Bulldogs Fall to Tigers By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog Football team traveled to Rozel to face the Pawnee Heights Tigers on September 8 for their second game of the season. The Bulldogs put up a fight, but fell to the Tigers 6-54 early in the fourth.

The Bulldogs won the toss and elected to receive. Junior Dylan Spresser ran several first downs with another first down gain on a complete pass from sophomore Harley Weese to freshman Wade Rush. Despite their advance, they turned the ball over before entering the end zone. The Tigers took over and quickly ran the ball in for their first score of the night.

Back on offense, the Bulldogs continued to move the ball with Spresser running as he evaded defenders. An incomplete fourth down pass gave the ball back to the Tigers who quickly entered the end zone for another score for a 14-0 lead.

A Bulldog fumble was recovered by the Tigers, but the Bulldog defense held with tackles by Spresser, Jeron Schutte, and Weese forcing the Tigers to turn the ball back over to the 'Dogs.

The Bulldogs received the ball deep on the field. Junior Caleb Korte was able to spin out of the pack of defenders, and evade two attempted tackles on his way to the end zone for a 79-yard touchdown run. The PAT kick was blocked and the Bulldogs had what would be their only score of the game.

The Bulldog defense continued to work hard as junior Nolan Ritter sacked the quarterback in the backfield. A Tiger pass attempt was broken up by Ritter, Rolis Loya, and Josh Spresser to give the ball back to the 'Dogs.

The Bulldogs took to the air only to have their pass intercepted and allow the Tigers another score and a 21-6 lead. Dylan Spresser was tackled by a pack of Tigers injuring his shoulder on the next possession taking him out of the game. Korte took over the running making several gains for Golden Plains. "I had to step up as a running back after Dylan was injured," said Korte. "It was a challenge since I had not prepared for that position. It was different than my normal position as receiver." A false start penalty and an incomplete pass returned the ball to the Tigers.

The Bulldogs continued to play a defensive game but the Tigers, led by Cade Scott, continued to slip through for scores. The Tigers held a 35-6 lead at the end of the third quarter of play.

In the final quarter, the Bulldogs couldn't keep the Tigers away from their goal as they made two more scored to end the game early 54-6. "I know we can play with them," added Korte. "We hope to meet them in post-season. We will continue to improve and will play a lot more competitively as the season progresses."

Korte led the offense with 147 yards rushing and 1 touchdown. Also rushing were Dylan Spresser-54 yds and Wade Rush-3. Nolan Ritter finished the game with 8 tackles along with Rolis Loya-6, Rush-6, Harley Weese-5, Josh Spresser-4, Dylan Spresser-2, Korte-2, Chucky Hernandez-2, and Tanner Trussel-1.

The Bulldogs return home to host Cheylin for their Homecoming game on September 15 in Rexford with a 7:00 pm kickoff.