

JV Boys Gain Experience in Tournament

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains JV Boys gained some valuable floor experience in the JV Tournament held in Rexford on January 24. The boys played Triplains/Brewster in the morning and Cheylin in the afternoon, losing both games. "It was good to have more playing time," said Jacob Ritter-freshman. "It tested our endurance," added Nolan Ritter, freshman, of playing two full games in one day.

The boys' first game was against the Triplains/Brewster Titans. The Titans poured 26 points through the basket in the first quarter while the Bulldogs made 3. They continued to control the floor with an additional 21 in the second. The Bulldogs added six points with two 3-pointers from Jacob Ritter.

With a 47-9 lead at the half, the Titans had solid control of the game. The Bulldogs didn't give up and worked hard to put in 7 points in the third. The Titans added two free throws. The Bulldog finished strong as Ritter added another outside 3. Caleb Korte and Jeron Schutte added another 5 to finish the game. The Titans did not score in the fourth as they won 49-24. Jacob Ritter ended the game with 9 points for the Bulldogs, Korte-8, Schutte-6, and Nick Brown-1.

The second game for the Bulldogs was against Cheylin. The 'Dogs fell to the Cougars earlier in the season and were ready for a rematch. The boys played aggressively in the first quarter as the teams took turns in the lead. They were tied up at 13 with a minute remaining in the quarter when the Cougars hit one more shot to lead 15-13 at the end of the quarter.

The Bulldogs found success in moving the ball around the floor in the second quarter but their shots just wouldn't fall—they would bounce all around the rim then bounce back out. Some poor passes gave the ball to the Cougars who took advantage of the opportunity extending their lead to 25-16 by half time.

The Cougars opened the third with three quick buckets without ever leaving their end of the court extending their lead to 31-16. The Bulldogs didn't give up and fought their way back with a three from Nolan Ritter and a couple buckets each from Schutte, Devin Carter, and Korte while their defense worked to hold the Cougars back. The Cougars still managed to pull further ahead 42-32 going into the fourth.

Two baskets from Korte and Dylan Spresser brought the 'Dogs back to within 6 at the start of the fourth. Nolan Ritter stole the ball and was fouled on his layup. He made one of his free shots to put the 'Dogs within 5. The Cougars answered with 8 straight points. Jacob Ritter added another three as the Bulldogs hustled until the very end only to lose 40-55.

Scoring for the Bulldogs were Schutte-10, Korte-8, Nolan Ritter-8, Jacob Ritter-8, Devin Carter-4, and Dylan Spresser-2. "It was a long day, but it was fun," said Spresser. "We played better in the afternoon but missed too many easy shots and free throws. I'm sure we will be working on these in practice." The JV boys, with a 2-6 record turned around to play again on Tuesday as they hosted Quinter.