

MS 'Dogs Play Overtime in Cheylin
By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Middle School boys basketball teams played their first games of the new year in Cheylin on January 7. Both A and B teams played full games. The A-team played very close losing by two (37-35) in overtime. The B-team boys played hard but lost 11-25.

The B-team boys were unable to score in the first quarter while the Cougars had five points scored by a single player. The Bulldogs loosened up in the second with baskets by Alex Gonzales, Ashton Schiltz and Jovanny Infante. The Cougars added 9 to lead 6-14 at the half.

Kole Butts made a basket for the Bulldogs as the Cougars put in four baskets to extend their lead to 8-22 in the third. Both teams put in three in the final quarter to give the Cougars the 25-11 win. Gonzales finished the game with 5 points along with two each from Schiltz, Butts, and Infante.

"It was fun to play," said Butts. We had some good passes and some good low shots, but need to work on keeping the ball in motion and attacking the basket."

In the A-team game, the Bulldogs got off to a great start with 8 points in the first quarter, holding the Cougars to 5. The 'Dogs added five in the second, but a surge by the Cougars gave them an 18-13 lead at half time.

The 'Dogs came out on fire in the third and hustled their way to 9 points from Wade Rush and 4 from Butts. Their defense held the Cougars to 5 and the 'Dogs led 26-23 at the end of the third. Rush added 7 in the fourth quarter, but the Cougars made ten to send the game into overtime 33-33.

The 'Dogs gained two points from Yanez at the free-throw line in the OT. The Cougars also made two free throws and a basket for the 37-35 win. The boys ran into foul trouble with both Patmon and Colby Lathrop fouling out according to Coach Russ Aumiller. "Even though they were down at the half," said Aumiller, "they came back to tie it up."

Rush finished the game with 21 points. Jaime Infante had 5, Butts-4, Austin Patmon-3, and Yanez-2. "We played hard in the overtime," said Rush. "Our goal now is to take more selective shots." The Bulldogs will continue their season on Monday, January 11, as they travel to Bazine to play Western Plains.