

Quake lose to the Amazons

Downey, CA - Week 3 found two teams, the Los Angeles Amazons and the California Quake, seeking to maintain their winning ways. The fans were loud and anxious to see these local rival teams battle it out.

The Quake opted to receive the ball after the Amazons lost the coin toss. The offense came out strong mounting a 63 yard drive. #5 Monique Zaky read her blocks beautifully and bounced to the outside for 35 yards to get her team in position to score. With the endzone in sight, #50 Angela Mims rushed in a 7 yard touchdown and completing the 2 point conversion. Quake taking an early lead 8-0. The Amazons took the field as #22 Lorie Moore rushed for 24 yards, almost outrunning the entire Quake defense; luckily #11 Alex Kirby was able to force her out of bounds. The Quake defense was unable to hold the Amazons as quarterback, #18 Alexis Glenn took it to the air and hit #12 Ashley Moody for a 30-yard touchdown. Realizing the Quake had gone for two, the Amazon coaches called a timeout to get their extra point team off of the field and go for two as well. A successful conversion tied the game at 8. The Quake offense took the field seeking to answer back with another score. As they moved deep into Amazon territory, quarterback, #3 Deb Kuntz, pitched the ball too high to Zaky and while Zaky was able to recover the fumble the play set them back with a 17-yard loss. With an incomplete pass on the next play the Quake were forced to punt, #9 Kara Williams pinned the Amazon deep with a nice 40-yard punt.

The 2nd quarter had the Amazons taking the lead as #21 Deana Guidry dodged a few tacklers and ran in for a 35-yard touchdown. The 2-point conversion attempt was stopped by Mims, but the Amazons had their first lead at 14-8. The lead didn't hold up long as rushing efforts by Zaky, #47 Knengi Martin and #23 Amy Croger were able to move down the field. Under pressure from 2 defensive players, Kuntz connects with tight end #13 Shanelle Law for a 25-yard touchdown. A failed 2-point conversion once again tied it up. During the ensuing kick-off, the Amazons were aided by a 15-yard penalty and found themselves in great field position. They kept the ball on the ground as the missed tackles by Quake defenders began to mount up. At the goal line, the defense began to step it up as #20 Alicia Freeman tackled the Amazons running back in the backfield, followed by big stops by #76 Heather Cunningham, Martin and Kirby. The Amazons went for it on 4th down; Glenn pitched the ball to #24 Amber Reed, she took her eyes off of the pitch and fumbled the ball. Though Reed was able to recover the fumble, #52 Tarrah Philpott made sure she couldn't get up and the result was a goal line stand by the defense. The Quake offense took over and began to push their way downfield but an errant pass by Kuntz, intended for wide receiver #88 Camille Norwood was intercepted by Moody and ran back for a defensive touchdown. Amazons took the lead 21-14 with the extra point. Undeterred the Quake sought to take the lead before halftime. Once again moving the ball into Amazon territory but during a hand-off between Kuntz to Martin the ball was fumbled and recovered by the Amazon defense. The Amazons were determined to capitalize on the Quake turnover and on third & long, Glenn passed to wide receiver, #80 Amber Moffett-White for a 62-yard touchdown stretching the lead to 27-14 with the extra point no good.

The start of the second half was more of the same from the Amazons as they continued to move the ball on the ground with Guidry. Moore scored after

rushing for 33 yards but the point after was no good. The score was now Amazons 33-14. Seeing the lead had grown, the Quake offense knew they had to get their momentum back, but for the 3rd consecutive turnover, a Kuntz interception by #59 Amy Satterfield halted another promising drive. After the turnover the Amazons pushed the ball down the field in the red zone threatening to score. Good defense led by #27 Bobbie Graham held the Amazons to a 27 yard field goal, making the score now 36-14. Down by 22, the Quake coaches change quarterbacks, with Kirby going in to see she can ignite the offense. With a new QB in the game, they keep the ball on the ground with Zaky ripping of runs of 22 & 15 yards quickly followed by Croger and 18 more. Kirby is tackled a yard short of the endzone and a nice 10-yard scamper. At the one-yard line, the coaching staff sends in their goal line offense with Martin, Mims and #17 Helen Monterroso-Vivo. Disaster almost struck again as Mims and Kirby fumble the exchange. Mims was able to recover the fumble and on the next play walked into the endzone for her second touchdown of the game. The 2-point conversion made the score 36-22 with 3:07 left in the 3rd quarter. Any momentum seized by the Quake was quickly snuffed seconds later as #33 Camille Brox returned the kick-off 80 yards.

After a deep kick-off by the Amazons, the Quake was forced to punt the ball to start the 4th quarter. Guidry continued to punish the Quake with hard runs and pushed through the defense for a 50-yard touchdown extending their lead to 48-22. Quake wasted no time as they knew time was running out. Efforts by the O-line and rushes by Kirby, Croger and Zaky allowed them to move quickly downfield. With a great block by Williams, Zaky jumps over fallen defenders stretching the ball into the endzone for a Quake score. With only 8:13 remaining in the game the score was 48-30. The Quake defense forces a 3 & out, quickly giving the ball back to the offense. The Amazon punt bounced out at the 12-yard line. With 88 yards to go, Zaky quickly hit a seam between the blocks of Martin, Williams and Law and found herself running downfield with one person to beat. Zaky was able to deliver a perfect stiff arm to Moody and raced down the sideline in front of a stunned Amazon team. The failed 2-point attempt left the Quake down by 12. A failed attempt at an onside-kick left the Amazons in great field position. As the Quake had already knocked Glenn out of the game, rookie quarterback #9 Tamar Hill found herself trying to secure the victory and was intercepted by #7 Tamika Vaughn. With less than 2 minutes remaining in the game the Quake need another quick score and successful onside kick to have a chance at victory. On 4th down, Kirby overthrew a pass to Norwood ending the comeback.

While the Quake proved they had tons of heart and no quit in them, the lead garnered by the Amazons was too much to overcome and the final score was 48-36.



California Quake

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