

## Lady Bulldogs Place Second at GCC By Brooke Stoll

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs competed in the Gove County Classic on September 14 in Grainfield and Grinnell. The Lady 'Dogs won their pool in Grinnell and took second overall in the tournament to move to 14-1 on the 2019 season moving up to a #6 statewide ranking in the Kansas Volleyball Association. Kassie Miller said, "The tournament was very successful," said Kassie Miller, sophomore. "I am really proud of how we all played and stepped up."

The first game of pool play was against the St. Francis Indians. With several kills from Mabel Lugo the Lady Bulldogs took the lead early and claimed the first set 25-13. Kassie Miller started the second set with 3 aces and the Dogs' got up early 5-0. Then the Indians fought back, but the Bulldogs held on to win the set and game 25-18.

For the second game of pool play, the Bulldogs took on the Weskan Coyotes. The Coyotes came out on the court full of energy and got the early lead, while the Bulldogs struggled with serves. The 'Dogs continued to persevere through the first set to capture the win 26-24. The Lady Bulldogs cleaned up their serves and attacks to lead the Coyotes early in the second set. They went on to win the set and the match 25-13.

The final game of pool play was against the Greeley County Jackrabbits. This would be the third time these two teams would match up, with the Bulldogs winning the previous two games. The Bulldogs continued their dominance on the day and won the first set 25-7. The Jackrabbits didn't give up, but the Bulldogs won the second set 25-17 to advance to the semifinals against the Decatur County Red Devils.

The Bulldogs took on the Red Devils for the semi-finals game to try and advance to the championship game. The 'Dogs worked hard to get a lead and take the first set 25-16. They used their energy to work hard and dominated the Red Devils to beat them 25-12 in the second set. Mabel Lugo led the way with 6 kills, followed by Kassie Miller with 5, and Ashley Stoll with 4. They secured a spot against league rivals Wheatland/Grinnell in the championship.

The Bulldogs were to take on the Wheatland/Grinnell Thunderhawks for the championship game. The game started out close with the lead going back and forth. The Bulldogs fell behind and couldn't fight back to drop the first set 15-25.

After a long day of volleyball the Lady Dogs continued to battle during the second set, falling to the Thunderhawks 12-25. Kassie Miller helped to get the front row attacks with 36 assists, while Brooke Stoll had 13 digs. "I am proud of how we played throughout the day," said Morgan Wark, sophomore. "I am excited to get to continue our season and meet them again later!"

The GPHS Lady Dogs will host Victoria and Northern Valley on September 17 to continue their season. "I am excited to see how we will continue to improve throughout the season and see what we can accomplish!" added Miller.