

Bulldogs Win Season Opener By Judy Rogers

The Bulldogs from Golden Plains hit the field for their first game of the new season in Natoma on September 2. They are playing a new game in new uniforms and they played with a new attitude as they defeated the Tigers 52-6 in the third quarter of play.

This is the first time since 2005 that the Bulldogs have won their season opener. "I am super proud of my boys tonight," said Coach Travis Smith. "We got a hard fought win over Natoma 52-6. Had some jitters to start, but it was fun to see the boys go out there and get a win!"

The Bulldogs received the ball to start the game. They moved the ball but fumbled on the fourth down. The Tigers took over and were unable to move the ball as the Bulldog defense was right on target every snap. They punted back to the 'Dogs who made their first touchdown with a run from sophomore AJ Camacho with 2:06 left in the first. The kick attempt was blocked and the 'Dogs were on the board 6-0.

The Tigers once again were unable to move the ball against Golden Plains' strong defense. Camacho connected with senior Austin Rivera for a second Bulldog touchdown. With a successful extra point run, the 'Dogs held onto a 13-0 lead.

Natoma made several pass attempts with the ball that could not connect including a near interception by sophomore Dylan Spresser. Back on offense, senior quarterback Dawson Spresser connected with sophomore Caleb Korte who ran to the 14. Camacho then looked to pass off the ball. However, with no open receiver, he tucked and ran for another score. Another kick attempt was blocked as the 'Dogs held onto a 19-0 lead midway through the second.

Natoma again worked on the pass only to have it fumbled and recovered by sophomore Jeron Schutte. A couple of good runs from senior Jesus Aragon up the middle resulted in another Bulldog touchdown. The extra point pass from Camacho to Schutte connected to give the Bulldogs a 26-0 lead over the Tigers.

The Bulldogs gained another pass interception captured by Aragon which they converted into a touchdown pass from Dawson Spresser to Korte. Dawson ran in the extra point with over three minutes until half.

The Bulldogs kicked the ball back to the Tigers who picked it up and ran the field for their only score of the night to put the 'Dogs in the lead 33-6 at the half.

Following the half-time encouragement from the coaches who urged the boys to "keep taking it one step at a time," the 'Dogs went back on the field with renewed vigor. They continued to out hustle the Tigers as they stopped the Tigers repeatedly and added a touchdown pass from Camacho to Rivera along with an extra point pass from Dawson Spresser to Korte early in the third.

The Tigers missed a snap and tried to throw the ball. It was nearly intercepted by Aragon as it just slipped through his fingers. Dawson Spresser picked up a fumble and ran it the short distance to the end zone. Camacho ran the ball on the next possession to the ten yard line and caught a final pass from Dawson Spresser for the final score of the night giving the 'Dogs a 52-6 win over the Tigers.

Camacho finished the game with 252 total yards passing, rushing, and receiving. Dawson Spreser had 106, Aragon 57, Korte 54, Rivera 41, junior Nick Brown 7, and Schutte 3. Rivera led the 'Dogs with 11 total tackles along with Aragon 10, Dawson Spreser 9, Schutte 7, Korte 6, Camacho 5, Dylan Spreser 3, Brown 4, and sophomore Miguel Monge 2.

Rivera caught the ball for two touchdowns and Dawson Spreser ran in two while Camacho ran in one and received one. Korte caught one touchdown pass Aragon ran one in. "It was good to win," said Dawson Spreser, "but we still need to improve and stay focused."

The Bulldogs will play their first home game on September 9 as they host the Pawnee Heights Tigers for Homecoming.