

Newspaper Page Design

[2015 KSPA Regional Contest :: Contest N](#)

THE ASSIGNMENT

From big schools to small schools, basketball is a pastime in the county you live in. So, you asked your staff to spend one weekend – 48 hours to be exact – photographing basketball in your town and surrounding area. They have edited the images down to their eight favorite frames.

For this contest, you will design one two-page spread (facing letter-sized 8.5 inches x 11 inches pages) featuring the story, photos and captions below, along with whatever other coverage you design using the research and words provided. It is not necessary to use all of the images, all of the captions, all of the story or all of the “facts” provided.

Other images can be included if the images are by the News Page Design Contestant. No information should be included that isn’t provided here.

Story

Coach Moe Smedley of Sunflower High School says that there is no county like Grant County for basketball. Not in the state. Not in the country. Not in the world.

“I have travelled all over the world with my son’s club basketball team, and there is nothing like a Friday night of basketball in Grant County,” Smedley said. “Why would you watch basketball anywhere else?”

It seems that basketball is one of the aspects of Grant County life that brings together young and old, black and white, rural and urban, men and women, Democrat and Republican. Around the state of Kansas, Grant County is famous -- if not notorious -- for its tradition of gathering around the hardwood.

Janet and Mitch Fletcher of Eastbrook met 34 years ago at one of the tournaments. Janet was a cheerleader for Eastbrook and Mitch was a shooting guard for Sunflower High School. During the championship game, Mitch dove out of bounds to save a ball that was flying into the stands. Directly in his path was Janet.

“It was love at first collision,” Janet says now, looking across to her now-husband Mitch.

“I was never sure if she would forgive me for being a Mighty Buffalo,” Mitch responds. “Let alone nearly killing her to save that ball as it flew out of bounds.”

Since the first county basketball tournament in 1934, all of the high schools have placed their varsity teams in a bracket to determine the best boys and girls teams around. While Madison-Grant teams hold the edge in

DESCRIPTION

You are a member of Sunflower High School’s journalism staff. Your editor has asked you to design a newspaper page.

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 a digital submission contest.

Students must not request help or advice from any person other than the KSPA Executive Director Eric Thomas at staff@kspaonline.org. All work must be solely that of the contestant.

both the boys and girls rivalries, each county school has won at least once and at least three schools have earned streaks of championships that could be called “mini-dynasties.”

“I don’t know how many hours I have spent on the bleachers watching that tournament,” Sunflower Community College mens basketball coach Jim Whiteside said. “Even in years that I am not scouting talent, I make sure to be there with a Coca-Cola and a bag of popcorn, just to see the quality of rivalry.”

Current players have a sense of the intensity. Almost every year at every school, pep rallies are held to excite the crowd and encourage the team. Sunflower High School cheerleaders decorate lockers with yellow-and-brown cutouts of the Mighty Buffalo. And student sections surge onto the court to celebrate the final buzzer of the championship game.

“You wouldn’t believe the butterflies in my stomach,” Sunflower High School senior point guard said. “And the tournament is still a month away from now. Just thinking about it makes me freak out.”

Photos & Captions ([download images here](#))

Photo 1 :: Date: 2/16/15 8:25 a.m. // At Andy Miller's basketball court in southern Grant County, out-of-bounds is a corral for cows during the winter. The Madison-Grant hoopster says the cows, especially "Whitey," are his most loyal fans as he spends hours alone working on his jump shot or playing pick-up games with friends. Photo by Ted Braun

Photo 2 :: Date: 2/15/15 7:45 p.m. // Children line the floor during the announcements of Sunflower High School's starting lineup, a tradition that dates back to the 1950s when the school produced three All-Americans including one future NBA Hall of Famer. Photo by Mit Winter

Photo 3 :: 2/17/15 Time: 4:50 p.m. // Standing at attention during the national anthem, an Oak Hill cheerleader hopes superstition will lead to victory before the Golden Eagles loss to Eastbrook. Photo by Chuck Patterson

Photo 4 :: 2/16/15 Time: 8 a.m. // Donning a stocking cap against the winter chill, Andy Miller flicks a pass to Madison-Grant teammate Brian Bennett in the Miller family barn. Miller's family built the 3/4 length court inside their barn to accommodate summer pick-up games. Photo by Ted Braun

Photo 5 :: 2/15/15 Time: 9:07 p.m. // Sophomore Chris Hill sits hot and bleary-eyed at halftime after revving up the crowd as the Golden Eagle mascot at Oak Hill High School. Under the mascot's costume Chris wears the number 55 of his brother Marcus, Oak Hill's star center. Photo by Jen Landes

Photo 6 :: Date: 2/16/15 Time: 8:17 p.m. // Sunflower High School's Kandace Dunlap, left, and Amanda Casas wait for a teammate to shoot critical free-throws near the end of tight sectional contest against Eastbrook. Photo by Mindi Squire

Photo 7 :: Date: 2/17/15 Time: 6:45 p.m. // As the rest of his team pats each other back's on the way to the locker room, Neal Friesen of Eastbrook hugs his mother Janet after dramatically upsetting cross-county rival Oak Hill. Photo by Ted Braun

Photo 8 :: Date: 2/17/15 Time: 9:00:42 p.m. // Ad Astra players clutch the sectional championship trophy after defeating South Adams. Photo by Chuck Patterson

Facts about basketball in Grant County

- There are 47 high school teams in the county including all boys and girls teams from freshman up to varsity.
- Teams in the county have won 23 state championships, with Madison-Grant winning the most with 8
- During these 48 hours, there were 12 high school varsity games
- The county has produced three NBA players and two WNBA players
- Some of the mascots: The Sunflowers, The Stags, The Blue Hens, The Narwhals, The Bison, The Uncle Sams, The Tigers, The Pirates, The Mighty Buffalo
- The smallest school in the county has 109 students. The largest school has 2364 students.
- The county is 821 square miles in area.

Use whatever design, software and photography skills you have. While page designing allows – and encourages – the creative use of images, entries should avoid the use of copyrighted images not held by the contestant, except those provided here.

SUBMISSION

The design must be uploaded to the KSPA online submission according to these specifications:

- The pages should be saved as a pdf of 25 MB or less.
- Each pages should be 11 inches tall and 8.5 inches wide (vertical). The designer can decide to bleed images off the page or maintain an external margin.
- When you submit your design, you will provide your name and student code (your adviser has this information) but this information should not be contained in the design of the design itself.
- The design may be black & white or color.
- The design must be uploaded by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 23
- [The design must be uploaded here.](#)

Failure to follow these requirements will result in disqualification.

