

Lady Bulldogs Challenged in Almena

By Hailee Spresser

On Tuesday, October 8, the Golden Plains High School Lady Bulldog volleyball team traveled to Almena to take on Triplains/Brewster and Northern Valley. For week 5 of volleyball, Golden Plains was ranked 7th in Class 1A-Division 2 by the Kansas Volleyball Association with a record of 15-4.

The Lady Bulldogs first game was a matchup with the Triplains/Brewster Lady Titans. Golden Plains came out with the will to win and determination to destroy the Lady Titans in the first set, 25-9. In the second set, the Lady Titans came back to avenge the first set loss, but fell short of Golden Plains. The Lady Bulldogs gained their first win of the day, 25-19.

Golden Plains next took on the Northern Valley Lady Huskies. The weekend before, the Lady Bulldogs took Northern Valley to three sets, with the last set ending with a 28-30 score. "We were ready to avenge our previous loss to them," said Senior Jordan Christensen. The Lady Bulldogs played a very close first set with Northern Valley, but the Lady Huskies slipped ahead with the first set win, 23-25. Golden Plains came up short in the second set, 17-25.

"Overall, I was very pleased with how the team performed at the Northern Valley triangular on Tuesday," said Head Coach Orba Smith. "The girls took control early in the first set of the Brewster/Triplains match and played confidently and aggressively throughout the match. The girls played with unity and intensity against Northern Valley, but struggled with serve receive, and just couldn't get into a good rhythm to attack effectively. Although I am disappointed with the loss to Northern Valley, we were able to evaluate some strengths and weaknesses in our rotation. I believe if the girls compete with confidence, poise, and the unity they displayed Tuesday night, the team will continue to be successful through the remainder of the season."

The Lady Bulldogs advanced from these games with a record of 16-5. They will next travel to Hill City for the annual Hill City tournament on Saturday, October 12. Golden Plains placed 2nd at the tournament last year.