

Sept. 9 - Bowling Green 17, Missouri 10

Bowling Green posted an important win, for many reasons, over Missouri at Faurot Field in Columbia, Mo. The 17-10 victory was the first in four tries over a Big Eight foe, but probably more important, the team gains some of the confidence back it might have lost in losing the season opener at home to Louisiana Tech.

The game was one of two halves. The Tigers owned the first half possessing the ball for five more minutes than the Falcons building a 10-0 lead going into the locker room. One fumble and two interceptions in the first 30 minutes halted any momentum BG had built. Missouri had a 215-104 edge in total offense in the first two quarters. The Tigers scored on a 31-yard field goal midway through the first quarter and on a 29-yard run by Brock Olivo just 10 seconds into the second quarter.

The second half belonged to the efficient Falcon offense that has been the trademark of BG football the last few years and a stingy defense. After driving into Missouri territory on its first two possessions of the second half but coming up empty, BG took over at the Missouri 14-yard line after a Tiger fumble with its third possession. Ryan Henry connected with tight end Trevor Stover from one-yard out to break the ice and get the Falcons within three points at the 5:52 mark of the third quarter. On their next possession, BG took the lead for good on a one-yard Henry to Eric Starks pass with 13 seconds remaining in the third stanza. The Falcon defense allowed just 13 yards total offense in the third quarter and came up with a big play to start the fourth quarter.

Missouri had driven to the Bowling Green 10-yard line when a host of Falcon defenders stopped Missouri running back Devin West on a fourth-and-one play in what might have been the biggest play of the day for the Falcons. Derek Schorejs kicked a 41-yard field goal with 5:04 left to extend the lead and the defense did the rest. The BG defense yielded just four first downs and 113 yards total offense in the second half.

Henry ended the day 24-of-38 for 170 yards and two scores. He did throw three interceptions. Stover caught seven passes for 50 yards while fullback Darius Card had seven catches for 37 yards. Tailback Michael Parker led the running backs with 30 yards on three carries. Inside linebacker Kevin O'Neill led the defense with 15 tackles.

Bowling Green, which had a huge edge in time of possession in the second half, 21:17 to 8:43, had 19 first downs to 13 for Mizzou but were outgained, 331-279, in the game.