



U.S. Air Force Academy

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Air Force Post-Game Notes

vs. Houston, Dec. 31, 2009
Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl

Team Notes

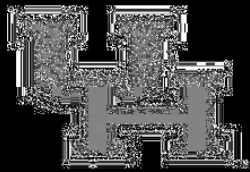
- The Air Force football team has changed its helmets for the bowl game to honor troops serving around the world. A blue/tan camouflage stripe has been added in the middle of the helmet. In addition, the signature bolts on the side of the helmet and the numbers on the back are in camouflage. Lastly, there is a sticker on the front of the helmet that says freedom and one on the back that says service.
- Air Force snapped a three-game bowl losing streak, winning in the post-season for the first time since a 37-34 win over Fresno State in the 2000 Silicon Valley Bowl.
- Air Force posted its eighth win which marks just the second time in school history the Falcons have posted three straight seasons with eight or more wins and first time since 1982-84.
- Air Force's 47 points set a school record for most points in a bowl game, breaking the old mark of 45 in the 1998 Oahu Bowl in a 45-25 win over Washington.
- Air Force's six interceptions tied a school record. The Falcons also intercepted six passes vs. Wyoming in 1992.
- Air Force snapped a 14-game losing streak to ranked teams with the win over 25-th ranked Houston. The Falcons are 1-3 this season vs. ranked teams and 15-67-4 all-time. The win is the first over a ranked team since winning at No. 23 California, 23-21, in 2002.
- Head Coach Troy Calhoun improves to 22-14 in three seasons at Air Force. The coach is 16-8 vs. Mountain West Conference opponents, 2-2 in neutral site games and 1-2 in bowl games. Calhoun is the first coach in school history to win eight or more games three consecutive years.
- Air Force won for the first time ever in Amon G. Carter Stadium. The team snapped a six-game losing streak with the win.
- Air Force improved to 2-1 all-time vs. Houston, including a 1-1 mark in the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl. All three meetings have been played in the last 15 months.
- Air Force improved to 2-1 all-time vs. teams from Conference-USA. All three meetings have come against Houston. The Falcons improved to 27-8 all-time vs. teams that are currently in C-USA.
- Air Force improved to 9-6 all-time in non-conference games under head coach Troy Calhoun. The Falcons are 5-1 at home, 2-3 on the road and 2-2 in neutral site games.
- Air Force improved to 328-274-13 in its 54th season of varsity football. The Falcons are 177-113-3 at home and 151-161-10 on the road and in neutral site games. The Falcons improved to 9-10-1 all-time in bowl games.
- Air Force uses game captains. The captains for the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl were seniors **Brandon Geyer, Ben Garland, Peter Lusk** and **Nick Charles**.
- Air Force extended its school-record consecutive games scoring streak to 207 games dating back to 1992. The streak is the fourth longest active streak in the country. The 207-game streak is the 15th longest in NCAA history.
- Air Force forced turnovers on each of Houston's first two drives which mark the eighth time this season the team has forced two or more turnovers in a game.
- Air Force improved to 16-3 under head coach Troy Calhoun when it has a 100-yard rusher. Asher Clark did the honors for Air Force in the Armed Forces Bowl. The Falcons are 4-0 this season with a 100-yard rusher.

Individual Notes

- Sophomore DB **Anthony Wright, Jr.** recorded his fifth and sixth interceptions this season, which leads the team. The interceptions are his sixth and seventh of his career and he now has 11 career turnovers (7 INT, 1 FR, 3 FF).
- Sophomore WR/KR **Jonathan Warzeka** became the first Falcon to return a kickoff for a touchdown since Scott Thomas vs. Utah in 1985. The 100-yard return is an Armed Forces Bowl record and the first-ever in a bowl game

for the Falcons. It's also the first special teams touchdown in a bowl game for the school. Air Force's 297-game streak between kickoff return touchdowns was the longest active streak in the nation.

- Junior FB **Jared Tew** rushed for a career-high 173 yards and two touchdowns. Tew's 173 yards are an Armed Forces Bowl record breaking the record he set last season with a then-career-high 149 yards. He also tied his own school record for touchdowns in a bowl game with two, including a career-long 71-yard run. His 71-yard run ties an Air Force bowl record (Danta Johnson, 1995 Copper Bowl). Tew, who was Air Force's bowl MVP last year, has rushed for 322 yards and four touchdowns in two Armed Forces Bowls.
- Sophomore RB **Asher Clark** scored his first two career post-season touchdowns. Clark's two touchdowns tie an Air Force bowl record. He is the eighth Falcon to score two touchdowns in a bowl game and first since teammate Jared Tew scored a pair in last year's Armed Forces Bowl. Clark rushed for 129 yards to recorded his second 100-yard rushing game of the season and fourth of his career.
- Senior DB **Chris Thomas** recorded his fourth and fifth interceptions this season, marking the first time in his career he's had multiple interceptions in a game. The interceptions are seventh and eighth of his. Thomas has 18 career turnovers (8 INT, 7 FR, 3 FF) which are the most on the team.
- Freshman WR **Cody Getz** recorded his first-career reception. The catch was good for 13 yards and an Air Force first down.
- Junior WR **Kevin Fogler** recorded a career-high four catches.
- Sophomore QB **Tim Jefferson** hit 10 of 14 passes for a season-high 161 yards to mark sixth time this season he's thrown for 100 or more yards. Jefferson's 10 completions are a season high and the second-most of his career. His previous high in passing for 131 yards vs. Army.



