensen pulled down 10 rebounds and Weber had 8, Luna 3, Tristan Schwarz 3, Ethan Walter and Jose Bermudez 2 and Trey Schwarz, Hoeting and Spresser 1 each.

Steals were captured by Christensen and Walter with 2 and Weber, Tristan Schwarz, Spresser and Hoeting 1 each. Tristan Schwarz had 2 blocks along with 1 by Christensen.

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