

JV Boys Play Close with Cougars

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains JV boys played a close game with the Cheylin Cougars on their home floor in Rexford on January 19 ending with a 29-33 loss for the Bulldogs.

The Cougars opened the first quarter with 11 points with the 'Dogs only putting in 5. The Cougars sent their opponents to the free throw line multiple times with the 'Dogs only making one of 10 attempts.

The Bulldogs made some adjustments going into the second. They held the Cougars to a single point in the quarter while easing their way back into the game adding 8 to lead 13-12 at the half. Six of their 8 points came from the free throw line.

Freshman Nolan Ritter was on fire in the third quarter as he was all over the floor on both offense and defense. The Bulldogs pulled ahead to an 18-12 lead before the Cougars finally found their basket. Junior Nick Brown showed the team how to play aggressively as the boys controlled the ball working it around the floor. The 'Dogs held on to their lead up to the last 11 seconds of the quarter when two free shots for the Cougars tied the game up at 26.

The Cougars pushed the 'Dogs throughout the fourth as they regained the lead only to have it tied back up by Ritter. The Cougars once again pulled ahead. Caleb Korte made a final free throw for the Bulldogs to trail by one. With a minute to play, the Cougars made a three-pointer for the final score and the 33-29 win.

Ritter led the Bulldogs scoring with 8 points. Jeron Schutte and Nick Brown each added 7. Korte earned 3 along with 2 each from Jose Ortiz and Devin Carter. The Bulldogs only made 8 of their 28 free throw opportunities. "We need to practice more on our free throws," said Schutte. "We also need to play defense, not just stand up and down."

The JV Boys will play again on Friday as they travel to Almena to take on Northern Valley and will play at home on Saturday, January 23, in the JV Tournament in Rexford.