

Bulldogs Receive Post-Season Basketball Honors

By Amanda Cheney

Golden Plains had five athletes named to the WKLL All-League Basketball Team for their work on the basketball floor this past season. Junior KayCee Miller and Sophomore Mabel Lugo were named first team, while Maggi Nieman, Wade Rush, and Harley Weese received Honorable Mention.

KayCee Miller has been a starter for all three of her years for the Lady Bulldogs and has played in two state tournaments. This past season, she led her team in scoring with a total of 320 points, including a 66% free throw percentage. Miller brought down 118 rebounds, had 66 assists, and 78 steals in this season alone. Miller was named Sagebrush Shootout All-Tournament Team, Sports in Kansas Class 1A Division II All State First Team, and Topeka Capital Journal All-Class Team Second Team. "It's great to be recognized by the league, but it does not reflect the effort of all of our team members," said Miller. "I'm looking forward to my senior year and playing with my little sister."

This was Mabel's first year starting for the Lady Bulldogs. She contributed to her team's success with 111 points and a 53% free throw percentage. She was a force on both sides of the ball with 169 rebounds, 29 assists, and 52 steals. "I feel very honored and proud to be chosen for all-league first team," said Lugo. "Being chosen will make me continue to work hard to improve for next season. Thank you to all of my team for encouraging me throughout the year."

Maggi Nieman started for the Bulldogs for the last two years. In her senior basketball season, Maggi had 199 points with a 50% free throw percentage. She had 27 rebounds, 31 assists, and 63 steals. "I'm incredibly honored to have been recognized for these awards," said Nieman. "This is something I've been working for all of my high school career and it seems surreal that it's actually happening." Along with WKLL Honorable Mention, Maggi was also Sports in Kansas Class 1A Division II All State Honorable Mention, and Topeka Capital Journal All-Class Team Honorable Mention. "I, of course, couldn't have achieved them without the support and guidance of my coaches and teammates," added Nieman. "I'm so thankful for the past four years of being a Lady Bulldog."

Freshman Wade Rush and Sophomore Harley Weese were both varsity starters for the Bulldogs. Wade Rush led the Bulldogs a total of 236 points over the course of the season, while Harley Weese had a total of 218. "It's an honor to be selected as one of only two sophomores on the all-league team." "It's an honor to be selected as a freshman," added Rush. "I appreciate all of my team's support in helping me achieve this goal."