

GPHS Lady Dogs Compete in Hill City By Brooke Stoll

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs traveled to Hill City for the Ringneck Classic on October 12. They took on the Rawlins County Buffaloes, Trego Eagles, and Thunder Ridge Longhorns in pool play. The Dogs finished the day with one win and two losses. "I am very impressed with how well we responded to our level of competition!" exclaimed sophomore Morgan Wark. "It was nice to play the tougher teams to help us get a look into how our later games will go."

The Bulldogs started the day off against the Rawlins County Buffaloes. GPHS came into the game slow and got behind early in the first set of play. They persevered and cleaned up some of their own mistakes to fight back, but fell to the Buffs 16-25. The Lady Dogs played tough the second set but couldn't come away with the win and lost 20-25. Mabel Lugo led the way with 7 kills, followed by Zoey Hillis and Kassie Miller with 5.

For the second match of the day, the Bulldogs took on the Trego Eagles. The Bulldogs were ready to play and competed closely the whole first set. They fell to the Eagles 18-25 in the first set. The Bulldogs never gave up and continued to rally with the Eagles. GPHS couldn't come away with the win and dropped the second set 21-25. Zoey Hillis played big up front and finished the game with 8 kills.

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs matched up with the Thunder Ridge Longhorns for the final game of pool play and played three hard sets. They were determined more than ever to come away with a win. Both teams competed fearlessly and volleyed back and forth the whole first set. The Bulldogs fought to win the set 31-29. The Lady Dogs came out flat in the second set. They fell to the Longhorns 13-25. The Lady Dogs knew they would have to work hard in the third set to get the win. It was another close, competitive game. The Bulldogs did what needed to be done and came away with the win 28-26.

Mabel Lugo finished the game with 18 kills. Brooke Stoll had 26 digs followed by Ashley Stoll with 17, and Kassie Miller with 14. They finished the day 1-2, short of making it out of pool play. "I think we did good and we learned what all we need to work on to help us in post-season play," said Ashley Stoll, "I am excited to see how well we can finish the season!"

The Dogs advanced their record to 23-3 on the season. They will host Trego, Dighton, and Wheatland/Grinnell on October 15th in Rexford to finish their regular season prior to the league tournament.