

## Bulldogs Win One at Sagebrush

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs won their first game of the season at the Sagebrush Tournament in Brewster on December 12 over Wallace County. "It felt great to get this first win," said Junior Jovanny Infante.

The Bulldogs opened the tournament on Tuesday with the Wichita County Indians from Leoti. The Bulldogs worked hard in the first quarter but only scored 6 points. Despite numerous fouls, the Indians put in 21 giving them a strong early lead. The Bulldogs came back in the second to add 11 while the Indians added 16 to hold a 37-17 lead at the half.

The Bulldogs continued to work hard beneath the basket as they spread the ball around the court to add another 9 in the third and 9 in the fourth. The Indians maintained their lead with 16 points in the third and 5 in the fourth to win the game 58-35.

Bulldog points came from Wade Rush 15, Alex Gonzalez 6, Ethan Weiner 5, Jovanny Infante 4, Roberto Loya 2, Garrett Carter 2, and Kole Butts 1.

In the second round of games on Friday, the Bulldogs faced off against Triplains/Brewster. The Bulldogs started off with an early lead 7-3 before the Titans came back and pulled ahead. With four three pointers in the first quarter, the Titans gained a 22-10 lead over the Dogs. Alex Gonzalez and Wade Rush worked together to add 11 in the second but the defense was unable to slow the Titans down as they pushed in 16 for a 38-21 half time lead.

Coming out of the half, Rush was the only Bulldog able to find the basket with six additional points. The Titans extended their lead with 11 of their own. Golden Plains finished with 11 more in the fourth, but the Titans added 16 for the 65-38 win. The Titans hit 10 three pointers in the game as the Bulldogs offense came from Rush 17, Gonzalez 10, Infante 4, Butts 3, Loya 2, and Mason Green 2.

The Bulldogs' final game of the tournament was on Saturday afternoon against the Wallace County Wildcats. Both teams were ready to compete and kept the game close throughout the first quarter with the Dogs holding a slight lead 10-9 at the buzzer. The Bulldogs added another 10 in the second with baskets from Jovanny Infante and three pointers from Kole Butts and Ethan Weiner. However, the Wildcats pushed in their own threes to pull ahead 28-20 by the half.

The Dogs were determined to play hard and came back on the court for the second half ready to work together. Rush and Infante hit some early shots but the Wildcats extended their lead to 36-26 midway through the quarter. Mason Green hit a three to close the spread. Rush and Weiner added points and with a late quarter basket from Butts, the Dogs were within three 36-39 going into the fourth.

The Bulldogs took over in the fourth with a basket from Loya to open the quarter. Rush added points to pull the Dogs ahead. Weiner followed with four consecutive free throws giving Golden Plains a five-point lead. Rush continued to add points with five successful free shots and a couple more baskets as he put in 11 points in the fourth quarter. The Wildcats fought back but were unable to regain the lead as the Bulldogs won their first game of the year 59-49.

Rush once again led the Bulldogs with 19 points along with Infante with 14 and Weiner with 10. Kole Butts added 9, Loya 4, and Green 3. The Bulldogs return to

regular season play in December 18 against Northern Valley as they host their first home game of the season.