

Continued From Front:

Starting from their 39-yard line, Steele Fortress and his Merry Men immediately got back to work. A 6-yard completion followed by 3 back-to-back run plays gave them a fresh set of downs at midfield. Then, Steele chucks one to Darius Willis for 19 yards. Finally, from the 30-yard line, Fortress launches yet another ball to Willis, who this time is waiting in the back-center of the endzone. 16-0 Huskies.

After two immaculate drives from this previously unknown-to-me backup QB, the crowd around me was abuzz with the name of this football god. While Platteville marched down the field to make the game 16-7 (which unfortunately included a vicious hit on Michael Priami, their starting QB, which resulted in a targeting penalty on an MTU linebacker), the crowd didn't seem to care. We, as a single people, needed ****more****.

Sadly, the next MTU drive stalled. Fortress did what he could to get the ball downfield, but UW-P suddenly started generating pressure and the QB was only able to get one completion for 3 yards. We didn't care. We had found our hero.

Platteville stalled on offense and lost a fumble on 3rd down at their own 27-yard line. We were ready for more points from the new main character in everyone's life story, but to some dismay, Will Ark was put back in the game. How could the coaching staff decide to do this? Sure, the last drive didn't go great, but the two that had come before were **magical**. Nevertheless, Ark went to work, completing two passes in the shortened field, including one to Darius Willis for his second touchdown of the day. 23-7.

(As I said earlier, I genuinely can't blame Ark for how his first half went, I think it was just bad luck and the receivers not being ready for where he was placing the ball. He looked pretty good when he was in during the second half, but unfortunately the public's eye had already passed him by.)

At this point, the rest of the game didn't seem to matter. Tech held a 2-score lead and UW-P clearly had no consistent rhythm on offense. Plus, with everybody's new favorite player out of the game, it seemed like the people around me in the crowd had almost lost interest. Fortress played one more drive, but unfortunately it was nothing special. Platteville did score another touchdown and was able to recover the following onside kick, but they had missed the two-point conversion attempt, meaning it was still a two-score game with less than two minutes to go. It was over and everyone knew it. Huskies win, 23-13.

To my surprise and delight, fans were allowed onto the field after the game ended while the players wrapped up. While it was mostly parents of players and a couple groups of friends chucking one of the stray footballs around, I decided to take a walk down to enjoy the feeling of watching my uni's team win their home opener. Once the post-game huddle broke and the players went to talk with their friends and family, it seemed like everyone noticed at once where he was and yelled "Steeeeeeele". It wasn't booming, he didn't take a bow, but everybody who witnessed that game left knowing one thing: put some fucking respect on the name Steele Fortress.

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