

Lady Bulldogs triumph over Healy girls

By Judy Rogers
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The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs triumphed over the Healy Eagles in a home game played in Rexford. With no junior varsity game Feb. 8, all the girls spent time on the floor, with each of them contributing to the 58-16 win over the Lady Eagles. "This game allowed all of the girls to

gain experience in a varsity game on their home floor," said Hailee Spresser. The Lady Bulldogs started off with a 20-0 run in the first quarter. With subs coming in off the bench, the Lady Eagles still couldn't get a basket in the second period, and the Lady Bulldogs led 33-0 at halftime. The Eagles finally opened the lid in the third and put in 12 points, including some late-quarter threes by Kiara Sharp. The Lady Bulldogs added 18 to extend their

lead to 51-12. The Lady Bulldogs continued to dominate the court, and finished the game 58-16. Scoring for Golden Plains were Angela Ritter 8, Hailee Spresser, MiKayla Lobato and Tayler Petersen 7 each, Kami Miller and Kylie Jones 6, Maddy Walz 4, Macayla Easton, Leea Juenemann, Paulita Ramirez, Jordan Christensen, Taylor Todd and Lena Janke 2 apiece, and Kynndra Rush 1. The Lady Bulldogs out-rebounded the

Lady Eagles 53-20. Lobato pulled down 10, Walz 8, Juenemann and Spresser 6 each, Rush 5, Petersen and Rachael Ritter 4 each, Ramirez and Jones 3 apiece, Christensen 2 and Ritter and Todd 1 each. The girls distributed the ball well, with Miller passing 5 of the Lady Bulldogs' 22 assists. Others were attributed to Christensen, A. Ritter, Easton and R. Ritter, 2 each; Rush 3; and Todd, Juenemann, Ramirez, Jones and Spresser, 1 each. The girls played strong defensive, with

Ramirez grabbing 3 steals, Miller and Rush 2 each, and A. Ritter, R. Ritter and Christensen 1 each. The Lady Bulldogs hold a 15-2 record following this game and are 7-0 in the league. They were back in action with both junior varsity and varsity games in Brewster on Feb. 12.

Golden Plains B-team wins championship

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The B-team boys' basketball team won the Western Kansas Liberty League championship during the middle school tournament in Brewster on Feb. 9. The boys entered the tournament with a 9-2 record as a No. 3 seed behind Northern Valley and Grinnell-Wheatland – the two teams they had lost to during the regular season and the two teams they were destined to defeat on their way to the league championship. With a first-round bye, the boys played their first game of the tournament against Grinnell-Wheatland. Although the Thunderhawks had defeated the Bulldogs by a last-second shot earlier in the season, the Bulldogs knew they would have to win this game to advance in the tourney. The first quarter ended with the Bulldogs holding a slight 6-5 lead. The teams continued to play close in the second, but the Bulldogs held on for a 13-10 lead at halftime. The Bulldogs took the lid off the rim in the third as they put in 14 points with the defense, holding the 'Hawks to 4 to extend their lead. Sixth grader A.J. Camacho put in 8 more for the Bulldogs in the fourth as they held the Thunderhawks to only 2 to capture a 35-16 win to advance in the tournament. Camacho scored 23 points for the Bulldogs along with 6 from Jeron Schutte and 2 each from Dylan Spresser, Jacob Ritter and Nolan Ritter. Advancing to the championship game, the Bulldogs faced off with the Northern Valley Huskies. The Huskies had won the last match-up 44-25, but

again the Bulldogs were confident in the skills they had been working on all season and jumped out to a 14-2 lead in the first. The Huskies closed the gap with 8 points in the second, but the Bulldogs put in 9 points to hold a 23-10 lead at the half. The Bulldogs outscored the Huskies again in the third, 11-8, but only scored a single basket in the fourth, allowing the Huskies 12. Fortunately for the Bulldogs, their lead throughout the first three quarters gave them the 36-30 championship win. Camacho scored 21 points for the Bulldogs along with 4 each by Spresser, Devin Carter and Schutte along with 3 by J. Ritter. N. Ritter contributed under the boards and on defense for the Bulldog win. The B-team boys finished their season with an 11-2 record. The boys all agreed that winning the league championship was a highlight of the season. As this was the first year for the middle school league to be in the Western Kansas Liberty League – they were in the Freedom League in the past – they have the distinct honor of being the first Western Kansas Liberty League basketball champion for middle school. "I think basketball was very fun," said J. Ritter. "I have improved a lot from the beginning of the year. I can't wait until next year." "Our team is family and we pushed ourselves and each other to work hard and try hard," said Carter. "With help from Mr. Aumiller, I improved a lot." "Winning the championship for the B-team was a nice way to put 'icing on the cake,'" said Coach Russ Aumiller.

A-team boys finish season

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The Golden Plains A-team boys' basketball players finished their season on Feb. 7 during the first round of the Western Kansas Liberty League tournament in Brewster. The boys entered the tournament with three wins during the season to face the Logan Trojans. The Trojans jumped to an 18-7 lead in the first quarter. As the Bulldogs could not get any baskets to fall in the second, they slipped further behind 23-7 by the half. The Bulldogs did get 4 more points in the third and 2 in the fourth as the Trojans marched on to a 41-13 win. Jesus Aragon scored 7 points for the Bulldogs along with Dawson Spresser 4 and Cole Bingham 2. Also playing for the Bulldogs in the tournament were Clayton Bange and Bodie Sauvage. The A-team boys finished the season with three consecutive wins in January over Cheylin, Western Plains, and Healy and nine losses. "Winning against Western Plains was one of my favorite parts of the season because it was a very close game," said eighth grader Bingham. "My favorite part of the season was practices as they helped us to improve basic skills needed to be successful in games." "There was great improvement individually along with as a team

as the season progressed," agreed Coach Russ Aumiller. "Although the A-team only won three games, their attitudes and efforts are what helped our B-team have success." The eighth grade boys concluded their basketball season in anticipation of joining the high school team next year. They all agreed that they improved on teamwork, shooting, ball handling and pass-



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KU twins united after trade made

By Bob Baum
AP Sports Writer
PHOENIX – The Phoenix Suns again have a set of twins on their roster after making a trade to bring Marcus Morris from Houston. The move, officially announced by the Suns on Thursday, unites Marcus with identical twin brother Markieff in Phoenix. Only once before in NBA history have twins played for the same

team, when Dick and Tom Van Arsdale were together with the Suns in 1976-77. The Suns sent a 2013 second-round draft pick to Houston to get Marcus Morris, who was the 14th pick in the 2011 draft. Markieff was the 13th pick overall by Phoenix. The twins played together at Kansas, and on the same team through all their other levels of basketball until reaching the pros.

To make room for Marcus Morris, Phoenix waived forward Luke Zeller.



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