

TENNESSEE 31, AIR FORCE 30

Surviving Air scare



AMY SMOTHERMAN-BURGESS/NEWS SENTINEL

Tennessee wide receiver Robert Meachem waits with open arms to catch a touchdown pass over Air Force defensive back Chris Sutton in Saturday night's game at Neyland Stadium. Meachem caught two scoring passes in the Vols' 31-30 victory.

Vols need stop on conversion to avoid upset

BY MIKE STRANGE
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Better late than never. Tennessee couldn't stop Air Force all night — until it mattered most.

The 11th-ranked Vols escaped a monumental upset Saturday night, holding off the Falcons 31-30 before a nerve-wracked crowd of 105,466 at Neyland Stadium.

An evening of unflinching offense boiled down to whether the Falcons could pull off a two-point conversion after a touch-down with one minute, 35 seconds to play.

And there was every reason to think they could.

For once, though, there was a Tennessee defender in the right spot. Xavier Mitchell carved his niche in UT football lore when he dragged down Air Force back Chad Hall on a pitch play, foiling the Falcons' attempt to take a 32-31 lead.

After a final bit of drama, the Vols managed to run out the clock and head into Florida week unscathed at 2-0.

Both defensive units were the polar opposite of unscathed.

Erik Ainge threw for a career-high 333 yards and three touchdowns as the Vols rolled up 412 yards of to-

ON GOVOLS.COM

■ An audio slide show of the Air Force-Tennessee game.

See **VOLS** on VR4

Another week, another game full of surprises

Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry had no doubts about his team's last drive.

"I knew we were going to score," he said. And he knew what he would do next. He would reduce the game to one two-point conversion.

One play: DeBerry and his Falcons came that close to shaking Rocky Top to its core Saturday night at Neyland Stadium.

One play and one point: That's all that stood between the 20-point-underdog Falcons and 11th-ranked Tennessee. Go figure.

The play was one of the few that didn't work for Air Force. It was a pitch to wingback Chad Hall, who already had gained 81 yards on 11 carries against a bewildered UT defense.

But when Xavier Mitchell busted up the play behind the line, UT had a 31-30 victory, and DeBerry had no regrets.

"Give him credit," DeBerry said. "He made a great play."

Give the Air Force credit, too. Never mind all the disadvantages that a service-academy team has to overcome to compete in big-time college football.

See **ADAMS** on VR4



JOHN ADAMS

SCOREBOARD

TOP 25

No. 1 Ohio State 24, No. 2 Texas 7
No. 4 Notre Dame 41, No. 19 Penn St. 17
No. 4 Auburn 34, Mississippi St. 0
No. 6 West Virginia 52, E. Washington 3
No. 7 Florida 42, UCF 0
No. 8 LSU 45, Arizona 3

No. 9 Florida State 24, Troy 17
No. 10 Michigan 41, Central Michigan 17
No. 11 Tennessee 31, Air Force 30
No. 12 Georgia 18, South Carolina 0
No. 13 Louisville 62, Temple 0
No. 14 Iowa 20, Syracuse 13, OT
No. 15 Oklahoma 37, Washington 20

No. 16 Virginia Tech 35, North Carolina 10
No. 17 Miami 51, Florida A&M 10
Boston College 34, No. 18 Clemson 33, OT
No. 20 Oregon at Fresno State, late
No. 21 Nebraska 56, Nicholls State 7
No. 22 California 42, Minnesota, 17
No. 23 TCU 46, UC Davis 13

No. 24 Texas Tech 38, UTEP 35, OT
No. 25 Arizona State vs. Nevada, late

SEC

Alabama 13, Vanderbilt 10
Missouri 34, Ole Miss 7
Kentucky 41, Texas State 7

Utah State at Arkansas, late

AREA

Carson-Newman 41, Shaw 7
Centre 17, Maryville 14
North Alabama 22, Tusculum 10



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FRAME-BY-FRAME



JEFF ADKINS/NEWS SENTINEL

Tennessee linebackers Marvin Mitchell and Ryan Karl (39) get high with excitement while celebrating a defensive stop by the Vols against Air Force.



