

# Basketball Begins at Golden Plains

By: Charlotte McCurdy

The Bulldogs had their first basketball practice on November 13th. This introduced the basketball season for this school year bringing back many returning players. For the girls, Seniors Kaylie Schaben, Maggi Nieman, and Jennifer Esparza are coming back for their final season as Lady Bulldogs. The returning juniors are KayCee Miller, Amanda Cheney with Noel Ritter joining them this season. Sophomores returning include Mabel Lugo, Taryn Fleckenstein, Emily Stoltz, and Candace Taylor. The freshmen players are Brooke Stoll, Ashley Stoll, Tylor Todd, and Danica Ritter. Parker Christensen and Steve Shaw are coaching again this year. This will be Coach Christensen's 19<sup>th</sup> year as the head basketball coach.

The Lady Bulldogs finished fourth at the state tournament last year with an 18-4 record. They have played in the state tournament four of the last five years. "I'm excited to see what the season holds," said Kaylie Schaben, senior, "We're ready for our first game against Wheatland on our new home floor."

The boys' basketball team welcomes new coach Brad Weese this year along with Laura Rush as the assistant coach. Devin Carter is the only returning senior and Jeron Schutte is coming back from his injury to play this season. Returning juniors are Nolan Ritter, Dylan Spresser, and Jacob Ritter. Additional juniors joining them year are Miguel Monge, Chucky Hernandez, Caleb Korte, and Josh Spresser. The returning sophomores are Austin Patmon, Jaime Infante, and Joseph Yanez along with Colby Lathrop and Harley Weese joining this season. Freshman players are Tanner Trussel, Rolis Loya, Wade Rush, and Kole Butts.

"We want to improve from last year's 4-18 record," said Dylan Spresser, Junior, "If we continue to work together as a team we will continue to be successful." The Bulldogs open their season at home on December 1 against Wheatland/Grinnell.