Bowl Games

1971 BLUEBONNET BOWL

Dec. 31, 1971 at Houston, Texas

Colorado sophomore tailback Charlie Davis returned to his hometown and ripped host Houston for a whopping 202 yards on 37 carries as the Buffs whipped the Cougars, 29-17, in the 13th annual Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl Classic at the Astrodome.

Davis scored twice and was a one-man show in the first half. CU took a 23-14 lead into the dressing rooms. CU marched 70 yards in nine plays on the games first possession, and thanks to a 27-yard run by Davis, took a 7-0 lead less than four minutes into the game. After a pair of Robert Newhouse runs spotted Houston a 14-7 after the first quarter, but CU answered with a 16-point second quarter. A touchdown pass of five yards from Ken Johnson to Larry Brunson, a 32-yard field goal by J. B. Dean, and another TD run by Davis enabled the Buffs to take the nine-point halftime lead.

Houston, behind the running of Newhouse, roared back to narrow the margin to 23-17 with 2:16 left in the third quarter as Mike Terrell kicked a 29-yard field goal. Newhouse, who lost out to Davis for the game's MVP Award, had 168 yards on 35 carries and also scored twice

Safety John Stearns was a Colorado hero in the fourth period, making the gutsiest fourth down play in school history. On a fourth-and-9 from the Buff 10, he surprised everyone, including the Buff coaching staff, by sprinting 12 yards for a crucial first down after Houston had turned the momentum around and narrowed the margin to just a touchdown on the Terrell field goal. Stearns then knocked down a sure TD pass on fourth down with the Cougars at the CU nine. The Buffs turned that one around and marched for the clinching tally with 3:48 left in the game.

OU finished the season with a 10-2 mark, its only setbacks coming at the hands of national champion Nebraska and to No. 2 Oklahoma. In the Associated Press poll, the Buffs rose to No. 3 in the final balloting with the victory over No. 15 Houston (9-3), marking the first and only time one conference had three schools finish 1-2-3.

Colorado	7	16	0	6 -	- 29	
Houston	14	0	3	0 -	- 17	

CU-Davis 27 run (Dean kick)	7- 0	11:24	10
Houston-Newhouse 2 run (Terrell kick)	7- 7	5:22	1Q
Houston-Newhouse 3 run (Terrell kick)	7-14	1:14	1Q
CU-Brunson 5 pass from Johnson (kick failed)	13-14	13:20	2Q
CU—Dean 32 FG	16-14	5:03	2Q
CU—Davis 1 run (Dean kick)	23-14	1:13	2Q
Houston—Terrell 29 FG	23-17	2:16	3Q
CU—Johnson 1 run (pass failed)	29-17	3:48	40

Attendance: 54,720 Time: 3:06

Weather: 72 degrees in controlled environment (played in the Astrodome)

COLORADO HOUSTON 19 First Downs 12-18 Fourth Down Efficiency...... 3-6 Rushes-Net Yards... 62-333 50-219 Passing Yards ... Passes (Att-Comp-Int) 25-11-1 Total Offense 395 392 Return Yards.....

Colorado 29 Houston 17

3-32.0

4-0

7/52

N/A

Auburn 24

2-2

2/47

0-0

N/A

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Quarterback Sacks-Yards....

Punts: No-Average

Fumbles: No-Lost......

Penalties/Yards

Time Possession

Rushing—Colorado: Davis 37-202, Johnson 16-81, Tarver 6-22, Branch 1-13, Steams 1-12, Matthews 1.3.Houston: Newhouse 35-168, Mozisek 11-43, Mullins 4-8

Passing—Colorado: Johnson 16-6-1, 51; Branch 1-1-0, 11. Houston: Mullins 25-11-1. 173.

Receiving—Colorado: Nichols 2-28, Brunson 2-16, Masten 1-14, Davis 1-3, Branch 1-1. Houston: Orchin 6-94, Odoms 4-51, Stanley 1-28.

Punting—Colorado: Stearns 3-32.0 (39 long). Houston: H.oberts 2-37.5 (41 long).

Punt Returns-Colorado: none. Houston: none.

Kickoff Returns—Colorado: Branch 2-45, Brunson 1-11, Nichols 1-9. Houston: Newhouse 3-29, Orchin 1-13, W.Roberts 1-13, Johnson 1-9.

Interceptions—Colorado: Foster 1-0. Houston: Hamrick 1-0.

