

Early Win for Bulldogs By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Middle School football team played their first game of the season for an easy win against the Cheylin Cougars. The boys headed onto their home field with confidence as they returned the kickoff for the first touchdown of the season. With a successful PAT and just 15 seconds off the clock, the Bulldogs had an 8-0 lead.

The Bulldogs kicked the ball back to the Cougars, but the Cougars fumbled and eighth grader AJ Camacho, who kicked the ball, recovered the fumble and ran it in for his second touchdown of the night. Jacob Ritter, also an 8th grader, received the handoff for the extra point and the Bulldogs were up 16-0 within the first 30 seconds of the game.

The Cougars once again received the kick from Camacho, but struggled to gain yards as Caleb Korte tackled them repeatedly. AJ stepped into the mix for a couple of stops and the Cougars were forced to punt the ball allowing the Bulldogs to take over at mid-field.

Following carries by Korte and Ritter, Camacho once again broke through the line, led by Dylan Spresser, Miguel Stevens-Monge, and Nolan Ritter, for the third TD of the game. The Cougars stopped the extra point attempt, but the Bulldogs led 22-0 midway through the first. With the defense continuing to hold off the Cougars advance, the Bulldogs handed the ball off to Korte who scored one more touchdown just before the quarter ended. With the PAT run in by Ritter, the Bulldogs held a 30-0 lead at the end of the quarter.

The Cougars stepped up their defense in the second quarter and held the Bulldogs back a bit more, but they were unable to stop them as Camacho scored once again. Spresser followed with a touchdown, but it was called back due to a holding call in the backfield. Numerous penalties on both sides of the ball kept the teams scoreless until the end of the second quarter when Korte crossed the goal line to put the Bulldogs up 42-0 at the half.

Camacho kicked to the Cougars to start the second half. Tackles by Korte and Monge stopped the Cougars advance allowing Spresser to take over and advance for several first downs. With 2:11 on the third quarter clock, Camacho passed the ball to Korte in the end zone to finish the game with a 48-0 Bulldog win.

“It felt good to win our first game of the season,” said Camacho. “Nolan (Ritter) blocked really well for us,” added Spresser. Ritter commented that the team will need to work on taking their plays on and off the field as they get ready to host Triplains/Brewster next week.

Following the tackle game, the 6th and 7th graders, including Austin Patmon, Joseph Yanez, Ethan Brown, Rojelio Loya, Toby Korte, and Wade Rush played a flag game with the Cougars. The boys played hard for two 12-minute halves with the Cougars scoring the only touchdown of the game midway through the second half. They made good on their PAT for a final score of 8-0.