JOHNSON CITY – With the *Eye of the Tiger* blaring on the stadium speakers, how could the Tigers not pull a knockout win over Walton. Pounding the ball on the ground, Tioga Central score a 35-0 unanimous decision over the Warriors.

With rains pouring, the two teams sparred through the first quarter with neither gaining an advantage, but to start the second quarter the Tigers used a combination of runners with John Worthing picking up big runs of 15 and 17 yards, but in close, Emmett Wood scored from four yards out.

The officials flagged Walton for offsides on the PAT, so Tioga decided to go for two and came up short for a 6-0 margin.

After the Tigers’ defense stopped Walton on a fourth-and-three at the Tioga Central 43 on a big hit by Tanner Hollenbeck, Tioga used a ground assault that featured Wood (three runs for 33 yards) and Worthing (two runs for 26 yards). Worthing’s final run – a 13-yard dash – gave the Tigers a 14-0 lead after Brady Worthing scored on the conversion.

Tioga Central came out the second half with a quick flurry. Worthing ran for 50 yards on the first four plays of the possession and Wood delivered the knockout blow on a 42-yard run for the score. Hollenbeck added the extra point.

Somewhere you could hear the commentator from Mike Tyson’s Punchout video game scream: Body Blow! Body Blow! Body Blow!

Following a quick punt by Walton, the Tigers put together a 13-play drive with numerous runs that looked like they would be broken for scores, but the drive ended on a fourth-and-four when Brady threw low to brother John in the endzone.

To begin the fourth quarter, Mason Booser ended a Warrior drive with an interception and returned it to the Walton 27-yard line. After a three-yard run by Owen Wanck, Wood broke loose on a 24-yard score for a 28-0 lead.

Somewhere you could hear the commentator from Mike Tyson’s Punchout video game scream: Knockout! Knockout! Knockout!

The knockout came on Tioga’s final possession when Booser scored on a 12-yard run for the final tally of 35-0.

John Worthing finished with 18 totes for 169 yards and Wood rushed for 154 yards on 16 carries. Wanck chipped in 63 yards on 12 carries. The Tigers amassed 433 yards on the ground on 54 carries for just over eight yards a carry.

The Tigers will play Greene next Friday at Union-Endicott High School as they advance in the playoffs.