

Lady 'Dogs Off to a Great Start
By Judy Rogers

Runner-Up in the first tournament of the season got the Lady Bulldogs Volleyball off on the right foot as they went undefeated in pool play to place second in the Healy Tournament on August 25. "It was a great start to the season," said KayCee Miller, senior. "Everyone worked well together."

The girls entered pool play with the first game against Rolla. Both teams were on the floor for the first contest of the year and played a close first set with the 'Dogs winning 25-19. The Bulldogs nerves relaxed in the second set to claim the match 25-15.

The second match of pool play was against the Triplains/Brewster Titans. They jumped to an early lead with a 10 serve streak from freshman Kassie Miller to lead 13-1. Attacks by senior KayCee Miller and junior Mabel Lugo kept the Bulldogs in control as they won the first set 25-9. The girls continued to work the net and an 11 point run from sophomore Ashley Stoll behind the line helped to win the set and the match 25-15.

The third and final match of pool play was against the Greeley County Jackrabbits from Tribune. The girls kept their energy up despite the very warm gymnasium to win the first set 25-14. With blocks by junior Zoey Hillis and kills by KayCee Miller, the girls won the second set, the match, and their pool 25-12.

With just a short break the 'Dogs headed into the semi-final match against the Syracuse Bulldogs. This proved to be a bit more of a challenge for both teams as they kept the game within two points throughout most of the set. The GP girls gained a four point lead 18-14 as Syracuse called a time out. Back on the court, sophomore Brooke Stoll took over the serve to extend the lead as the Golden Plains girls held on to win the first set 25-17. Serving continued to be an asset for GP as freshman Morgan Wark had several ACE serves. The Bulldogs took an early lead and held on to win a spot in the championship game with a second set score 25-14.

The Bulldogs faces off against the Otis-Bison Cougars for the championship match. This was their third straight game and they girls were feeling the heat. They pushed through and kept the first set close throughout the game but the Cougars pulled ahead to win the set 25-19. Golden Plains fell behind in the second set and tried to fight their way back but the Cougars extended their lead to 22-11. A late game rally by the Bulldogs closed the spread but the Cougars won the set and the championship 25-15.

The girls will take their 4-1 tournament record into the regular season which begins on Tuesday, August 28, in Logan where they will play Logan, Ness City, and Triplains/Brewster with both JV and Varsity matches beginning at 3:00.