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Visit Aaron's website and journal @ [www.aaronboone.com](http://www.aaronboone.com)

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*Archives of the AirBoone Express are available on Aaron's website and 2008 archives are also available in the Blaze Nation Forum*

In this edition:

- Blaze lose 9<sup>th</sup> in a row
- Boone scores two TDs in loss
- 3 Boone TDs called back for holding in game
- Boone drops to #2 in AFL receptions after wk 9
- Jason Boone signs with New Orleans Saints

## AirBoone has 2 TDs in loss to New Orleans



Aaron Boone is slammed against the wall after a reception

Frustration continued for the Utah Blaze last weekend as they dropped their ninth straight loss of the season, this time to the New Orleans Voodoo by a disappointing score of . After a strong start, things began to falter. Aaron Boone could have had a career night...he scored two touchdowns, but made five TD catches. Three of his TD catches were brought back due to holding by the offensive linemen, who were responsible for a number of holds. Boone had a 10 yd TD catch in the first quarter, brought back by a hold; a 22 yard reception for a first down in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter brought back by a hold; two plays later he had a 39 yard TD reception brought back by a hold; then, late in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter he had an 8 yard TD reception that was also brought back due to holding. That made 4 receptions and 71 yards and three TDs not credited to Boone. It also hurt the Blaze as only one of those cases resulted in a score after the holds.



Aaron AirBoone is brought down after a catch

However, Huey Whittaker did have a career night for the Blaze catching 20 passes for 208 yards and 2 touchdowns. These stats helped Whittaker jump to number 1 in the league in receptions with 85 (to 2<sup>nd</sup> place Boone's 80) and Whittaker is now in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league in yardage as well, with 1034 yards. Boone moved up to number 8 this week with 829 yards. His 5 catches on the game were his lowest reception count of the season.

On the flip side, Blaze QB Joe Germaine had a rough night after being sacked three times and also throwing 2 interceptions. He also lost a fumble as the VooDoo defense wreaked havoc on the powerful Blaze offense.



VooDoo receivers intercept a pass in the end zone while Boone and Whittaker look on

These results indicate how volatile the AFL games can be. Currently the Blaze have the number 1 and number 2 leaders in receptions and 3 of the top 12 in yardage. McKelvey is 4<sup>th</sup> in the league in TD receptions. Germaine leads the league in total yardage, completions and TD passes. Yet the Blaze have no wins in nine games.

The Blaze will have a chance at a win this Saturday as Aaron Boone's former team, the Kansas City Brigade, will visit Salt Lake. Game time will be at 9:00 ET and can be heard live on 1320 AM The Fan or on the web at <http://www.thefansports.com>. It can also be seen live on AFLNet.

## Aaron's brother Jason signs with New Orleans Saints

In an ironic twist, just a day after the Blaze were thwarted by the New Orleans VooDoo, Aaron Boone's youngest brother Jesse was signed as an undrafted free agent just after the NFL Draft was completed last weekend.



Jason Boone

Jason missed most of the 2007 season with the University of Utah due to an injury, but was still impressive enough to scouts to be offered a free agent opportunity with the Saints. He was a starter on the Offensive Line for the Utes during the 2005 and 2006 seasons.

Aaron's brother Jesse, also a Utah grad, is currently an Offensive Lineman for the Oakland Raiders.

### Boone-o-Meter Stats for 2008 thru April 25:

#### After 8 games

**Passes caught:** 80 (currently #2 in AFL) (Career Season High)

- Arizona at Utah 7
- Utah at Cleveland 10
- Utah at Orlando 12
- Columbus at Utah 10
- Georgia at Utah 14\* (AFL Career High)

- Utah at Philadelphia 6
- Utah at Los Angeles 8
- San Jose at Utah 8
- Utah at New Orleans 5

**Total Yards:** 829 (currently #8 in AFL) (Career Season High)

- Arizona at Utah 50
- Utah at Cleveland 127
- Utah at Orlando 117
- Columbus at Utah 77
- Georgia at Utah 170\* (AFL Career High)
- Utah at Philadelphia 75
- Utah at Los Angeles 78
- San Jose at Utah 55
- Utah at New Orleans 79

