

# Georgia Post-Game Notes: Jan. 1, 2008, Allstate Sugar Bowl

**\*Winning With Richt:** With the 41-10 win, fourth-ranked Georgia (11-2) finishes the year on a seven-game winning streak and ends the Warriors 13-game streak as the nation's only unbeaten. The Bulldogs now are 72-19 in Coach Richt's seven seasons including 2-1 in BCS bowls. Also, Georgia improved to 30-2 against non-conference foes under Richt.

**\*Senior Class Gets 40<sup>th</sup> Win:** With tonight's win, the Bulldog senior class closes out their career with a 40-11 record with three bowl wins and one SEC title. They became the fifth straight class to claim at least 40 wins and the sixth overall in school history.

**Marcus Howard:** Senior defensive end **Marcus Howard, named the Sugar Bowl MVP,** posted a career night with a BCS record and career-high 3 sacks including two that caused a fumble, one, which he recovered for a TD and a 31-3 edge. Coming in tonight, he led the team with 7.5 sacks for -79 yards. Also tonight, he had four tackles, two forced fumbles. Howard became the third Bulldog in school history to be named Sugar Bowl MVP, joining running backs Herschel Walker (1981) and Musa Smith (2003).

**\*Defense Hunkers Down:** Georgia limited the nation's offensive leader in Hawaii to just 10 points despite running 75 plays. Georgia had a school record 8 sacks as UH had minus 5 yards rushing (the fewest by a Georgia opponent since Kentucky had minus 50 in 1999). Coming in, the Bulldogs led the SEC with 34 sacks. Tonight, the Bulldogs had a school and bowl record 8 including five in the first half (two by freshman **Rennie Curran**, three total by senior **Marcus Howard** (two which caused a fumble, one he recovered in the endzone for a TD and another recovered by Brandon Miller), one by **Brandon Miller**). The first play of the second half for UH resulted in a sack, this one by **Rod Battle**. UH's third play of the second half resulted in an interception by Asher Allen. The record eighth sack came by **Geno Atkins**. Georgia's previous high this year was six in the win over #9 Florida. Georgia had 7 sacks in the 2005 Outback Bowl win over Wisconsin. Sophomore **Prince Miller** snagged his first career interceptions at the UH 42. It led to a TD and a 24-3 edge. Georgia held the Warriors to 3 points in the first three quarters, forcing three points and five turnovers.

**40+ Points:** Georgia's 41 points tonight set a record for most points in a bowl. The previous best was 40 in the 1942 Orange Bowl win over TCU (40-26) in the team's first bowl appearance. The 31-point margin of victory tonight was the largest in Georgia's bowl history, eclipsing the previous mark of 27 in the 1998 Outback Bowl, a 33-6 win over Wisconsin.

**\*Tailback Combo:** The tailback duo of senior **Thomas Brown** (19 rushes, 73 yards, 1 TD) and redshirt freshman **Knowshon Moreno** (9 carries, 61 yards, 2 TDs) combined for 134 yards on 28 carries and 3 TDs. On the opening drive following a UH punt, **Moreno** had a 17-yard TD for a 7-0 lead. Moreno capped the second drive with an 11-yard TD run. He had five carries for 36 yards in the first half while Brown had 15 carries for 70 yards. Georgia's third tailback, senior **Kregg Lumpkin** had one kickoff return for seven yards as he was returning from a knee injury for his first action since mid-October. He played most of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Brown finishes his career with 2,646 yards. Moreno completes his first year with 1,334 yards and 14 TDs on 248 carries.

**\*Matthew Stafford Steady Night:** Sophomore QB **Matthew Stafford** finished the night 14-for-23 for 175 yards with 1 TD. Sophomore **Kris Durham** enjoyed a career-night with 3 catches for 48 yards including a career-long 28-yarder. Senior **Sean Bailey** caught an 11-yarder for a TD and a 24-3 lead.

**\*Asher Allen:** Sophomore CB **Asher Allen** established new school records in kickoff returns and KOR yards. He set the mark on his first return, a 31-yarder to give him 690 yards on a school record 28 returns. It was his only return of the night. Also, he had two interceptions to tie a bowl record plus made a team-leading 9 tackles. Junior **Ramarcus Brown** set a bowl record with a 90-yard kickoff return early in the fourth quarter. It broke the previous mark of 86 held by Decory Bryant in the 2001 Music City Bowl.

**\*Brandon Coutu:** Senior PK **Brandon Coutu** finished with 11 points, 2-for-2 on field goals and five PATs. He drilled a BCS record 52-yarder which also set a Georgia bowl record, eclipsing the previous mark of 51 set by Coutu last year in the Chick-fil-A Bowl against Va. Tech. He is 6-for-12 from 50+ in his career. It gave the Bulldogs a 17-3 lead in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Senior **Andy Bailey** handled kickoffs tonight.

**\*Sugar Bowl History:** Tonight marked Georgia's ninth Sugar Bowl appearance and they are now 4-5 all-time including 2-1 under Mark Richt. Overall in bowl games, Georgia is 5-2 under Richt. In school history, Georgia is now 24-16-3 in bowl games as tonight was the school's 11<sup>th</sup> straight bowl appearance.

**\*Points off Turnovers:** Georgia has 21 points off six Hawaii miscues while the Warriors got no points off one INT. Georgia turned one INT (Prince Miller) in to 7 points. A Colt Brennan fumble (recovered by Brandon Miller, caused by Marcus Howard on a sack) led to no points (turned over on downs). Asher Allen's INT led to no points as an INT resulted after a tipped pass at the UH 4. Marcus Howard's sack, caused fumble, recovered fumble in the endzone was good for 7 points. Howard tipped a pass that was intercepted by **Dannell Ellerbe** (second of career). It led to a TD. Allen's second INT led to no points.

**\*Injury Update:** Senior SE/PR **Mikey Henderson** (concussion) left the game in the first quarter due to injury and did not return. Junior MLB **Marcus Washington** (left ankle) was injured in the second quarter and did not return. True freshman OT **Trinton Sturdivant** (sprained right knee) went down in the third quarter and did not return.

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