

# BOWL NEWS

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## December 31 Post-game Quotes - Houston

**Quarterback Case Keenum** – “We’ve got to give Air Force all the credit. I’ll take all the blame. It’s not the way I want to send the seniors out and I apologize to all of those guys. They played their hearts out and they deserved better than that. Those guys played incredible throughout the year. A 10-win season and there aren’t many teams around the country that won 10 games. I apologize that it wasn’t ended the right way. I’m going to learn from this. I’m a winner, I’m a competitor and that’s how it’s going to be. We’re going to take this into the off-season and we’re going to use it as motivation. Look for the Cougars to do something special next year because there are a lot of guys in this locker room that have a lot of determination. Things didn’t roll our way today. We made a few mistakes and they capitalized. But it’s over and that’s the best part of that game.”

**Linebacker Marcus McGraw** – “We weren’t ready to play. They came out ready to win and we didn’t bring our A game and they did. It might have been the break. With an offense like (ours), you can only try to be your best trying to get a look and it wasn’t as good as we thought it was going to be. A loss going into our off-season, it gives you something to work for. We didn’t finish the season like we wanted to but when we come back from the off-season, we want to work harder to make sure we don’t let this happen again. (What impressed you most about Air Force?) Their execution. They did everything to the T, from their defense to their offense. They did everything we expected, we just didn’t do our job. They ran the ball like we said on offense and we just had to stop them and we didn’t do that.”

**Running back Charles Sims** – “We just didn’t come out and play and they played harder than us. They just played harder than us. (On quarterback Case Keenum.) I wouldn’t say he had a bad day, I would just say that things didn’t go right. It’s on to the next game; we’ll keep on playing. Everybody made mistakes, that’s it. (On the layoff between games.) We just have to come out and work harder.”

**Cornerback Brandon Brinkley** – “Air Force was making the plays and we weren’t and they were capitalizing off of them. (What was the most difficult part of the day?) ”Not being focused, not going into the game ready to play, I guess. We just let them do whatever they wanted to. They run the ball, that’s the whole key to their game. Run, run, run and then go deep. It was real hard to try and stop all of it. I guess it was people trying to do too much and not doing their own job and that’s how (Air Force) got the big plays on us. In my perspective, you’ve got to take the good with the bad; we had bad games and we had awesome games, so I just take the good in with the bad.”