



There were few dry eyes in the Longhorn gym last Thursday as the Chase County Lady Longhorn volleyball team remembered a former player, Amanda Poppe Johnson, who played on the 2001-04 teams. This year's team, coaches, parents and members of the Poppe and Johnson families wore special black T-shirts emblazoned with the number "13" she wore on her high school volleyball jersey, along with a special message "Forever and For Always." Her name was also printed on the sleeves. Above, the team huddles during warm-ups prior to their game with the Wauneta Lady Broncos. Right before the varsity match started, below, Head Coach Jodie Schuller presented Amanda's husband Curtis and other family members with balloons and candy from the 2013 team. The Johnsons' daughter, one-year-old Keller Rae, was very interested in the colorful balloons as she chomped on some popcorn. Nearly everyone in the gym wore black to the game as a special remembrance of Amanda, who died in June. Black was her favorite color. (Republican photos)

