

Loya Named All-State Player
By Judy Rogers

Golden Plains senior Roberto Loya was named to the K-Preps All-State team at the Wild West Bowl in Dodge City on October 30. He was named All-State Return Specialist and received Honorable Mention as a Utility Player. This is Loya's second year to be named Honorable Mention Utility Player.

Loya was a leader on both offense and defense for the Bulldogs this season. He finished the 9 game season with a total of 1683 offensive yards including 1227 rushing, 418 passing, and 38 receiving and had 250 kick return yards. He totaled 72 tackles this year, had 1 fumble recovery, and scored 140 points for the Dogs. Throughout his high school career, Loya totaled 3464 combined yards and had 315 tackles.

"It was nice to be recognized as an all-state player," said Loya, "especially since my brother had also received this honor. It would have been nice to be playing in the Wild West Bowl but I was glad to represent Golden Plains and our team and all the work I've put in the past four years. I appreciate Coach Smith for staying consistent and teaching me to be the player I am today."

"Roberto has put in a lot of hard work over the past four years and is very deserving of this honor," said Coach Travis Smith. "I appreciate everything Roberto has done to make our football team a success over the past four years. I know Roberto was upset that he and his senior teammates could not finish their careers at the Wild West Bowl, but he represented all of them by being named first team all state. Without his team, this wouldn't have been possible."