

Bulldogs Finish Season at Regionals

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains High School Football team finished their season on November 3 with a 0-52 loss to the Ingalls Bulldogs in Ingalls in the Regional Round of State Playoff action.

The Dogs kicked off to Ingalls who quickly scored on their first possession. The Dogs worked hard to gain yards with runs by Diego Perez and passes by Josh Rath, but were unable to get into the end zone.

Ingalls continued to push through to score as the Dogs battled on defense. Ingalls led 30-0 at the end of the first. Switching directions in the second quarter did not benefit the Dogs as they moved the ball but couldn't quite finish. Ingalls continued their offensive drive to win the game 52-0 at the half.

The Dogs finished their season with a 2-7 record. They claimed wins over Triplains/Brewster and Western Plains/Healy mid-season.

Golden Plains will graduate two seniors from the team—Will Bruggeman and Landon Meier. Meier was unable to play this year due to an early season injury. “It’s been fun playing high school football the past four years,” said senior Will Bruggeman. “I enjoyed the friendship among teammates, watching everyone improve each week, and playing the game. I appreciate the support of my coaches, family, and fans that supported us each week.”

“I’m happy to have been able to play my first three years,” said Landon Meier, senior. “I wish I could have my senior to season to improve and help my team. I am proud of younger players that stepped up this season and wish them the best next year.”

Leading the Dogs next year will be five returning juniors, including Wyatt Amlong, Maddix Green, Josh Rath, Miguel Garcia, and Abe Taylor along with sophomores Dylan Wark and Diego Perez and freshman Jose Rios-Mendoza.

“The season didn't go exactly as we had hoped,” said Amlong, “but I believe we took many steps forward. We will fix what we need to and it starts in the weight room. Not a lot of things in life are like football. It takes patience, willpower, and raw determination. But above all else it takes want, wanting to win, wanting to improve, wanting to advance your team.”

“It’s amazing how fast football season always seems to go,” said Coach Travis Smith. “At the beginning of the season I told several people that we were going to be a much improved team this year, but our record may not reflect it. That’s exactly what happened. We always play a tough schedule and the boys played their hearts out all season long. The last three weeks were extremely tough competition, but the boys showed up each day for practice and worked their tails off to prepare for these games. I love my guys and would fight to the ends of the earth for them. I hope this off-season brings a renewed winner’s mentality to the program! Thanks to my seniors Will Bruggeman and Landon Meier for all they did for our program. As always...Proud to be a Bulldog!!”