

## Bulldogs Compete in First Game of Season

By Jordan Christensen

On Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, the Golden Plains High School football team took on the Quinter Bulldogs at home in the first game of the season.

Kick-off began at 7:00 pm with GP receiving. The home town Bulldogs made it to the 30 yard line before Quinter intercepted a pass, which was later run in for a touchdown with a two-point conversion making the score 0-8 with 6:54 left in the first.

Golden Plains regained possession and the boys fought hard for a first-down, but fell a half-yard short. Quinter then took over. Quinter made several first downs, but the Bulldogs continued to play aggressively. In the last seconds of the quarter, Domonic Luna deflected a touchdown pass attempt by Quinter to end the first 0-8.

The Bulldogs fumbled the ball on the first play of the second quarter, and Quinter recovered, running in for a touchdown. The extra-point was good putting GP down 16 with 11:52 left in the first half. The Bulldogs took over again, but were unable to gain a first down. Quinter scored twice more during the second, ending the half with Golden Plains trailing 0-30.

GP came out strong to start the third quarter, with big runs by Benny Martinez and Shane Ryburn. Quarterback Grant Spresser then threw a long pass to Tristan Schwarz, which was caught just short of the goal line. The Bulldogs were unable to push through Quinter's strong line, and Quinter regained possession. The Bulldog's defense was ineffective against Quinter, who scored once more to end the third with a 36 point lead.

Quinter began the fourth with a quick touchdown, and Golden Plains regained possession. Not about to give up, Spresser ran the ball for a big gain and a first down. A pass caught by Schwarz left the Bulldogs just short of the 10 yd. line, which Ryburn ran in for a touchdown just seconds later. The two-point conversion was good by Josh Barnhart, which made it 8-44 with 1:15 left in the game. Quinter took a knee for the remaining time, and the game ended with a final score of 8-44.

"This was a tough loss. It was the first game, and we were really expecting more of ourselves. We're going to hit practice hard this week and be better prepared for next week's game," said senior Barnhart. The Bulldogs will take the field again on September 13, traveling to Healy to compete against the Western Plains Bobcats.