

**By Larry Pritchett**

*Former Activities Director*



The Perkins County girls basketball team traveled to Maxwell for their opening game of the 2012 Nebraska School Athletic Association regular season.

Returning a number of players who started last season, and having a team with excellent height, the Lady Plainsmen picked up a nice win with a 60-35 effort over the Maxwell girls.

After falling behind by one at the end of the first quarter 11-10, the Plainsmen ladies outscored Maxwell 18-6 in the second quarter to take a 28-17 half time lead and then pushed the lead to 20 at 44-24 at the end of three. The fourth period was a little closer but the Plainsman offense still came out with a 16-11 advantage to take the 60-35 win.

The Lady Plainsmen's defense against Maxwell was very effective. Unofficially, the Wildcats turned the ball over 29 times and that led to a number of easy baskets against the Maxwell girls. Perkins County hit for 23 two-pointers, one three-pointer and went 11 for 19 from the free throw line. The Plainsmen also had troubles in keeping hold of the ball as they turned it over unofficially 23 times.

The difference here is that the Lady Plainsmen converted to defense much quicker and didn't give up easy baskets. The Perkins County girls, just like the PC boys, made their big move in the middle two quarters outscoring the Wildcats 34-13. That scoring surge plus outstanding defense gave the edge to the Plainsmen team.

The Plainsmen were led in scoring by senior post player Tanya Metcalf who hit for nine two-pointers for 18 points. Metcalf was aided in the scoring by Shalee Pollard who picked up 11 points and also by her sister Shania who got 10 points in the contest, and the Plainsmen offense did a great job of getting the ball to the post players and therefore had an outstanding shooting percentage for the game unofficially hitting 24 for 48 from the field for the game.

A number of times during the game the post players, which include the Metcalf sisters and Matisyn Humphrey, got great high-low looks and at other times the perimeter players were able to get great passes into the posts who had isolated under the basket.

Maxwell was led in scoring by Madison Elliott with eight points.



### **Perkins Co. vs Hershey**

Saturday night the Lady Plainsmen ran into a very quick, well disciplined, good shooting

Hershey Panther girls basketball team. Hershey played a very up-tempo pressing game and it made it very difficult for the Lady Plainsmen to get their offense going. Because of Hershey's offensive abilities, the Lady Plainsmen struggled on defense.

The Panthers jumped out to a 10-4 first quarter lead and then added 20 in the second quarter and held the Plainsmen girls to six points to take a 30-10 half time lead.

The second quarter blitz included a 16 to two run which got the Plainsmen into a deep hole that they couldn't get out of during the game, losing to the Panthers 23-58.

The Plainsmen were led in scoring by Tanya Metcalf and Shalee Pollard with six each. The Plainsmen did hit nine of 13 from the free throw line. Part of the Plainsmen defensive problems was the inability to stop the outstanding scoring ability of the Panther girls.

One of the better players in the area, Daynlee Miller, hit for 18 points on six three-pointers. Maddie Seamann, a 6-foot-1 sophomore post, also hit for double digits as she picked up 11 for the game.

### **Next Action**

The Plainsmen girls will have two games this next weekend with a home game with Kimball on Friday and then travel to Gothenburg on Saturday.