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## ThunderBirds win second straight, 62-53

Courtesy: arenafootball2

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The expansion Daytona Beach ThunderBirds defeated the Albany Conquest, 62-53, Thursday night at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Fla. The victory was the ThunderBirds' first home win of the season and second straight overall. Daytona Beach improves to 2-5 overall while Albany slips to 3-3.

The ThunderBirds never trailed in the contest and held a 35-27 lead going into the second half. Daytona Beach took a two-possession lead when they sacked Albany QB Dan Cole, forcing a fumble that was returned by Tim Daniels 20-yards for a touchdown. Late in the third quarter, the Conquest finally created the defensive turnover they were looking for as Brandon Taylor intercepted a Matt Bohnet pass off the net, leading to a 15-yard Cole TD pass to Chris Bocage. Albany cut the lead to just two points with 5:20 left in the fourth quarter on another Bocage touchdown, but they would never come any closer.

After winning the coin toss, Albany elected to kick off to start the game, giving the ThunderBirds the ball first. Daytona Beach took advantage of the early possession on their first drive, scoring on a 6-yard TD pass from Bohnet to Lamar Hughes. Then the ThunderBirds came up with a defensive stop, forcing Albany to turnover the ball on downs in their first offensive series. Daytona Beach immediately marched down the field and again Bohnet linked up with Hughes, this time for an 11-yard touchdown pass for a 14-0 lead. The Conquest found their rhythm in their second possession as Cole connected with Bocage for a 19-yard touchdown pass. Albany and Daytona Beach matched each other with three touchdowns apiece, the only difference being a missed extra point attempt by Jason Fralicker, pushed back five more yards due to an Albany false-start penalty. Antwun Williams caught two touchdown passes in the second quarter, while Jeremy Grier had two for Daytona Beach.

Bohnet had a game-high eight passing touchdowns and completed 22-of-34 passes for 290 yards with one interception. His counterpart Cole finished 23-for-38 passing for 329 yards with six touchdown passes and one interception. He also had one rushing touchdown. Bocage had a game-high 10 receptions for 178 yards and four touchdowns in addition to 96 kick



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return yards and 12 rushing yards for a game-high 286 all-purpose yards. ThunderBirds WR Mike McCullum had a team-high eight receptions, but Hughes led Daytona Beach with seven catches for 122 yards and five touchdowns. Taylor led Albany on defense with a game-high 8.0 tackles (6 solo, 2 assists) and recorded his third interception of the season. The Daytona Beach defense was lead by linemen Dominic Lee, Adrian Wilson and Jerome Walker who combined to sack Cole four times and pressure him for most of the game.

Score By Quarters	1	2	3	4	F
Albany	7	20	19	7	53
Daytona Beach	14	21	14	13	62

**LEADERS:**

PASSING: BOHNET (DAY) 22-34-290-1 INT (8 TD passes); COLE (ALB) 23-38-329-1INT (6 TD passes)

RECEIVING: HUGHES (DAY) 7-122-5; BOCAGE (ALB) 10-178-4

Schutt Offensive Player of the Game: Matt Bohnet (DAY)

JLS Ironman of the Game: Lamar Hughes (DAY)

ADT Defensive Player of the Game: Brandon Taylor (ALB)

Cutters Catch of the Game: Lamar Hughes (DAY)

Attendance: 1,500

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