

By JASON EPP

Daily Leader

Well, it was close for a half.

The Forgan Bulldogs added another tournament championship trophy to the case thanks to a dominating defensive effort and a scoring barrage by tournament MVP, Rhett Radcliff.

Forgan led by only 12 at the half, but went on a 20-0 run early in the third quarter, that saw them hold No.10 Fargo without a point for almost ten minutes, and run away with a 72-35 victory.

"We defended well. If we defend well, the rest will take care of itself," said Forgan boys coach Todd Kerr.

Early in the game Fargo was able to get the ball inside against Forgan's zone, and led 15-14 after the first quarter.

"We started in a zone to try to save us from foul trouble," said Kerr. "Our defensive intensity wasn't the same as we had had so we went back to our man-to-man."



Rhett Radcliff made his second three of the night to start the second quarter and a 9-0 Bulldog run.

Fargo did not let the game get out of hand at that point, but still trailed 36-24 at the half.

A scary moment happened midway through the third when Fargo's Dillon Baker gave a hard head-fake to Ryan Radcliff, who landed on Baker. Both players hit their heads on the floor. Radcliff was up quickly, but Baker was unable to return but did recover and is fine.

When play resumed Rhett Radcliff had not cooled off, hitting three treys to end the third quarter, and give the Bulldogs an insurmountable 57-28 lead heading into the fourth.

For Forgan it was their 29th regular season win in a row, and their second consecutive Buffalo tournament championship. For Fargo, it was their worst defeat in ten years.

"They are a quality team, and they've gotten better since we played them the first time, but we've gotten a lot better too," said Kerr.

Rhett Radcliff led all scorers with 31, including seven threes. Ryan Radcliff added 14 points, Jake Regier 8 including two threes, and Matt Morris added 7.

Rhett Radcliff was named tournament MVP, and Ryan Radcliff and Jake Regier were named to the all-tournament team.

Forgan is now 19-0, and will host Shattuck Tuesday.