

Sept. 4 - at Pittsburgh 30, Bowling Green 10

Pittsburgh scored 27 unanswered points in the middle portion of the game to win the season opener for both teams.

Bowling Green dominated the first half but went the locker room down 10-7 when Hank Poteat returned a punt 40 yards to the BG 32-yard line and the Panthers took the lead for good six plays later on a one-yard Nick Goings run.

The Falcons had a 12-4 edge in first downs in the first half, a 220-61 edge in total offense, and a seven-minute edge in time of possession. But, the Falcons had two drives end on downs, one at the Pittsburgh 35-yard line and the other at the Pittsburgh 26-yard line.

Pittsburgh increased the lead driving 66 yards in nine plays with the first possession of the second half. They then put the game away with a pair of short touchdown drives 2:30 apart late in the third quarter, in both instances converting Bowling Green turnovers into the scores.

The Panthers drove 32 yards in four plays and 31 yards in five plays to cash in on a pair of Falcon fumbles.

The Falcons had a substantial edge on most statistics for the game - 21-11 edge in first downs, 335-220 edge in total offense, and a 36:13-23:47 edge in time of possession.

The Falcons defense played well limiting the Panthers to just 107 yards on the ground and 113 passing yards.

Bowling Green 0 7 0 3 - 10

Pittsburgh 0 10 20 0 - 30

PI - Nick Lotz 24 field goal, 10:44, 2nd qtr.

BG - Robert Redd 22 pass from Ricky Schneider (Jason Strasser kick), 7:16, 2nd qtr.

PI - Nick Goings 1 run (Lotz kick), 2:21, 2nd qtr.

PI - John Turman 1 run (Lotz kick), 12:01, 3rd qtr.

PI - Antonio Bryant 26 pass from Turman (kick failed), 5:02, 3rd qtr.

PI - Goings 4 run (Lotz kick), 2:32, 3rd qtr.

BG - Strasser 19 field goal, 0:54, 4th qtr.

Attendance - 30,560

Team Statistics - First Downs (BG 21, PI 11); Rushes-Yards (BG 45-161, PI 35-107); Passing Yardage (BG 174, PI 113); Completions-Attempts-Interceptions (BG 17-33-1, PI 8-22-0); Punts-Avg. (BG 4-39.0, PI 6-43.8); Fumbles-Lost (BG 4-3, PI 0-0); Penalties-Yards (BG 5-45, PI 7-52); Time of Possession (BG 36:13, PI 23:47).

Individual Leaders - Bowling Green - Rushing (Godfrey Lewis 10-62, John Gibson 17-61); Passing (Ricky Schneider 17-33-174); Receiving (Kurt Gerling 7-88, Robert Redd 4-39).
Pittsburgh - Rushing (Nick Goings 14-61); Passing (John Turman 7-17-107, David Priestley 1-5-6); Receiving (Antonio Bryant 4-84).