

Vacaville Bulldogs run all over Liberty in 37-26 opening week victory

The Vacaville Bulldogs high school football team took care of business in their first game of the 2016 season.

The Bulldogs (1-0) were on the road against Liberty High School in Brentwood for a non-league battle. Vacaville came away with a 37-26 victory in a game that saw five lead changes.

Last year's Monticello Empire League leading rusher Daniel Wright started this season right where he left off last year. Wright reached the end zone three times and totaled 145 yards rushing on just 15 carries.

All five of Vacaville's touchdowns came on the ground as three different backs found pay dirt. Wright scored three times, Timothy Jackson scored on a four yard run and Jacob Abramowicz pounded one in from 13 yards out in the third quarter.

In total, seven different Bulldogs recorded a carry against Liberty.

Liberty was the first to open the scoring after quarterback Ryan Dutt found a receiver in the end zone from 18 yards out in the first minute of play.

Wright scored three minutes later on a four yard touchdown run to make the score 7-6 after the two point attempt failed.

After a three and out from Liberty, Vacaville drove down the field and kicked a 29 yard field goal, courtesy of sophomore kicker, Brandon Talton.

The Lions responded with a field goal of their own to make the score 10-9 Liberty after one quarter of play. The Bulldogs regained the lead on a two yard run from Wright. The two point conversion was good this time, making the score 17-10.

But Liberty refused to go away.

The Lions drove the length of the field and tied the score on an Anthony Gripe one yard touchdown run.

After that, Vacaville's ground game started to wear out the Lions as the Bulldogs put up 14 unanswered points. Both Jackson and Abramowicz found the endzone in the third quarter to stretch the lead to 31-17.

The Lions made a valiant attempt at a comeback, but it wasn't enough.

Dutt found a receiver for a 64 yard score and the Lions later added a field goal to cut the lead to 31-26.

Wright put an end to the comeback bid after pounding a two yard run into the endzone to end the scoring. The Bulldogs ran out the clock and secured a 37-26 win.

The Bulldogs imposed their will on Liberty all game on the ground. Vacaville averaged 6.1 yards per carry and racked up 16 first downs via the run.

The Bulldogs are on the road again next week against Oak Ridge in El Dorado Hills.