

Golden Plains varsity girls end season with 7-15 record

By Melissa Ritter
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs played the first round of the Class 1A substate tournament on their home floor on Feb. 28.

They were up against the Northern Valley Huskies. The Lady Bulldogs were ranked fourth out of six teams in the tournament and Northern Valley was fifth. This is the first year that the Bulldogs went straight to substate. Melissa Ritter, Jordan Christensen, Angela Ritter, Jacy Moss, and Kylie Jones started the game following the national anthem sung by Caitlin Spresser.

Jones got the tip and Moss put up a shot, but it was tipped by Northern Valley. The first score was made by Melissa Ritter. Northern Valley answered, leaving the score 2-2. Melissa Ritter put in another shot but was fouled and made her free-throw putting the Lady Bulldogs in the lead by 3. A couple baskets later, Moss made a shot that bounced right in. Angela Ritter and Hailee Spresser also made baskets leaving the quarter score 17-9. Melissa Ritter made the first 8 points for the Bulldogs.

The second quarter had an exciting start with a rebound by Angela Ritter that was pushed hard down the floor and passed off to Christensen who put in a basket. Spresser had a shot go in and Northern Valley made a free-throw leaving the score 21-10. The girls put in many more baskets while not letting Northern Valley catch up. The score at the end of the second quarter was 29-16.

Moss started the third quarter with a free throw and Ritter followed with a basket. Northern Valley made two baskets but just couldn't catch up. Kylie and Angela made some shots and Chandler, from Northern Valley, made the first three pointer of the game. The Bulldogs didn't shoot as great in this quarter leaving the score 41-25, but still not giving in.

In the final quarter of the game,



HAYDYN BEST/Golden Plains High School

Hailee Spresser looked for a way around a Northern Valley player during the Lady Bulldogs' first round Class 1A substate game on Feb. 28.

the girls made 6 points before the Huskies made any and they didn't let up. Avery Spresser stole the

ball on an inbounds pass and took it down the floor to make a lay-up. With two seconds to go of the last

quarter, Paulita Ramirez threw a pass all the way down the court to Leea Juenemann, who sunk a three pointer. However, the referee didn't count it. The final score of the game was 53-32.

Melissa Ritter led the team with 15 points, followed by Jones with 11 and Angela Ritter with 10. Christensen helped the team out by scoring 8; Hailee Spresser, 6; Avery Spresser, 2; and Moss, 1.

The win got the Lady Bulldogs into the second round against the Logan Lady Trojans at Palco on Thursday. The Lady Trojans were ranked first in the substate bracket with an 11-9 record going into this game.

The Lady Bulldogs started the game strong. They led the Lady Trojans 10-5 at the end of the first quarter. By halftime, the Lady Bulldog's defense held the Lady Trojans to 10 points in the first half while putting in 15 of their own to keep a 15-10 lead at the break.

After a short rest, the Lady Trojans came out and played more aggressively on offense. They put in 11 points in the third quarter, but the Lady Bulldogs were determined and put in 9 of their own to hold a 24-21 lead by the start of the fourth.

As the Lady Bulldogs added another 11 to their final score, the Lady Trojans didn't let up and added 18 points of their own to win the game 35-39.

Scoring for the Lady Bulldogs were Melissa Ritter, 15; Jones, 9; Christensen, 7; and Moss, 4. The Logan Lady Trojans went on to defeat the Cheylin Lady Cougars in the finals to claim the championship and will compete in the state tournament this week in Hays.

This loss ended the season for the Lady Bulldogs with a 7-15 record.

"We played a great last game, but it was a tough loss," Moss said.

"It was a great season to end our high school career on. I enjoyed playing with everyone," added Avery Spresser.



SHANDA MATTIX/Colby Community College

Brittany Normand jumped a fence in the Novice Fences class of Show 1 Feb. 26. She was awarded high point rider at this competition.

Hunt seat riders finish regular season

Colby Community College Equestrian Hunt Seat Team members traveled to the University of Wyoming on Feb. 26 and 27 for the final show of the regular season competition. Fort Scott freshman Brittany Normand tied for high point rider in the first show. The Colby hunt seat riders earned fourth place in the region for the 2010-11 season. Individual results follow:

Show 1
Intermediate Fences: Kelly Maxwell, Manhattan, second.
Novice Fences: Normand, first.
Open Flat: Devon Felts, Manhattan, second; Maxwell, fourth.
Novice Flat: Normand, third; Faye Miller, Topeka, sixth.

Show 2
Intermediate Fences: Felts, second; Maxwell, fourth.
Novice Fences: Normand, third.
Open Flat: Felts, second; Maxwell, sixth.
Novice Flat: Miller, first; Normand, third.

Advanced Walk Trot Canter: Koeppe, fourth; Mariah Woolsoncroft, Salina, fifth; Isely, Reserve.

"Our next show will be the regional horse show," said Coach Shanda Mattix. "This is the qualifying show for riders to show at semifinals in preparation for nationals horse show. Colorado University in Boulder will host the regional hunt seat show on Saturday. Laramie County Community College in Wyoming will hold the regional western show on Sunday."

Colby riders who have qualified to compete are:

Hunt Seat
Rachael Kruse, Ellsworth, Advanced Walk Trot Canter; Miller, Advanced Walk Trot Canter; Maxwell, Intermediate Flat; Felts, Novice Fences and Open Flat.

Western
Anna Schurter, Valley Center, Beginner; Misty Lethcho, Fontana, Intermediate; Felts, Intermediate; Morgan Harms, Franklin, Neb., Intermediate; Isely, Novice; Kruse, Advanced; Liz Kennedy, Topeka, Open.

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