

## Bulldogs Win One at League

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs won their final game of the Western Kansas Liberty League Tournament in Grainfield on February 1. The Bulldogs placed seventh overall in the tournament following losses to Triplains/Brewster and Cheylin before gaining the win over Western Plains/Healy on the final night. "It was good to get another win," said sophomore Wade Rush.

The 'Dogs faced the Triplains/Brewster Titans for the quarter final round of the tournament on Monday, January 28, after playing them the Friday before in Rexford. They fell behind the Titans 6-11 in the first quarter and only managed to add another 4 in the second to trail 10-22 at the half.

The "Dogs came out in the third and pumped in 14 points but allowed the Titans to pull further ahead with an additional 24. The Titans kept their lead going in the fourth adding 16 to the Bulldogs' 8 for the win 62-32.

Scoring for the Bulldogs were Caleb Korte and Dylan Spresser with 10 each. Harley Weese added 6, Colby Lathrop 3, Nolan Ritter 2, and Jovanny Infante 1.

On Tuesday, the Bulldogs faced off with the Cheylin Cougars for the semi-finals. They had lost to the Cougars in the Sagebrush tournament early in the season and were determined to play a better contest.

The 'Dogs opened the game with a 3 from Dylan Spresser. Seven quick points from Wade Rush put them up 10-4. Spresser hit another 3 to make the lead 13-7 before the Cougars made a late quarter run to take over 14-13 by the end of the quarter.

The 'Dogs continued to keep the game close in the second as they added another 13. The Cougars added 15 to keep a 29-26 lead at the half. The Bulldogs worked together in the second half to put in 10 more in the third, but the Cougars scored 11 to hold on to the lead.

The 'Dogs kept pushing the ball to the hole in the last minutes of the game with another 12 points. The Cougars added another 15 for the 55-48 win. Scores for Golden Plains came from Wade Rush 16, Caleb Korte 8, Dylan Spresser 8, Harley Weese 6, Nolan Ritter 4, Kole Butts 3 and Jacob Ritter 3.

The Bulldogs got a couple of days to rest and prepare for the final game of the tournament on Friday against the Western Plains/Healy Bobcats. They had defeated the Bobcats at home in mid-January and were looking forward to a repeat. The Bobcats were rested and ready to put up a fight. Harley Weese put in two quick buckets for the Bulldogs but the Bobcats answered and pulled ahead 6-4. Nolan Ritter tied it back up only to have the 'Cats pull ahead again. Wade Rush tied it up twice more to end the quarter 10-10.

The Bobcats continued to hold the lead throughout much of the second quarter pulling ahead 20-16 before the Bulldogs came from behind to regain the lead 26-20 by the half.

The 'Dogs came out in the second half with energy and determination as they worked together to pump in 20 points in the third while holding the 'Cats to 6 giving them a solid lead 46-26. Never letting up, they finished the game 66-35 for their third win of the season.

Jacob Ritter led the offense with 13 points along with Wade Rush 10, Harley Weese 10, Nolan Ritter 9, Caleb Korte 8, Dylan Spresser 8, Colby Lathrop 4, Jovanny Infante 2, and Ashton Schiltz 2.

The Bulldogs return to regular season play as they host Hill City on February 5 for the last home game of the season.