

## By Bru and the Crew

Excitement was in the air as the Cougars took the floor for their first basketball games of the 2013-2014 season. This was the start of the season, the first step towards state. It was a first chance to show what your team really has.

Did our Cougars show what they had? Let's take a look on what went well, and what could've gone better when the Cougars played the Thunderhawks of Grinnell/Wheatland.....

### Junior varsity

First for the junior varsity, or as we commonly call them JV. These games are a great way for our younger players to get some great experience. The ladies were allowed an abridged third-quarter game. The ladies fought hard and learned a lot, but Grinnell/Wheatland proved to be just too much. The junior varsity ladies were defeated by a final score of 45 to 35.

Next came the junior varsity boys. With 15 names on the junior varsity roster, the bench is definitely deep. That also means there's lots of competition for playing time.

The bad news was that the Thunderhawks only had enough players to play half of a junior varsity game. The Cougars had so many players they should've let Grinnell/Wheatland borrow a few. At any rate, the game was very exciting for a half game.

The Cougars came out with a hard, tenacious defense. Six minutes into the game, the Thunderhawks only had two points, as opposed to 10 for the Cougars. The junior varsity men led 10-4 after the first. The Cougars sank back to back three-pointers to put themselves up 16-4 early in the second quarter.

It should've been a simple game for the Cougars after that, but the game isn't quite that easy. The Thunderhawks went on an eight-point run to make the score 16 to 12. The Cougars responded with another three-pointer. The score stood 19-14 in favor of the Cougars.

The Thunderhawks made a

bucket to make it 19-16. The Cougars gave the ball back to the Thunderhawks with enough time for a game-tying three. However, the Cougars turned up the defense and no such three-pointer was made. Despite having some trouble closing a game out, the Cougar men held on for the 19 to 16 victory. Congratulations to our junior varsity men on their first win of the year.

The varsity ladies provided the next game.

The varsity ladies came out slow. The game got close when the ladies pulled within two points. The score at that point was 15-13. But that was as close as the ladies got.

Things went downhill from there. The lead was as big as 21 at one point. At another point it was as close as nine. The final score was Grinnell/Wheatland 57 - Cheylin 39.

Allie Frisbie had an impressive defensive game with six steals. Elizabeth Keltz got the double-double with 10 points and 16 rebounds. Shayla Hubbard saw the floor well and passed for four assists.

The varsity men took the court for the final show of the night. The men got down early in the game but clawed back and tied things up at 15 points apiece. The Thunderhawks then went on a 14-0 point run to put themselves up 29-15 at halftime.

The Cougars scored 0 points in the second quarter. The second half was more of the same. The Cougars could never get back in it, and lost 54-39. A disappointing start to the season for our Cougar men.

While this week wasn't the start that the Cougars were hoping for, it was just one game. There is a lot of basketball left this year and the Cougars will improve. Check out next week's article for coverage of the Castle Rock Tournament. The Cougar men will play the Ellis Railroaders in the first round, as will the ladies. Best of luck to our Cougar team's in next week's games. GO COUGARS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



**DEVON JANICKE** leaps high to grab the rebound during the Cougars first game of the season.

Photo courtesy of Darci Shields

# Fair board meets

By Amanda Miller  
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The St. Francis Fair Board met on Dec. 6 to discuss the meeting with the commissioners and the dinner for board members.

To open, president Dick Bursch said that the board currently has too many members. Chase Hobrock recently submitted his resignation, so that eliminated one extra member. However, they had to eliminate one more. Because Isaac Sturgeon has not been to more than three meetings, the board elected to drop him as a member.

The board, which is comprised of volunteers, is asking that the public not call to rent the building or with requests during business hours at the board member's places of employment. People are to call during the evening to eliminate any disruption during work hours.

The fair board treasurer asks that any 4-Hers who received premium checks that have not picked them up please come get them. If the 4-Her does not want the premium check, please come endorse the check so that the money is donated to Cheyenne County. If you do not sign over the check, the state auditor will keep the money and it will not go directly to our county.

Mr. Bursch went to meet with the county attorney and some commissioners to discuss some concerns the board had from the previous meeting.

The county attorney confirmed that the fair board is absolutely not liable for anything with alcohol, according to President Bursch. Board

members are to alert the Sheriff's department if underage drinking is suspected and let them handle it.

The commissioners also made it clear that every participant in the derby must have a valid driver's license. No permits will be accepted. Furthermore, no fair board member can be a judge or check cars in.

Baxter Black will be entertaining at this year's fair and the board decided that the admission will be \$15 for everyone.

The building rental fee was voted to be raised to \$130. The deposit will remain the same at \$500. The board voted to raise the fee to include the cost of gas and electricity so they could return deposits more quickly. Before, the utilities were taken out of the deposit. There are certain exceptions, such as the Coyote Calling Contest and the Wildlife Banquet, where they will have to continue paying for the utilities because they are multiple-day rentals.

President Bursch said that vice president Nick Ketzner had arranged for the board to have their annual dinner at Riverside the following Thursday. The board agreed to cancel that dinner and decide when to have the fair board party at the Jan. 2 meeting. Board members present wanted the dinner to be in January as it has been in the past when more members are available. The location of the dinner will be determined at the next meeting as well.

The next fair board meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 2.

## Bird City News

Guests of Hulda Dorsch for the evening meal on Thanksgiving Day were Andrew Dorsch of Minneapolis, MN, Lindsay Dorsch of Emporia, KS and Erika Dorsch of Newton and friend Kyle of Hesston College. They are looking forward to their Christmas visit with their parents, Tom and Marcy, in Niamey, Niger, Africa. They will also be joined by Melissa

Dorsch from Rennes, France. Hulda Dorsch left Tuesday morning to deliver the Christmas ingathering for the overseas military. She will be met by Karen Stark and husband from Oklahoma City. The packages are being shipped this week. Hulda will be an overnight guest of her niece and husband, Kenny and Mish Fiske in Salina.



**SPEECH TEAM** members Jacob Brubaker, Allie Frisbie, and Reece Leonard prepare for the competition.

# FFA speech team captures third place

The Cheylin FFA team traveled to Quinter on Dec. 3 for the regional speech competition. The following members competed in one of five divisions. Division I green hand: Kevin Estrada, Gavin Lennox, C.J. Antholz and Diana Garcia. Division II, prepared speech: Reece Leonard. Division III, prepared speech: Allie Frisbie and Michael

Barnett. Division V, exemplary speech: Jacob Brubaker. Reece placed fourth in Division II. Allie placed third in Division III. For the second year in a row, Jacob placed first in exemplary and will be headed for state next spring to compete at the state FFA convention. Overall the team received the third place plaque.

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