

## Bulldogs Win at Home

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog football team gained their second win of the season on their home field against the Wheatland Grinnell Thunderhawks on October 25. With perfect football weather, the Bulldogs were pumped up and ready for a win. "It felt good to get another win," said Josh Barnhart, "especially on Senior Night."

Senior Bulldog Tristan Schwarz ran in the ball at the very start of the game. An extra point run by senior Josh Barnhart gave the Bulldogs an early 8-0 lead. After receiving the ball back from the Thunderhawks, the Bulldogs put the ball in the air and Zach Spresser, senior, caught a 25 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Grant Spresser, senior. Another PAT run by Barnhart gave the 'Dogs a 16-0 lead with 7 minutes still to play in the first quarter.

The GP defense held strong against the 'Hawks offense forcing them to punt. Schwarz picked up the punt for a return. Senior Shane Ryburn broke three tackles to take the ball to within 2 feet of the goal. Schwarz finished the drive in the end zone to give the 'Dogs a 22-0 lead. The 'Hawks moved the ball as the quarter progressed, but the Bulldog defense kept them out of the end zone as the buzzer sounded.

The 'Hawks continued their drive in the second, but a final pass attempt failed with pass coverage by Zach Spresser and the 'Dogs took over the ball. Following three downs of progress, Grant Spresser took the ball over the goal line for a 28-0 lead. Ryburn then added one more score to put the home team at 34. After another touchdown run by Schwarz was called back due to an inadvertent whistle, the GP defense held rock-solid once again to get the ball turned back over to them. G. Spresser kept the ball on the first down, Barnhart carried on the second, and Schwarz ran in a touchdown on the third to put the 'Dogs up 40-0 with 3:27 until the half.

Just as it looked like the 'Dogs might end the game early, the Thunderhawks scored a touchdown shortly before the half. The Bulldog defense kept them out of the extra point attempt and the half-time score was 40-6. Following half-time entertainment by the GPHS Dance Team, the Bulldogs came into the third and added two more touchdowns from Schwarz and Barnhart to finish the game 52-6 with nearly 7 minutes remaining in the third. "The team has been working hard," added Barnhart. "and we finally got what we needed."

The Bulldogs held the 'Hawks out of the end zone with 77 total tackles during the 2 ½ quarters of play with Benny Martinez leading the team with 16 along with Grant Spresser-13. Shane Ryburn was also in double figures with 10. Additional tackles were attributed to Domonic Luna-9, Josh Barnhart-6, Zach Spresser-6, Tristan Schwarz-5, Cole Ziegelmeier-4, Austin Rivera-3, Jesus Aragon-2, and Kade Wessel, Koi Wessel, and Dawson Spresser with 1 each.

Grant Spresser led the team with 134 total yards. Barnhart gained 112 and Schwarz 110. Other gains came from Ryburn-39, Zach Spresser-24, and Aragon-1.

"We look to continue to work hard to finish our season strong," said Grant Spresser. The Bulldogs will finish their season at home on Thursday when they host the Northern Valley Huskies.