

Bulldogs Claim Win Over Deerfield

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains High School Football team claimed their first win of the season 52-7 over the Deerfield Spartans in Deerfield on September 30. "I am proud of our team for not giving up after our 0-4 start to the season," said senior Jovanny Infante. "We appreciate the support of all those who made the drive to support our team."

"We went in much more alive from the locker room to the field," continued Ethan Shea. "It was good that everyone got to play and perform. This game gave the JV some good game experience. It was great to have all juniors and seniors on the team contribute to the final score."

The Bulldogs kicked to the Spartans to start the game. Tackles by Infante, senior Fabian Cepeda, and senior Roberto Loya slowed the Spartans down as did Deerfield penalties. The Bulldogs took over on the 35 and Loya made a first down. Senior Ethan Shea quickly ran in the Dogs first touchdown of the game. The PAT pass did not connect and the Dogs were up 6-0.

The Bulldog defense again held the Spartans as Loya, Shea, and senior Ashton Schiltz made repeated stops giving the ball back to GP. Shea ran in his second score of the night to put the Dogs up 12-0 midway through the first. Loya and Infante each had stops as did sophomore Landon Meier at the line of scrimmage. Shea had a big stop on the fourth down to regain possession for the Dogs.

Following a carry by Loya, Infante caught a touchdown pass from Loya then scampered in for the extra point to put the Dogs up 19-0. Junior Mason Green got in on the defensive action with a good tackle on the kick. Infante and Meier added additional stops for losses. The Spartans managed a first down before Loya snatched an interception and took it all the way home. Green forced his way in for the extra point and the Dogs held a 26-0 lead at the end of the first.

Meier opened the second quarter with a fumble recovery. Cepeda quickly passed the ball into Schiltz for a Bulldog score. The Spartans punted back to the Bulldogs who kept moving closer to the goal line. Loya connected with Cepeda for another Bulldog touchdown. Green ran in the extra point for a 39-0 lead.

Infante made a deep tackle in the backfield as did freshman Wyatt Amlong forcing the Spartans to turn the ball over on downs. Mason Green made a couple of runs for the Bulldogs before finishing in the end zone. The Bulldogs kicked back to the Spartans who were unable to control the ball only to have freshman Miguel Garcia recover for the Bulldogs.

Amlong made some forward progress before the Spartans stripped the ball and ran it in for their first points of the game. Infante returned the onside kick all the way to the end zone for additional Bulldog points. Meier scored the extra points allowing the Dogs to maintain a 52-7 lead.

On defense, freshman Maddix Green joined Schiltz and Shea on defense. Sophomore Will Bruggeman, Amlong, and Mason Green kept holding the Spartans back. The Spartans finally made a first down only to be stopped by Loya. Deerfield scrambled to try and make some yards but fumbled the ball allowing Mason Green to

recover. The Bulldogs kneeled out the last minute of the quarter to win the game 52-7 at the half.

“We played much more aggressively than any of our other games,” said Roberto Loya. “Scoring first helped keep our intensity. We worked more as a team than in past games. We need to keep the same mentality moving forward.”

“It was good to get a win as we were able to spread the scoring among all of the team,” continued Fabian Cepeda. “It’s nice to see where we were to where we are and how much we have grown together,” added Shea of the senior players.

The Bulldogs will be back on their home field on October 8, as they host the Northern Valley Huskies. “We will continue to work hard in practice on our defense,” said Ashton Schiltz. “Our goal for Northern Valley is to play a full game,” continued Shea. “We can’t let up; we need to use this win as motivation.”