

Aug. 31 - Louisiana Tech 28, Bowling Green 21

Louisiana Tech drove 92 yards in 13 plays early in the fourth quarter to break a 14-all tie and then converted a pass interception into a touchdown less than two minutes later to post a 28-21 victory disappointing an opening night crowd of 22,222 at Perry Stadium.

Bulldog quarterback Jason Martin hit Francis Figaro for 24 yards on a third-and-five play to keep the tie-breaking drive alive and then two plays later hit paydirt on a 14-yard connection to Josh Bradley. On BG's ensuing drive, quarterback Ryan Henry threw the fifth of his school-record six interceptions on the first play setting up the Bulldogs on the Bowling Green 26-yard line. Tech tailback Jason Armstrong ran 24 yards on the first play and four plays later Martin hit Terence Wilson with a two-yard scoring toss and the Bulldogs led 28-14 with 9:46 left.

Bowling Green put together a 16-play drive on their ensuing possession reaching the Tech 8-yard line, but the drive ended with 2:33 left when Henry was intercepted in the end zone. BG got the ball back with 1:13 left and drove 65 yards in four plays with Henry hitting Scott Thompson on a 37-yard pass play with 24 seconds left, but it was too little, too late.

Tech opened the scoring just one minute into the game on an Armstrong 10-yard run after Henry had thrown an interception on the first play of the game to set up the Bulldogs on the Bowling Green 27-yard line. BG evened the score on a 49-yard screen pass from Henry to Courtney Davis who scooted down the west sideline to paydirt.

Davis gave the Falcons their only lead of the game at the 6:30 mark of the third quarter on a one-yard run to cap a 45-yard, 8-play drive. But, Tech came right back on the ensuing possession to tie the score on a Martin to Chad Mackey 10-yard hookup at the 5:01 mark of the quarter, the first of 21 unanswered points by the Bulldogs.

Bowling Green had two more first downs (24-22) and seven more yards total offense (398-391) but the seven turnovers proved to be the difference. Bowling Green possessed the ball for 34:44 compared to 25:16 for the Bulldogs.

Individually, Davis ended the game with 60 yards on 17 carries while Keylan Cates had 59 yards on 15 carries. Henry ended the game completing 18-of-35 passes for 250 yards. Wide receiver Eric Starks, making his BG debut, caught 6 passes for 49 yards while Scott Thompson, also playing in his first game, had 5 receptions for 92 yards. Tech's Jason Armstrong rushed for 132 yards on 23 carries while Martin completed 16-of-38 for 197 yards. Mackey had 5 receptions for 72 yards to lead the LTU receivers. The loss was just the second in the last 21 BG home games which covers the five-year tenure of head coach Gary Blackney.