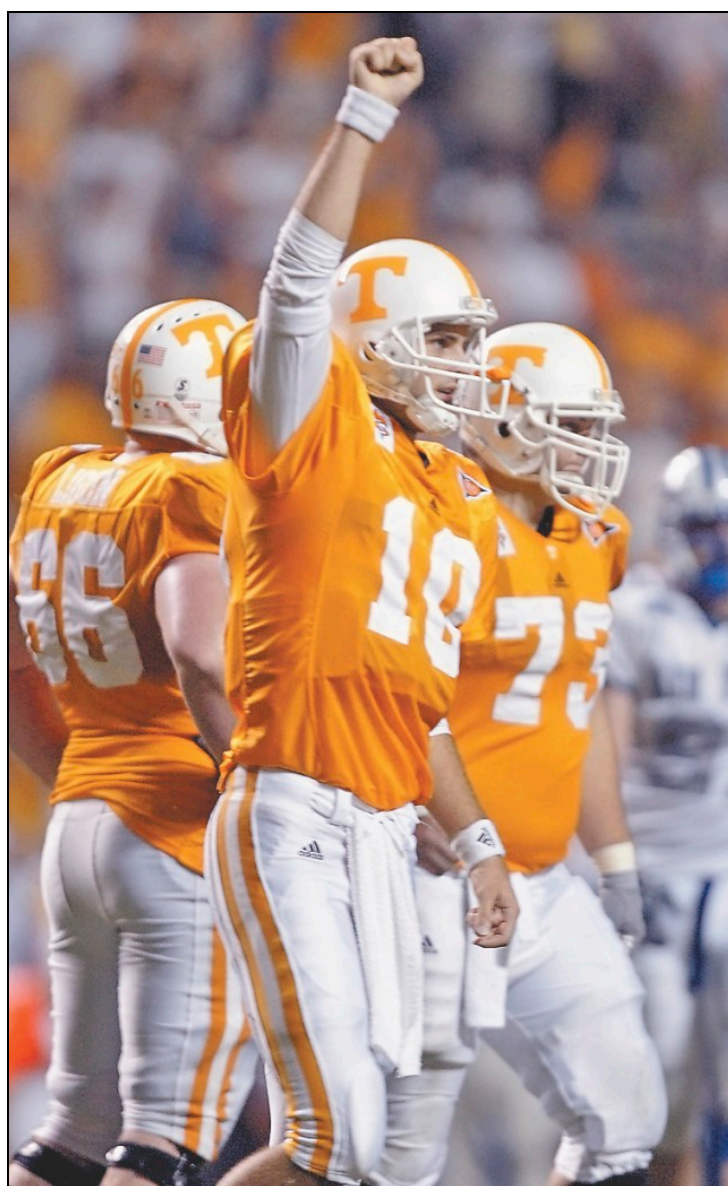
MICHAEL PATRICK/NEWS SENTINEL

Andy Wentzel, right, sings the National Anthem as an Air Force B-52 Stratofortress does a flyover Saturday at Neyland Stadium. The B-52, commanded by Air Force Academy graduate Lt. Col. Kent Schultz, is from the 917th Wing's 93rd Reserve Bomb Squadron in Barksdale AFB, La.



JEFF ADKINS/NEWS SENTINEL

Tennessee wide receiver Robert Meachem, left, is tackled by Air Force's Chris Sutton after a 44-yard pass reception that set up a James Wilhoit field goal.



CATHY CLARKE/NEWS SENTINEL

Quarterback Erik Ainge, center, celebrates a narrow victory over Air Force on Saturday night at Neyland Stadium.



JEFF ADKINS/NEWS SENTINEL

Wide receiver Austin Rogers, bottom, hauls in a pass in front of Air Force safety Bobby Giannini on Saturday.

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Well-protected Ainge pitches an almost perfect game

BY DAVE HOOKER
hookerd@knews.com

Erik Ainge compared himself to a baseball pitcher Saturday night. That seemed about right.

There was almost a perfect game. Then, there was the save.

UT's junior quarterback was nearly perfect for much of the game until he threw an interception late in the fourth quarter. The pick gave Air Force reason to rally late but UT held on, 31-30.

Ainge completed 24-of-29 passes for 333 yards and three touchdowns. Still, the stat line didn't do Ainge's performance justice. UT's receivers dropped two passes and Ainge purposefully threw at least one pass away to avoid what little pressure Air Force presented.

"You get more confident and you get in that zone as the game goes on," Ainge said. "As an offense, we were there."

Head coach Phillip Fulmer said Ainge managed the game extremely well.

"He was outstanding," Fulmer said. "Erik was really on, throwing the football well. He was very sharp."

After two games, Ainge has seven touchdown passes. He had only five all of last season.

Ainge was at his best against Air Force in the second and third quarters, when he completed 15 consecutive passes.

"Obviously you don't know when something like that's going on," Ainge said. "It's like throwing a no-hitter in baseball."

"I can't stress it enough. If you can give me 3½ seconds and our receivers that much time to run those good routes, we should complete 15 balls in a row. That's what we expect to do."

Once again, the pass protection was great. After not giving up a sack against California in the season opener, UT

matched that feat against Air Force, which rarely touched Ainge.

"When you have that much time to throw," Ainge said, "if we weren't clicking, we'd be real upset."

Just as Ainge was ready to complete the game, he faltered by throwing an interception as UT was deep in Air Force territory late in the game.

"I just stared at where I was going to go too long," Ainge said. "The flat defender was reading my eyes. I actually had a touchdown to Robert Meachem down the sideline. I missed him."

Said Fulmer, "I give him (Ainge) a lot of credit but we could have put the game away if we don't throw the interception."

Jayson Swain was one of many receivers who benefited from Ainge's efficiency. He caught six passes for 74 yards and a touchdown.

"We had no choice to catch it be-

cause it was hitting us right in the chest," the senior said. "...Erik's doing a great job. Hopefully next week he can minimize those mistakes he made tonight."

