

Nov. 8 - at Marshall 28, Bowling Green 0

The Falcons closed the season on a sour note getting shut out for the third time in 1997, the first time that has happened since 1940. The loss was the fifth straight to end the season and left the Falcons tied for fourth in the East Division of the MAC with Kent.

The Falcons kept pace with the high-powered offense of the Thundering Herd as Marshall held only a 392 to 353 edge in total offense when the game was over, but four big plays either set up or accounted for Marshall's four scores while the Falcons got in the red zone (inside Marshall's 20-yard line) once and had three other possessions inside the Marshall 26-yard line, but came up empty in all instances.

Marshall's first score was set up on a 58-yard punt return by Randy Moss and their final score came after they returned the second-half kickoff 60 yards. The Thundering Herd also scored on a pair of long pass plays.

The turning point came at the end of the first half when the Falcons had Marshall in a third-and-34 situation with less than a minute left before half and the Thundering Herd leading only 14-0. Marshall completed a 26-yard pass to make it fourth-and-eight and then completed a 26-yard pass to set up first-and-goal. On the next play they completed a 10-yard scoring pass to go up 21-0. They then scored 21 seconds into the second half, on the first play after the kickoff return, to make it the final count.

Freshman Ricky Schneider made his second start of the season with Bob Niemet sidelined with a dislocated finger on his throwing hand and completed 21-of-42 passes for 293 yards and two interceptions. It was the second highest passing total by a BG freshman quarterback behind only the 312-yard performance by Brian McClure in 1982.

The Falcons kept Heisman Trophy candidate in check as he caught seven passes for 56 yards and had two punt returns for 61 yards. His long punt return was a key play as was his 30-yard scoring reception to start the second half. His receiving total was the third lowest of his career and his lowest this season.

Bowling Green	0	0	0	0	-	0
Marshall	14	7	7	0	-	28

MU - Doug Chapman 3 run (J.R. Jenkins kick), 4:56, 1st qtr

MU - Mark Wicks 58 pass from Chad Pennington (Jenkins kick), 0:19, 1st qtr.

MU - Wicks 10 pass from Pennington (Jenkins kick), 0:30, 2nd qtr.

MU - Randy Moss 30 pass from Pennington (Jenkins kick), 14:39, 3rd qtr.

Attendance - 23,509

Team Statistics - First Downs (BG 18, MU 18); Rushes-Yards (BG 33-60, MU 27-54); Passing Yardage (BG 293, MU 338); Completions-Attempts-Interceptions (BG 21-42-2, MU 26-39-0); Punts-Avg. (BG 7-39.0, MU 6-41.8); Fumbles-Lost (BG 1-0, MU 1-1); Penalties-Yards (BG 12-106, MU 12-106); Time of Possession (BG 31:32, MU 28:28).

Individual Leaders - Bowling Green - Rushing (Leon Weathersby 11-43, Robbie Hollis 11-27); Passing (Ricky Schneider 21-42-293); Receiving (Damron Hamilton 5-87, Matt Bunsey 5-82, Adam Lige 5-48). Marshall - Rushing (Llow Turner 4-34, Javonne Darling 8-31); Passing (Chad Pennington 23-34-314, Mark Zban 3-5-24); Receiving (Randy Moss 7-56, LaVom Colclough 6-78, Mark Wicks 4-105).