

## Bulldogs Drop Second Game to Thunderhawks

By Judy Rogers

The Bulldogs from Golden Plains lost a second game this year to the Wheatland/Grinnell Thunderhawks on February 19 in Rexford. The Bulldogs, who are now 14-5 on the season, had defeated the 'Hawks in the Castle Rock Classic in December, but lost to the 'Hawks in the finals of the WKLL tournament in early February.

The 'Hawks jumped to an early 7-0 lead in the first quarter before a basket from Golden Plains senior Kynndra Rush gave the Bulldogs their only score of the quarter. The girls ended the quarter with a 10-2 'Hawks lead. The Bulldogs rallied in the second holding the 'Hawks to four while their offense gained 14 points giving the 'Dogs a 16-14 lead at the half.

The tables turned again in the third quarter. The Bulldogs maintained their advantage midway through the quarter; however, the 'Hawks pulled ahead 25-20. The 'Dogs strong defense kept the 'Hawks from crossing half court toward the end of the quarter so they called a timeout and came back to add one more score before the buzzer.

Freshman KayCee Miller opened the fourth with another Bulldog basket. Another shot by Rush closed the spread to 3. The 'Hawks answered and the game turned into a battle. With just over two minutes to play, the Bulldogs were down by 5 and started to send the 'Hawks to the free throw line. The 'Hawks made 10 of their 14 fourth quarter shots to gain the win 41-32.

"It's always hard playing a team so many times," said KayCee Miller. "I thought that we just didn't get enough shots up throughout the game. Hopefully, we will get another chance at them in Sub-State."

KayCee Miller led the Bulldogs with 15 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, and 3 steals. Rush added 11 points, 10 rebounds, and 2 steals. Gabrielle Schiltz turned in 5 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, and 2 steals. A final point came from Kami Miller along with 2 rebounds, 2 assists, and 2 steals. Maddy Walz had 6 rebounds 1 assist, and 1 steal along with 1 assist, 1 rebound, and 1 steal by Morgan Ritter.

The Bulldogs look forward to hopefully face the Thunderhawks one more time this season in the finals of Sub-State. "We are not ready for our season to end," said Kynndra Rush. "We have been working hard in practice to be at the top of our game."