

Contest B :: Sports Writing

2015 KSPA Regional Contest



Student Code						
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1	1	1	B	1	1	1
2	2	2	C	2	2	2
3	3	3	D	3	3	3
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6	6	6	G	6	6	6
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DIRECTIONS

Failure to follow these directions may result in disqualification from the contest without refund. **Please read, listen and follow carefully.**

- In the bubble area at left, please record your student code. If you do not know your student code, please raise your hand to request the code from the proctor.
- Please take time to write your student code in the top right corner of each page of this packet.
- Please do not include your name or the name of your high school on the entry at all. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.
- You have 90 minutes to write a 250-word story on an upcoming event at your school.
 - Please use the information provided below. The writer should determine which information is relevant and important to the story. Students may write in pencil or pen. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and/or the Associated Press style manual. The use of personal listening devices, recording devices, cell phones, computers or other electronics is prohibited.
- When you are finished with the writing, please bring this entire packet to the proctors at the front of the room **and remain at the table until they have checked your entry and student code.**
- Please leave the room quietly. Congratulations on writing well done!

DESCRIPTION

You are a member of Sunflower High School's journalism staff. Your editor has asked you to write a 250-word sports story.

SCHOOL INFO

Name: Sunflower High School

Location: Clinton, Kansas

Mascot: Mighty Buffalo

Enrollment: 800 (grades 9-12)

School colors: yellow and brown

Yearbook: The Sunflower

Newspaper: Sunflower News

Contest Info

This is an on-site contest.

Do not put your name on the entry.

If you do, your entry will be disqualified.

Students must not request help or advice from any person other than the KSPA Executive Director Eric Thomas at

staff@kspaonline.org, and that advice must be requested before the start of the contest.

All work must be solely that of the contestant.

Where?

- a home game at Sunflower High School in the Lawrence R. Blair gymnasium

When?

- Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015 at 7 pm

What?

- varsity boys basketball game

Who?

- two teams from the Central Sunflower Athletic Conference (CSAC)
- Mighty Buffalo playing the Narwhals of North Clinton High School
- gym was sold out with standing room only for spectators: about 800 fans

Quotes

from Sunflower coach Brian Alford

- “I felt like this game was going to turn out differently based on the first three quarters. We stayed out of foul trouble, defended well on the perimeter and make some nice aggressive moves to the hoop on offense. But we just couldn’t hang with them inside at the end. He was just too much.” (referring to Payton)
- “The key moment was likely the final play when Greg Thomas was still in the game and he fouled out. We had just a two-point deficit and they passed it into Payton in the lane. In one motion he turned, scored and drew that foul that fouled out Thomas. That took the wind out of our sails.”

from North Clinton coach Jim McKnight

- “I am not sure how we got out of here with a win. That was a ferocious game. A real blood bath.”
- “They played us so tight on defense around the three point line. We didn’t have enough room to dribble, let alone shoot. I knew that we would need to lean on Payton a ton. He had to carry us.”
- “It’s great to be in the lead for the conference crown now that we have a 7-1 record in the CSAC. But we still have three games left and anything can happen.

from North Clinton center Omar Payton (senior 6-foot 7-inch, 215 pounds)

- “Just another game, man. We are not going to change anything when this formula is working this well. If they are going to take away the long shots, we will use our height inside. It’s what we practice every day. So, it’s no surprise that we can execute in a hostile environment like this.”
- “I just love playing against Greg Thomas. We have known each other for years and have played on the same summer league team since 7th grade. We always blast each other in

Points by quarter and final score

Mighty Buffalo

(overall record: 7-17, 4-4 conference)

15 18 19 10 **Final 62**

Narwhals

(overall record: 19-3, 7-1 conference)

14 19 19 22 **Final 74**

Statistical Team Leaders for the game

	Mighty Buffalo	Narwhals
Points	James 14	Payton 22
Rebounds	Thomas 8	Payton 13
Assists	James 4	Callahan 5

Mighty Buffalo Roster of players played

No.	Name	Position	Pts
11	Edgar James	Guard	14
15	Ted Braun	Guard	11
21	Chuck Patterson	Guard	8
24	Steve McCaster	Forward	6
30	Ed Fendler	Forward	10
42	Mike Hargens	Forward	0
51	Greg Thomas	Center	13

Narwhals Roster of players played

No.	Name	Position	Pts
14	Jame McGill	Guard	11
15	Jeff Logan	Guard	10
20	Enrique English	Forward	12
23	Jeff Meyers	Forward	0
30	Tim Johnson	Forward	10
43	Richard Chavez	Forward	9
52	Omar Payton	Center	22

games like this. I love that guy. It's a shame that he had to foul out. We were having so much fun out there.

from Sunflower center Greg Thomas (senior 6-foot 2-inch, 200 pounds)

- "I can't believe that we didn't win this one. We had them right there. Ugh. Seriously. What a mess."
- "I just feel beat up after games like this. I have cuts all over me. My knees are killing me. And I am pretty sure that I will have a black eye right here tomorrow." (pointing to his right eye)
- "The home crowd tonight was just great. I wish we could have paid them back for all of their enthusiasm. When I see the crowd banging around in the bleachers with the pep band playing . . . it's just a great feeling. Even better when we can win."

from Sunflower point guard Edgar James (sophomore 5-foot 7-inch, 160 pounds)

- "I feel like we are so close. So close to being able to win these games. We were in this game from the very start until almost the final 2 minutes. It just got away from us."
- "That final stretch of the game we couldn't handle their zone defense. We hadn't seen that look all game, and then they sprung it on us at the very end when we had to score. I thought we were prepared for it, but obviously not. I made some costly turnovers there down the stretch. So close."