**Longest reception:** Mar. 15, 2008 45 yd reception in 3Q vs. Orlando\*

-This is his longest AFL career reception

**Touchdowns:** 12

- Arizona at Utah, Germaine 8 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Utah at Cleveland, Germaine 14 yd pass to Boone (1Q)
- Utah at Cleveland, Germaine 26 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Utah at Orlando, Germaine 45 yd pass to Boone (3Q)
- Utah at Orlando, Germaine 5 yd pass to Boone (4Q)
- Columbus at Utah, Germaine 7 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Georgia at Utah, Germaine 9 yd pass to Boone (1Q)
- Georgia at Utah, Germaine 11 yd pass to Boone (4Q)
- Utah at Philadelphia, Germaine 20 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Utah at Los Angeles, Germaine 10 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Utah at Los Angeles, Germaine 8 yd pass to Boone (4Q)
- San Jose at Utah, Germaine 8 yd pass to Boone (2Q)
- Utah at New Orleans, Germaine 37 yd pass to Boone (3Q)
- Utah at New Orleans, Germaine 26 yd pass to Boone (4Q)

**First downs:** 28

- Arizona at Utah 1
- Utah at Cleveland 2
- Utah at Orlando 5
- Columbus at Utah 2
- Georgia at Utah 10\* (AFL Career High)
- Utah at Philadelphia 2
- Utah at Los Angeles 3
- San Jose at Utah 2
- Utah at New Orleans 1

**Tackles: 0**

**AirBoone's AFL Career Stats thru April 25, 2008**

Passes caught: 178  
Total Yards: 1998  
Longest Reception: 45 yards  
Receiving Touchdowns: 41  
Rushes: 1  
Rushing Yds.: 4  
Kick returns: 5  
Kick Return Yds: 61  
Kick Return TDs: 1 ( 9 yds in 2007)  
Tackles: 7

**Following is the 2008 Utah Blaze Schedule. Note that the June 9 game will be televised nationally on ESPN.**

| Date       | Visitor                     | Home                      | Time        | TV          | Radio            |
|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| 3/1        | Arizona Rattlers - 63       | Utah Blaze - 62           |             |             | Blaze 0-1        |
| 3/9        | Utah Blaze - 63             | Cleveland Gladiators - 66 |             |             | Blaze 0-2        |
| 3/14       | Utah Blaze - 61             | Orlando Predators - 69    |             |             | Blaze 0-3        |
| 3/21       | Columbus Destroyers - 52    | Utah Blaze - 49           |             |             | Blaze 0-4        |
| 3/29       | Georgia Force -70           | Utah Blaze - 49           |             |             | Blaze 0-5        |
| 4/5        | Utah Blaze - 56             | Philadelphia Soul - 64    |             |             | Blaze 0-6        |
| 4/12       | Utah Blaze -62              | Los Angeles Avengers - 79 |             |             | Blaze 0-7        |
| 4/18       | San Jose SaberCats - 61     | Utah Blaze - 40           |             |             | Blaze 0-8        |
| 4/25       | Utah Blaze - 56             | New Orleans VooDoo -70    |             |             | Blaze 0-9        |
| 5/3        | Kansas City Brigade         | Utah Blaze                | 7:00        | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |
| 5/10       | Colorado Crush              | Utah Blaze                | 7:00        | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |
| 5/17       | Utah Blaze                  | San Jose SaberCats        | 8:30        | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |
| 5/24       | Chicago Rush                | Utah Blaze                | 7:00        | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |
| 6/1        | Utah Blaze                  | Grand Rapids Rampage      | 12:00       | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |
| <b>6/9</b> | <b>Los Angeles Avengers</b> | <b>Utah Blaze</b>         | <b>8:00</b> | <b>ESPN</b> | <b>1320 KFAN</b> |
|            |                             | WEEK 16 BYE               |             |             |                  |
| 6/21       | Utah Blaze                  | Arizona Rattlers          | 8:00        | TBA         | 1320 KFAN        |

\*\*All times Mountain Standard Time