

06-16-07

Sirens complete sweep of Quake

California Quake @ Sacramento Sirens

June 16 2007

Final Score 17-39

Sacramento, CA –The California Quake looked to make things difficult for the Sirens and their quest for a seventh straight playoff appearance. The Sirens won the toss and deferred until the second half. Captains for the game were Deb Kuntz (#3), Melissa Strother (#83), Lisa Mitchell (#34) and Teresa Moore (#64).

On the Quake's first possession they were only able to gain a couple yards before having to punt the ball away. A great return by Sacramento gave them the ball at the Quake 40-yard line. Melanie Pettway (#15) making a TD saving tackle. Three plays later the Sirens found the endzone when Powers (#2) hit Sharp (#22) over the middle when two Quake defenders collided into each other knocking both off of the tackle. Sirens lead 6-0. The Sirens then squib kicked the ensuing kickoff and beat Crystal Tarifa (#80) to ball recovering for possession. With a short field, the Sacramento offense trotted back out to extend their lead. The Quake defense made them work for it, but on the 10th play of the drive Sac crossed the goal line. Sirens lead 13-0.

Another squib kick followed but Alex Kirby (#88) for the Quake picked it up and returned it to the 45-yard line. Using both the run and pass, California moved the ball quickly into scoring position aided by two personal facemasks by the Sirens defense.

End of 1st Quarter Sirens 13-0

On the first play of the second quarter Monique Zaky (#5) hit the corner on a misdirection play and found the endzone beneath her feet. The deficit was now 13-7. The Quake followed with a squib kick as well but was unable to recover after the ball took an awkward bounce off of a Siren helmet. The Quake defense held a 4th down and gave the ball back to the offense. And on 2nd down Kuntz (#3) just missed Strother (#83), who was wide open. After 3rd down netted just a yard, California had to punt. Kara Williams (#9) got off a huge punt of 53 yards to dramatically change field position. Sacramento had to start from their 15-yard line. Once again the Quake defense held, forcing a punt. Kirby (#88) received the punt and returned it all the way to the Siren 27-yard line. Facing 4th down the Quake decided to go for it instead of the field goal, though they were well within Williams (#9) reach. Sacramento held and in turn got the ball back.

Three plays later, the Sirens were in the endzone when Sharp (#22) broke two tackles, hit the corner and outran the Quake defense. Sirens lead 19-7.

With the half drawing near, California needed a big return to ensure a scoring opportunity before halftime. They got just that as Kirby (#88) returned the ball to midfield. She had the chance to take it further but ran into one of her own blockers at the 50. A powerful 1st down run by Pettway (#15) may have only went for 4 yards but it made the statement that the Quake were not going away quietly as she broke through five would-be tacklers before being brought down by the sixth. And on 3rd & short, Kuntz (#3) hit Williams (#9) for a quick 1st down. With a new set of downs, Kuntz and the offense executed perfect play-action with the end result being a 21-yard pass and catch to Strother (#83). Zaky took the next pitch around the left side and scored an apparent TD but the officials called a block in the back on Kirby. Undeterred, Kuntz went back to the air hitting Williams again, who took the ball all the way down to the 1-yard line. A false start negated the QB sneak for a TD and after two incompletions the Quake called a timeout and settled for a 25-yard field goal by Williams to end the half.

Halftime Sirens 19-10



The second half opened with California squibbing the kickoff and Zaky recovering. This gave the Quake great field position with a chance to bring the game even closer. Unfortunately, on 3rd & long Kuntz was heavily pressured and forced an ill-fated pass. Sacramento would intercept and shift the momentum yet again. They would score four plays later with Sharp once again shedding tacklers and outrunning the defenders to the outside. Sirens lead 26-10.

The Quake promptly showed their competitiveness as they marched down the field, highlighted by a 26-yard run by Zaky. The drive stalled at the Siren 14-yard line and once again instead of opting for the FG, they went for it. Kuntz' pass on 4th & 1 fell just short of Kirby and the offense turned the ball over on downs. Knowing that one more TD would secure a victory, Sacramento looked to seal the deal on this drive. The Quake defense had a chance to change the course of the game but Kirby dropped a potential interception.

End of 3rd Quarter Sirens 26-10

After 10 grueling plays the Sirens finally found the endzone, extending their lead to 33-10. Another good return by Kirby gave the Quake the ball at the Siren 45-yard line. After another false start penalty, an errant pitch by Kuntz was recovered by a Siren defender. The Sirens immediately took advantage of this turnover and put some more points on the scoreboard. Their lead was now 39-10.

Knowing the game was all but decided; California had some fun with trickery. On the ensuing kickoff, a reverse was planned and even though the ball was fumbled by both Zaky and Kirby, it worked. The result was the Quake offense starting at the Siren 30-yard line. With the game winding down, the Quake looked to put one more score on the board since they had left some many already on the field. A spectacular one-handed grab by Williams gave California 2nd & 2 from the Siren 22. After 2nd down went for naught, the next play went for it all as Zaky juke one defender out of her g-string and outran the rest of the Siren defense for the final TD of the game.

Final Score Sirens 39-17

California finishes out the season at home the next two weekends. The first game is against Tucson, a revenge game, since Tucson's only victory came against the Quake earlier this year.

California Quake

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GROUND SHAKE!**

Quake Game Stats @ Sacramento Sirens

Date of Game: June 16, 2007

CALIFORNIA QUAKE @ SACRAMENTO SIRENS

FINAL SCORE:

17
VISITOR

39
HOME

TEAM STATS

FIRST DOWNS	9
RUSHES - YARDS	26-142
COMP - ATT - INT	7-14-1
PASSING YARDS	79
PUNTS - AVG	2-38
FUMBLES - LOST	3-1
PENALTIES - YARDS	3-15

SCORE BY QUARTER	1	2	3	4	F
QUAKE	0	10	10	7	17
SIRENS	13	6	14	6	39

SCORING RECAP

	Score
#5 Zaky ~ 4yd run EP Good by #9 Williams	7-13
#9 Williams ~ 25yd FG	10-19
#5 Zaky ~ 22yd run EP Good by #9 Williams	17-39

INDIVIDUAL STATS

Offense

Passing:

#3 Kuntz ~ 7-14, 79yds, INT

Rushing:

#5 Zaky ~ 15 - 114yds, 2 TD's
#88 Kirby ~ 6- 24yds

Receiving:

#9 Williams ~ 4 - 37yds
#83 Strother ~ 2 - 31yds
#88 Kirby ~ 1 - 11yds

Defense

#74 Morgan ~ 1 tckl, 3 assists
#52 MacLeod ~ 5 tckl, 8 assists
#83 Strother ~ 3 tckl, 4 assists
#28 Choi ~ 2 tckl, 5 assists
#11 Bacliq ~ 2 tckl, 8 assists
#88 Kirby ~ 3 tckl, assist
#34 Mitchell ~ 1 tckl, 2 assists
#24 Friesen ~ 2 tckl, 2 assists
#69 Navarette ~ 2 tckl, assist