



UTICA COLLEGE (0-2, 0-0 Empire 8)

VS.

RPI (1-0, 0-0 Liberty League)

September 20, 2008

Charles A. Gaetano Stadium

2008 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
09/06	@ Becker College	L, 26-13
09/13	@ Husson College	L, 34-17
09/20	R.P.I	1:30 PM
10/04	@ Springfield	2:00 PM
10/11	Mt. Ida	1:30 PM
10/18	Alfred	1:30 PM
10/25	@ Ithaca	1:00 PM
11/01	St. John Fisher	1:30 PM
11/08	Norwich	1:30 PM
11/15	@ Hartwick	1:00 PM

Utica was held to 31 yards on the ground and 100 yards in the air. Junior quarterback Greg Pinelli (Bristol/Bristol, PA) was 18-for-30 with 100 yards and an interception, while freshman full-back Brendon Ring (St. Francis/Eden) led all UC rushers with 13 yards on seven carries.

UC's defense played extremely well once again but the lack of offensive firepower prevented UC from making a late charge. Senior linebacker Corey Jure (Sheepshead Bay/Brooklyn) made a game-high ten stops, while sophomore Eric Kahl (Spencer-Van Etten/ Lockwood) and freshman Terrell Cunningham (Marshall/Rochester) each tallied seven tackles.

Junior quarterback Jimmy Robertson led the way for the Engineers completing 21-of-36 passes for 304 yards, becoming the third player in school history to throw for 5,000 yards. Robertson threw two touchdowns in RPI's first two possessions and the Engineers jumped out to a 14-0 lead with 38 seconds left in the first quarter. Mike Fil caught the first touchdown pass, while Brendan McGowan capped a four play sixty yard drive with a 44-yard touchdown catch.

The Pioneers defense held its ground until the fourth quarter when RPI kicker Nick Lalumia knocked home a 32-yard field goal with 12:08 left in the contest. Bob Munier capped the scoring on the day when he scampered for a 15-yard touchdown run with 6:44 left in the game.

Other highlights for the Pioneers included punter Ben Atwood (Vernon Verona Sherrill/Verona), who averaged 37.3 yards on seven punts, including a 43 yard punt. Wide receiver Jim Pincher (Christian Brothers Academy/Albany) snagged four balls for 20 yards, while senior captain James Proniewych (Patchogue Medford/Medford) caught three passes for a team-high 39 yards receiving.

All Time Series vs. RPI

Date	Opponent	W/L Score
09/14/2002	@ RPI	L, 47-0
09/13/2003	RPI	L, 17-6
09/18/2004	RPI	W, 9-7
09/17/2005	@ RPI	L, 41-10
09/16/2006	RPI	L, 34-10
09/15/2007	@ RPI	L, 24-0

Utica is 1-5 all-time against RPI

Last Meeting Against RPI - 09/15/2007:

UTICA, NY – The Utica College football team was held to 131 yards of total offense in a 24-0 loss to host Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) Saturday at '86 field.

The Pioneers dropped their second consecutive game and are now 1-2 on the year, while the Engineers remain undefeated at 2-0. UC has not been shut out by RPI since their first meeting in 2002, when RPI defeated UC 47-0. RPI leads the all-time series 5-1. UC defeated the Engineers 9-7 in 2004.

What to watch for:

Sophomore running back Brian Jones looks to repeat the success of his rookie season and add to his career total rushing yards. In his first season at UC he rushed for 241 yards on 43 carries. Junior Cody Elliot has tallied 67 receptions during his first two years for a total of 759 yards. Having similar seasons during his latter two years as a Pioneer could allow him to break the all-time pass reception record at UC. He also is 125 yards away from breaking the college's all-time kick return yards record. Senior defensive back Lazarus Morgan is only 36 yards away from breaking the interception return yards record. Sophomore Keith Barone looks to break the punt return yards record. He has already returned 13 punts for 116 yards. The current record is 192 yards. Finally, Casey McNulty, junior, attempts to break the field goal record. He has successfully made five field goals out of 11 attempts and hopes to break the former record of 12.

