



U.S. Air Force Academy

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Post-Game Quotes\Notes

Air Force vs. Utah, Sept. 20, 2008

Air Force Head Coach Troy Calhoun

"Utah is good, really, really good. They are strong at every position. They have tremendous quickness. They are certainly a squad that deserves to be in the top 15."

"Their backs are very powerful. Converting on third-and-eight with about 3:50 left was the key play on that last drive. We played the way we had to play to have a shot. We had to be almost flawless and we were not."

Utah Head Coach Kyle Whittingham

"Anytime we play these guys it seems to come down to the very end, the very last drive. It was no different this afternoon."

"The defense played well start to finish. You can't turn the ball over three times in the first half. That's what really kept the game close. If we don't turn it over three times in the first half, the way our defense was playing, I believe that we win going away, but we turned it over. We've got to fix that. They did a nice job creating those turnovers, so give them credit."

Notes

Team Notes

- Air Force uses honorary game captains, along with game team captains. This week's honorary captains are **John Lorber**, **John Ziegler** and **Bob Brickey**. Lorber is a 1964 Academy graduate who lettered two years in football and played in the 1963 Gator Bowl. He is a retired four-star general that was the commander of the Pacific Air Force from 1994-97. Ziegler graduated from the Academy in 1986 and was a three-year letterman in football. He played on the 1985 team that finished with a school-best 12 wins. Brickey is a 1961 graduate of the Academy and lettered three years in football. He was a Helms All-American selection in 1958 and helped the undefeated Falcons to the 1959 Cotton Bowl. They were joined by game captains senior ILB **Brandon Reeves**, senior TE **Keith Madsen** and junior OT **Chris Campbell**.
- Utah's safety in the first quarter was the first against Air Force since Oct. 30, 2004 when Wyoming tackled Air Force running back Anthony Butler in the end zone.
- Air Force extended its consecutive games scoring streak to 185 games. The streak is the second-longest in the Mountain West Conference and sixth-longest active streak in the nation. The 185-game streak ranks as the 17th longest in the history of NCAA Division I-A football. The last time the Falcons didn't score in a game was on Dec. 31, 1992 in the Liberty Bowl vs. Mississippi.
- Utah scored a touchdown on its opening drive of the second half which is the first points Air Force has allowed on an opening drive of either half this season. The Falcons have forced three punts and a turnover on downs on the opponent's opening drive of the game. Air Force forced a two punts and a fumble on the opponent's opening drive of the second half prior to the Utah TD.

- Utah's fourth-quarter touchdown gave the Utes a 23-16 lead and marked the first time this season that Air Force has trailed in the second half of a game.
- Air Force finished the game with 191 total yards which is a season low and the lowest under head coach Troy Calhoun. The 191 total yards are the fewest since gaining 142 at TCU in 2006. The Falcons also rushed for a season-low 53 yards. The 53 rushing yards is the fewest by Air Force since rushing for just 48 vs. Colorado State in 1980. The 53 yards vs. Utah is the second-lowest since Air Force went to the option offense in 1980.
- Air Force's seven-game home winning streak was snapped. The Falcon were 6-0 last season and 1-0 this season entering the game. The loss is the first at home for Air Force under second-year head coach Troy Calhoun.

Individual Notes

- Junior SS **Chris Thomas** recorded his second quarterback sack of the season. The sack came on fourth down and forced a change of possession for Air Force. Thomas later added his third sack of the season. Thomas's three sacks this season give him 4.5 for his career. Thomas also added a fumble recovery, his second of the season.
- Sophomore CB **Reggie Rembert** recorded the first interception of his career. The pick came off a deflection by junior SS **Chris Thomas** in the Utah end zone. The interception is the third by Air Force this season. Rembert later added the first quarterback sack of his career.
- Junior NG **Ben Garland** recorded his first solo sack this season and now has 1.5 on the year. Garland forced a fumble on the sack, his second forced fumble this season, which was recovered by junior SS **Chris Thomas**.
- Sophomore TB **Kyle Lumpkin** scored the first touchdown of his career. The TD came on an eight-yard catch to give Air Force a 10-9 second-quarter lead.
- Senior QB **Shea Smith** threw his second touchdown pass of the season. Smith hit **Kyle Lumpkin** for a score in the second quarter to give Air Force a 10-9 lead.
- Senior DE **Jake Paulson** scored the first touchdown of his career. The TD came on a 25-yard fumble recovery as a result of the first-career quarterback sack and forced fumble by sophomore DE **Rick Ricketts**. The defensive touchdown is the first this season for Air Force and first since John Rabold vs. Notre Dame last season. Paulson's touchdown is the first by an Air Force defensive lineman since Bryce Fisher scored on a 45-yard fumble return against Oregon in the 1997 Las Vegas Bowl.
- **Paulson** recorded a sack in the fourth quarter which was his seventh this season.
- Sophomore ILB Ken Lamendola finished with a career-best 12 tackles to mark the third straight game he's reached double figures in tackles. Lamendola had 11 vs. Wyoming and a career-best-tying 12 vs. Houston.
- Senior PK **Ryan Harrison** matched his season long with a 44-yard field goal in the first half. Harrison has hit eight of nine field goals this season.
- Senior OLB **Hunter Altman** recorded a career-high 12 tackles. His previous career best was 10 vs. TCU last season.
- Sophomore WR **Kevin Fogler** recorded career bests in every receiving category. Fogler caught four passes for 93 yards with a long of 42. His previous bests came with three catches for 38 yards with a long of 19 vs. Southern Utah. Fogler's 93 yards receiving are the most by a Falcon this season.
- Junior WR **Josh Cousins** recorded his first-career catches in the game. Cousins finished with two catches for 37 yards with a long of 29.