

Bulldogs Score Against Weskan By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Bulldog Football Team posted 46 points against the Weskan Coyotes in their Homecoming game in Rexford on September 10. The Coyotes defeated the Bulldogs 54-46 in this closely contested game. "We played better than we did last week," said Senior Jovanny Infante. "We worked together more as a team and had each other's backs."

The Bulldogs won the toss electing to receive. Senior Ethan Shea made a quick first down but following multiple runs by Roberto Loya and an incomplete pass to Fabian Cepeda, the Dogs turned the ball over to the Coyotes.

The Coyotes fumbled the ball and Loya recovered for the Dogs. Shea ran the ball and the Dogs made another first down with a completed pass from Loya to Jovanny Infante. Following another successful pass from Shea to Loya, the Coyotes took over and scored with 3:36 remaining in the first quarter for a 0-7 lead.

Tayten Barnett downed the kick back to the Bulldogs. Loya passed the ball to Infante who ran it in for the Bulldogs first touchdown of the game. The PAT pass did not connect and the Dogs trailed the Coyotes 6-7.

The Coyotes fumbled the ball and Landon Meier recovered for the Dogs on the 23 yard line. Loya scrambled for a few yards. Cepeda landed on a loose ball then ran it inside the 5 for a first down. Loya finished the drive in the end zone with .03 remaining in the first. Again, the PAT attempt failed but the Dogs led 12-7.

Weskan received the ball and ran it into the end zone as the buzzer ended the 1st quarter. They succeeded with the PAT and recaptured the lead 14-12 going into the second.

The Bulldogs opened the second quarter with some catches and carries as they worked their way to the goal line. Loya put in another touchdown early in the quarter, then scrambled his way in for the PAT and a 19-14 Bulldog lead.

The Dogs stepped up their defense with tackles by Loya and Shea but the Coyotes still scored once more. Infante kept them from scoring the PAT and the Coyotes held a 1-point lead 20-19.

Back on offense, the Dogs worked their way down the field with passes from Loya to Shea and a run by Loya. Shea crossed the goal line but a flag called it back. The Coyotes took over and added to their score extending their lead to 27-19 by the half.

Weskan extended their lead to 34-19 early in the third only to have the Bulldogs answer with another TD from Loya. Loya also ran in the extra point to close the spread to 26-34. Tackles by Shea, Meier, and Mason Green slowed the Coyotes down but they still scored once more.

Loya answered with a long run for the Bulldogs and a last second pass was caught by Infante for the extra point making the score 35-41 in favor of the Coyotes. The Coyotes added another TD near the end of the third to finish the quarter with a 47-33 lead over the Dogs.

Loya opened the fourth with a touchdown run for the Bulldogs. With a PAT pass from Shea to Loya, the Dogs trailed 40-47. The Coyotes answered with a TD run and PAT of their own extending their lead once again 54-40.

Shea returned the kick and Loya took the ball inside the 35. He then ran to the 10 making the first down before being pushed out of bounds. Shea took it to the 5 yard line then caught a touchdown pass from Loya bringing the score to 46-54 with 6:24 left in the game.

Both teams stayed strong on defense as the quarter clicked down. Meier stopped the Coyotes just short of their goal, then Loya sacked the Weskan quarterback in the backfield. Cepeda finished Weskan's drive with a blocked TD pass attempt to regain possession for Golden Plains.

The Bulldogs finished the game on offense with quick runs by Loya. He ran in a final touchdown at the buzzer but it was called back due to a GP penalty to end the game with the Weskan win 54-46.

"We improved on taking care of the ball," continued Infante. "We also did a better job blocking the front line and running the ball to gain yards. We need to work harder every day in practice, improve our defense, and go down to Tribune and get a win!" The Bulldogs will travel to Tribune to take on Greeley County on September 17.