

Golden Plains to Hold Scrimmage By Judy Rogers

Golden Plains High School will introduce their 2021 Fall Sports Teams on Friday, August 27, with an evening of scrimmages at the gym and football field in Rexford.

The Volleyball team will introduce members at an open practice beginning at 5:00 pm in the gym. This year's team includes 14 girls including six returning seniors. Senior team members are Rayna Taylor, Amie Cheney, Kassie Miller, Lauren Patmon, Carli Nieman, and Morgan Wark. "We are working hard to improve our team's communication, skills, and teamwork," said Nieman. "We continue to get better every day with the goal, as always, to make it to the state tournament," added Miller.

Leading the team again this year are Coaches Ashley Arnberger and Laura Fellhoelter in their fourth year coaching together. "We had a great first week of practice," said Arnberger. "The girls have stepped into the gym ready to work. I'm excited to see where this week will take this team as we head into our first tournament." The Lady Bulldogs kick off their season on August 28 at the Healy Invitational Tournament.

The Cross Country team will be introduced at the football field at 6:00 pm. The team expanded to 7 runners in their second season. There are four girls running which will allow them to compete as a team and three boys. Included on the team is sophomore Emma Weiner who placed third in the state last year along with returning members Ava Brantley and Ethan Weiner. New to the team are freshmen Dominic Stout, Emma Carter, and Owen Patmon along with sophomore Sidney Taylor. They are coached again by Mindy Fleckenstein.

"I am excited to have enough girls so we can compete as a team," said Emma Weiner. "Everyone is working hard and doing their best to improve." Their first meet will be on September 2 in Goodland.

The Football team will host a jamboree on the field with visiting teams Triplains/Brewster and Wallace County. The boys have 21 members this season with another large group of senior players including Jovanny Infante, Fabian Cepeda, Ashton Schiltz, Ethan Shea, Roberto Loya, Sage Ter Haar, and Jose Mendoza. "Our goal is to continue to improve and to help the younger guys be prepared to step into the game as needed and to get better for the next season," said Loya. "With as many seniors as we have, we look forward to becoming leaders both on and off the field."

Coach Travis Smith leads the team for the 22nd year. The Bulldogs have played in the Wild West Bowl the past five years and look to return again this season. "The jamboree will be a great opportunity for the guys to hit someone other than one of their own teammates," said Coach Smith. "What is great about the scrimmage is that it gives us some live action that will prepare us for the following week against Cheylin. That is a tough game to open with as they are the defending state champion and return several outstanding players."

"Our goal, since the start of the 6-man association, has always been to get to the Wild West Bowl," continued Smith. "That goal has not changed. The seniors

have large shoes to fill, as they try to replace a group of graduates who were highly successful over their four-year football careers. We hope by the time the season starts we are prepared and ready to get rolling.” The boys will open their season on September 3 against Cheylin in Bird City with a 2:00 pm afternoon game.

Following the football jamboree, the Rexford Lions Club and Golden Plains Booster Club will host a pot-luck meal. They will provide hamburgers and hot dogs with guests asked to bring a side dish or dessert. The Booster Club will hold their first meeting of the season following the BBQ.