

## Bulldogs Win Regionals and Qualify for State

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs qualified seven athletes in nine events for the State Track Meet in Wichita this coming Saturday. The girls also won several individual events to win the Regional Championship with 62 total points scored.

The girls relay teams have placed first in nearly every meet this season and Regionals was no exception. The 4 x 800m relay team of Ashley Stoll, Brooke Stoll, Rayna Taylor, and Emma Weiner won the championship with a first place run of 10:27.37. They have set a new school record twice this year and look forward to doing so again at state.

The 4 x 400m relay team ran by Ashley Stoll, Brooke Stoll, Emma Weiner, and Sidney Taylor have also placed first at most meets this season. They placed second at Regionals to qualify for state with their season best run of 4:22.82. They were runner-up in this hand-timed race to Rawlins County by .01 second who recorded a time of 4:22.81.

Freshman Emma Weiner was named Regional Champion in both the 1600m and 3200m runs. She set a new school record in the 1600m for the fourth time this season at 5:30.83 for the win. She also set a new school record in the 3200m for the fourth time this year at 11:53.52. "It's really exciting but kind of hard to believe to have qualified in four events in my first year of high school track," said Emma. "My goal at state is to give it my all, and it would be an amazing experience to place. In future seasons, I hope to continue to perform well to help my team be successful."

In addition to the relays, senior Ashley Stoll qualified for state in both the 400m and 800m races. She set a PR of 1:02.84 in the 400m for 4<sup>th</sup> place and set a PR in the 800m of 2:28.65 for second. Ashley, along with her sister Brooke, are state track veterans having placed in the 4 x 400, 4 x 100, and the 400m their freshman and sophomore years. They are looking forward to a final trip to Wichita. "I'm really excited to be able to compete at State track again this year especially with my twin sister!" said Ashley. "It has been a blast the first two years and is a chance to make unforgettable memories! I hope for new PRs and to run our best and have fun!"

Qualifying for state for the first time is sophomore Breanna Rath. Rath placed fourth in both long jump and triple jump. She jumped a PR of 15' 7.75" in long jump and triple-jumped 31' 9.5" to earn her trip to state. Rath just missed qualifying in the 300m hurdles with a fifth place PR run of 53.24 and ran the 100m hurdles in 18.50.

Additional points were scored for the girls' regional win by Brooke Stoll who placed sixth in the 500m (1:06.41) and Kassie Miller who placed sixth in Discus with a 97' 4" throw.

The only male athlete qualifying for state was Ethan Weiner who placed second in the 3200m run at 11:01.06. He has set the school record in this event twice so far this season. He ran a PR of 5:08.44 in the 1600m for 7<sup>th</sup> place. "My goal for state is to finish on the podium and run a PR," said Weiner. "It was one of my goals to make it to state at the beginning of the year and now I'm ready to go and compete."

The 4 x 800m relay team of Ethan Shea, Ethan Weiner, Landon Meier, and Roberto Loya placed fifth with a 9:19.72 run. These same four boys ran the 4 x 400m with their season best time of 4:01.55. Several boys competed in additional events including Roberto Loya who ran a PR of 2:19.09 in the 800m. Ashton Schiltz threw the Shot Put 39' 0.5" and Wade Rush competed in Shot Put (39' 6.5"), Discus (114' 5"), and Javelin (131' 0"). "I hope we can get some more boys qualified next year," added Weiner. "It means a lot to represent GP at state."

Additional results for the girls include: Sidney Taylor-100m 14.90, Brooke Stoll-800m 2:50.38, Kassie Miller-Shot Put 31' 9", Morgan Wark-Shot Put 30' 8.5" Discus 86' 10".

This year's state meet will be held in Wichita all on Saturday, May 29. Events begin at 8:00 am. A full schedule can be found online at <https://www.kshsaa.org/Public/Track/PDF/StateSchedule.pdf>.