



U.S. Air Force Academy

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Post-Game Quotes & Notes

Air Force vs. BYU, Nov. 15, 2008

Air Force Head Coach Troy Calhoun

"When you play these guys, you're never going to be flawless, but there are certain games you have to be pretty darn close to it. We didn't come up with very many stops, had the short punt and the fumble on the kickoff return."

"That's a heck of a team. That's absolutely a top 15 team."

"You're never going to be mistake free, but you've got to be inching right up against it. When we play teams like BYU and Utah, that's just the way we have to play."

"We had some opportunities to make first downs and we didn't make it there. We had some chances to maybe come up with some interceptions. You've got to make every single one of those plays. Just from a program standpoint, we've got a ways to go. We have some work to do to say the least."

BYU Head Coach Bronco Mendenhall

First of all, I give credit to Coach Calhoun and the Air Force football team. I'm very impressed with them. They play hard, and there's no quit in them, they battle. He has a lot to be proud of. We knew it would be a difficult football game, as it turned out to be. I was also proud of our team, overcoming our own miscues, overcoming some of the things we didn't do so well in, going on the road to win our 10th game and having a chance for a conference championship again. It's one of those goals that any team has, and I was proud of our team in that regard.

On reacting to the team's mistakes:

"This particular team isn't as clean as the previous two teams. It wouldn't do a head coach any good to jump up and down and make all kinds of emotional comments or actions, because this team is still learning and growing. Amazingly, there's 10 wins to show for it, and that's a credit to their heart and their grit and competitive will, because it's not the cleanest-playing football team playing right now."

On the third-quarter spurt:

"It was one of the keys. I think any of the turnovers or any of the swings in field position certainly had a role, but that allowed us some breathing room. I think it was difficult for them to respond and then catch back up after that swing in momentum."

On the play of Harvey Unga:

"Harvey did a great job, and when you're considering he had two stingers and didn't practice until Thursday. He wasn't soft. He played physical and I was proud of him."

Team Notes

- Air Force uses former players as honorary captains, along with game captains. The honorary captains were **Craig Puz** (USAFA '76), **Dick Swanson** (USAFA '69) and **Mike Brown** (USAFA '85). The game captains were seniors **Hunter Altman**, **Travis Dekker**, **Todd Newell** and **Ryan Kemp**.
- Air Force forced a punt on BYU's opening drive of the game. The Cougars scored a touchdown on their opening drive of the second half, which is just the sixth drive to open a game or half that Air Force has allowed a touchdown this season. The touchdown also snapped a three-game streak where Air Force had shutout its opponent in the second half.
- Air Force's consecutive quarter scoring streak was snapped at 18, as the Falcons were held scoreless in the first quarter. The streak dates back to the second quarter of the San Diego State game on Oct. 11. Air Force's scoreless first quarter is just its third this season (Wyoming, Utah).
- Air Force's 10-point deficit in the second quarter (10-0) is the second largest the team has faced this season and largest since trailing by 13 vs. Navy in the fourth quarter.
- Air Force has a 3-1 record this season and is 12-2 under Troy Calhoun with a 100-yard rusher (Todd Newell had 116 yards today). Calhoun's only previous loss was vs. California in the 2007 Armed Forces Bowl.
- Air Force extended its consecutive games scoring streak to a school-record 192 games, dating back to the 1992 Liberty Bowl vs. Mississippi. The streak is the fourth-longest active streak in the nation and ranks as the 16th-longest in NCAA Division I-A history.
- BYU's 21 points in the third quarter are the most allowed by Air Force in a quarter this season. The previous high was 14 points by three different teams.
- Air Force forced two turnovers (one interception, one fumble) to mark the 10th time in 11 games this season the team has forced two or more turnovers in a game.

Individual Notes

- Senior FB **Todd Newell** rushed for 116 yards, which is the second 100-plus yard effort of his career. Newell rushed for a career-high 134 yards at UNLV earlier this season. Newell scored on a one-yard touchdown run in the second quarter to give Air Force a 14-10 lead.
 - Sophomore ILB **Ken Lamendola** recorded his first-career quarterback sack on BYU's opening drive, forcing a punt.
 - Junior SS **Chris Thomas** recorded his fourth quarterback sack of the season which is second on the team and tops among the secondary. He also posted a career-high 17 tackles, surpassing his previous career-best of 14 vs. BYU in 2007. Thomas also recorded his team-leading third fumble recovery this season.
 - Sophomore returner **Reggie Rembert** recorded a 26-yard punt return which led to Air Force's second quarter touchdown to cut the lead to 10-7. The BYU game is the third straight that a Rembert return has set up a key touchdown for Air Force. He returned a punt 35 yards to set up Air Force's go-ahead touchdown at Army. He returned an interception 17 yards to set up a game-clinching score vs. Colorado State in the third quarter to make it 35-17.
 - Senior FS **Aaron Kirchoff** recorded the first interception of his career, which came in the end zone off a deflected pass from senior DE **Ryan Kemp**.
 - Freshman QB **Tim Jefferson** is now 5-1 as a starter. The 5-1 start is the best at Air Force since Chance Harridge opened 6-0 in 2002. Jefferson finished the game with 75 rushing yards and had a career-long 45-yard run. His previous long was 31 yards vs. UNLV.
 - Freshman WR-z **Jaquon Robinson** made the first catch of his career, a seven-yard catch in the third quarter.
 - Sophomore FB **Jared Tew** recorded his career-long run of 19 yards which went for his first-career touchdown. The touchdown cut the BYU lead to 31-24 in the fourth quarter.
- Senior PK **Ryan Harrison** added to his single-season field goal record with is 21st of the season, a 34-yard kick in the third quarter. Harrison has hit 21 of 24 field goals this season.