WEEK TWO NEVADA AT VANDERBILT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Vanderbilt overcame two early red-zone disappointments and bottled up a high-scoring Nevada offense, winning a critical early-season nonconference game 41-10 Saturday with a dominant second-half performance.

Carrying on from last week's opener against Middle Tennessee, the Commodores (2-0) were rock-solid defensively from the start, holding the Wolf Pack to 124 yards in the first half and 250 overall, a week after coach Jay Norvell's team scored 72 points on 636 yards against Portland State.

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But Vanderbilt's failure to score on two promising drives into the red zone to start the game allowed the visitors from the Mountain West Conference to keep things close, tightening the score to 17-10 on a 9-yard Ty Gangi pass to Brendan O'Leary-Orange in the final minute of the first half.

Nevada (1-1) never closed the gap, though, going three-and-out to start the third quarter. Vanderbilt responded with an impressive 11-play, 77-yard drive, draining 6:17 off the clock, ending with a 25-yard Ryley Guay field goal.

In contrast to the game's start, Vanderbilt scored on three straight drives to open the second half with a 46-yard dash from the speedy Ke'Shawn Vaughn and Kalija Lipscomb's second touchdown catch of the day from Kyle Shurmur following Guay's kick, stretching a one-touchdown lead to a 24-point margin.

Shurmur finished 23 for 32 for 258 yards passing with no interceptions for the second straight week. Senior linebacker Josh Smith finished with 10 tackles, three for loss, in a standout defensive performance for Vanderbilt.

THE TAKEAWAY

Nevada: The Wolf Pack raised eyebrows after last week's 72-point performance, but learned quickly that SEC defenses are stouter than Portland State's; Nevada's first four drives ended with three punts and a fumble for a total of 36 yards. Vanderbilt scored 21 points on four Nevada turnovers.

Vanderbilt: Facing three Top 25 teams the next four games -- including trips to No. 8 Notre Dame and No. 3 Georgia -- Saturday's win looks critical for Vanderbilt's bowl hopes.

| Final NEV VAN | 1 0 0 | 2 10 17 | 3 0 17 | | 4 0 7 | T 10 41 | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Scoring Summary SECOND QUARTER | | | | | NE | v | VAN |
| VAN TD 13:16 Kalija Lipscomb 2 | | from K | yle Shu | rmur | (Ryley | Guay 1 | Kick) |
| 7 plays, 53 yards, VAN TD 12:24 Ke'Shawn Vaughn 7 2 plays, 7 yards, | Yd Run | (Ryley | Guay Ki | ck) | 0 | | 7 |
| play NEV FG 5:41 Ramiz Ahmed 32 Yd 7 plays, 13 yards, | Field G | Goal | | | 3 | | 14 |
| VAN FG 3:13 Ryley Guay 35 Yd F | Field Go | oal | | | | | |
| 7 plays, 48 yards, NEV TD 0:49 Brendan O'Leary-On | | Vd nass | from T | v Gar | 3 ngi (Ra | | 17 |
| 10 plays, 75 yards | | Iu pubb | 110 1. | , | 191 (100 10 NE | 0 | 17 VAN |
| VAN FG 7:14 Ryley Guay 25 Yd F 11 plays, 77 yards VAN TD 6:17 | Field Go s, 6:17 | oal | | | 10 | 0 | 20 |
| Ke'Shawn Vaughn 46 1 play, 46 yards, | | (Ryley | Guay K | ick) | 10 | 0 | 27 |
| VAN TD 0:23 Kalija Lipscomb 11 8 plays, 73 yards, FOURTH QUARTER | | s from | Kyle Sh | urmuı | Ryley | 0 _ | Kick) 34 VAN |
| VAN TD 1:10 Josh Crawford 1 Yo 3 plays, 21 yards, | | Ryley Gu | ay Kick |) | 10 | 0 | 41 |
| Team Stats | | | NEV | | VAI | ī | |
| First Downs Total Yards | | | 15 247 | | 29 469 | | |
| Total Plays Avg Gain Per Pla | ay | | 64 3.9 | | 73 6.4 | Į. | |
| Net Yards Rushin Rushes | | | 31 25 | | 198 39 | 3 | |
| Yards Per Rush Net Yards Passin | na | | 1.2 216 | | 5.1 271 | | |
| Comp-Att Yards Per Pass | , | | 22 - 39 5 . 5 | | 24- 8.0 | -34 | |
| Times Sacked Yds Lost To Sacl | ks | | 1 -7 | | 3 -23 | | |
| Interceptions Punts | | | 2 5 | | 0 | , | |
| Punt Average Penalties | | | 0.0 | | 0.0 |) | |
| Penalty Yards | | | 67 | | 44 | | |
| Fumbles Fumbles Lost | | | 3 2 | | 2 | 0.0 | |
| Possession 23:58 36:02 | | | | | | | |
| Individual State RUSHING | | | _ | | | _ | |
| NEV Toa Taua Devonte Lee | Rus l 6 6 | h Yds 24 11 | Avg 4.0 1.8 | | TD 0 0 | Lo n 9 6 | _ |
| Kelton Moore Jaxson Kincaide | 5 2 | 9 | 1.8 | | 0 | 5 2 | |
| Blake Wright Ty Gangi | 1 4 | -1 -4 | -1.0 -1.0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Kaleb Fossum VAN | 1 Rusl | -8 | -8.0 | l | 0 TD | 0 Lo n | ıa |
| Ke'Shawn Vaughn Jamauri Wakefield | 11 | 93 43 | 8.5 5.4 | | 2 | 46 | i |
| Josh Crawford Khari Blasingame | 10 6 | 33 28 | 3.3 4.7 | | 1 | 15 11 | |
| Kyle Shurmur Mo Hasan | 1 2 | 4 -1 | 4.0 -0.5 | | 0 | 4 6 | |
| Team PASSING | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| NEV Ty Gangi | Comp 22 | Att 39 | Yds 216 | Y/A 5.5 | TD 1 | Int 2 | QBRat 28.4 |
| VAN Kyle Shurmur | Comp 23 | Att 32 | Yds 258 | Y/A 8.1 | TD 2 | Int O | QBRat 79.3 |
| Mo Hasan RECEIVING | 1 | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 0 | 0 | 6.8 |
| NEV McLane Mannix | Rec 6 | Yds 86 | Avg 14.3 | | TD 0 | 32 | |
| Kaleb Fossum Romeo Doubs | 6 2 1 | 56 25 | 9.3 12.5 | | 0 0 0 | 14 20 | |
| Trae Carter-Wells Jaxson Kincaide Brendan O'Leary-Oran | 2 | 13 11 9 | 13.0 5.5 9.0 | | 0 0 1 | 13 9 9 | |
| Kelton Moore Elijah Cooks | .ge 1 2 1 | 8 6 | 4.0 6.0 | | 0 | 7 6 | |
| Toa Taua VAN | 1 Rec | 2 Yds | 2.0 Avg | | Ŏ TD | 2 Long | |
| Jared Pinkney Kalija Lipscomb | 4 10 | 98 85 | 24.5 8.5 | | 0 2 | 53 12 | |
| Cam Johnson Chris Pierce | 2 2 | 26 21 | 13.0 10.5 | | 0 | 14 16 | |
| Sam Dobbs Donaven Tennyson | 2 1 | 20 12 | 10.0 | | 0 | 18 12 | |
| Ke'Shawn Vaughn Khari Blasingame | 2 | 6 2 | 3.0 | | 0 | 4 2 | |
| - | | | | | | | |