2009 HOUSTON COUGARS FOOTBALL POSTGAME NOTES

2009 Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl

RV/#25 Houston Cougars (10-4 * 6-2 C-USA) vs. Air Force Falcons (8-5 * 5-3 C-USA)

Friday, Dec. 31, 2009 * Amon G. Carter Stadium * Fort Worth, Texas

TEAM NOTES

** Houston is 24-13-1 (.644) all-time during the month of December.

** Houston is 2-2 (.500) when playing on Dec. 31... This marked the second straight season that Houston played on Dec. 31.

** Friday's game was the 61st non-Saturday game in school history... Houston is 35-25-1 (.581) all-time during non-Saturday games... Houston is 20-10 (.667) all-time when playing on Friday.

BOWL HISTORY

** This marked the fifth straight season that the Cougars competed in a bowl game, a first in school history.

** Houston made its 20th all-time appearance in a bowl game... The Cougars are 8-12-1 (.404) in bowl games.

** This marked only the seventh time in the history of college football that two schools faced one another in back-to-back postseason games... It was the first time since Ohio State and South Carolina squared off in the 2001 and 2002 Outback Bowls.

** Senior center **Carl Barnett**, senior cornerback **Brandon Brinkley** and senior safety **Carson Blackmon** became the 11th, 12th and 13th players in school history to compete in four bowl games during their careers.

They joined **Michael Bloesch** (2005-08), **Kenneth Fontenette** (2005-08), **Phillip Hunt** (2005-08), **Donnie Love** (1978-81), **Cody Lubojasky** (2005-08), **Ernest Miller** (2005-08), **Lonell Phea** (1978-81), **Chris Pilot** (2005-08), **Cody Pree** (2005-08) and **Quinte Williams** (2005-08) in that exclusive group.

SERIES HISTORY vs. AIR FORCE

** This marked the third time in the last 467 days that the Cougars faced Air Force... The Falcons claimed a 31-28 win on Sept. 20, 2008, at Gerald J. Ford Stadium in Dallas (The game, originally scheduled to be played in Houston, was moved to Dallas to avoid Hurricane Ike)... Houston enjoyed a 34-28 win during the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl on Dec. 31, 2008... Air Force won the third meeting 47-20 on Dec. 31, 2009.

** The Cougars are 1-2 (.334) during the all-time series against Air Force.

** The Cougars are 1-1 (.500) against Air Force in bowl games... Houston claimed a 34-28 win against the Falcons on Dec. 31, 2008, during the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl.

HEAD COACH KEVIN SUMLIN NOTES

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is the only coach in school history to lead the Cougars to bowl games during each of his first two seasons.

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is 1-1 (.500) in bowl games during his career.

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is 1-1 (.500) against Air Force in bowl games during his career.

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is 1-2 (.334) against Air Force during his career.

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is 18-9 (.667) during his collegiate career... That is the best start by any Houston football head coach through his first 27 games.

** **Head coach Kevin Sumlin** is 2-2 (.500) when playing non-Saturday games during his career... Sumlin is 0-1 when playing on Thursday.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

** Junior quarterback **Case Keenum** joined Texas Tech's Graham Harrell as the only players in NCAA Division I history with multiple 5,000-yard passing seasons during their careers... Keenum now has 5,671 passing yards in 2009 after throwing for 5,020 yards in 2008... Harrell threw for 5,705 yards (2007) and 5,111 yards (2008).

** With 222 passing yards on Thursday, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** now has 5,671 passing yards this season... That ranks as the third-highest single-season total in NCAA Division I history... He trails only B.J. Symons (5,833 yards, Texas Tech, 2003) and Graham Harrell (5,705 yards, Texas Tech, 2007).

** Junior quarterback **Case Keenum** has thrown a touchdown pass in his last 30 consecutive games, extending his school record... The previous record was 18 consecutive games by **Andre Ware** from 1988 to 1991.

** With one touchdown pass, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** has thrown for at least one touchdown in 29 consecutive games and 38 of 40 games during his career... Keenum's last game without a touchdown pass came against Tulsa on Nov. 10, 2007.

** Junior quarterback **Case Keenum** set a career-high with six interceptions... His previous high was three at Colorado State (Sept. 20, 2008) and at East Carolina (Dec. 5, 2009).