Other than one drop, sophomore Austin Rogers had a strong night filing in for senior receiver Bret Smith, who has been sidelined with a concussion he suffered last week. Rogers caught five passes for 69 yards.

"I think it was good for me to show the coaches that I could go out there and play," Rogers said.

Meachem was UT's leading receiver again. He caught eight passes for 115 yards.

Ainge had to showcase his patience almost as much as his arm. Air Force did its best to keep UT's receivers from getting open deep.

"Of course," Swain said. "Physically we were better across the board. What team wouldn't do that? We felt like we

could make any play in the passing game. Them, being smart, they were getting those guys back."

That didn't seem to bother Ainge. Yet, as good as he was, he was ready for more. Had Air Force converted on a late two-point conversion, Ainge was confident UT could retake the lead.

"We were hoping we were going to get the ball back," he said. "We had it schemed up. We were going to score to end that game."

The post-game interview area didn't have the typical feel associated with a UT victory. It was obvious the Vols felt fortunate to secure the win and knew there were bigger challenges ahead.

"We'll face a lot better defenses than what we faced tonight," Fulmer said.

That starts next week when UT hosts Florida.

Dave Hooker may be reached at 865-



MICHAEL PATRICK/NEWS SENTINEL

Tennessee running back Arian Foster, left, can't run around Air Force cornerback Chris Sutton, who zeroes in for the tackle during the first half of Saturday's game at Neyland Stadium. Foster left the game in the second quarter with a sprained left ankle.

Carney's vision falls just a few yards short

BY MARK BURGESS
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With one minute, 35 seconds left, Shaun Carney was already thinking about the year 2016.

Air Force's junior quarterback was picturing a group of cadets sitting in a room watching film of Sept. 9, 2006.

He had visions of a history making victory against 11th-ranked Tennessee on Saturday night.

Instead, the Falcons came up 3 yards short of glory as Xavier Mitchell stopped Chad Hall on a two-point conversion run to preserve a 31-30 Vols' victory.

"We were watching clips today before the game of old (Air Force) teams beating people," Carney said. "We were thinking 10 years from now that people would be watching us and remembering us beating Tennessee."

"We just came up a couple of yards short."

Short on the scoreboard, but not short on effort.

The Falcons (0-1) followed the lead of Carney and rallied for 13 fourth-quarter points to nearly pull off the shocker in front of 105,466 fans in Neyland Stadium.

Carney was the picture of Air Force cool, running the flexbone option to perfection most of the night.

He had 17 rushes for 52 yards and a touchdown. He completed 7-of-9 passes for 127 yards, several of those coming late as Air Force made UT squirm.

Carney hit Justin Handley with an 11-yard pass on fourth-and-10 to keep one touchdown drive alive.

After Air Force recovered an onside kick with 2:36 remaining, Carney went to work again. He hit Handley with a 24-yard pass and then Spencer Armstrong with a 24-yard strike down the left sideline to the UT 1.

Carney looked into the eyes of UT players and saw disbelief.

"They kind of had a shocked look on their face, like what just happened to us," Carney said of his postgame handshakes with Vols. "We were expecting to see that look on their face, so it wasn't that big of a surprise to us."

"We're for real. That's a great football team and we lost by one." Still, the disappointment of

coming up short on the two-point play was evident.

"Going up to the line, it was, 'We're about to do what we came here to do. We're going to win this game and leave our mark in history,'" Carney said.

"When it happened, it was kind of like everything fell from the sky."

Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry had nothing but praise for Carney and his team.

"I thought my quarterback played extremely well," he said. "He got us in the right place most of the time and read things correctly most of the time."

"I certainly thought he made a lot of plays on his own. He did a lot of adlibbing and made a lot of plays on second effort and scrambling."

The effort was there, but history will have to wait.

DeBerry disappointment: DeBerry has been around a long time, 23 years as Air Force head coach to be exact.

He had no trouble placing this game among his most heartbreaking losses.

"It's probably the most disappointing game I've ever been involved in," he said. "It's a game I felt we should have won, and a game I felt we could have won."

"We played against a marquee school with great football tradition in the upper echelon of the nation and the SEC."

Two-Point Reactions: Air Force players to a man feel they had the right play called on the two-point conversion attempt, a pitch to Chad Hall around the right side.

"We had a great play called and it had worked all day," Hall said. "We usually got at least 3 yards, and usually got 8 or 10 every time we ran it. Tennessee just made a great play."

"They slanted to the only place we don't have covered."

Carney agreed. Going for a tie never entered the quarterback's thought process.

"Heck no," he said. "(DeBerry) had a bunch of confidence in us and we had a bunch of confidence in each other."

"Nobody doubted going for two or even had a look of concern. We were sure we were going to make it."

Johnson most serious of UT injuries

BY DREW EDWARDS
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Tennessee cornerback Inquoris Johnson was taken to UT hospital for observation after a nasty collision during the fourth quarter of the Vols' 31-30 victory over Air Force on Saturday.

Johnson, a 5-foot-9, 190-pound junior who starts at right cornerback, lay near the Falcons' sideline for several minutes before being carted off the field.

