

JV Boys Capture Overtime Victory

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains JV Football team played their only JV game of the season on their home field on October 8 against the Brewster/Triplains Titans. The boys fell behind early in the game and worked as a team to tie it up by the end of regular play and capture the overtime victory.

The Bulldogs kicked to the Titans to start the game. The Titans quickly crossed into the end zone and ran in the PAT to gain an 8-0 lead on their first possession. The Bulldogs answered with a pass from Braden Korte to Joseph Koerperich that he ran in for a Bulldog touchdown. A 2-point conversion ran in by Cole Ziegelmeier tied the game up at 8.

The Titans reclaimed possession and made some long gains but the Bulldogs were determined and made several stops before the Titans crossed the goal line. Benny Martinez broke up the pass attempt for the two-point conversion, but the Titans held the lead 8-14. The Bulldogs made several runs but their passes did not quite connect and the Titans intercepted one to put them back on offense. They attempted to run but were stopped by the Bulldog defense before connecting on a pass and making it close to the goal as the first quarter buzzer sounded.

Starting the second quarter close to the goal, the Titans were able to easily run it in for another score. The Bulldogs attempted to gain ground but ended their series by punting it back to the Titans. However, the Titans fumbled the ball and the 'Dogs recovered and ran the ball several times to come close to the goal line but turned it back over to the Titans. On defense Bulldogs Kade Wessel and Derrick Redmer repeatedly stopped the Titans until they managed to scramble around to connect on a touchdown pass extending their lead by 20 points. Martinez stopped the extra point attempt and GP received the ball. Punting back to the Titans, the Titans scored once more to hold a 34-8 lead.

Josh Barnhart took over on the first play of the Bulldog possession and ran most of the field for a touchdown only to have it called back due to a penalty. QB Braden Korte then kept the ball and ran it in for a Bulldog touchdown. As the first half wound to a close, the Bulldogs kicked back to the Titans. The Titans downed the ball as it rolled and the Bulldog team quickly pounced to regain possession. Following a first down gain by Korte, the next GP pass was intercepted by the Titans in the end zone who managed one more play before the half.

Trailing 14-34 at the start of the third quarter, it looked as though the Bulldogs were going to end the game empty-handed, but the JV boys were not about to give up as they continued to carry the ball and make gains. Following a long pass connect to Koerperich, Barnhart carried through for a touchdown and a 2-point conversion narrowing the spread to 22-34. The Titans kept plowing through and recovered a GP fumble when they then ran in for what would be their final touchdown of the game.

The Titans started to face challenges on their kick return team as they would touch the ball, but not get it under control as the Bulldogs rushed in to pick it up and gain possession. The Bulldogs took advantage of this as Braden Korte and Domonic Luna each quickly ran in touchdowns to narrow the spread. The GP defensive squad repeatedly stopped Titan drives and recovered fumbled balls.

The Titans did manage to run in one more touchdown before the game ended, but it was called back. The 'Dogs picked up their momentum in the last action filled moments as the game clock would down and tied up the game with additional scores from Barnhart.

Following an overtime flip with captains Benny Martinez and Domonic Luna, the Titans rushed to pass the ball but the Bulldog defense was right on top of them and prevented them from scoring. When the 'Dogs received the ball, Barnhart ran in a final touchdown to give the Bulldogs the 52-46 win.

Josh Barnhart finished the game with 18 carries for 156 yards, 3 touchdowns, and 7 tackles. Domonic Luna carried the ball 17 times for 126 yards and 1 touchdown. He racked up 5 tackles as well. Braden Korte carried 18 times for 73 yards and 2 touchdowns. He also threw for 98 yards and one touchdown, which was caught by Joseph Koerperich. Korte tallied 14 tackles and captured 2 fumble recoveries.

Benny Martinez led on the field with 21 tackles while Derrick Redmer claimed 8, Koerperich-6, Cole Ziegelmeier-5, and Kade Wessel-2. Ziegelmeier contributed 10 rushing yards on offense and grabbed 1 fumble recovery. Josh Barnhart said, "I was proud of our team for hanging in there when we got behind and working hard to tie up the game and get the overtime win."