



### **By LaDonna Swedberg**

*Sports Writer*

The Wildcats experienced another difficult night of football when the Medicine Valley Raiders came to town. Wallace struggled with turnovers, penalties and an explosive Raider offense which resulted in a 67–26 defeat.

The Raiders were the first to bring their offense to the field and they came out running at the Wildcats. Quarterback Riley Garey capped off the five play drive with a 23-yard run. After a Wildcat three and out, the Raiders only needed two plays to put up another score and with 7:33 left in the quarter they were up 14–0.

On Wallace's next possession, Lucas Gleisberg came up with a pic 6. A successful PAT added seven more points to the Raiders score and they were looking for more. Following a 17-yard pass reception from Garey to Hunter Timmons, Josh Leas took the ball the final eight yards for another Raider touchdown.

The Wildcats ended the first quarter with some success on both sides of the ball. They were able to stop the powerful Medicine Valley offense on a series and they were finding ways to move the ball.

Wallace started the second quarter capping off a five-play drive when Landon Swedberg found an opening for a 42-yard touchdown run, but the Raiders were quick to respond.

Following the kickoff return, Timmons only needed two plays to get another touchdown for his team and with another successful PAT the Raiders increased their lead to 35–6. Swedberg returned the ensuing kickoff past midfield to the Raider's 37-yard line where the Cats began another successful drive.

Eric Koop and Swedberg ran at the Medicine Valley defense to get their next touchdown and with 5:41 left in the second quarter the score was 35–12. Timmons responded immediately by returning the ensuing kickoff. The Raider offense continued moving the ball and scoring on each possession and by the end of the half, they were leading 55–12.

Due to a running clock, the third quarter moved quickly; the scoring, however, finally slowed down. Both teams struggled with turnovers and penalties.

Cody Aspenleiter provided a little Raider excitement at the end of the quarter when he broke free for another Raider touchdown bringing the score to 61–12.

The continuous clock remained in effect through the fourth quarter but that did not stop the

determined Wildcats. Wallace was moving the ball when the third quarter ended so they continued their drive into the fourth quarter. Koop completed the nine play drive with a 10-yard run and Swedberg added the two point conversion.

Both Medicine Valley and Wallace turned the ball over due to fumbles and then with just 39 seconds left in the game, Taylor Doell went 42 yards for a Wildcat touchdown. The two-point conversion failed so it looked like the game would end with a score of 61–26 but Cody Aspenleiter had other ideas. He returned the kickoff for a touchdown to make the final score 67–26.

The Wallace coaches are pleased with the fact that, even though the football team has faced some tough competition this season and they have had to deal with various obstacles, they have continued playing hard and they have never given up.

The Wildcat offense was led by Swedberg with 118 yards rushing, Taylor Doell had 84 yards and Eric Koop ran for 55.

Defensively, Swedberg had eight unassisted tackles, Shane Anders and Eric Koop each had six unassisted and one assisted, and Tanner McCoy had five unassisted and one assisted tackle.

### **Next Action**

The Wildcats will travel to Wauneta this week to take on the Wauneta/Palisade Broncos Friday night. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 CT