UT coach Phillip Fulmer said Johnson was briefly knocked unconscious after a helmet-to-helmet hit with Falcons halfback Justin Handley on a pass play.

On his way to an ambulance in the northeast corner of Neyland Stadium, Johnson pumped his fist to the crowd of 105,466, and Fulmer said Johnson was moving his extremities on the field.

"We're hopeful he'll be fine," UT coach Phillip Fulmer said.

Safety Jonathan Hefney, who led the Vols with a career-high 17 tackles, said it was difficult to see Johnson laying on the field.

"I felt bad for him, knowing that he's a tough guy," said Hefney, who roomed with

Johnson during fall camp. "I felt bad and I just count my blessings because I know he'll bounce back."

While Johnson's injury appeared to be the most serious, several other Vols were banged up Saturday.

Preseason All-SEC defensive tackle Justin Harrell left in the third quarter after injuring his left bicep muscle.

Starting tailback Arian Foster did not return after about the midway point in the second quarter after spraining his left ankle.

Fulmer said Foster's ankle was taped at halftime, but the sophomore couldn't return. Backup offensive lineman Ramon Foster also sprained his left ankle.

Receiver Bret Smith, who was nursing a concussion from last week's win over California, did not play Saturday.

Special Teams: UT had several special teams miscues against Air Force.

Johnson fumbled an onside kick late in the fourth quarter. Air Force recovered and drove for a touchdown. Air Force recovered another onside kick but the Falcons were flagged for an offside penalty.

"The first one, we went for the ball and it bounced off of our chest," Fulmer said. "The second one, we acted like we didn't want to field the darn thing."

UT had two other kickoff-return miscues but neither was costly. Sophomore Demetric Morley accidentally downed the ball on a kick return at the 1-yard line. The Vols still drove 99 yards for the score.

Sophomore Lucas Taylor muffed a kickoff return but the ball bounced out of bounds before several Air Force players could recover the ball.

Salute: The families of the first four UT football players to ever have their jerseys retired received a standing ovation during a pre-game ceremony. Former UT players Bill Nowling, Rudy Klarer, Willis Tucker and Clyde "Ig" Fuson were killed in World War II. UT retired their jerseys in 1946.

UT unveiled a sign inside the stadium and a banner in the north concourse prior to kickoff to recognize the four.

Dave Hooker contributed to this report.

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Smith directs Ohio State dismantling of Texas

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Troy Smith and the Ohio State Buckeyes showed the defending champions who's No. 1.

Now comes the burden of holding on to the top spot.

In the first regular season matchup of No. 1 vs. No. 2 in a decade, Smith riddled the Longhorns for 269 yards passing and two touchdowns, leading the Buckeyes to a 24-7 win Saturday night.

The victory keeps the Buckeyes (2-0) in perfect position for

a run to a national title. Keep winning and they stay right where they are.

The Buckeyes defense, which had to replace nine starters this season, looked championship caliber, holding a Texas team that had scored at least 40 points in 12 consecutive games to a single touchdown.

As for No. 2 Texas (1-1), which saw its 21-game winning streak snapped, the Longhorns will need some help if they hope to defend their 2005 championship at the end of the season.

Colt McCoy was no Vince

Young in the rematch of last season's 25-22 Texas win in Columbus. The Longhorns' new starting QB threw for 154 yards with an interception and a touchdown.

"It's not a revenge thing, any and every win we get during the course of the season is a good win," said Smith, who split time at quarterback in last year's game, his first after a suspension.

The last time 1-2 met in the regular season, No. 2 Florida State beat No. 1 Florida, but the Gators won the rematch in the Sugar Bowl to win the national cham-

ionship.

Smith was everything Texas feared this time: a leader and a playmaker.

He threw first half touchdown passes of 14 yards to Anthony Gonzalez and a 29-yard to best friend and high school teammate Ted Ginn Jr. The second was a perfect strike just before halftime that sucked the life out of the home crowd.

Gonzalez had eight catches for 142 yards, both career highs, against a defense concentrating on stopping Ginn, who finished with five catches for 97 yards.

The Longhorns used their win in Columbus last season as the springboard to their first undisputed national title since 1969. But that win and that season came with Young at quarterback.

McCoy, the redshirt freshman from West Texas, showed he can take a tough hit, but he couldn't pull off the type of comeback that Young had made legendary in his Texas career.

Saturday night's game was an unusual early-season blockbuster with two of college football's heavyweights both on the field and in tradition.

Ohio State was the first No. 1 to come to Austin since SMU in 1950.

A Buckeyes booster put up \$225,000 to bring the Ohio State band, and fans groups estimated that as many as 40,000 Buckeyes faithful made the 1,200-mile trip from Columbus, with or without tickets for the game.

The Royal-Memorial Stadium record crowd of 89,442 was on its feet 30 minutes before kickoff while a couple hundred more watched Wrigley Field-style from the roof of the parking lot next door.

Michigan gets to Hart of matter

Running back leads Wolverines to 41-17 win

Associated Press

Michigan has won its first two games by an average of 22 points.