UTICA COLLEGE FOOTBALL TWO-DEEP

QB	#14 Christian Bochiccio, Fr. #12 Keith Barone, Jr.	FS	#24 Pete Vano, Jr. #29 Mark Tipple, Jr.
RB	#3 Brian Jones, So. #25 Billy Northey, Fr.	CB	#6 Lazarus Morgan, Sr. #2 Marquez Mosely, Fr.
WR	#18 Jim Pincher, Sr. #20 Sean Halligan, So.	CB	#22 David Hewitt, Jr. #21 Aaron Lipski, So.
WR	#10 Cody Elliot, Jr. #7 Dayne Bennett, So.	OLB	#17 Terrell Cunningham, So. #56 Tim Millerick, So.
WR	#80 Nick Fischer, Fr. #8 Josh Mason, Fr.	ILB	#44 Kevin Hennion, So. #45 Dennis Timmons, Fr.
TE	#84 Tyler Malagisi, Fr. #89 Andy Hems, Fr.	ILB	#50 Eric Kahl, Jr. #51 Travis Ladd, So.
LT	#71 Mike Zappetti, Sr. #77 Eddie Mathew, So.	OLB	#4 Sean Dixon, Jr. #37 Akeem Grazes, Fr.
LG	#64 Marcus Gurdineer, Jr. #69 Mike Gisonda, Jr.	DE	#91 Tracy Branch, So. #92 Kurt Zimmerman, Jr.
C	#66 Bob Montgomery, Sr. #55 Tyler Olles, Fr.	DT	#79 Jeff Champlin, Fr. #94 Kyle Nedd, So.
RG	#62 Brendan Ring, So. #70 Tom Havener, So.	NG	#74 Chris Walrath, Jr. #68 Matt Kromer, So.
RT	#78 Ryan Deciano, So. #68 Chris Aldrich, So.	DE	#54 Vinson Jones, Sr. #99 Steve Karboski, Fr.

2008 Statistical Leaders:

Offense:

12 QB Keith Barone - 33-65, 329 yds, TD
3 RB Brian Jones - 18/76 yds, TD
10 WR Cody Elliot - 14/192 yds

Defense:

24 LB Peter Vano - 21 tackles, INT
50 LB Eric Kahl - 20 tackles, INT

Special Teams:

10 WR Cody Elliot - PR 4/57 yds, KR 6/71 yds
39 P Ben Atwood - 6/230 yds



Pioneer Facts

Location: Utica, N.Y.

Founded: 1946

Enrollment: 2,800

President: Todd S. Hutton

Nickname: Pioneers

Colors: Navy Blue and Burnt Orange

Affiliation: NCAA Division III

Conference: Empire 8

Stadium (Capacity): Gaetano Stadium (1,200)

Surface: Field turf

All-Time Record: 18-52-0

Head Coach: Blaise Faggiano (Ithaca '93)

Phone: (315) 792-3713

Record at Utica: First Year, 0-2

Career Record: First Year, 0-2

Assistant Coaches:

Keith Scranton (Brockport State '01), special teams;

Curt Fitzpatrick (St. John Fisher '04), offensive coordinator

George Penree (St. John Fisher '03), offensive line

Justin Higgins (Ithaca '00), outside linebackers;

Will Pluff (Utica '06), linebackers;

Keith Cherney (Stony Brook '05), wide receivers;

Jake Dercola (Brockport State '08), running backs;

Frank Palmisano (Daemen '75), tight ends;

Greg Pyszczyński (St. John Fisher '06), defensive line;

Andrew Massoud (St. John Fisher '04), head JV;

Mike Zegarelli (Findlay '77), assistant defensive

2007 Overall Record: 3-7

Basic Offense: Spread Offense

Basic Defense: 4-2-5

Letter Winners Returning: 32

Letter Winners Lost: 24

Starters Returning: 13

Starters Lost: 14

Athletic Director: Jim Spartano

SID: Gil Burgmaster

Phone: (315) 792-3772

Fax: (315) 792-3818

E-mail: gburgma@utica.edu

Web: <http://www.ucpioneers.com>

Letter winners Returning Letter winners Lost

Offense: 13

Defense: 17

Special: 2

Total: 32

Offense: 11

Defense: 12

Special: 1

Total: 24

Starters Returning:

Offense: 6

Defense: 6

Special: 1

Total: 13

Defensive Starters Lost: DL: Omari Brown, Rich Rivenberg; LB: Cory Jure, Joe Ryan, Mike DeBetta; DB: Bryan Johnson, Marcus Maroney

Offensive Starters Lost: QB: Greg Pinelli; OL: Matt Cole, Anthony Rivie, Dan Nichols; TE: Marc Neff; WR: James Proniewych; RB: Kamall Mabry

2008 Captains: **Defensive:** Vinson Jones, Eric Kahl; **Offensive:** Jim Pincher, Mike Zappetti

Returners

Offensive Starters

(Pos./Ht./Wt./Yr.)

Cody Elliot

(WR/5-11/185/Jr.)

Marcus Gurdineer

(OL/6-0/270/Jr.)

Mike Zappetti

(OL/6-2/260/Sr.)

Robert Montgomery

(OL/6-2/298/Sr.)

Jim Pincher

(WR/6-2/195/Sr.)

Brendan Ring

(OL/5-8/245/So.)

Defensive Starters

(Pos./Ht./Wt./Yr.)

Lazarus Morgan

(DB/6-0/185/Sr.)

Terrell Cunningham

(LB/5-8/212/So.)

Vinson Jones

(DE/5-11/225/Sr.)

Eric Kahl

(LB/5-10/210/Jr.)

Chris Walrath

(DL/5-10/258/Jr.)

Peter Vano

(DB/5-11/163/Jr.)

