

## **Wrestling fan says more space needed at meets**

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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This is an open letter to the Wauneta-Palisade School administration and school board.

I am an alumni of Wauneta, Class of 1989, supporter of the Broncos and mother of a freshman at McCook who happens to be part of the wrestling team that was invited to the Wauneta-Palisade/Hitchcock County Duals held on Dec. 4.

In the last 20 years, I have remained a Bronco fan, mainly attending football games and wrestling matches, as in the time since I graduated I have had a younger brother and four nephews involved in various sports.

My question is why were the wrestling duals held in Palisade? I was under the assumption that it was a high school activity, and so, isn't the high school gym still in Wauneta.

Pretty sure that is where I was in May for the eighth grade promotion and awards night.

When I was a student, the school was always trying to host the GPAC tourneys, as the Wauneta school building has a nice gym, had the room to hold a large crowd between the seating and the locker rooms.

When hosting an event involving eight schools and their fans, the facilities need to be a little bigger than the Palisade gym, with seating only on one side, to hold a crowd.

People did not have a lot of room to move, especially with the wrestlers crawling over you to get back to their seating after their matches.

I give kudos to Coach Barry Mraz of Medicine Valley for having his guys move off the bleachers and move to the corner of the gym to give the fans a little more room. Oh, by the way, his wife is also an alumni of Wauneta.

Lastly, my son, Keagan, was so excited when he found out the McCook JV was invited to participate in the WP/HC Duals, to be able to wrestle in the school that so many of his family before him have attended.

Needless to say, he was a little disappointed not be wrestling in the Wauneta gym, but ended the day pretty well, wrestling with the Bronco squad. Thanks, Colby, for a great match.

Anyway, best of luck with the rest of your season Broncos, from someone who will keep on supporting you in McCook.

**Chelsea Haarberg**  
**McCook**