

## Bulldogs Hold Strong for Homecoming Win By Judy Rogers

The Bulldogs moved to 2-0 with a 51-29 Homecoming win over the Pawnee Heights Tigers on September 9. The last time the 'Dogs started 2-0 was in 2003 when they began the season with three consecutive wins. "It means a lot to start the season 2-0," said senior Jesus Aragon. "It's the first time in my football career. It's a lot different. It feels good."

"It was awesome to get the Homecoming win," added sophomore Miguel Monge. Monge stepped in as center following a shoulder injury on Jeron Schutte. "I was nervous because I hadn't practiced at center," said Monge. "I had trouble with the long snaps but it got better during the game."

Along with an injured center, the Bulldogs had to overcome a 0-14 deficit and multiple penalty flags on both sides of the ball for their second win of the season.

The 'Dogs received the ball to start the game but fumbled the snap. Fortunately, it was recovered by AJ Camacho. A pass to junior Jeron Schutte was good as he ran it 30 yards. A flag set the 'Dogs back but they were unable to score and turned the ball over to the Tigers. The Tigers scored on a 65 yard run on the first snap. They kicked the extra points and were 8-0 over the 'Dogs.

Another Bulldog error gave the ball back to the Tigers who were able to score again. The 'Dogs blocked the PAT kick and the Tigers led 14-0 midway through the first. Flags continued to fly on both sides of the ball and the 'Dogs were unable to cross the goal line as the quarter ended with the Tigers in the lead.

As the second progressed, the Tigers recovered another fumble, this time on the one-yard line. Blocks by Nick Brown, along with tackles by Caleb Korte, Dawson Spresser, and Jesus Aragon kept the Tigers from crossing the orange line.

The game turned a corner when Camacho intercepted a pass as Miguel Monge provided coverage and fired up the Bulldogs. A pass from Spresser connected with Camacho in the end zone for the 'Dogs first touchdown of the game.

Korte became fierce on the field on both offense and defense as Austin Rivera caught a pass from Camacho for a second Bulldog TD. A third score with another pass from Spresser to Aragon gave the Bulldogs the lead with 4 minutes 'til half. A successful PAT run put the 'Dogs up 19-14.

The Tigers moved the ball to the goal line, but GP's defense once again held them out. The 'Dogs were unstoppable as they moved the ball gaining several first downs with runs by Camacho and a Spresser to Korte pass as the clock wound to half. With 21 seconds to go, Aragon passed to Korte for a touchdown. A PAT pass from Spresser to Camacho gave the 'Dogs a 26-14 lead at the buzzer.

The Bulldogs continued to play hard throughout the third. Aragon ran in an early TD as the defense held the Tigers from the goal line with strong tackles from Rivera. The 'Dogs took over but the Tigers tackled them in the end zone for a safety to make the score 33-16 in favor of the 'Dogs. Another Camacho run to the end zone gave the 'Dogs a 39-16 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter lead.

The 'Dogs opened the fourth with a touchdown pass from Camacho to Aragon and a 45-16 lead. The 'Dogs stopped the Tigers on the goal line with a tackle by Spresser, but the Tigers plowed ahead for a score.

The 'Dogs caught the return kick and returned it to the Tigers 28 yard line. Camacho carried the ball three times but a fourth down pass fell short to turn the ball over. A tackle from Rivera and Spresser forced the Tigers to fumble and the 'Dogs recovered.

Another pass from Aragon to Camacho gave the 'Dogs a final score of 51 points to the Tiger's 23 with two minutes to play. The 'Dogs kicked back to the Tigers who picked up the ball and ran it all the way home for a final score of 51-29.

Camacho led the Bulldogs' offense with 367 total yards, 11 tackles, 1 interception and 2 touchdowns. Spresser added 108 passing yards, 16 tackles, and 1 fumble recovery. Korte tallied 102 receiving yards, 15 tackles, and 2 touchdowns while Aragon gained 90 yards, 5 tackles, and 2 TD's. Rivera had 9 tackles, 38 yards and 1 TD.

An additional 35 yards were gained by Schutte while more tackles were made by Nick Brown-6, Miguel Monge-5, and Jose Ortiz-1. The Bulldogs will travel to Cheylin the next two weeks for back-to-back games in Bird City.