

## GPHS Track Season Begins

By Morgan Ritter

The track team of Golden Plains High School began its season on Monday, March 21. "We look to continue to have a strong program," said coach Travis Smith, "We are also looking to build on our success from last year."

"The girls will be led by returning two-time state placer, Kami Miller," added Smith. "The boys will be led by senior distance runner, Cole Ziegelmeier. Kynndra Rush, a state placer in the 4x400 meter relay as a sophomore, returns to run middle distance and the 4x100 meter relay. The other returning seniors are Brianna Stoll, Kade Wessel, and Koi Wessel. There are three seniors new to the track program, Vertis Jones, Bryce Butts, and Luke Wessel.

"State placer as a freshman in the 4x100, Gabrielle Schiltz, returns as a junior and looks to have a great chance to qualify in the triple jump," continued Smith. "Morgan Ritter should fare well in the throws, and Dawson Spresser will be looked upon to give the team a lift in the jumps." Juniors Nick Brown, Carmen Sepulveda, Jessica Koerperich, Sem Flores, and Jose Ortiz are also on the track team.

State qualifier Maggi Nieman returns as a sophomore this year to run the 1600 meter and 3200 meter. Clayton Bange returns to run distance and help the team in the 4x400 and 4x800 meter relays. Sophomores Jeron Schutte, Jennifer Esparza, and Angel Sanchez also look to add support to the team.

"Freshman KayCee Miller will be looked upon to score in the long jump and the sprints," added Smith. "Dylan Spresser is to give a lift to the team with his brother Dawson in the jumps." Freshman Nolan Ritter and Noel Ritter will add to the throwing aspect of track. Haley Miller will join the sprints.

"Our goal for the girls is to finish in the top one-half of every meet and the top three at league," finished Smith, "the boys are looking to finish in the top one-half of the league meet."

"I am excited to start my senior season," said Kynndra Rush, "we have been working hard to prepare to be successful." The Bulldogs will travel to Tribune on April 8 to compete in the first track meet of the season.