Bulldogs Run Away in Season Opener By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs easily won their season opener at home against the Deerfield Spartans claiming a 48-0 victory at the half. This is Deerfield's first year in the six-man league, while Golden Plains started their third year with six senior team members.

The Bulldogs won the toss and chose to receive to start the game. Sophomore Wade Rush caught the kick, then senior Dylan Spresser ran in the first touchdown of the season on the first play of the game. Senior Nolan Ritter kicked for two extra points to put the 'Dogs up 8-0 with 9:50 on the first quarter clock.

The Spartans took over but couldn't out maneuver the Bulldog defense as Rush tripped up the first play, senior Caleb Korte stopped the next, and Spresser broke up the third down pass attempt. The Spartans punted back to the 'Dogs. Korte carried the ball for two first downs before Spresser ran in for his second score of the night. The PAT kick was unsuccessful and the 'Dogs led 14-0 with just under 8 minutes remaining in the first.

Sophomore Toby Korte kicked back to the Spartans but the GP defense, including senior Miguel Monge, Rush, senior Josh Spresser, and Dylan Spresser made repeated stops to take over the ball. The Bulldogs fumbled for a loss, but a pitch from Jacob Ritter was passed to Dylan Spresser who once again ran across the goal line. A pass from Jacob Ritter connected with Korte for an extra point to give the 'Dogs a 21-0 lead.

Back on offense, the Spartans tried to pass but were unable to connect allowing the Bulldogs to take over on the 36 yard line. Rush carried a first down before Nolan Ritter ran to the end zone for yet another score. The extra point was run in by sophomore Rojelio Loya for the 28-0 lead.

Following another Bulldog defensive stance led by Monge, a pitch play between Jacob Ritter and Dylan Spresser put him in to the end zone once again to give the 'Dogs a 34-0 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Switching end zones didn't seem to help Deerfield out as Golden Plains continued to dominate in the second. The 'Dogs continued to move the ball around the field with runs by Dylan Spresser and Korte. A pass from Jacob Ritter to Dylan Spresser connected for Spresser's fifth touchdown of the game—a personal record for him. "It was exhilarating to set my personal record for touchdowns," said Spresser. Freshman Ethan Shea ran in the extra point.

Following one more defensive stance, the Bulldogs took over midway through the second. Korte ran a first down followed by a gain by Dylan Spresser. Chris Stoltz carried the ball to just short of the goal line. After two more run attempts fell short, Korte ran in the final touchdown of the night. Loya finished the score with a PAT run giving the Bulldogs the 48-0 win at the half.

Spresser led the Bulldog offense with 221 total yards—124 rushing and 97 receiving. Jacob Ritter threw for 100 yards and Caleb Korte ran for 82 and received for 3. Additional yards were gained by Wade Rush-19, Nolan Ritter-18, Chris Stoltz-7, Rolis Loya-4, Ethan Shea-3, and Josh Spresser-2.

Rush and Korte each claimed 8 tackles with 1 sack by Korte. Loya and Nolan Ritter had 6 tackles each along with Miguel Monge-5, Jacob Ritter, Josh Spresser, and Jaime Infante-2 each, and Dylan Spresser-1

"It was a good way to start the season," said Dylan Spresser. "We found some things we need to work on and need to pick up the tempo in future games. "The Bulldogs will host another new sixman team, Moscow, on September 7. "We are looking forward to another win," added Spresser. "This should be a tougher game, but we are conditioning and working on plays in practice." The game will kick off at 7:00 pm in Rexford.