

Lady Bulldogs Win Sixth Straight Sagebrush Championship

By Rayna Taylor

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs won their sixth straight Sagebrush Tournament Championship on Saturday, December 11, in Brewster. They have won the tournament each year since 2016.

The girls came out strong in their first game of the tournament against Heartland Christian on Tuesday, December 7. They put up 32 points in the first half while their tough defense held the Lady Crusaders to 4. They continued to work hard in the second half adding 36 points and holding the Lady Crusaders to 18. This led the Bulldogs to a 68-22 win.

“We played very well and went hard from the start,” said [Jordyn Fleckenstein](#), sophomore. “This allowed us to continue to succeed.” Points in the game were earned by Kassie Miller 17, Fleckenstein 12, Breanna Rath 11, Sidney Taylor 8, Rayna Taylor 5, Carli Nieman 5, Lauren Patmon 3, 2 apiece from Anette Hernandez, Morgan Wark, and Hayden Wark, and Amie Cheney 1.

The semi-final game of the tournament on Friday was against the Weskan Coyotes. The Bulldogs were again off to a strong start putting up 19 in the first quarter and holding the Lady Coyotes to 2. The girls added another 23 in the second quarter keeping the Coyotes at 5 points ending the half 30-7.

The Bulldogs stayed strong in the second half adding 21 in the third finishing with 9 in the fourth for a 72-25 win over the Coyotes. “We played well as a team,” said Breanna Rath, junior. “Everyone does a great job of fulfilling their role on the team.” Bulldog scoring included Miller 18, R. Taylor 14, S. Taylor 10, M. Wark 9, Fleckenstein 8, Rath 6, Nieman 4, Cheney 2, Patmon 1.

The Bulldogs were ready for the championship game against St. Francis/ Cheylin on Saturday evening. The girls started strong on offense once more putting up 25 in the first quarter. They held the Lady Indians to only 6. They added 13 in the second while the Indians put up 16 for a 38-22 Bulldog lead at the half.

The Indians found the bucket in the second half as they added 14 in the third and 15 in the fourth. However, the Bulldogs stayed strong with 13 in the third and finished the game with 15 in the fourth for the 66-51 Championship Win.

Kassie Miller led the team with 20 points followed by S. Taylor 13, R. Taylor 8, Nieman 8, M. Wark 6, Rath 5, Fleckenstein 5, and Hernandez 1.

“It was fun getting another Championship with my team,” said junior Sidney Taylor. “We will continue to work hard in practice to fix things throughout the season.” The Lady Bulldogs return to regular season play with 4-0 record. They travel to Ransom to play Western Plains/Healy on December 17.