

Eighth Grade Places Second at League By Russ Aumiller

The Golden Plains Middle School 7th and 8th grade scholars' bowl teams competed in the Western Kansas Liberty League meet hosted in Logan on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Pool play format was used for the tournament. Teams competing in Pool A were Brewster, Cheylin, Golden Plains, Palco, Triplains and Weskan with Grinnell, Heartland, Healy, Logan, Northern Valley, and Western Plains answering questions in Pool B.

The 8th graders did an outstanding job by decisively winning each of their rounds in pool play. This matched them up against Northern Valley in the first round of the championship matches. They were able to hold on by defeating the Huskies 60 to 50.

The championship round was then a battle between two undefeated teams—Golden Plains and Heartland Christian. The Bulldogs were unable to match the Crusaders, thus giving them the 2nd place medals and plaque. Team members were Lauren Patmon, Alisha Brantley, Wyatt McDonald, Morgan Wark, Carli Nieman, and Roberto Loya.

“We had a pretty good season,” said Wyatt McDonald. “We placed in most of our meets, including first at Atwood early on. We worked pretty well together to answer questions. We do need to work on buzzing in quicker when we know the answers.”

The 7th grade team had their best outing of the year. Scoring more points than in any previous meets, they ended pool play with 3 wins and 2 losses. One of the losses came down to a tie-breaker question in the 4th round. Unfortunately, the 3-2 record did not advance them to the championship rounds. Team members competing were Sidney Taylor, McHaley Carter, Jamie Graves, Jazline Manriquez, and Breanna Rath.

The meet concludes the season for the Scholar Bowl team. Several eighth graders look forward to competing on the high school team next season. “I look forward to competing at the high school level next year,” added McDonald.