

Dusters fall short against Mooreland

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By JASON EPP

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With the backdrop of homecoming festivities, the Beaver Dusters saw an opportunity to get back on the winning track slip through their hands with two long, sustained third-quarter scoring drives by Mooreland that gave the Bearcats a 28-22 win.

Beaver led most of the second quarter after David Stout ran 42 yards for the go-ahead touchdown just seven seconds into the second quarter, put the Dusters up 14-7.

Mooreland was able to knot the game at 14 at the half, scoring on a two-yard plunge with just 21 seconds left before halftime.

But it was Mooreland's dominance in the third that decided the game.

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“They drove it down our throats twice in the third quarter,” Dusters coach Mike McVay said. “We barely had the ball at all in the quarter and that kind of took our momentum.”

The Bearcats dinked and dunked their way down the field on both drives with short runs and short passes, but always ended up converting when they needed a first down. Both drives ended in the end zone and put Mooreland up 28-14 heading into the fourth quarter.

“We never could make a play on those drives to stop their momentum,” McVay said.

Beaver got within one score with a drive that ended with a two-yard touchdown run by Hadley Skaggs, his second of the game, with 4:15 still on the clock.

But Mooreland was able to control the ball, and therefore the clock to hold off the Dusters.

“Our kids never quit,” McVay said. “It was probably our best game of the year. We’ve got to find a way to get over the hump and win some of these close games, but we’ve played much better the past two weeks.”

Mooreland jumped out to an early 7-0 lead with an 80-yard touchdown pass on their first drive of the game.

Skaggs tied the game up with 2:24 left in the first with a 2-yard TD.

Beaver finished the game with 186 yards of offense, 134 coming on the ground. Mooreland racked up 346 total yards with 217 coming in the passing game. Beaver managed 10 first downs to 14 for the Bearcats. Beaver lost the turnover battle as well (2-0).

The Dusters (1-5, 0-3) will travel to panhandle rival Hooker (1-4, 1-2) Thursday.

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