

# Cougar Sports

*By Bru and the Crew*

As basketball season approaches, a certain buzz is in the air. Players lace up their shoes, perfect the old shooting form, and ready themselves for the season.

The expectations are high. Everyone's asking the question: How will their favorite team perform?

Here are a few things to watch for as our Lady Cougars put away the net and as our Cougar men transition from the gridiron to the hardwood...

As always, ladies come first. The Cougar ladies have a lot to be optimistic about coming off last year's 10 win and 11 loss season.

The ladies return all their starters with the exception of center Stephanie Busse and guard Cassie Rucker. Busse graduated last year and she's left some big shoes to fill. Busse led the league in rebounds last year and averaged a double-double. Her height also made her a constant defensive presence. Rucker also graduated and will be missed.

The Cougars are perfectly capable of making up for both of these losses. Sophomore Elizabeth Keltz has the skills set to be a twin to Busse. Keltz was a good rebounder last year and is a good post player on the offensive end. Keltz is also a defensive presence as she stands taller than at least half of the players on the men's roster. Her aggressiveness will be vital as she is the only Lady Cougar with real height. However, she isn't the only one with skills!

The Cougars most reliable returning starter will be senior point guard Shayla Hubbard. Hubbard is an offensive threat from anywhere on the court. She also possesses great vision and is a decent passer. Hubbard rounds out her skills set as a pesky defender that can rack up the steals.

The Cougars will also be aided by junior guards Allie Frisbie and Kalin Ritchey. Frisbie is an excellent defender and plays a good supporting role on offense. Ritchey is quick and energetic. She's always a threat to take the ball the distance of the court. Sophomore guard Diana Garcia will help the defensive cause.

Sophomore Danea Magnani is a lights out shooter that can help on the offensive end. Also look

for contributions from sophomore Kelsey Miller. Other players include Stephanie Grenodas, Itzel Cobos, and Yazmin Yanez.

The Cougars are led by Max Keltz and assisted by Cheylin alum Mindy Antholz. Bottom line: The Cougar ladies have talent, but lack depth. If they can stay out of foul trouble, but stay, they could make a league and state run. As is always the case in basketball, injuries could be devastating.

## Cougar men

Now for the Cougar men. The Cougar men are excited to get to work after last year's successful season.

The Cougars had 17 wins and just five losses. They also captured their first ever Western Kansas Liberty League title. However, they were denied a trip to state by the Sharon Springs Wildcats. The Cougar men were sub-state runner-ups for the second year in a row.

The Cougar men look to make it over the hump and get that trip to Hays for state. While this is a realistic goal, there is lots of work to do. The Cougars lost fleet footed small forward Kenan Reeh and sharp-shooting point guard Adam Orten. They also lost big man Joshua Keltz. Last year Keltz shattered rebound records, lead the state in blocked shots, and set the mark for most points in a game ever by a Cougar. He will be greatly missed.

That being said, the Cougars still have some great players. Last year's starting shooting guard Ty Carmichael is back. Carmichael is a great defender. He is also an exceptional rebounder for a guard. He can score the ball inside and out. Carmichael will be the team's shooting star, but he isn't the only star.

Power forward Walker Janicke is the other returning starter. Starting last year as the power forward, Janicke will likely be moved to center and become the primary big man. Janicke is a good rebounder. He has good shooting range for a post. He will be able to enforce his will in the paint on both ends of the floor.

Next come two of the most exciting players on the floor in senior guards Eddie Frisbie and Casey Vandike. Neither player has ever gotten the varsity playing

time that their potential merits as Cheylin has just had an excess of basketball talent the last few years.

Frisbie surprises many with his good drive-and-pass skills. Vandike's outside shooting makes him dangerous at all times. As a three-point specialist, his skill is truly something to write home about. Frisbie and Vandike make a lethal combo on the top of a two-three defense as well. Mark my words these players will have turned heads by the end of the season.

Newcomers Rusty and Carter Porubsky will help the Cougars cause as well. Yes, they are brothers. Rusty, a senior, does a little of everything and has a mind made for the game. Carter is a great post player. He can finish at the rim with best of them. The best part? He's a freshman.

This could also be a break-out year for junior Shawn Pochop. He is a rebounder and he takes it up strong, real strong! Pochop is like a small ox in the post, except oxen are weaker. Pochop will be a big help.

Also, look for varsity contributions from junior Jacob Brubaker and sophomore Devon Janicke. Players Derek Vandike, Reece Leonard, Michael Barnett and Ivan Kemp will all take vital steps this year toward becoming great ball players.

