

Bulldogs Win Season Opener By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs won their season opener on their home field over the Natoma Tigers on September 1. The Bulldogs, in their second year of six-man football, ended the game with a 58-13 final score early in the fourth quarter.

"It was a great way to start our season," said Coach Travis Smith. "We won 58-13, but most importantly we were able to get a lot of kids playing time tonight."

The 'Dogs won the toss and elected to receive. Junior Dylan Spresser carried the ball to a first down but the Tigers recovered a fumble to gain possession. They attempted to pass but coverage from Spresser gave the 'Dogs the ball.

The Bulldogs also took to the air and connected several passes from sophomore quarterback Harley Weese to junior Caleb Korte to move the ball down field. Weese ran in the Bulldogs first touchdown of the night halfway through the first to give the 'Dogs a 6-0 lead.

The home team defense forced the Tigers to punt the ball back to the 'Dogs. On the first play of the series, Weese connected with Korte once again who ran 50 yards for the second TD of the game putting the 'Dogs up 12-0.

The Bulldogs defense continued to hold tight with a big tackle from junior Nolan Ritter behind the 10 forcing the Tigers to punt. The punt was downed on the 1 yard line. Spresser rushed through the line to tackle the Tigers for a safety putting the 'Dogs up 14-0 with just over a minute remaining in the first.

Back on offense, Spresser caught the ball and ran in for a touchdown at the first quarter buzzer, but the score was called back due to penalty to leave 14-0 on the scoreboard going into the second.

The Bulldogs didn't rest on their early lead as they continued to hold the Tigers on defense. With pass coverage from freshman Rolis Loya and team tackles from Korte and Spresser, the Tigers could not advance. Weese and Korte continued to connect on passes allowing Spresser to run in a first down before plowing through the line to cross the goal. Junior Josh Spresser ran in the first successful conversion to give the 'Dogs a 21-0 lead.

Defensive tackles from freshmen Wade Rush and Tanner Trussel left no mistake that these boys came to play as they stopped the Tigers once more. Korte then ran in another Bulldog score for a 27-0 lead. Another score came for the Bulldogs with an easy catch in the end zone by Nolan Ritter for a 33-0 lead with two minutes until half.

The Tigers weren't giving up as they answered with their first score of the game. They ran in a successful extra point to end the half trailing 33-7.

Following the break, both teams took back to the field to continue the challenge. Midway through the third, Dylan Spresser, suffering from leg cramps, forced himself to cross the goal line for another score. He ran in another score following a successful defense attack to give the 'Dogs a 45-7 lead.

Despite the wide margin, the Bulldogs were not about to back down. Sophomore Austin Patmon made a tackle on the kickoff, and Weese provided pass coverage as the Tigers attempted to gain some yards. Sophomore Chris Stoltz caught an interception to regain the offense for the 'Dogs. Josh Spresser and Austin

Patmon each had good runs before turning the ball over on downs. Natoma was able to score a second time with just seconds to go in the third quarter

With .08 seconds on the clock, Korte caught the kick return on the two yard line and ran the full length of the field for a 78 yard touchdown. An extra point run from Patmon gave the Bulldogs a 52-13 lead going in to the fourth.

With 9:51 remaining in the game, Korte scored a final time as he picked up a loose ball and ran to the end zone giving he Bulldogs the 58-13 win.

Dylan Spresser led the 'Dogs in rushing yards with 255 including two touchdowns. He also received 23 yards and had 7 tackles. Harley Weese passed for 167 yards and 2 TD's as well as rushed for 25 and had 4 tackles. Caleb Korte received for 118 yards and one TD, rushed for 22 yards and 1 TD, scored a TD on a fumble recovery and scored once on a kick off return while making 6 tackles.

Additional yards came from Rolis Loya, Josh Spresser, and Austin Patmon with Spresser and Patmon each making a PAT. Loya had 6 tackles, Josh Spresser-5, and Patmon-2. Nolan Ritter received for 18 yards and 1 TD along with 4 tackles while Wade Rush received for 8 yards and made 7 tackles. Additional tackles came from Tanner Trussel-3, Chucky Hernandez-4, Jeron Schutte-3, and Larry Radovich-2, and Chris Stoltz had one interception.

The Bulldogs will be on the road this week as they travel to Rozel to face the Pawnee Heights Tigers.