

## Bulldogs Finish Season on the Road

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog Football team finished their season with a final game against Centre on October 26. The teams met in Sylvan Grove for the late afternoon game. The Bulldogs fought hard but fell to the Cougars 20-66 in the third quarter.

The Cougars struck first with an early score. They added three more touchdowns before the Bulldogs made their first touchdown with a pass from Roberto Loya to Ethan Shea. The Dogs intercepted a pass but the Cougars recovered a fumble and passed into the end zone once more. The Dogs scored again with a run to the end zone by Loya.

The Cougars opened the second half with another score only to be answered by the Dogs with another run across the goal line by Loya. The Bulldog defense worked hard but was unable to stop the Cougars as they added three more scores to end the game 66-20 in the third quarter.

The Bulldogs finished their season with a 2-7 record. This is the least wins for the Dogs since the 2015 season. "We are disappointed in our season," said senior Ashton Schiltz. "We would like to have won more games." "I am disappointed we aren't going back to the Wild West Bowl after going the past five years," added Roberto Loya. "We had the talent; things just didn't line up for us. The last four years of football have taught me a lot about teamwork, about life, about commitment and dedication, and about myself."

Leading in tackles this season were Roberto Loya and Ethan Shea with 72 each along with 40 from Jovanny Infante and 29 from Ashton Schiltz. They had five fumble recoveries with 2 by sophomore Landon Meier and one each by Schiltz, Loya, and Shea. Loya led the team with a total of 1683 yards--1227 rushing, 418 passing, and 38 receiving. Shea had 559 total yards-451 rushing, 19 passing, and 89 receiving. Fabian Cepeda finished the season with 44 rushing yards, 67 passing yards, and 142 receiving yards. Jovanny Infante received for 172 yards and Ashton Schiltz received 41.

Although the Dogs didn't claim many wins, they still gained a lot as a team and enjoyed the game. "I feel good with how everyone has meshed together since Freshman year," said Ethan Shea. "It's been a great time together with friends. I will miss playing Football." "I enjoyed playing with my classmates and friends," continued Jovanny Infante. "I enjoyed playing the game and the support of all our fans." "Our pass game did improve this year," added Fabian Cepeda. "I have enjoyed my years of football at GPHS and appreciate all the coaches and fans have done to support the team."

Although the Bulldogs lose a strong group of seniors, they will return one junior next year--Mason Green who tallied 21 tackles this season and rushed for 17 yards and received 9. Returning sophomores include Will Bruggeman, Jerrit Koerperich, Tayten Barnett, Blake Durham, Michael Moore, and Landon Meier along with a solid core of freshmen. "We want to improve next year," said Meier, "and learn from our successes and mistakes this year."