Special Teams:

Ben Atwood

(P/6-2/240/Sr.)

Last Week's Recap:

BANGOR, ME – The Utica College football team closed to within three points of host Husson University on two different occasions, but they could not climb all the way back after digging themselves a 13-0 deficit, and the Eagles went on to defeat UC 34-17 Saturday at Alford Field.

Husson now owns a 3-2 all-time series advantage against the Pioneers after winning their last three consecutive meetings by a combined score of 65-27. With the loss the Pioneers drop to 0-2 on the season and they will host RPI next Saturday at Charles A. Gaetano Stadium for the 2008 home opener which is a part of the College's homecoming festivities. Husson improved to 1-1 with the win after dropping to Division II Merrimack University 42-7 last weekend.

Husson jumped out to a 13-0 lead less than 11 minutes into the first quarter. Justin Lindie (Winslow, ME) gave the Eagles a 6-0 lead when he capped the opening drive of the game with a six yard touchdown run. Husson kicker Darren Gauthier (Durham, ME) closed out the nine play, 56 yard drive by converting the extra point at the 11:10 mark of the first quarter. On the ensuing drive the Pioneers were forced to punt after just three plays and senior Empire 8 All Conference punter Ben Atwood's (Vernon Verona Sherrill/Verona) attempt was blocked and scooped up by Hussons' Keith Runne (Lake Hop, NJ). Runne returned the blocked punt 32 yards and suddenly Husson boasted a 13-0 lead with 9:15 left in the first quarter.

Things started to turn around for the Pioneers about 15 minutes later when UC sophomore quarterback Keith Barone (Manchester Township/Point Pleasant, NJ) posted his first collegiate rushing touchdown to cut the Eagles lead to 13-7 with 9:40 left in the first half. The Pioneers started their first scoring drive on the Husson 26 yard line due to a mishandled snap that resulted in a turnover on downs after the Eagles lost 32 yards on the play. Barone accounted for 21 of the 26 yards needed to score and after junior kicker Casey McNulty (Red Hook/Red Hook) knocked down the extra point the Pioneers found themselves down just six points, 13-7.

UC forced a punt on the ensuing possession and the offense marched back on the field with 7:52 left in the half. After an 18-play, 64 yard drive the Pioneers were forced to settle for three points as McNulty split the up rights with a 32 yard field goal to cut the Husson lead to 13-10 headed into half time.

The Pioneers were forced to punt on their first possession of the second half, but field position was in the favor of UC as Atwood sailed a beautiful punt 48 yards which was downed by junior defensive back Peter Vano (Mahopac/Mahopac) at the Husson two yard line. Unfortunately for the Pioneers, Husson was able to counter with an

81 yard touchdown pass from quarterback James McCandles (Hollywood, FL) to wide receiver Ben Grant (Winslow, ME) to raise the lead back to ten points, 20-10, with 10:21 left on the third quarter clock.

UC's defense was able to keep the game close after capitalizing on a McCandles fumble that was recovered in the end zone by sophomore linebacker Terrell Cunningham (Marshall/Rochester) with 5:22 left in the third quarter to once again cut the Husson lead to three points, 20-17. The touchdown marked the first of Cunningham's career and he closed out the day with four tackles for the UC defense.

Husson scored on the ensuing drive to close the door on the Pioneers' come back and extend the Eagles lead to double digits for the third time in the contest. Justin Lindie, Julius Williams (Boston, MA) and James McCandles combined for 60 yards rushing throughout the drive to give Husson the lead for good with 3:12 left in the third quarter. The Eagles added a touchdown to open the fourth quarter to slam the door shut on the Pioneers bid at their first victory of the season.

Husson's offensive attack was mostly on the ground as they rushed for 238 yards on 59 carries, good for an average of four yards per carry on the day. The majority of the Pioneers offense came in the air as Barrone completed 22-of-40 passes on the day, good for 190 yards. UC netted 86 total yards rushing on the day good for 277 yards of total offense.

Barrone netted 33 yards rushing, while sophomore runningback Brian Jones (Wilby/Waterbury, CT) and junior wide receiver Cody Elliot (John F. Kennedy/Sloan) each added 26 yards rushing on the ground for UC. Elliot also added seven catches for 88 yards and senior captain Jim Pincher (Christian Brothers Academy/Albany) caught four passes for 44 yards on the day.

Vano led the way for the Pioneer defense with nine total tackles, eight of which were solo. Junior Sean Dixon (Vernon Verona Sherrill/Sherrill) also registered a career-high nine tackles for the Pioneers, while junior captain Eric Kahl (Spencer-Van Etten/Lockwood) had another stellar performance at linebacker posting eight total tackles to pace the Pioneers.

Next week's contest against visiting RPI is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. and the broadcast can be heard live locally on WIBX 950 AM. Streaming video will also be available at www.empire8.tv and live stats for the contest can be viewed at www.ucpioneers.com.



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