Tackle Leaders—Colorado: Drake 8,2—10; Taibi 8,2—10; Magrum 7,3—10; Orvis 5,5—10; Havens 4,2—6; Steams 4,1—5; Bryant 4,1—5. Houston: Brezina 7,3—10: Ditta 8,1—9; Stohler 8,1—9; Bolin 4,5—9; Branstetter 6,2—8.

1972 GATOR BOWL

Dec. 30, 1972 at Jacksonville, Fla.

Auburn, an 11-point underdog to Colorado, took command in the second period and went on to beat the Buffs, 24-3, in the 28th Gator Bowl Classic before 71,114 fans.

It was 17-0 in favor of the Tigers before CU got on the board with just 7:31 left in the game on a Freddie Lima field goal. Auburn shut off the fearsome Colorado rushing attack, limiting the Buffs to just 63 yards in 29 attempts and forced CU quarterback Ken Johnson to the air.

Auburn, sixth-ranked in the nation, took it to Colorado by capitalizing on two CU fumbles and two pass thefts. Johnson, who had directed No. 13 Colorado to an 8-3 regular season coming into the game, hit on 17 of 29 passes for 169 yards, but the Buff running game was shut down.

Garner Jett's 27-yard field goal and a fumble recovery at the Colorado 16-yard line a minute later led to the 10-0 halftime lead for Auburn. Then, in the second half, wingback Mike Fuller hit tight end Rob Spivey with a 22-yard TD pass late in the third quarter. Holder Dave Beck threw a 16-yard TD pass off a fake field goal to Dan Nugent with just 1:10 left in the game to ice the win.

The Tigers managed only 233 yards on the afternoon, including only 153 on 58 rushing attempts, or just 2.6 per attempt, as the CU defense had 11 tackles for losses totaling 36 yards. But largely due to the turnovers, Auburn's four scoring drives consumed a grand total of only 116 yards.

Auburn finished 10-1 and moved up to a number five ranking for the season.

Colorado Auburn	0	0 10	0 7	3 7	=	3 24	

Aubum—Jett 27 FG	U- 3	14:16	20
Aubum—Whatley 1 run (Jett kick)	0-10	12:00	2Q
Aubum—Spivey 22 pass from M.Fuller (Jett kick)	0-17	3:32	30
CU—Lima 33 FG	3-17	7:31	40
Auburn—Nugent 16 pass from Beck (Jett kick)	3-24	1:10	40

Attendance: 71,114 Time: N/A

Weather: 70 degrees, clear skies, wind negligible

	Colorado	3
M STATISTICS	COLORADO	AUBL

CULURADU	AUBURIN
14	13
3-14	6-18
1-2	1-1
29-63	58-153
204	80
33-20-2	8-5-0
267	233
3	1
	7-40.7
	3-1
5/47	4/30
2-10	0-0
24:44	35:16
	3-14 1-2 29-63 20-0 33-20-2 267 3 5-39.8 3-2 5-47 2-10

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

TEAL

Rushing—Colorado: Matthews 8-34, Davis 14-12, Johnson 6-10, Campbell 1-7. Aubum: R.Fuller 12-72, Linderman 15-37, Henley 18-24, Whatley 13-20.

Passing—Colorado: Johnson 29-17-2, 169; Duenas 4-3-0, 35. Auburn: Whatley 6-3-0, 42; M.Fuller 1-1-0, 22; Beck 1-1-0, 16.

Receiving—Colorado: Davis 7-10, Cain 4-45, Keyworth 3-55, Ellwood 3-49, Collier 2-43, Campbell 1-2. Aubum: Spivey 1-22, Cannon 1-17, Nugent 1-16, Henley 1-13, Gates 1-19

Punting—Colorado: Stearns 5-39.8 (51 long). Auburn: Beverly 7-40.7 (54 long).

Punt Returns—Colorado: Bryant 4-3. Auburn: Simmons 2-1

Kickoff Returns—Colorado: Collier 4-73, Campbell 1-17. Auburn: Langner 1-25, M.Fuller 1-24.

Interceptions—Colorado: none. Auburn: Beck 1-0, Simmons 1-0.

Tackle Leaders—Colorado: Cooney 12,1—13; Magrum 9,2—11; R.Stearns 9,1—10; Drake 5,1—6; Geist 4,1—5. Auburn: Newton 7,3—10; Langner 6,0—6; Beck 5,0—5; Sixley 5,0—5.

ALAMO BOWL INFORMATION GUIDE 22 VS. BYU - 12/28/2024