

Bulldogs Advance in Quick Game By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs advanced to the semi-finals of the six-man playoffs and are guaranteed a spot at the Wild West Bowl on November 4 following a brief game against Western Plains/Healy on October 20 in Rexford.

The Bulldogs were excited and ready to play their final home game of the season as the Bobcats stepped on the field with seven players suited up. The Bobcats received the kick from Harley Weese, but quick tackles by Wade Rush, Caleb Korte, and Nolan Ritter kept them from advancing. A final tackle by Miguel Monge allowed the Bulldogs to take over.

Korte made a long run for the 'Dogs followed by a touchdown run by Dylan Spresser. Nolan Ritter kicked the PAT through the uprights and the 'Dogs led 7-0. Weese kicked back to the Bobcats, but they fumbled the ball and Monge recovered on the 11. Nolan Ritter caught a touchdown pass and kicked another PAT to put the 'Dogs up 14-0 with seven minutes to play in the first.

The Bobcats were unable to hang on to the kick return and it was recovered by Korte for the Bulldogs. Korte quickly ran in another touchdown followed by a PAT run by Josh Spresser.

Weese kicked again, and the Bobcats attempted to throw the ball. Korte intercepted their pass and ran it to just short of the goal. He finished the drive with his second touchdown of the game. This time the PAT fell short and the 'Dogs were up 29-0 with 6:37 on the clock.

Weese kicked it once again. The Bobcats couldn't connect on a pass on the first down, and were tackled by Korte for a loss on the second. Monge recovered his second fumble of the night to give the ball back to GP. Weese handed the ball off to Dylan Spresser who scooted around the outside for another Bulldog touchdown.

The Bulldogs were up 35-0 with 5:36 remaining in the first quarter. The Bobcats suffered their second injury of the night leaving them with only 5 available players. Coach Smith offered to finish the game with 5 players, but the Bobcat coach chose to forfeit the game.

In this short game, the Bulldogs scored 5 touchdowns—two rushing each from Dylan Spresser and Caleb Korte and one passing score caught by Nolan Ritter. Korte had 63 rushing yards, Spresser had 52 rushing yards, and Ritter had 25 receiving yards along with 25 passing yards by Harley Weese.

Tackles were made by Weese 5, Caleb Korte 5, Nolan Ritter 4, Wade Rush 3, Dylan Spresser 2, Miguel Monge 2, Larry Radovich 2, and 1 each from Chris Stoltz, Toby Korte, Jacob Ritter, and Jaime Infante. Two of Caleb Korte's were sacks.

Wade Rush, Miguel Monge, and Caleb Korte each intercepted a Bobcat pass and Korte had a fumble recovery.

"In all my years of coaching, we have never had a game cancelled in the first quarter," said Coach Travis Smith. "We appreciate Western Plains/Healy finishing the season despite their low numbers and playing through their injuries this season. We were glad to have this final home game to help our team stay in rhythm as we prepare for the next two games."

The Bulldogs will play their semi-final game of the playoffs against Cheylin in Bird City on Thursday, October 26. The winner of this game will play for the six-man championship at the Wild West Bowl in Dodge City on November 4.