

WEEK FOUR  
KENTUCKY at MISSISSIPPI ST

**Hill Leads Mississippi State to 28-13 win over Kentucky**

STARKVILLE, Miss. -- Kylin Hill rushed for 120 yards and three touchdowns to lead Mississippi State to a 28-13 victory over Kentucky on Saturday.

Mississippi State (3-1, 1-0 SEC) handed the ball to Hill, the Southeastern Conference's leading rusher 26 times in the game, taking some of the offensive pressure off freshman quarterback Garrett Schrader who started in place of injured senior Tommy Stevens, a Penn State transfer. "He was a grown man out there," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops said. "You can see a great player there, with a great desire to make some tough runs. That's a very good football player."

Schrader, who played the entire second half last week, was another offensive highlight, throwing for 180 yards and rushing for 125 yards in his first full game managing the offense.

"I don't know that there's too many freshman quarterbacks around the country playing like that," Mississippi State coach Joe Moorhead said.

Kentucky (2-2, 0-2 SEC) had 386 yards of total offense but found the end zone only once on a Kavosiey Smoke 2-yard run in the third quarter. Mississippi State consistently frustrated Stoops' team late in drives, and the Wildcats could convert on only two of their four field-goal attempts.

"You've just got to find a way to win," Stoops said. "And getting behind and not punching it in when we're moving the ball, and not getting scores in the red zone and missing kicks and things of that nature is not a good recipe right now."

The defense set the tone early. On the game's opening drive linebacker Willie Gay Jr. intercepted Sawyer Smith and returned the ball 53 yards for a touchdown. Gay and multiple other defensive starters have been suspended for much of the season due to a violation of team rules believed to be related to an academic dishonesty scandal that carries NCAA-mandated suspensions.

"Getting in a hole really hurt us," Stoops said. "We were doing a nice job of moving the ball and keeping them off balance, then obviously the pick-six in an environment like this just gives them a chance to explode. Then you feel like you're playing catch-up the rest of the first half. The rest of the entire game, really."

Gay was later ejected for receiving his second unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.

"I love Willie," Moorhead said. "I think Willie is one of top linebackers in country. He's big, he's fast, he's strong and he's passionate. Sometime that passion is a little misguided, maybe, but he's a guy who loves Mississippi State, loves this team and this defense. I wish we had a hundred Willies."

Hill punched in two touchdowns in the second quarter and Mississippi State led 21-3 at the half. The Bulldogs added Hill's 1-yard scoring run in the fourth quarter.

Smith was 15-of-41 passing for 232 yards to lead Kentucky. Asim Rose rushed for 105 yards on nine carries and Lynn Bowden had a game-high seven catches for 127 yards.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Mississippi State: With a full complement of defensive talent and a rapidly-improving freshman quarterback, the Bulldogs looked like a completely different team than the one who lost at home last week to Kansas State.

Kentucky: The Wildcats have weapons enough to move the ball downfield, but penalties and poor pass protection stymied a number of promising drives.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
UK	3	0	7	3	13
MSST	7	14	0	7	28

**Scoring Summary -----**

	UK	MSST
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
MSST TD 13:35 Willie Gay Jr. 52 Yd Interception Return (Jace Christmann Kick)		7
4 plays, 23 yards, 1:25	0	
UK FG 2:49 Chance Poore 40 Yd Field Goal		7
10 plays, 58 yards, 4:22	3	
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
MSST TD 13:24 Kylin Hill 12 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		14
9 plays, 75 yards, 4:25	3	
MSST TD 4:45 Kylin Hill 2 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		21
10 plays, 80 yards, 5:51	3	
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
UK TD 5:30 Kavosiey Smoke 2 Yd Run (Chance Poore Kick)		21
11 plays, 80 yards, 3:40	10	
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
UK FG 4:39 Matt Ruffolo 29 Yd Field Goal		21
11 plays, 55 yards, 4:32	13	
MSST TD 1:39 Kylin Hill 1 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		28
6 plays, 75 yards, 3:00	13	

Team Stats	UK	MSST
First Downs	21	22
Passes for First	10	9
Rushes for First	9	12
Penalties for First	2	1
Third Down Efficiency	1-12	6-10
Fourth Down Efficiency	3-4	0-0
Total Yards	386	421
Total Plays	70	62
Avg Gain Per Play	5.5	6.8
Net Yards Rushing	154	241
Rushes	28	40
Yards Per Rush	5.5	6.0
Net Yards Passing	232	180
Comp-Att	15-42	17-22
Yards Per Pass	5.5	8.2
Times Sacked	2	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-14	-16
Interceptions	1	1
Punts	3	3
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	40	45
Fumbles	1	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	26:54	33:06

**Individual Stats**

RUSHING		Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>KENTUCKY</b>						
Asim Rose	9	105	11.7	0	31	
Lynn Bowden Jr.	3	37	12.3	0	17	
Kavosiey Smoke	10	25	2.5	1	12	
Team	1	-5	-5.0	0	0	
Sawyer Smith	5	-8	-1.6	0	3	
<b>MISSISSIPPI ST</b>						
Garrett Schrader	11	125	11.4	0	49	
Kylin Hill	26	120	4.6	3	18	
Malik Dear	1	0	0.0	0	0	
Team	2	-4	-2.0	0	0	

PASSING		Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
<b>KENTUCKY</b>								
Sawyer Smith	15	41	232	5.7	0	1	35.1	
Lynn Bowden Jr.	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	2.9	
<b>MISSISSIPPI ST</b>								
Garrett Schrader	17	22	180	8.2	0	1	91.9	

RECEIVING		Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>KENTUCKY</b>						
Lynn Bowden Jr.	7	129	18.4	0	39	
Josh Ali	5	61	12.2	0	20	
Keaton Upshaw	1	19	19.0	0	19	
Ahmad Wagner	1	15	15.0	0	15	
Clevan Thomas Jr.	1	8	8.0	0	8	
<b>MISSISSIPPI ST</b>						
Dedrick Thomas	2	46	23.0	0	25	
Osirus Mitchell	4	36	9.0	0	14	
Malik Dear	2	28	14.0	0	20	
Austin Williams	1	20	20.0	0	20	
Farrod Green	3	20	6.7	0	13	
Isaiah Zuber	3	16	5.3	0	7	
JaVonta Payton	2	14	7.0	0	13	