

= 2007 Navy vs. North Texas football game =

The 2007 Navy vs. North Texas football game was a regular @-@ season college football game between the Navy Midshipmen and the North Texas Mean Green , played on November 10 , 2007 at Fouts Field in Denton , Texas . The game holds the record for the most combined points scored in a National Collegiate Athletic Association ( NCAA ) Division I Football Bowl Subdivision ( FBS ) regulation game with 136 total points .

The mid @-@ season , non @-@ conference game was the first meeting between the two teams ; both came into the game with highly rated offenses and poorly rated defenses . Before the game the Midshipmen had a 5 ? 4 record , most recently defeating the Notre Dame Fighting Irish to break a streak of 43 consecutive losses to that team . Another win would qualify them for a bowl game . The Mean Green held a 1 ? 7 record , and could not become bowl eligible by winning its remaining games , but the team 's offense had improved over the course of the season .

During the first quarter of the game , the Mean Green led the Midshipmen by as much as 18 points . In the second quarter the teams combined to score 63 points , setting records for most points scored in a quarter and a half . The Midshipmen rallied around a strong rushing offense to take the lead at the beginning of the third quarter , and the Mean Green 's offensive momentum sputtered during the second half . Navy held the lead for the remainder of the game .

With the win the Midshipmen improved to 6 ? 4 , making the team bowl @-@ eligible for the fifth straight year . After finishing the regular season with a record of 8 ? 4 they played in the 2007 Poinsettia Bowl , losing to the Utah Utes . The loss against Navy gave the Mean Green a 1 ? 8 record , and the team eventually finished with a 2 ? 10 record for the season .

= = Pre @-@ game buildup = =

= = = Navy = = =

The Midshipmen , using a triple option offensive scheme under head coach Paul Johnson , had gained the most rushing yards of any team in the nation and had a record of 4 ? 4 through the first eight games of the season . In their ninth game the team defeated the Notre Dame Fighting Irish in triple overtime , ending a 43 @-@ year losing streak in the Notre Dame ? Navy rivalry and improving the team 's record to 5 ? 4 . With three games remaining in the season , Navy needed to win at least one more to become bowl eligible . Sponsors had arranged for Navy ( which was unaffiliated with any college football conference ) to play in the Poinsettia Bowl if they won six games . The Midshipmen defense allowed an average of 38 @.@ 8 points per game .

= = = North Texas = = =

Using a spread offense scheme implemented by first @-@ year head coach Todd Dodge , the Mean Green experienced some offensive success ; however , defensive woes led to a 1 ? 7 record through the first eight games of the season . In a rivalry game against SMU on September 8 Mean Green quarterback Daniel Meager threw for over 600 yards ( one of the top 20 single @-@ game performances in FBS history ) , but defensive errors and an interception returned for a touchdown during the fourth quarter led to another loss . After losing to the Arkansas Razorbacks 66 ? 7 , Dodge replaced Meager with redshirt freshman Giovanni Vizza . After four games as a starter , Vizza had set a new passing record for freshmen at North Texas . Coming into the game , the Mean Green ranked 12th nationally in passing offense . Dodge 's defensive squad , however , continued to struggle ; the team had allowed an average of 209 yards of rushing per game , ranking 107th in the nation in rushing defense . It also ranked 119th in scoring defense , allowing opponents to score an average of 46 @.@ 5 points per game . Coming off a bye week , the team entered the game with a 1 ? 7 record .

= = Game summary = =

The game was scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. Central Time at Fouts Field in Denton , Texas . Before the opening kickoff , the Green Brigade Marching Band performed " My Country , ' Tis of Thee " and " The Star @-@ Spangled Banner " . At the conclusion of the national anthem , four United States Navy F / A @-@ 18 Hornet aircraft performed a flyover past the stadium .

= = = First quarter = = =

Although the Mean Green had not scored on its first possession in its previous eight games , the team scored on its opening drive against the Midshipmen when wide receiver Casey Fitzgerald caught a nine @-@ yard touchdown pass from quarterback Giovanni Vizza . The Mean Green recovered an onside kick on the ensuing kickoff and scored another touchdown on the following drive . After the Midshipmen kicked a field goal on their first possession , North Texas added another touchdown , giving them a 21 ? 3 lead . Navy scored a touchdown with seven seconds remaining in the quarter . The period ended with the Mean Green ahead , 21 ? 10 .

