

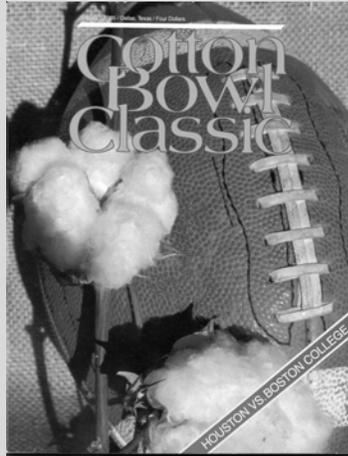


January 1, 1985

Boston College 45, Houston 28

Attendance - 67,381

GAME SUMMARY



Boston College 17 14 0 14 - 45
Houston 7 7 14 0 - 28

First Quarter:

Boston College-Kelvin Martin 63 pass from Doug Flutie (Kevin Snow kick), 8:15, 63 yards in 1 play following punt
Boston College-Troy Stradford 8 pass from Flutie (Know kick), 3:28, 26 yards in 4 plays following fumble recovery by Mike Ruth
Houston-Earl Allen 98 kickoff return (Mike Clendenen kick), 3:14
Boston College-Snow 31 FG, 0:31, 0 yards in 3 plays following pass interception by Tony Thurman

Second Quarter:

Boston College-Gerald Phelan 13 pass from Flutie (Snow kick), 4:38, 53 yards in 5 plays following punt
Boston College-Steve Strachan 2 run (Snow kick), 1:41, 39 yards in 6 plays following interception by Todd Russell
Houston-Larry Shepherd 15 pass from Gerald Landry (Clendenen kick), 0:22, 64 yards in 7 plays following kickoff

Third Quarter:

Houston-Raymond Tate 2 run (Clendenen kick), 4:04, 65 yards in 4 plays following punt
Houston-Audrey McMillian 25 interception return (Clendenen kick), 3:10

Fourth Quarter:

Boston College-Strachan 4 run (Snow kick) 5:45, 44 yards in 9 plays following punt
Boston College-Stradford 18 run (Snow kick), 1:08, 57 yards in 3 plays following punt

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Bill Romanowski, Boston College
Steve Strachan, Boston College

COACHES

Jack Bicknell, Boston College
Bill Yeoman, Houston

WEATHER

Cold

Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie became the seventh Heisman Trophy winner to make a New Year's Day appearance in the Cotton Bowl. With Flutie came the eyes of the nation. Throughout the year, the 5-9 superstar pulled off miracle after miracle, and by the time he and Boston College had reached Dallas, the name Doug Flutie and his school were virtual household words. The most unforgettable play of the 1984 college football season involved Boston College. It truly was a miracle. Miami (Fla.) had just taken a 45-41 lead with 28 seconds left to play. At that point, it looked hopeless for the Eagles, but Flutie went to work. On the game's last play, he pulled off the incredible. As the clock expired, Flutie took the snap and rolled to his right, stopped and uncorked a 48-yard "Hail Mary" pass to Gerard Phelan in the end zone. Somehow, Phelan made the catch as he fell to the ground, and Boston College posted an amazing 47-45 victory over the defending national champions. It was that kind of season for the Eagles.

While the "Magic Flutie" was driving Boston College to a 9-2 season in the East, Houston was involved in one of the wildest championship scrambles in the history of the Southwest Conference. Heading into the season's final weekend, five teams were in contention for the title. Yet, waiting until the last minute to decide things had become par for the course in the SWC. Since 1959, 12 conference championships had gone down to the final week. But, this was the tightest race ever, and when it was over, Houston had secured the coveted host role in the Cotton Bowl. So, the stage was set for the 49th Classic. It was bound to be a record breaking performance... and it was.

Flutie opened the flood gates early. To begin the Eagles' second possession, the Heisman winner launched a 63-yard bomb to Kelvin Martin, sending BC in front, 7-0. Minutes later, Flutie went to the air again, this time to Troy Stradford over the middle for eight yards and a touchdown. And before the game was 30 minutes old, Flutie had tied a long-standing Classic record, tossing his third touchdown pass, a 13-yarder to Phelan, his clutch receiver. Houston also jumped into the record book in the first half when Earl Allen returned the Eagles' third kickoff 98 yards for the Cougars' first score. Quarterback Gerald Landry led Houston back to the end zone 22 seconds before the half, hitting Larry Shepherd for 15 yards.

At intermission, the Eagles held a commanding 31-14 lead. But, the third quarter belonged totally to Houston. Fullback Raymond Tate crashed over from the two with four minutes left to make it 31-21. Less than a minute later, safety Audrey McMillian picked off a Flutie pass and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown, drawing the Cougars within three, 31-28. Houston appeared to be in high gear and on the road to a major upset. But, the Cougars never could deliver the knockout punch.

Momentum shifted back to Boston College in the fourth quarter. With 9:46 left to play, the Eagles launched the drive that would dash the Cougars' hopes of an upset. The 44-yard drive consisted of nine consecutive rushing plays, Steve Strachan carried over from the four with just under six minutes left to push BC back to a comfortable 38-28 lead. Stradford then sealed the door shut moments later

with his second touchdown of the afternoon, galloping 18 yards with 1:08 on the clock. Stradford's run propelled the Eagles to a 45-28 victory and boosted his rushing total for the day to 196, the second highest rushing performance ever in the Cotton Bowl. From the start there was little doubt that this game was destined to go down as one of the wildest offensive seminars the Classic had ever seen.

FUN FACT #49

In 1985, Boston College and Houston became the first teams to earn \$2 million paychecks from the Cotton Bowl. The big payday was especially sweet for the Eagles and Heisman Trophy winner Doug Flutie. Boston College rolled to a 45-28 victory over the Cougars in the 49th Cotton Bowl Classic.

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	BC	UH
First Downs	22	15
Rushing	12	9
Passing	10	5
Penalty	0	1
Rushes-Net Yards	50-353	42-167
Net Yards Passing	180	154
Passes	13-37-2	9-29-2
Total Plays	87	71
Total Net Yards	533	321
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	7-64	7-66
Punts-Average	8-29.9	10-33.0

RUSHING

Boston College - Stradford 20-196, Strachan 23-91, Doug Flutie 4-51, Darren Flutie 1-8, Phelan 1-5, Bell 1-2.
Houston - Tate 10-71, Landry 22-66, Pierson 8-17, Hood 2-13.

PASSING

Boston College - Flutie 13-37-2, 180 yards.
Houston - Landry 9-29-2, 154 yards.

RECEIVING

Boston College - Phelan 7-94, Martin 1-63, Stradford 4-16, Gieselman 1-7.
Houston - Hilton 5-97, Shepherd 2-47, Giddings 1-10, Rogers 1-0.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PUNTING

Boston College - Peach 8-29.9
Houston - Stokes 10-33.0