

Bulldogs Challenge Wildcats in Last Home Game

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldogs hosted the #2 State Ranked Wallace County Wildcats from Sharon Springs for their final home game on October 12. The Bulldogs gave the Wildcats a challenge in the first half but the Wildcats exploded in the third quarter to end the game early 50-0.

The Bulldogs elected to receive to start the game with enthusiasm. Unable to gain many yards, Tristan Schwarz punted back to the Wildcats. The Wildcats returned the ball to the thirty but were stopped by defenders Schwarz, Camron Spresser, Benny Martinez, and Jose Bermudez. As they neared the goal line, the Wildcats attempted to pass into the end zone only to have the ball intercepted by Andrew Luna. Carries by Bermudez and Hoeting gained some yards but the 'Dogs were forced to punt again.

The GP defense again stopped multiple Wildcat carries, but Eli Kuhlman finally ran through for a touchdown. However, a holding penalty on Wallace County brought the ball back. Following stops from Jesus Garcia and Martinez, Kuhlman caught a pass and ran in a successful Wildcat touchdown. The Bulldogs did break up the 2-point conversion and the Wildcats led 6-0. Back on offense the Bulldogs continued to gain short yardages but couldn't get to the end zone. The Wildcats passed again to run in another touchdown and two-point conversion as the first quarter ended with the Wildcats leading 14-0.

Throughout the second quarter, the Bulldogs played strong defense and made repeated gains on offense only to be stopped by the Wildcats. The Bulldogs came to within a yard or so of a touchdown, but ran out of downs and turned the ball back over to the Wildcats. Kuhlman took the snap and ran 79 yards for another Wallace County touchdown. With the successful conversion, the Wildcats extended their lead to 22-0. Although there would be no more scoring before the half, the Bulldogs didn't give up and held off the Wildcat offense and broke up many of their plays.

The Wildcat offense took control in the third quarter returning the opening kick for another 8 point play. They quickly added another 20 points to their touchdown scores throughout the third and finished the game 50-0 with just over two minutes remaining in the third.

Tristan Schwarz said, "We were not intimidated by their state ranking. We just went out, played ball, and had a first good half." The Bulldogs are now 2-5 on the season. They have two more games this season to try and improve their record as they travel to Wheatland/Grinnell on October 19 and finish their season at Northern Valley on October 25.