

## Bulldogs Defeat Titans in Short Game

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs won their second game of the season as they defeated the Triplains/Brewster Titans 45-0 at half time of the football game in Rexford on October 6. “We are finally getting it all figured out,” said Abe Taylor, junior. “We’ve had to readjust after Landon (Meier) was injured at the start of the season.”

The Dogs won the toss and elected to receive to start the game. Josh Rath returned the Titans kick. Dylan Wark took the ball to the goal line on the first play of the game with a 61 yard run. Jose Rios-Mendoza kicked for the extra points, but the Titans blocked the kick to give the Dogs the lead 6-0.

The Titans took the ball kicked back by Rios. The Bulldog defense stopped the Titans from advancing the ball with tackles by Wyatt Amlong, Abe Taylor, Will Bruggeman, and Miguel Garcia. Although the Titans connected on a fourth down pass, Rath stopped them to give the ball back to the Bulldogs on the 19 yard line. Wark quickly ran into the end zone for a second GP score. The PAT pass from Rath to Bruggeman connected to put the Dogs up 13-0.

Rios kicked the ball deep to the Titans who were tackled on their own 1 yard line. The Titans ended the series with a turnover to the Dogs. Diego Perez broke repeated tackle attempts as he ran the ball to the 6 yard line. Rath finished the drive in the end zone. The Titans intercepted the extra point pass attempt as the Dogs extended their lead to 19-0.

Rios kicked another touchback to the Titans. They were unsuccessful in getting through the Bulldog defense punting the ball back to GP. The Dogs, starting on the 40, had a 20-yard first down pass from Rath to Perez. Following a Bulldog penalty, Rath connected with Garcia for a good 10 yard gain. Wark finished the drive in the end zone for a fourth Bulldog touchdown. Rath then connected with Amlong for the extra point to lead the Titans 26-0.

With 33 seconds remaining in the first quarter, the Dogs once again took over from the Titans. Wark crossed the goal line once more to finish the first quarter with a 32-0 Bulldog lead.

The Bulldogs continued to drive the ball down field in the second quickly putting the ball on the 5 yard line with a pass to Bruggeman. A Titan penalty moved the ball closer to the goal line. Rath passed to Wark for another GP score. The PAT attempt was unsuccessful as the Dogs extended their lead.

The Titans moved the ball on their next possession making a couple of first downs, but the Dogs defense held strong to take over on the 32. Rath connected with Perez for a good gain before Wark ran in a final touchdown for the Dogs. The extra point pass from Rath to Taylor connected to give the Dogs the win 45-0 at the half.

Dylan Wark led the Bulldogs offense with 217 total yards—197 of them rushing. He scored 4 rushing and 2 receiving touchdowns and had 6 tackles. Josh Rath had 90 yards—84 of them passing. He added a rushing touchdown and 13 tackles. Diego Perez led the defense with 14 tackles and gained 67 yards. Wyatt Amlong had 8 tackles, 2 yards, and 1 PAT. Will Bruggeman had 20 yards, 5 tackles, and 1 PAT.

Additional yards were gained by Miguel Garcia-20 and Abe Taylor-2. Garcia also had 4 tackles while Taylor had 1 tackle and a PAT. Additional tackles were made by Maddix Green and Jose Rios-Mendoza.

“We played very good as a team,” said Jose Rios-Mendoza, freshman. “We played hard. We didn’t wait for something bad to happen; we made something good happen! We started off strong which made the whole game go better and our defense tackled well.”

The Dogs are 2-0 in district play and will host Northern Valley in Rexford on October 13 as they work towards a playoff game later this month. “Our goal all season is to earn a playoff game in post-season,” added Taylor.