



## Granite Bay knocks off Vacaville

By Tim Roe | Vacaville Reporter | September 26, 2009

Homecoming night wasn't supposed to end this way ... or start this way.

And, surprisingly, it wasn't all that bad.

Throw out bookend 77-yard touchdown runs, and Vacaville High School's football showdown with visiting Granite Bay was sure a lot closer than the 31-13 final score in favor of the Grizzlies indicated.

That was all Bulldog head coach Mike Papadopoulos needed to know.

"We found out we can play," said Pop, whose smile was 100 percent genuine. "That's why we schedule these guys. We know what we need to fix, and we know what we're pretty good at."

Vacaville still fell to 2-1, while powerhouse Granite Bay improved to 3-0.

The Bulldogs actually led 13-12 in the fourth quarter, before the Grizzlies went on a 19point run that took less than six minutes.

The Grizzlies had one of their few sustained drives of the night to take an 18-13 lead. Brendan Keeney hit Clay Sears with a 19-yard scoring strike to give the visitors the lead for good.

Then came the biggest part that Vacaville needs to fix. The Bulldogs fumbled on their next play from scrimmage, one of four turnovers on the night. They appeared to recover the ball at their own 30-yard line, but after a long huddle, officials gave the ball to Granite Bay ... one of several disputed calls that only made the defeat tougher to swallow.

After four plays — and two penalties against the Bulldogs — the Grizzlies were in the end zone again, on a 3-yard run by Devaunte Bolton.

Vacaville turned the ball over again, and Bolton ended his big night with a 77-yard jaunt. He also had a 77-yard touchdown on Granite Bay's first play from scrimmage, but defenses dominated the rest of the way.

Vacaville's only touchdown came late in the first quarter, a 7-yard run from Jimmy Hines. Hines finished with 64 hard-earned yards on 18 carries.

The Bulldogs' only other points came on field goals of 25 and 26 yards by Keith Leenders.

The second provided the only scoring of the third period and gave Vacaville its final lead.

Nate Berumen added an acrobatic interception for the Bulldogs — first batting the ball up in the air at the line and then diving after it — and Jeff Beasley added a more conventional pick.

The Bulldogs also received big nights defensively from Trey Bruce, LaRyan King and Brock Hekking.

Vacaville plays Enochs in Modesto next week.