

## Bulldogs Battle in Quinter

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs fought a tough battle against the Quinter Lady Bulldogs in Quinter on January 24. The GP girls led most of the game but the Quinter girls fought back to claim the 47-44 win. This is the closest game the 10-1 Quinter girls had played all season with their next closest game of 53-49 over Rawlins County early in the season. "This was a great game," said Breanna Rath. "It showed how much energy we have to give and it made us better in the end."

Quinter opened the game with a 3 only to be answered by three in a row from Golden Plains. The Quinter girls pulled ahead once more but were tied up by senior Sidney Taylor. With another shot from Quinter and two free throws for senior Breanna Rath, the first quarter was tied up again. A late quarter shot from sophomore Anette Hernandez gave Golden Plains the 12-10 lead at the end of the first.

Both teams are noted for the tough defense and the Golden Plains girls continued to play tight into the second. Taylor put in 8 points in the second along with shots from junior Jordyn Fleckenstein and Hernandez as GP outmuscled Quinter down low holding them to 6 giving GP a 25-16 lead at the half.

Taylor, Fleckenstein, Hernandez, and Rath continued to push the ball through the hoop in the third as Golden Plains extended their lead in the third. They led by 15 points (35-20) with around 3 minutes remaining in the quarter. Quinter found the basket near the end of the quarter with repeated layups and a deep three at the buzzer to close the spread to 35-30.

Once they found the basket, Quinter pushed hard in the fourth to add to their score. They opened with back-to-back three shots closing the spread to one point. Midway through the quarter, they made a couple of free throws to give them their first lead of the game. Fleckenstein tied the game back up at 40 but another three gave Quinter their lead, which they held onto to finish the game with the win 47-44.

Sidney Taylor led the Golden Plains girls with 16 points along with 14 from Jordyn Fleckenstein. Fleckenstein Rath each made 100% of their free throws in this game. Anette Hernandez added 10 points and Breanna Rath 4.

Hernandez led the GP girls with 8 rebounds, Fleckenstein and Taylor each had 6, Emma Weiner 4, and Rath 2. Rath had 3 assists, Taylor, Weiner, and Hernandez 2 each, and Fleckenstein 1. Taylor had 4 steals, Hernandez 2, Rath & Fleckenstein 2 each, and Weiner 1.

"I think this has been our best game so far this season both offensively and defensively," said Sidney Taylor. "This will make us stronger as a team. Even though we lost, it was a good experience that will help us in the league tournament."

The Golden Plains girls will host Cheylin in Rexford on January 27 before playing Western Plains/Healy at the WKLL Tournament in Colby on January 31.