The 10th-ranked Wolverines beat Central Michigan 41-17 Saturday after handling Vanderbilt in their opener, but still don't know if they are merely good or potentially great.

Michigan is about to find out because its next game is at No. 4 Notre Dame.

"It's huge," said Mike Hart, who ran for 116 yards and matched a career high with three TDs. "It's not your season per se, but it shows you how good your team is."

Even though the score was lopsided, the Wolverines (2-0) did not look impressive during much of the tune-up before playing the Fighting Irish.

Michigan had a fourth down on each of its first three drives and rarely was sharp in its passing game against the Chippewas (0-2). The Wolverines gave up some big plays on defense and a couple of long kickoff returns. Both sides of the ball combined to commit nine penalties for 73 yards.

Dan LeFevour threw for 153 yards with two TDs and two turnovers for the Chippewas.

The game was delayed an hour late in the first quarter because of lightning. It was the first weather interruption at Michigan Stadium — where the Wolverines have played since 1927 — according to the school.

"It was like a halftime," said Michigan defensive end LaMarr Woodley, who had two sacks, forced a fumble and recovered one. "We made some corrections, and just sat around."

The game drew 108,712 fans and many returned to their seats after the delay.

After the rare delay, Hart's second TD — an 18-yard run — gave Michigan a 14-0 lead.

The Wolverines led 24-10 at halftime and 41-10 early in the fourth quarter.

West Virginia 52, Eastern Washington 3: Steve Slaton rushed for 105 yards and two touchdowns in just two series of work to lead the No. 6 Mountaineers in Morgantown, W.Va.

Three backup quarterbacks combined for three rushing touchdowns and one passing for the Mountaineers (2-0), who used reserves for most of the game against the Division I-AA Eagles.

By the time West Virginia built a 21-3 lead early in the second quarter, Slaton and starting quarterback Pat White were done for the day with a short turnaround to Thursday night's home game against Maryland.

Virginia Tech 35, North Carolina 10: Two of Branden Ore's three touchdowns were set up by the 16th-ranked Hokies' dominating defense and special teams in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Ore finished with 111 yards and scoring runs of 1, 4 and 3 yards, and the Hokies (2-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) went back to their roots in improving to 9-0 in ACC road games since they joined the league in 2004.

Xavier Adibi returned an interception 40 yards to set up Ore's first touchdown, Josh



DUANE BURLISON/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michigan tight end Carson Butler lands on his head after being flipped by Central Michigan defensive back Terrance Robinson in Saturday's game in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Morgan blocked a punt inside the North Carolina 10 to set up another and Brenden Hill scored on a 69-yard interception return.

North Carolina outgained Virginia Tech 268-224, but it was the Hokies' punishing defense and special teams that made the difference.

Miami 51, Florida A&M 10: The No. 17 Hurricanes found their running game, albeit against an overmatched Division I-AA opponent.

Charlie Jones rushed for two touchdowns, Javaris James ran for one and caught another, and Tyrone Moss added a 20-yard scoring run in his first game back from a

knee injury.

Miami (1-1), which managed only two rushing yards in a season-opening loss to Florida State, dominated the line of scrimmage against the smaller Rattlers, gaining 339 yards on 47 carries. Derron Thomas had 109 yards on 11 carries, while James had 75 yards, Moss 64 yards and Jones 62 more for the Hurricanes.

Kyle Wright completed 13 of 18 passes for 166 yards and a touchdown.

It was the first Orange Bowl visit for Florida A&M coach Rubin Carter since his All-American playing days at Miami as a defensive tackle in the 1970s.

Irish's Quinn cranks up Heisman hype with TDs

Associated Press

Brady Quinn threw three touchdowns and the Notre Dame offense returned to fantastic form in a 41-17 victory over No. 19 Penn State on Saturday in South Bend, Ind.

The defense and special teams chipped in, too, for the fourth-ranked Fighting Irish (2-0), who ended Penn State's six-game winning streak.

Coach Joe Paterno's Nittany Lions (1-1) haven't beaten a ranked team on the road since a 34-31 win at No. 19 Wisconsin on Oct. 5, 2002.

Quinn and the Irish looked much sharper than they did a week earlier, when they played so inconsistently against Georgia Tech that even coach Charlie Weis dropped the Irish a few spots on his ballot in the coaches' poll.

Quinn, the Heisman-hyped quarterback, threw touchdown passes to Jeff Samardzija, Rhema McKnight and Darius Walker.

Safety Tom Zbikowski returned a fumble for a 25-yard touchdown for Notre Dame and Travis Thomas — the starting linebacker — set up his own 1-yard TD run with a 43-yard run on a fake punt.

After being held without a touchdown pass against Georgia Tech, Quinn threw for three touchdowns and 229 yards in the first half against the Nittany Lions, leading the Irish to a 20-0 halftime lead.

California 42, Minnesota 17: DeSean Jackson caught three of Nate Longshore's four touchdown passes in the first half for the No. 22 Golden Bears (1-1).

