

## Middle School Boys End Season at League Tournament

By Emma Weiner

On February 8, the Golden Plains Middle School boys ended their basketball season at the WKLL League tournament. The Bulldogs faced off against the Weskan Coyotes. They played hard but fell to the Coyotes with a score of 34-46. "Everyone tried their best and wanted to win," said 8th grader Adam Ritter.

The Bulldogs came out fairly strong on the offensive end to start the game, putting up 9 points. They struggled to cover shooters on the defensive end, allowing the Coyotes to put up 14 points, including 2 three-point baskets. The second quarter was very similar with the Dogs putting up 8 points, but they had trouble stopping the Coyotes from scoring, allowing them 21 points of their own. Going into halftime, the boys were down 17-35.

After halftime, the boys came out fired up. Offensively they put up 8 points and they really locked down on defense, only allowing the Coyotes 4 points. With one quarter left to play the Dogs were still down 25-39.

In the final quarter, the Dogs were able to move the ball on offense, adding 9 more points to their side of the scoreboard, but the Coyotes returned the favor, scoring 7 more of their own. The Bulldogs gave it all they had but fell short 34-46. Golden Plains points were scored by Adam Ritter 12, Cristian Garcia 10, Tannor Todd 8, and Ruxin Arnberger 4.

The Bulldogs ended their season with a record of 3-9. For the 8th graders, this was their final middle school game. "I felt like we did a good job getting to the basket," said Cristian Garcia. He plans to play on the high school team next year. "I need to improve my ball handling and learn how to take better shots." "I also hope to contribute to the high school team next year," added Ritter.