

Lady Bulldogs Open Season as Tournament Runner-Up

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs opened the new season with a 4-1 record to place second in the Healy Tournament on August 26. “We definitely have a long ways to go, but I feel we started coming together as the day wore on,” said Jordyn Fleckenstein, senior. “I was pleased that we had a good day and finished the tournament 4-1. It was a good way to start the season.”

The girls played the Rolla Lady Pirates for the first game of pool play. The started with a 7-0 run but the Pirates steadily chipped away at the lead to win the first set 22-25. The Bulldogs switched sides and took over in the second half of the set to win the set 25-14. Finding their momentum they won the third set and the match 25-11.

The second game of pool play was against the Otis-Bison Lady Cougars. The first set was a close one with the teams tying the score up several times. The Bulldogs stayed with their game and following some good kills by senior [Jordyn Fleckenstein](#), the Bulldogs took the set 25-14. The Tigers fought their way back in the second set to claim the win 19-25 but the Bulldogs took over in the third to claim the set and the game 25-14.

The final set of pool play was against the Triplains/Brewster Lady Titans. Both teams played hard to keep the score close, but the Bulldogs finished with a 7-1 run to win both sets 25-23, 25-21.

Placing first in their pool, the Lady Bulldogs advanced to the semi-finals to face Western Plains. The Dogs dropped the first set 16-25 but came back to win the next two 25-18, 25-20. They played the Greeley County Jackrabbits in the championship game. After a long day of hard-fought matches, the Dogs were unable to challenge the Jackrabbits losing both sets 10-25, 5-25 to place as tournament runner-up.

“I really enjoyed playing my first high school games,” said Kadalene Unrein, freshman. “It was a learning experience and is a lot different than middle school. Our goal is for the team to receive the recognition they earn.”

The Dogs will play their only home games of the season on Tuesday, August 29 in Rexford as they host Triplains/Brewster, Ness City, and Logan with both varsity and JV games.