Marshawn Lynch rushed for 139 yards and two touchdowns, and Jackson caught seven passes for 114 yards as Cal showed off all the offensive talent that attracted its highest preseason ranking in 54 years before its 35-18 defeat at Tennessee last week.

"They didn't have a hangover from last week," Cal coach Jeff Tedford said. "They knew that last week wasn't us. Maybe now we can stop talking about it."

Louisville 62, Temple 0: No Michael Bush, no worries in the running game for the No. 13 Cardinals.

Well, for one game at least. Next week against Miami, the competition gets a whole lot tougher.

George Stripling and Sergio Spencer each ran for two touchdowns, ably filling in for the injured Bush against overmatched Temple.

A ridiculously lopsided game thanks to his touchdowns and scores on 10 consecutive possessions.

Kurt Quarterman and Kolby Smith added touchdown runs for the Cardinals (2-0) and Brian Brohm threw for 307 yards and a score in their biggest win since beating Cincinnati 70-7 in 2004.

Florida State 24, Troy 17: Buster Davis' interception set up a 4-yard touchdown run by Joe Surratt with 1:56 left, helping the No. 9 Seminoles pull out the victory.

The Seminoles (2-0) scored two touchdowns in the final 6:12 to avoid what might have been the most embarrassing home loss in coach Bobby Bowden's 31 years coaching at the school.

Davis, the 5-foot-10 linebacker, intercepted Omar Haugabook's third-down pass at the Troy 29 moments after Florida State had tied the game at 17-17.

Haugabook completed 28 of 46 passes for 219 yards, but was intercepted three times.

Drew Weatherford threw a 5-yard tying TD pass to Chris Davis, whose muffed punt minutes earlier led to Troy grabbing the lead.

Nebraska 56, Nicholls St. 7: Zac Taylor threw a career-high four touchdown passes, Marlon Lucky ran for 103 yards and No. 21 Nebraska prepped for next week's game at Southern California by beating a 1-AA opponent.

The Cornhuskers (2-0) scored on six of their first seven possessions while building a 42-0 lead.

TCU 46, UC Davis 13: Jeff Ballard threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score to remain undefeated as TCU's starting quarterback.

The No. 23 Horned Frogs beat I-AA UC Davis for their 12th straight victory.

After replacing injured senior Tye Gunn last season, Ballard has been the starter in the last 10 TCU wins. He was 18-of-23 passing for 190 yards before freshman Marcus Jackson took over to start the fourth quarter for the Frogs (2-0).



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Eagles get kick out of win

Overtime field goal beats No. 18 Clemson

Associated Press

Jolonn Dunbar blocked an extra point in the second overtime, then L.V. Whitworth scored on a 6-yard run to help Boston College beat No. 18 Clemson 34-33 on Saturday — the second consecutive year BC has beaten the Tigers in OT.

Ryan Ohliger, who missed a 36-yard field goal in the fourth quarter, kicked a 35-yarder on BC's first possession of overtime. Then, after Jad Dean's point after-try was blocked on Clemson's second possession, Ohliger split the uprights for the game-winning PAT and the Eagles (2-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) stormed the field to celebrate.

It was the first home victory over a ranked team for BC coach Tom O'Brien in 10 seasons at Chestnut Hill.

Clemson (1-1, 0-1) was called for offensive pass interference in the second OT, leaving it with a second-and-26 from the 41. But Will Proctor hit Chansi Stuckey with back-to-back 20 yards passes to put the ball on the 1.

James Davis punched it in on second down. But Dunbar came through the middle to deflect the point after and give the Eagles an opening.

Jeff Smith returned a kickoff 96 yards for a touchdown and also had three other long runbacks for BC; his 213 return yards was one shy of the school record. Matt Ryan, who didn't practice



STEVEN SENNE/ASSOCIATED PRESS
Boston College kicker Ryan Ohliger, front, celebrates with quarterback Matt Ryan after the winning kick against Clemson.

with the first team most of the week because of an ankle sprain, was 22-for-38 for 212 yards and a touchdown.

Iowa 20, Syracuse 13: Albert Young scored on a 1-yard run in the second overtime and the No. 14 Hawkeyes kept Syracuse out of the end zone on seven consecutive plays from the 2.

Playing without star quarterback Drew Tate, it was the Hawkeyes' defense that came through in a big way in the second OT to hand Syracuse (0-2) its 11th loss in a row.

The teams exchanged field goals in the first overtime before Young scored to put Iowa (2-0) ahead. A pass interference call against the Hawkeyes gave the Orange new life at the 2, but

quarterback Perry Patterson failed on an option on third down and Paul Chiara was stopped for no gain on a run up the middle.

Just before the game started, Tate was pulled from the lineup with a strained abdominal muscle. Tate has had the injury since preseason camp but played for most of Iowa's season-opening victory over Montana last week.

Oklahoma 37, Washington 20: Paul Thompson threw two touchdown passes to Malcolm Kelly, and Adrian Peterson ran for 165 yards and two scores for the No. 15 Sooners.

Thompson finished with 272 yards on 21-of-33 passing with one interception, and Kelly had a career-high 121 yards on six catches.