** Senior cornerback **Brandon Brinkley** set a Houston career record by competing in the 53rd consecutive game of his career...

He topped the record of 52 straight games set by **Kenneth Fontenette** (2005-08) and **Phillip Hunt** (2005-08).

** Senior center **Carl Barnett** and senior cornerback **Brandon Brinkley** set a Houston career record by competing in the 53rd games of their careers... They bested the mark set of 52 games by **Kenneth Fontenette** (2005-08) and **Phillip Hunt** (2005-08).

** With his fumble recovery in the first quarter, sophomore cornerback **Carson Blackmon** recorded the second fumble recovery of his career... His first was against Tulsa on Nov. 7, 2009.

** Junior quarterback **Case Keenum's** 41-yard punt was the second of his career and a career long... His also recorded a 15-yard punt against Oklahoma State on Sept. 12, 2009.

** With his two field goals, freshman kicker **Matt Hogan** recorded the fourth multi-field goal game of his career.

** With his 79-yard kickoff return to start the second half, sophomore wide receiver **Tyron Carrier** returned his fourth kickoff return for a touchdown this season and the fifth of his career.

** Sophomore wide receiver Tyron Carrier's 79-yard kickoff return is the third longest in UH bowl history.

** With his 1,029 receiving yards this season, sophomore wide receiver **Tyron Carrier** passed the 1,000-yard mark for the second time in his career... He joins **Elmo Wright** (1968-69) as the only players with multiple 1,000-yard seasons in their career.

** With his 1,021 receiving yards this season, sophomore wide receiver **Patrick Edwards** passed the 1,000-yard mark for the first time in his career.

** By surpassing the 1,000-yard receiving mark this season, sophomore wide receivers **Tyron Carrier** and **Patrick Edwards** will join with junior wide receiver **James Cleveland** to give Houston three 1,000-yard receivers in one season.

KEENUM IN THE NCAA RECORDS BOOK

** ** With 222 passing yards, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into seventh place in NCAA FBS career history... Keenum finished the 2009 season with 12,950 passing yards during his career... Up next in the NCAA FBS records book is NC State's Philip Rivers, who compiled 13,484 passing yards from 2000 to 2003.

** With 248 yards of total offense (222 pass, 26 rush), junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into third place in NCAA FBS single-season history... Keenum finished the 2009 season with 5,829 yards (5,671 pass, 158 rush) of total offense... Only Texas Tech's Graham Harrell (5,976 yards, 2003) and Hawai'i's Colt Brennan (5,915, 2006) accumulated more yards in a single season..

** With 248 yards of total offense (222 pass, 26 rush), junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into seventh place in NCAA FBS career history... Keenum finished the 2009 season with 14,041 yards (12,950 pass, 791 rush) of total offense during his career... Up next in the NCAA FBS records book is BYU's Ty Detmer, who compiled 14,665 yards of total offense from 2003 to 2006.

** With 24 completions, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into 10th place in NCAA FBS career history... Keenum finished the 2009 season with 1,076 completions during his career... Up

next in the NCAA FBS records book is New Mexico State's Chase Holbrook, who completed 1,087 passes from 2005 to 2008.

KEENUM IN THE C-USA RECORDS BOOK

** With 222 passing yards, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** set a Conference USA career record ... Keenum now has 12,956 passing yards during his career... He moved past Houston's **Kevin Kolb**, who threw for 12,964 yards from 2003 to 2006.

** With 41 passing attempts, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into second place in Conference USA history... Keenum now has 1,562 attempts during his career... Up next in the C-USA records book is Louisville's Chris Redman, who set a C-USA with 1,679 pass attempts from 1996 to 1999.

** With 61 plays (41 pass, 20 rush), junior quarterback **Case Keenum** moved into fourth place in Conference USA career history... Keenum now has 1,817 plays during his career... Up next in the C-USA records book is Louisville's Chris Redman, who competed in 1,836 plays from 1996 to 1999.

KEENUM IN THE HOUSTON RECORDS BOOK

** With one touchdown pass, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** added to his Houston career record... Keenum now has 102 touchdown passes during his career.

** With 24 completions, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** added to his Houston career record... Keenum now has 1,076 completions during his career.

** With 41 passing attempts, junior quarterback **Case Keenum** ranks second in the UH record books ... Keenum now has 1,562 passing attempts during his career... Up next is **Kevin Kolb**, who threw 1,565 passes from 2003 to 2006.

** With 248 yards of total offense (222 pass, 26 rush), junior quarterback **Case Keenum** set a Houston career record... Keenum now has 13,741 yards of total offense (12,950 pass, 791 rush) during his career... Keenum moved past **Kevin Kolb**, who compiled 13,715 yards of total offense (12,964 pass, 751 rush) from 2003 to 2006.