

Golden Plains High School will hold a reunion for the 25th anniversary of the 1985 undefeated Class 1A State Boys Basketball Championship team on Friday during a home game against Dighton.

Golden Plains beats Triplains

By Karina Munoz
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains girls won 51-21 over Triplains for the second time this season on Jan. 19. They had defeated them on Saturday at the league tournament. At the end of the first quarter the Golden Plain girls had a 7-4 lead. In the second quarter the Lady Bulldogs extended the lead to 22-8. The girls continued shooting well as the defense held the Vikings to only 8 points in the third. They led 35-16 at the end of the third.

Lady Bulldogs went on to capture at 51-21 win. "The team played good and smarter than the first time we played them," said Melissa Rit-

ter. This was a big victory for the ladies because it was the first time in 3 years they had a 30 point win and the most wins they've had in the past two seasons.

Their record is now 5-8. "It was exciting and a proud moment for the team," said Melissa Ritter.

Jacy Moss scored a team-high 14, Melissa Ritter scored 12 and Angela Ritter and Aisha Walter had 10. Jessica Luna had 3 and Avery Spresler chipped in 2. The Lady Bulldogs had 28 rebounds, 14 assists and 12 steals. Melissa Ritter said she anticipates the team will keep winning games and keep adding wins on the record.

Famous Bulldogs team returns

By Judy Rogers
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Golden Plains High School is hold a reunion honoring the 25th anniversary of the 1985 undefeated Class 1A State Boys Basketball Championship team tonight during a home basketball game against Dighton.

The 1984-1985 varsity team

and their coaches will be introduced following the varsity girls game at 6 p.m. A public reception will follow the boys game in the little gym.

All 12 of the '84-'85 varsity players and both coaches are planning to return to Rexford for the reunion, along with several of the junior varsity players, cheerleaders, the Bulldog mascot, managers, stat keepers, faculty and

school board members.

Players planning to attend include Parker Christensen, Mike Miller and Jay Todd, Rexford; Alan (Shorty) Spresler, Hoxie; Shane Bowman, Salina; Robert Korte, Johnson City; Ronnie Albers, Cottonwood Falls; Ty Jennings, Montrose, Colo.; Rob Koepferich, Holbrook, Ariz.; Donnie Delzeit, East Dublin, Ga.; Scott Bruggeman, Charlotte, N.C.; and

Lance Lunsway, Marietta, Ga., Head Coach Jerry Livingston, Kingman, and Assistant Coach Larry Wahlmeier, Clay Center, also plan to attend, along with mascot Chris Bainter, Selden, and statistic keeper Joe Geisinger, Austin, Texas.

Everyone is invited to come enjoy the games, welcome the 1985 state champions and share in the memories.

Veteran hitter signs deal with Colorado

DENVER (AP) — Todd Helton's wish for the upcoming season is to make it through the grind with a little bit more left in his tank come October. Jason Giambi's return to Denver should help him accomplish that goal.

Giambi's \$1.75 million, one-year contract with the Colorado Rockies was finalized Thursday, a deal that allows Giambi to spell Helton at first base and serve as a pinch hitter.

"Last year was probably the first year I really felt tired at the end of the season," Helton said recently. "I'd like to have something left at the end of the season so I can maybe hit a home run. ... Some of this is my fault. I'll take care of myself a little bit better and work a little bit harder so I can be ready at the end of the year."

Giambi's presence should make that a whole lot easier.

He hit .292 with two homers and 11 RBIs in 19 games for the Rockies last September, when he

had two game-winning hits and helped Colorado win the National League wild card.

He was a huge hit in the clubhouse, mentoring young players and veterans.

General manager Dan O'Dowd said he gained a fuller appreciation for Giambi's clubhouse contributions during meetings with his staff, manager Jim Tracy and his coaches last week.

"It became very clear to me how much of an integral part he was in leadership and accountability and the standards of what we're trying to become here," O'Dowd said. "I think that was probably first and foremost in the decision to bring him back."

"And then, two, we think he can be a very, very productive player in the role that he will be used in, which is to complement Todd and to get a lot of big hits for us when called upon to do that," O'Dowd said. "And then with interleague play, we're adding a legitimate bat

into the middle of our lineup."

The 39-year-old is a 15-year major league veteran originally drafted by Oakland in 1992. He was voted AL MVP in 2000 while with the Athletics, then signed a \$120 million, seven-year contract with the New York Yankees.

He returned to Oakland last sea-

son, getting a \$5.25 million, one-year deal. The Athletics released him on Aug. 7 and he signed with the Rockies 2½ weeks later.

He was quickly embraced by his teammates in Denver and the feeling was mutual.

Missouri looks for win after tough loss to rival

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Missouri coach Mike Anderson always says one game does not make a season. That's especially the case after this week's blowout loss at No. 2 Kansas.

The Tigers shot a season-worst 28 percent in the 84-65 loss Monday that was more lopsided than the final score. They're hoping to rid themselves of lingering anguish at home on Saturday against Oklahoma State.

Against the Jayhawks, Missouri never found its rhythm, which generally comes from an up-tempo approach that creates turnovers and generates easy baskets. The team has lacked a consistent scorer lately, and when the press hasn't been productive the Tigers

have struggled settling for contested jump shots in a half-court offense.

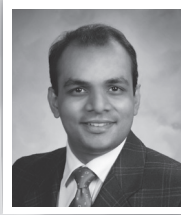
Lack of experience has hurt inside, too.

Missouri is shooting 35.6 percent, last in the Big 12 since conference play began, after shooting 47.5 in non-conference. Steals are down to 8.6 per game from 13 in non-conference play.

Anderson notes it's still early. "I don't think we're as bad of a shooting team as the Big 12 figures show," he said.

Missouri bounced back last season after a 25-point loss in Lawrence, Kan., beating Oklahoma and Blake Griffin, just three days later. The Tigers went on to win the Big 12 tournament.

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Dr. Sharma graduated from the G.S. Medical College and K.E.M. Hospital Program at the University of Mumbai in India. After completing his internship and residency, he earned his diploma in orthopedic surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Mumbai. He moved to the United States in 2005 and completed several clinical fellowships.

Dr. Sharma's fellowships include: Orthopedic Spine Surgery: The Christ Hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, University of Cincinnati, (Cincinnati); Orthopedic Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy: Boston Children's Hospital,

Harvard Medical School (Boston); Pediatric Orthopedics: B.J. Wadia Hospital for Children (Mumbai, India), Cincinnati Children's Hospital, University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati); and Joint Reconstruction and Arthroplasty, University of Minnesota (Minneapolis).

He's also put his expertise to work as an orthopedic physician for the Boston Ballet, the Boston Marathon and NCAA games in Boston.

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