

Bulldogs Defeat Cougars for Second Time

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog basketball team defeated the Cheylin Cougars for the second time this year as they won 40-36 on their home floor in Rexford on January 19. The Bulldogs had defeated the Cougars early in the season at the Castle Rock Tournament.

“This was a good win for my boys,” said Coach Travis Smith. “We didn't play our best for sure, but were able to fight through it and get a win. Back to 5-5 on the season, one more win equals our win total from last year! Very proud of the improvements these boys have made this year.”

The game got off to a slow start with a 9-5 lead for the Bulldogs in the first quarter. The Cougars picked up the pace in the second and took advantage of the ‘Dogs inability to make a basket from the floor. Fortunately, senior Kade Wessel was sent to the line multiple times making 5 of his 8 shots as the Cougars pulled ahead near the end of the first half. Freshman AJ Camacho finally hit a shot to tie the game up at 16 by the.

The two competitive teams traded baskets in the third with the Cougars holding a slight 30-28 lead going into the fourth. The ‘Dogs were not out of it yet as the Cougars pulled ahead by 4. Two quick three-pointers from Camacho put the ‘Dogs back on top. Kade Wessel then added a basket and a couple of free throws to pull the ‘Dogs ahead by 6. The Cougars closed the spread to two with under a minute to play. Two final free shots from Camacho gave the Bulldogs the 40-36 win.

Kade Wessel and AJ Camacho led the team with 17 and 14 points respectively. Brett Gerbitz added 6 and Koi Wessel 3. “We knew this would be a challenging game as we were missing a player due to illness,” said Kade. We didn’t work well as a team at the beginning but did better towards the end.” The Bulldogs will travel to Northern Valley on Friday to play the Huskies. “This will be another challenging game,” added Kade. “We need to play well in the first and not quit when we get ahead. We can’t have any quarter lapses.”