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By Matt Lemieux

• Daily Leader

Canton, Okla. — The Forgan Bulldogs knew a big challenge awaited them in the form of the 3rd ranked, and Class B, Canton Tigers. Then they looked upon an even greater challenge as the halftime scored board read, Canton 28, Forgan 0. There are only two options for a football team finding themselves in such a position. Go through the motions and quit, or dig in and fight to the finish. To the Dawgs credit, they chose to stay and fight.

The game began with both teams trading possessions, and Canton taking an 8-0 lead at the 2:06 mark in the first. Forgan followed that by marching down the field and setting themselves up with a 1st and goal at the seven yardline heading into the second quarter.

After a fumble, an incomplete pass, and two stuffed running plays, Canton took over on downs at their own nine yardline with 11:08 remaining in the quarter. The Tigers then drove to a 14-0 lead with

6:49 remaining in the opening half. After a promising Bulldog drive once again stalled, Canton took the ball at mid-field and pushed the score to 22-0 with 3:03 on the clock.
Forgan stalled again and Canton pushed the score to 28-0 to end the first half.
Canton finished the opening half with 341 rushing yards on 27 carries.
A Bulldog defense that had played exceptionally well against the run game in preseason scrimages, couldn't find the answers against the Tigers.
If the defense couldn't find it's anchor, the Bulldogs knew what they might possibly be facing in the second half, the Oklahoma

45 point rule and going home early.

In the third quarter the defense tightened up and limited the Tigers to 27 total yards on 8 plays. Though the Bulldog offense

still hadn't found the endzone, it was starting to find some rhythm.

After stuffing Canton's first two drives, and forcing a fumble on the third, the Forgan defense had held the Tigers score at 28 with 5:32 left in the third quarter. The Bulldog's picked up a couple of first downs and punted away, ending the third quarter with no change in the halftime score of 28-0. The Forgan
offense hadn't scored, but the defense had finally came to
play in the second half.

Forgan's opening possession of the fourth quarter found the offense driving to the Canton 34 yardline, only to have a 34 yard touchdown called back for holding. After converting a 3rd and 5, sophmore QB Rhett Radcliff found paydirt on an option keeper for Forgan's only touchdown of the game. Following a successfull 2 point conversion, the score stood 28-8 Canton with 6:12 remaining in the game. After another defensive stand by the Bulldog defense, the offense once again drove down the field looking for a quick score and to possibly pull the margin down to 12 points. Finding themselves with a 4th and

9 at the Canton 19 yardline, Forgan went for more than a 1st down.

Throwing into the endzone to a bumped but open receiver, Canton's Josh Taylor intercepted the pass and returned it 105 yards for the final score of the game and a 34-8 Canton win.

Though the loss is obviously painful for a young Forgan team, pride can still be found in it's greater picture and outlook on this season. After a second quarter saturated with youthful mistakes and digging that hole, the Bulldogs came out and played toe to toe with a very talented Canton Tiger team.
In the second half the Forgan defense held the Tigers to 21 total yards, while the Bulldog offense racked up 311 second half yards.
Many have picked the 3rd ranked Canton team to contend for the Class B State Championship. This Forgan team has nothing to hang a head about and should find

themselves in the Class C playoff hunt. After that, who knows?

Pride can't be measured so easily.