

## Basketball Begins at Golden Plains By Judy Rogers

Basketball Season has begun at Golden Plains High School. Practice started on November 14 at 6:00 am for the girls. The girls qualified for the state tournament last season and are looking forward to another successful season. They have four returning seniors—Gabrielle Schiltz, Morgan Ritter, Brittany Fringer, and Carmen Sepulveda as well as senior Courtney Heinrich joining the team for her senior year. Additional returning players include juniors Kaylie Schaben, Maggi Nieman, and Jennifer Luna and sophomores KayCee Miller and Amanda Cheney.

Joining the team this year are freshmen Mabel Lugo, Candace Taylor, Karri Schaben, Taryn Fleckenstein, and Emily Stoltz. These girls won the Middle School League Tournament last year.

“Our goals remain consistent,” said Coach Parker Christensen, “to outwork and outcompete each team we play. If we can do that, we will have a good change to make a run back to the state tournament.” “I’m looking forward to the competition this year,” said Miller. “Everyone on the team will contribute to our success.” “I encourage everyone to come out and support our teams this year,” added Nieman.

The boys have five returning seniors—Jesus Aragon, Brett Gerbitz, Jose Ortiz, Dawson Spresser, and Nick Brown along Sem Flores joining them for this season. Also returning for the juniors are Jeron Schutte, Devin Carter, Angel Sanchez, Clayton Bange.

Sophomore players include Dylan Spresser, Nolan Ritter, Jacob Ritter, and Nicolai Schüllner. Freshmen players are Joseph Yanez, Colby Lathrop, Jaime Infante, and Austin Patmon. “Our goal is to work as a team,” said Jose Ortiz. “Practices have been going well and everyone is working together.”

The boys have two new coaches this year. Lane Patmon leads the team as head coach. “I’ve always wanted to coach boys basketball,” said Patmon. “I’m hoping to be a positive role model to help the boys become a successful team.” Dustin McBride is his assistant. “We are getting to know each other and what the expectations are,” added Ortiz.

“The season has just begun and the boys are doing great,” continued Coach Patmon. “I’m very proud of the hard work they have shown thus far. I’m looking forward to a great and successful season. Our goal is to win league and play more as a team.” He encourages everyone to come out and support the boys this year. Both teams open their season on December 2 in Grainfield.