

## Bulldogs Resume Season

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog basketball team resumed their season on January 9 when they hosted St. Francis for a Saturday afternoon game. The Bulldogs had their full team on the court but fell to the Indians 26-54.

The Bulldogs jumped to a 6-0 start before the Indians hit a three to get on the board. Senior Wade Rush answered with a three for the Bulldogs to extend the lead but the Indians came on strong to tie the game up at 9 by the end of the first.

The Indians took over in the second quarter and went on a 16 point run before the Bulldogs finally scored a basket by Roberto Loya with just over a minute until half. The Indians kept the lead 27-11 going into the locker room.

“We started out fired up,” said Loya, “but in the second, we stopped playing defense as much and missed several opportunities and shots.” The Bulldogs regrouped at the half time and came back in the third with a little more aggressiveness. A couple of three point shots from Rush and Loya along with some free throws from Kole Butts gave them 8. The Indians kept up their shooting to add 21 for a 48-19 lead.

With a big lead for St. Francis, both teams slowed the pace in the fourth. The Bulldogs added 7 points while the Indians put in another 6 for the 54-26 win. Rush led the Bulldogs with 11 points along with Loya’s 7. Alex Gonzalez added 4, Jovanny Infante 2, and Butts 2.

In additional stats, Rush had 10 rebounds, 1 assist, and 2 steals. Gonzalez had 5 rebounds and 2 assists. Loya had 2 rebounds, 1 deflection and 1 steal. Ashton Schiltz had 3 rebounds and 1 steal. Infante had 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 deflections, and 1 steal. Fabian Cepeda had 1 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 deflection and 1 steal. Ethan Weiner had 1 rebound, 1 assist, and 1 steal. Kole Butts had 2 rebounds. Mason Green and Ethan Shea each had 1 rebound.

“Not having a crowd really affects or performance on the court,” added Loya. “Having parents there helps. We need to keep working hard and stay fired up throughout the game.” The Bulldogs will play at home again on January 15 when they host Logan/Palco.