New Hampshire scores shocker

Associated Press

Ricky Santos scored three touchdowns and passed to David Ball for two more Saturday, sending Division I-AA New Hampshire past Northwestern 34-17 for one of its biggest victories.

Northwestern (1-1) was playing its first home game since the death of coach Randy Walker from a heart attack June 29 and honored the coach throughout the day.

The Wildcats were unable to stop an opponent ranked No. 2 in the I-AA poll. Santos completed 17 of 21 passes for 197 yards by halftime as New Hampshire (0-1) opened a 10-point lead in its opener. New Hampshire's defense, led by tackle Brendan St. Peter, shut out Northwestern in the second half, four times stopping fourth-down attempts.

Colorado St. 14, Colorado 10: Caleb Hanie's near-perfect passing and the Rams' stingy defense were the difference in the Rocky Mountain Showdown at Denver's Invesco Field.

The Rams' fortunes improved thanks to a defense that limited Colorado to 28 yards in the second half and Hanie's precision passing. He was 20-for-23 — with two throwaways and just one bad throw all day — for 233 yards and a touchdown.

Marshall 54, Hofstra 31: Ahmad Bradshaw rushed for 152 yards and four touchdowns as the Thundering Herd (1-1) overcame an early deficit against a Division I-AA opponent.

BYU 49, Tulsa 24: John Beck passed for 240 yards and three

touchdowns and Curtis Brown ran for 125 yards to lead the Cougars (1-1) in a game that was delayed for nearly an hour because of lightning.

Michigan St. 52, Eastern Michigan 20: Matt Trannon set a school-record with 14 catches and Drew Stanton accounted for five touchdowns for the Spartans (2-0).

Trannon had 151 yards receiving, caught two touchdowns and threw a 35-yard scoring pass to A.J. Jimmerson.

Akron 20, North Carolina St. 17: Dennis Kennedy's third 1-yard touchdown run — on the last play of the game — capped a frantic fourth quarter and was decisive for Akron in Raleigh, N.C.

Virginia 13, Wyoming 12: A missed extra point in overtime by Wyoming's Aric Goodman allowed the host Cavaliers (1-10) to escape with the win.

Purdue 38, Miami (Ohio) 31: Kory Sheets scored four touchdowns, including the game-winner in overtime for the Boiler-makers.

Sheets scored his final touchdown of the game on an 11-yard run during Purdue's only overtime possession.

Miami got to the Purdue 8-yard line on its OT possession, but Purdue's defense held for the win.

Wisconsin 34, Western Illinois 10: P.J. Hill conjured up memories of former Badgers bruiser Ron Dayne for the second straight week, bouncing off defenders on his way to 101 yards and three

touchdowns for Wisconsin.

Rutgers 33, Illinois 0: Derrick Roberson fell on a blocked punt for a touchdown and Devin McCourty scored on a 38-yard interception return in the opening minutes for the Scarlet Knights.

Georgia Tech 38, Samford 6: Calvin Johnson caught two touchdown passes and the Yellow Jackets returned two interceptions for scores for the first time in 30 years.

Wake Forest 14, Duke 13: Chip Vaughn blocked Joe Surjan's 28-yard field goal attempt on the final play to preserve the victory.

San Jose State 35, Stanford 34: Yonus Davis rushed for 184 yards and the Spartans rallied from a three-touchdown deficit.

Maryland 24, Middle Tennessee St. 10: Lance Ball rushed for two touchdowns for the Terrapins.

Eugene Gross ran for a TD and Clint Marks was 22-for-41 for 216 yards for Middle Tennessee (1-1), which trailed 17-3 at halftime.

North Alabama 22, Tusculum 10: A.J. Milwee passed for 203 yards and three touchdowns to rally North Alabama, the third-ranked team in Division II, to a victory at Greeneville.

Tusculum (1-1) jumped to a 10-3 lead on Corey Russell's 5-yard touchdown run and a 19-yard field goal by Glen Black, by Milwee hooked up on touchdown passes of 10 and 24 yards to Jason Messing and 50 to Anthony Merritt.

Milwee was 15-of-28 passing for 203 yards.

C-N freshmen find end zone

First-year players score 6 TDs in 41-7 win

BY LARUE COOK

Special to the News Sentinel

JEFFERSON CITY — As coach Ken Sparks would say, the Carson-Newman "youngins" played a good one Saturday at Burke-Tarr Stadium.

The eighth-ranked Eagles defeated Shaw University 41-7, and all six touchdowns were scored by freshmen.

Redshirt quarterback Alex Good scored three times on eight rushes, redshirt Nick McFadden scooped up a blocked punt for a score and true freshman Reggie Hubbard scored twice, finding the end zone on a catch and a kick return.

"That may be some kind of record," coach Sparks said of the freshmen feat. "We're really pleased with the progress they're making, and most of those youngsters are starting to look less like youngsters."

Hubbard and McFadden credited the senior leaders on the team for their success.

"The few seniors we have are very encouraging," Hubbard said. "They're good teachers, and they aren't worried about us playing well and getting more time than them — the seniors cheer us on, and we cheer them on."

