

WEEK NINE
 UTAH ST at AIR FORCE

Jackson, Remsberg power Air Force past Utah State 31-7

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. -- Timothy Jackson has been at the forefront of Air Force's punishing ground game.

Jackson ran for 148 yards and a touchdown, Kadin Remsberg added a pair of scoring runs and Air Force shut down Utah State 31-7 on Saturday night.

Jackson reached 100 yards for the third straight game to become the first Air Force running back to accomplish the feat since Cody Getz had three 100-yard rushing games in a row during the 2012 season.

"I just want to keep it going," Jackson said. "It's a testament to our offensive line, and our coaches, trusting in me to keep moving the rock. Even though we've been doing good every week, we've still got a lot to improve on, so we're just trying to get better and better."

Taven Birdow also had a touchdown run for Air Force (6-2, 4-1 Mountain West), which became bowl eligible after its third straight victory. Quarterback Donald Hammond III suffered a lower leg injury at the end of a run on the first play of the game but returned to play most of the game. He finished with 69 yards on nine carries and completed one of his five passes for 16 yards.

Jordan Love threw a 27-yard touchdown pass to Siasoi Mariner but Utah State (4-3, 3-1) could not avoid its first loss to a conference foe this season. Love finished 14 of 23 for 114 yards as the Aggies struggled to get their offense on track against the Falcons' defense while the Utah State defense could not contain the Falcons' relentless running attack.

"Our offense is kind of built for that, to hold on to the ball for a long time because all we do is run," Jackson said. "With our defense holding them to really short gains and 3-and-outs, we're going to get the ball a lot and have a lot of time of possession and it just wears down their defense at the same time, so everything kind of went according to plan."

Trailing by 17 points, the Aggies got their first touchdown on Love's 27-yard strike to Mariner, pulling Utah State to 17-7 early in the third quarter. But the Falcons, after downing a punt at the Aggies' 1, held Utah State without a first down and forced a punt that traveled only 33 yards. Air Force went down the field, finishing the drive with a nine-yard TD run by Remsberg, his second scoring run of the night.

"We got beat by a better team," Utah State coach Gary Anderson said. "No question about it. Air Force pretty much dominated both sides of the football. We knew they were a good team coming in. They showed they're a good team."

Slowed initially by losing two first-quarter fumbles, Air Force broke through to take a 17-0 lead at halftime, getting a career long 57-yard field goal from Jake Koehnke as time expired in the second quarter.

Jackson touched off the second quarter burst with a short touchdown run after igniting the Falcons' first scoring drive with a 40-yard run on a third-and-8 play from Air Force's 17. He also had a hand in Air Force's second touchdown, with three rushes for 32 yards to set up a first-and goal at the 1 which Remsberg converted into another 1-yard touchdown run.

THE TAKEAWAY

Utah State: The Aggies defense forced a pair of first-quarter fumbles but their offense could not capitalize on the early turnovers. The offense remained sluggish throughout the game, unable to sustain drives against the Falcons' pressure tactics.

Air Force: The Falcons cadre of running backs carried the offense after Hammond was slowed by a leg injury, allowing Air Force to apply steady pressure on Utah State's defense and pull away for the victory. Eight Air Force rushers combined for 448 yards to dominate possession time (45:43 to 14:17). Air Force's defense also mounted an effective pass rush to successfully counter the Aggies' passing attack.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USU	0	0	7	0	7
AFA	0	17	7	7	31

Scoring Summary -----

SECOND QUARTER	USU	AFA
AFA TD 11:55 Timothy Jackson 1 Yd Run (Jake Koehnke Kick)		7
10 plays, 85 yards, 5:03	0	
AFA TD 6:36 Kadin Remsberg 1 Yd Run (Jake Koehnke Kick)		14
8 plays, 57 yards, 4:00	0	
AFA FG 0:00 Jake Koehnke 57 Yd Field Goal		17
12 plays, 50 yards, 5:01	0	
THIRD QUARTER	USU	AFA
USU TD 11:49 Siasoi Mariner 27 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		17
9 plays, 75 yards, 3:11	7	
AFA TD 3:17 Kadin Remsberg 9 Yd Run (Jake Koehnke Kick)		24
8 plays, 41 yards, 3:53	7	
FOURTH QUARTER	USU	AFA
AFA TD 10:06 Taven Birdow 1 Yd Run (Jake Koehnke Kick)		31
11 plays, 66 yards, 6:21	7	

Team Stats	USU	AFA
First Downs	7	30
Passes for First	3	1
Rushes for First	3	29
Penalties for First	1	0
Third Down Efficiency	1-9	10-13
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Total Yards	128	472
Total Plays	36	84
Avg Gain Per Play	3.6	5.6
Net Yards Rushing	14	448
Rushes	13	78
Yards Per Rush	1.1	5.7
Net Yards Passing	114	24
Comp-Att	14-23	2-6
Yards Per Pass	5.0	4.0
Times Sacked	2	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-11	-8
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	8	2
Punt Average	45.5	42.5
Penalties	0	4
Penalty Yards	0	40
Fumbles	0	3
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Time of Poss	14:17	45:43

Individual Stats

RUSHING

UTAH ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Gerold Bright	6	24	4.0	0	7
Jaylen Warren	2	4	2.0	0	2
Riley Burt	1	2	2.0	0	2
Jordan Love	4	-16	-4.0	0	0

AIR FORCE

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Timothy Jackson	25	148	5.9	1	40
Kadin Remsberg	16	92	5.8	2	13
Taven Birdow	18	88	4.9	1	11
Donald Hammond III	9	69	7.7	0	14
Isaiah Sanders	3	39	13.0	0	21
Christian Mallard	3	13	4.3	0	5
Joshua Stoner	1	10	10.0	0	10
Team	2	-4	-2.0	0	0
Geraud Sanders	1	-7	-7.0	0	0

PASSING

UTAH ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jordan Love	14	23	114	5.0	1	0	21.4
AIR FORCE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Donald Hammond	1	5	16	3.2	0	0	30.6
Isaiah Sanders	1	1	8	8.0	0	0	53.1

RECEIVING

UTAH ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Siasoi Mariner	3	38	12.7	1	27
Jaylen Warren	1	31	31.0	0	31
Deven Thompkins	6	26	4.3	0	10
Jordan Nathan	1	11	11.0	0	11
Savon Scarver	1	8	8.0	0	8
Gerold Bright	1	2	2.0	0	2
Riley Burt	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
AIR FORCE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Benjamin Waters	2	24	12.0	0	16