

Game Recap: Marion @ Hondo

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By Derek Duke Sep 21, 2018

Game Recap: Marion Bulldogs at Hondo Owls



(Photo: Derek Duke)

Barry Field (Hondo, TX)- It's that time of year again where businesses shut down, fans put on their school colors and the Friday night lights are as big and bright as the state Texas. Texas high school football is back baby! West of San Antonio there was no match up quite as big as the Marion Bulldogs traveling to Hondo to take on the Owls at Barry Field.

First Half

Well, there wasn't a whole lot to take away from the first half besides the Marion Bulldogs putting their foot on the gas pedal. Marion had five offensive drives in the first half and they were able to get the ball into the endzone on every single offensive possession. The night started with a 2-yard touchdown run by Marion running back Ray Rayos and followed it up with a four-play drive that was capped off by a 2-yard touchdown run by quarterback Tayler Mills. The Bulldogs then had a seven play 83-yard drive that was ended by a Tayler Mills short touchdown pass to tight end Jackson Allen. By the end of the first quarter, Marion was up 21-0 and it didn't stop there.

The Bulldog up tempo spread offense continued their reign of terror on the Hondo Owl

defense by adding three more scores in the second quarter. Quarterback Tayler Mills ran for his second first half touchdown from 5-yards out and on the very next drive Mills hit wide receiver **Jacob Wallace** on a 17-yard touchdown dart. Marion was able to score one more time in the first half from a 50-yard touchdown pass from Taylor Mills to tight end Jackson Allen. Overall, quarterback Tayler Mills had five total touchdowns in the first half. The Marion defense shut down the Hondo offense by not only pitching a shutout but by only allowing one first down in the entire first half. Marion entered the locker room at halftime leading 42-0 over Hondo.

Second Half

With the lopsided scoreboard, both teams agreed to keep the clock running in the second half to speed things up a bit. Hondo went three and out to start their first drive while Marion was able to pickup right where they left off in the first half thanks to a five-play drive that was highlighted by a 7-yard touchdown pass from Tayler Mills to **Jacob Wallace**. After forcing another three and out, Marion once again found the endzone on a long 78-yard touchdown pass from Tayler Mills to Jackson Allen for Allen's third touchdown grab of the night. That put the Bulldogs up 55-0 however the Owls finally answered back thanks to a Brandon Garcia touchdown pass to Damian Sandoval. After a missed extra point, the Owls were down 55-6 and that's how the game ended. With the win, Marion moves to 3-1 and will play Randolph next week while Hondo drops to 2-2 and will take on Gonzales next Friday.

Postgame



Marion Head Coach **Ryne Miller** and his team singing the school song after the victory (Photo: Derek Duke)

After the big win, I was able to catch up with Marion Head Coach **Ryne Miller** after the game.

On the defense: *“Obviously our defensive staff put together a great game plan. I know at halftime they (Hondo) had 11 yards and one first down. Playing physical is what we preach every day, playing fast and physical. Obviously, the game plan was great and hats off to those guys for making sure the alignment was good. We actually had two starters out tonight and we had guys step up and they played a big-time game tonight.”*

On Quarterback Tayler Mills 7 total touchdowns and the offense: *“Tonight it was all about our passing game. We have hung our hat on the running game the last couple weeks, but we felt like we could throw the ball well tonight. I know Taylor is the leading the area in yards and I know he had fifteen total touchdowns going into this one tonight. He’s just a playmaker. He is number one in his class and president of FFA. He’s just all year and all around a great kid and football player and stepped up and played a great game tonight. He is a true leader and is one of our team captains.”*

On tight end Jackson Allen: *“He is a great guy. When you are 6’5 225, you are a big target in the middle. He showed a lot of speed tonight that we haven’t seen. He broke away from a couple tackles and does a great job and is like another coach on the field. He is extremely smart and is a top ten kid in his class. He really showed up and is a great addition. We love having him around.”*

On preparing for Randolph: *“Number one it’s district. So, we start a completely new season and that’s what I told our kids tonight. It’s a new season and the old season is over with. We go back and see the wing T again which we have seen the last two weeks, so our kids will be ready for it. Like I said, it will be nothing new for them and we just have to get back in the groove and make sure our defensive keys are good.”*

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