But those same youngsters who accounted for 285 yards of offense, also were responsible for 106 penalty yards.

"Last week we set the record for fewest penalties, and this week we set the record for the most," Sparks said. "I liked last week a whole lot better."

McFadden, a former prep star at Catholic High School, struck first for the Eagles, scoring from 12 yards out after senior Trenard Foster blocked a punt by the Bears (0-2) in the first four minutes of the first quarter.

Hubbard's touchdown catch was next, but his two returns for 133 yards would come in the second half.

The Chattanooga native returned the opening kick of the second half 80 yards behind a tight C-N wedge to put the Eagles up 34-0.

"That was just a good team

effort," Hubbard said. "Everybody hit somebody; I even had someone hit the kicker. I didn't really have to do anything — I just ran."

C-N (2-0) continued the quarterback rotation from last week, rotating Good and sophomore Alex Rouse. Rouse manned the first scoring drive with a 22-yard pass to Hubbard. But he threw an interception on the next drive, and the former Maryville High quarterback didn't see the field again until the second half.

Good, who finished with 71 yards on the ground, entered the game and scored on runs of 1 and 2 yards to give the Eagles a 27-0 halftime lead.

The Eagles defense allowed its first touchdown of the season in the third quarter to Bears back Chris Williams, but pressured senior quarterback Jermonty Kimbrough into 6-for-20 passing with two interceptions.

C-N will play its next three games on the road, starting at St. Augustine's Sept. 16 and ending with its first South Atlantic Conference game at Newberry Sept. 30.

Scots end one pass short of win

BY DAVE LINK

Special to the News Sentinel

MARYVILLE — Centre College defensive end Michael Tribble went to the sideline after Vail Brennan's interception late in the game Saturday against Maryville College.

Tribble, a former Bearden High player, saw some of his teammates starting to relax.

"A lot of our players didn't think we'd have to come back out," Tribble said. "I tried to look everybody in the eye and tell them to get ready to come back out."

The Colonels had to make one more stop.

Centre's John Perin intercepted a pass by Justin Price in the end zone with 3 seconds left to preserve a 17-14 non-conference victory over Maryville College (1-1).

Maryville College's last drive started at its 33-yard line with 58 seconds left. Price completed 3-of-4 passes — not including two spikes to stop the clock — as the Scots reached the Centre 7-yard line.

On second-and-goal with 8 seconds left, Price lofted a pass to 6-foot-4 Cedric McDonald. It was under-thrown, and 5-7 Perin

grabbed it.

"He just under-threw the ball," Scots coach Tony Ierulli said. "The corner just did what he had to do."

Ierulli said the decision to go for the win instead of a potential tying field goal was simple.

"It was no decision, an easy decision," he said, "eight seconds left to win the football game. Take a shot to win the football game."

Centre (2-0) took advantage of an early turnover.

On the second play of the game, Price threw a pass that went off the hands of McDonald and was intercepted by Adam Hay.

Hay returned it 22 yards to Maryville's 13-yard line.

"It was not an easy ball to catch," Ierulli said. "We've got to be able to deliver the ball better."

One play later, Nicholas Warren scored on a 13-yard run.

Maryville College tied it with 1:06 left in the half on Price's 62-yard touchdown pass to McDonald.

The Colonels took a 10-7 lead on Taylor Rockwell's 31-yard field goal with 7:01 left in the half.

Dustin Locke's 39-yard punt

return gave Maryville (1-1) first down at Centre's 26-yard line late in the half, but the drive quickly stalled after two incomplete passes and Price's scramble for minus-4 yards.

Price threw incomplete to McDonald in the end zone on fourth down, and Centre took a 10-7 lead into halftime.

"The defense is really starting to come together this year," Tribble said. "We're starting to make plays we didn't make last year, even though we had a great year last year."

The Scots pulled some trickery after halftime.

Matt Dunn, a sophomore from Kingsport, recovered his own on-side kick at the Centre's 46-yard line.

Six plays later, Price threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Joseph Bryant. It was 14-10.

Centre's Taylor Rockwell missed a 30-yard field goal in the third quarter, and the Scots' Brad Daniel missed a 21-yarder with just less than 10 minutes to play in the fourth.

After Daniel's miss, Centre drove 80 yards on eight plays for the go-ahead touchdown.

Phelps scored on a 1-yard sneak with 5:34 left.

September 15
Food City • Deane Hill, 284 Morrell Road
3 - 6 p.m.

Big Orange Pep Rally Official Entry Form
Official Entry Form / No Purchase Necessary

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Day Time Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Deposit entry in receptacle during the Pep Rally Event held at your participating Food City store by the entry deadline indicated for that event as indicated in Rule # 3 of the Official Rules. Limit one entry deposited per person per day. No mechanically reproduced entries permitted. Not responsible for lost, late, illegible, mutilated, misdirected entries or entries not received in time for the random drawing. Open only to residents of the state of Tennessee, who are 18 years of age or older as of 8/25/2006. See rules on display at participating Food City Stores.