

The Kadoka Area Kougars football team took down 9A #3 ranked Harding County/Bison 40-22, as the Kougars improve to 2-0 on the young 2022 season.

The first half of the football game was an exciting back and forth game with each team scoring three touchdowns as the score was tied at halftime 22-22.

In the second half, the Kougars run game piled on three more touchdowns, and the defense tightened up as the Kougars were able to shut out the Ranchers and hold them to only 49 yards of offense in final half.

Defensively the Kougars got stronger as the game went on and we were able to play a great second half of football. The Ranchers had 53 total plays for 270 total yards in the game. The Kougars were led defensively in tackles for loss by Reece Ohrtman with 2 as he tallied a total of 12 tackles. Layne Palmer provides the Kougars with some great field leadership as he had 10 total tackles. Trey Tetrault also had 1 tackle for loss as he ended the night with a game high 13 total tackles. Gus Stout and Garrett Hermann both provided some nice defensive plays in the secondary as Stout added 11 tackles and Hermann added 8. Gabriel Fauske played big as well in the secondary as he helped shut down any deep pass threats by the Ranchers and he added 6 tackles as well. The defensive line played solid, and Tyus Williams had 3 tackles and 1 fumble recovery and Ian VanderMay added 4.

Behind some dominant offensive line blocking up front from Gabriel Fauske, Ian VanderMay, Trey Tetrault, Layne Palmer, and Jonathon MacFeat, the Kougar running backs had some very solid numbers. Gus Stout led the way with 16 carries for 138 yards and 1 touchdown. Garrett Hermann carried the ball 9 times for 84 yards, Tyus Williams had 16 for 65 yards and 1 touchdown, and Reece Ohrtman provided 14 tough carries for 56 yards 3 touchdowns and one 2-point conversion. Offensively the Kougars ran the ball 55 times for 343 yards and 5 touchdowns. Garrett Hermann was 6-10 passing for 85 yards and 1 touchdown. Gus Stout had 2 catches for 41 yards and 1 touchdown, Fauske had 3 catches for 27 yards and 2 conversions, and MacFeat added 1 catch for 17 yards.

It was a nice win for us. We knew coming in that it was going to be a tough game and that it would take 48-minutes. The kids really played well together, and I was especially proud of the effort in the second half by our defense.

This week the Kougars travel to Lyman to take on the 2-0 Raiders for another big conference battle. Lyman is well coached, and they've got a lot of good football players. I'd expect another exciting Friday night football game out in Presho. Kickoff is set for 6:00pm MST.

**GO KOUGARS!!**