= = = Second quarter = = =

After Navy forced North Texas to begin the second quarter with a punt , Midshipmen running back Eric Kettani fumbled the ball on the second play of the next drive and the Mean Green recovered . The next eight possessions ? four from each team ? resulted in touchdowns . Four of the drives took less than a minute of game time to reach the end zone , and a fifth took barely over a minute . In the final two minutes of the half the Midshipmen forced the Mean Green to punt after three plays , and Navy quarterback Kaipo @-@ Noa Kaheaku @-@ Enhada threw a 47 @-@ yard pass to running back Reggie Campbell . The Midshipmen ran for another touchdown on the next play . North Texas got the ball back with seven seconds left in the half , but chose not to attempt to score again . At the end of the first half , the Mean Green led the Midshipmen 49 ? 45 .

= = = Third quarter = = =

Navy began the third quarter with a 9 @-@ play , 60 @-@ yard touchdown drive composed completely of runs . This gave them their first lead of the game at 51 ? 49 ( the extra point attempt was blocked ) . On the next North Texas drive , Midshipmen outside linebacker Ram Vela intercepted Giovanni Vizza 's pass at the Midshipmen 20 @-@ yard line . Three plays later , Navy running back Zerbin Singleton ran 65 yards for another touchdown , making the score 58 ? 49 . The Mean Green responded with a 7 @-@ play , 59 @-@ yard drive , which ended with another Vizza touchdown pass to Casey Fitzgerald . On the next play from scrimmage , Kettani ran 49 yards . Two plays later he ran for another touchdown , bringing the score to 65 ? 56 at the end of the third quarter .

= = = Fourth quarter = = =

The next Mean Green drive ended in another interception , this time by Midshipmen linebacker Matt Wimsatt . After the ensuing drive stalled at midfield , the Midshipmen downed a punt at the North Texas two @-@ yard line . Two plays later the Mean Green were called for holding in the end zone , giving Navy a safety . Campbell returned the ensuing free kick for a touchdown , giving the Midshipmen a 74 ? 56 lead . Running back Micah Mosley scored another touchdown for the Mean Green , but their two @-@ point conversion attempt failed , leaving them down 74 ? 62 . The Mean Green attempted another onside kick , but Navy recovered . One first down was enough to enable the Midshipmen to run out the clock for the win .

= = = Scoring summary = = =

Source :

= = Final statistics = =

With a combined 136 total points scored between both teams , the game set an NCAA Division I FBS record for most points scored in a regulation @-@ length game ( breaking the previous record of 133 points set when the San Jose State Spartans defeated the Rice Owls 70 ? 63 in 2004 ) . The 63 combined points in the second quarter and 94 points scored in the first half set NCAA records . The game capped off a monthlong period during which four of the five highest @-@ scoring college football games were played . Giovanni Vizza 's eight touchdown passes ? equaling the total from his previous four games ? set an NCAA record for most touchdown passes by a freshman in a single game . The Midshipmen set a school record by running for 572 yards ( with 8 rushing touchdowns ) in the game , and tied another school record by scoring at least 30 points for an eighth consecutive game .

= = Post @-@ game effects = =

During a post @-@ game press conference Midshipmen head coach Paul Johnson described the game as " bizarre " , while defensive coordinator Buddy Green criticized his team 's defensive performance : " ... it was awful . Awful . Just awful . I can 't be any clearer than that . " The win guaranteed the Midshipmen a spot in the 2007 Poinsettia Bowl , held in San Diego , California on December 20 , 2007 ; Navy lost the game to the Utah Utes , 35 ? 32 . It was the fifth straight bowl game for Navy .

The loss dropped the Mean Green to 1 ? 8 , and the team finished the season with a 2 ? 10 record . Mean Green coach Todd Dodge expressed astonishment at a post @-@ game press conference , saying " I have never been a part of a game quite like this . " The team finished the season averaging an FBS @-@ worst 45 @.@ 1 points allowed per game . After the final game of the season , Dodge fired defensive coordinator Ron Mendoza , who was replaced by Gary DeLoach . In the 2008 season the Mean Green would again finish at the bottom of the defensive rankings , allowing an average of 47 @.@ 6 points per game .