



## **Bulldogs open renovated Zunino Stadium with win over Armijo**

**By Daily Republic Staff | Daily Republic | March 27, 2021**

VACAVILLE - Seven months later than originally scheduled, the Vacaville High football team finally got to play at renovated Zunino Stadium and made the most of it by scoring three touchdowns in each of the first two quarters en route to a 63-12 thumping of Armijo, Friday.

“Even with the reduced capacity (two individuals per household per player), it was a great evening at the ‘Z,’ our official opener of the newly renovated stadium,” Bulldogs coach Mike Papadopoulos said. “We remind our kids daily to be (thankful) for the many people they will never meet that have supported and given them this opportunity to have a season. We are extremely grateful.”

The Bulldogs (2-0, 1-0 Monticello Empire League) sandwiched touchdown passes by Ryan Vaughn of 42 yards to Darian Leon-Guerrero and 69 yards to Anthony Wiley around a 13-yard TD run by Leon-Guerrero. Ariel Till added the first three of nine conversion kicks.

Blake Espino, who rushed for more than 1,000 yards last season for Armijo before transferring to Vacaville this season, scored next for the Bulldogs on a 2-yard run 59 seconds into the second quarter.

Vaughn rounded out Vacaville’s first-half scoring with touchdown tosses of 15 and 14 yards to Timothy Plowman and Antonio Whittaker, respectively.

Armijo (0-2) got on the board with 1:10 to go in the half when Justin Duff hit Kaiba Washington with a 13-yard touchdown pass. A pass on a 2-point conversion attempt was incomplete.

The Bulldogs got the points back when Wiley returned the second-half kickoff 91 yards for a touchdown.

The Royals responded with Jayden Matthews scoring on a 12-yard run. Armijo failed on a 2-point conversion run attempt, keeping the score 49-12.

Vacaville added two fourth-quarter touchdowns, a 7-yard run by Bo Hernandez and a 38-yard run by Kyler Abramowicz.

Vaughn completed 11 of 16 passes for 214 yards and the four touchdowns. Abramowicz's late TD run made him Vacaville's leading rusher with 50 yards on five carries, while Leon-Guerrero added 45 yards on six carries.

"The kids performed well on the field with another solid performance from our defense," said Papadopoulos, an Armijo graduate. "Offensively, they were able to get into a rhythm early and get many athletes involved."

For Armijo, Duff was 11-of-28 for 172 yards, while Washington caught three passes for 80 yards, Elijah Boyd caught five for 58 yards and Dameion Regalado caught three for 34 yards.

The Bulldogs now hold a 63-29-10 edge in the oldest continuous series in Solano County with 16 straight victories over the Indians/Royals, winning 27 out of the last 28 meetings. Their first two games on record were played Oct. 25 and Dec. 27, 1901, with both contests ending in scoreless ties.