Freshman Tommy Frisbee, Kevin Estrada, Sem Flores, CJ Antholz, Gavin Lennox, and Jorge Gonzalez will be fun to watch. Senior foreign-exchange student Matys Cimbilka will be taking part in basketball. He's quite fast and could surprise opponents with his speed.

The Cougars are headed by Anthony Blair, who is in his fourth year as basketball coach at Cheylin. The assistant duties fall on basketball coaching rookie Lincoln Pochop, a Cheylin alum.

Bottom line: The Cougar men have lots of talent this year; their bench is deep, and they're motivated. The only thing that could hold them back is height, but their speed should make up for that.

I would like to encourage all basketball fans to head to Cougar gym in McDonald this Friday night to watch the Cougars take on the Grinnell/Wheatland Thunderhawks. This is your first chance to see your Cheylin Cougars in action. Let's pack the place and make some noise! GO COUGARS!!!!!!!

## Wingfield's have very special Thanksgiving

Owen and Phyllis Wingfield had a very special Thanksgiving surprise this year indeed! Phyllis's brother and wife, Don and Jackie Larsen of Livermore, Calif., accompanied by their daughter Karen Sweet, flew to Denver and drove to McDonald to be with Owen and Phyllis for the Thanksgiving holidays. Phyllis hadn't seen her brother in seven years and it had been 30 years since the Larsens had been in

McDonald. Additional guests of the Wingfields for the weekend were Greg and Deanna Wingfield and Mollie of Grand Island, Neb., and Debbie Wingfield of Denver.

The children did all the cooking so Owen and Phyllis, and Don and Jackie could spend the time visiting. Joining everyone Saturday were Malinie and Bryan Kirkwood, and Riley of Colorado Springs.

## Yuletide festival rings in Christmas season

Get into the Christmas spirit by attending the Yuletide Festival on Sunday at the St. Francis Community High School auditorium. The music and dancing will begin at 2 p.m. Prior to the start of the festival, the Candy Store in the lobby will be stocked with candy, cookies and other items to help with your holiday baking and candy making. The St. Francis Federated Music

Club is sponsoring the festival. Many community talents will be presented including students from The Dance Ranch and numerous other artists, young and old.

Traditionally, this event helps to ring in the Christmas season in St. Francis. A freewill offering is taken and is used for the benefit of scholarships and other youth activities in the community.

Everyone is welcome.



**JOSEPHAUGUSTA** gave a talk on his Jiggly Wiggly Worms which was an entrepreneur business he started. The talk was given at the annual Cheyenne County Development meeting held on Thursday, Nov. 21, at Captain Hook's in Wheeler.

*Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

## South of McDonald

*By Sandy Binning*

Mark and Leslie Officer and family arrived Tuesday evening at the home of Lynn and Rita Officer. Randy and Melissa Regier, Herman and Alexi Breytenbach, and Mark and Marilee Gundlach, Seth and Gracie all came Wednesday morning. Ratha Lea Loker joined the family Wednesday for Thanksgiving dinner. Melissa and Randy, and Herman and Alexi left for home Wednesday evening. Everyone else left Saturday.

Thanksgiving Day guests of Jerry and Sandy Binning were Fred

and Lavina Waters, Louise Akers, Rae and Becky Nelson, Garrett and Donna Binning, Porsha, Bianca, and Jazzmin, Robert Binning, and John Binning.

Chris and Mary Copeland, and Kassi Collins were Thanksgiving weekend guests of Jerry and Sandy Binning.

Thanksgiving guests of Jim and Shelly Brungardt of Hays were Craig and Barb Morton, Tom and Kelly Dewey and children, Mike and Starla Starns, and Cristina Springer and boys.

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Joe and Charlene Kramer, Dennis and Elda Kramer and girls, and Ryan and Diane Shay and family traveled to Ozawkie for Thanksgiving with Leon and Nancy Brunton and other family members.

Sunday morning, Joe and Charlene Kramer attended services at the Courts of Praise Church in Atwood where Dennis Kramer presented a slide show of Mexico and his mission work there.

## Herald And Times Happenings:

### Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas and New Year's sections will be published before the holidays. The sections will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The *Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 9 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sferald@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



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## FIRST BABY CONTEST

With the income of the New Year comes the new arrival of that bundle of joy!  
Coming in January a bundle of businesses ready to congratulate the new baby and the parents!

To participate in a Special Section contact Tim at:

The Saint Francis Herald  
P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

- and -

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