

MS Volleyball Girls Get Second at League

By Candace Taylor

The middle school WKLL volleyball tournament was held in Grainfield and Grinnell on Thursday, October 24. The Golden Plains Bulldogs played five matches, finishing the day with 3 wins and 2 losses placing as league Runner-Up.

The Bulldogs started their day with a game against the Weskan Coyotes. The Bulldogs won the first set 25-11. The second set was a closer game, but the Bulldogs fought and won 25-23. The 'Dogs second game of pool play was against Western Plains/Healy. The Lady Bulldogs won both sets with the scores being 25-13 in the first set and 25-11 in the second. "We did good at getting up at the net and attacking," said Valentina Bermudez, an 8th grader. "It was a fun game to play."

The Bulldogs and the Grinnell/Wheatland Thunderhawks played in their final game of pool play. The first set was a tough fight, but the Thunderhawks came out on top 25-21. The Bulldogs competed for the second set, but lost 18-25. "We got down on ourselves," said 8th grader Mia Rogers. "When we stay positive, we play better as a team," she continued. With only one loss in pool play, the Ladies made it to the semi-finals.

The semi-final game was against the Northern Valley Huskies. Both teams worked hard in the first set, and the Huskies came out with the win of 25-20. The Bulldogs fought back in the second set and took the win of 25-17, which put the game into three sets. The Bulldogs won the third set 25-11, sending them to the championship game. "We were really excited to beat Northern Valley and make it to the championship game!" said Ava Brantley, an 8th grader. "We worked hard as a team and had a lot of fun."

In the championship game, the Lady Bulldogs met up with the Grinnell/Wheatland Thunderhawks again. The first set was close, but the Bulldogs fought for the win of 25-22. The 'Hawks came back in the second set and won 25-14, taking the game into three sets. The Bulldogs couldn't hold the third set and lost 4-25.

Despite the loss, the Bulldogs still got second place at the league tournament. "Even though we lost, I'm really proud of how we finished the season," said 8th grader Emma Weiner. "I think we all improved over the season and had a good time," she continued. "We never really gave up; we set up the ball well and worked well as a team. It was fun for our last league," said Jordyn Fleckenstein-8th grade.

The Lady Bulldogs finished the varsity season with 8 wins and 6 losses. "I enjoyed playing with these girls this year," added Fleckenstein.