

WEEK EIGHT
VANDERBILT AT KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON, Ky. -- Kentucky's hope of winning with style coming out of an off week quickly evolved into doing whatever it could to get past Vanderbilt.

The No. 14 Wildcats eventually succeeded behind the reliable combination of running back Benny Snell Jr. and a fierce defense that wouldn't break.

Snell rushed for 169 yards, including the go-ahead 7-yard run with 8:04 remaining that helped Kentucky pull away for a 14-7 victory over Vanderbilt on Saturday night.

The Wildcats (6-1, 4-1 Southeastern Conference) clinched bowl eligibility for a third consecutive season and stayed in contention in the East division with their third straight victory over the Commodores (3-5, 0-4). But it took linebacker Kash Daniel's fourth-down forced fumble that Quinton Bohanna recovered at the 20 midway through the fourth quarter to jump-start Kentucky from game-long inconsistency.

Snell took control from there, rushing 10 times for 74 yards on the drive that ended with his ninth TD run. The junior rushed 32 times for his 16th career 100-yard game on a blustery night that Kentucky had to work hard to outgain Vanderbilt 298-284.

Ugly? Yes. And Wildcats coach Mark Stoops will take it.

"We struggled at times, but you got to love that drive," he said. "When everybody in the stadium knew we were going to run the football and grind out 70, 80-yard drive and get it in the end zone says a lot about our football team and attitude and toughness.

"There are things we need to do better, but win or lose we'll go back to work and look at ourselves. But I can't apologize for being 6-1."

Daniel's play was one of four forced four fumbles with two recoveries, the second by Mike Edwards with 1:04 left that sealed the outcome. The Wildcats also recorded four sacks.

Vanderbilt played without leading rusher Ke'Shawn Vaughn, who did not make the trip after getting hurt last week against Florida. The Commodores converted a first-quarter takeaway into Kyle Shurmur's 29-yard TD pass to C.J. Bolar, but that was their only lead as they rushed for just 68 yards.

COSTLY PENALTIES

Kentucky was flagged four times for 35 yards, but two second-half penalties killed chances to go ahead. The first was a holding penalty that wiped out Lynn Bowden's 90-yard kickoff return for a TD. Cornerback Derrick Baity was called for holding soon after, wiping out his interception of Shurmur.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Kentucky's status remains intact despite winning ugly as a two-TD favorite.

THE TAKEAWAY

Vanderbilt: The Commodores again got the jump on another ranked school, converting a turnover into a 29-yard touchdown pass for the game's first score. They had other decent plays but were inconsistent and couldn't run the ball. Those turnovers also hurt.

Kentucky: After insisting all week that there would be no post-bye hangover, the Wildcats were sluggish in nearly all phases. Consecutive turnovers and poor tackling allowed Vandy to grab the early edge. The defense stiffened up some and the offense began imposing its will well enough to tie the game, but costly penalties after halftime thwarted chances to put it away until Bohanna's fumble recovery.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
VAN	7	0	0	0	7
UK	0	7	0	7	14

Scoring Summary -----

	VAN	UK
FIRST QUARTER		
VAN TD 6:54		
C.J. Bolar 29 Yd pass from Kyle Shurmur (Ryley Guay Kick)	7	0
6 plays, 44 yards, 3:31		
SECOND QUARTER		
UK TD 6:28		
Lynn Bowden Jr. 5 Yd pass from Terry Wilson (Miles Butler Kick)	7	7
11 plays, 48 yards, 5:31		
FOURTH QUARTER		
UK TD 8:04		
Benny Snell Jr. 7 Yd Run (Miles Butler Kick)	7	14
12 plays, 80 yards, 5:39		

	VAN	UK
Team Stats		
First Downs	12	17
Total Yards	284	298
Total Plays	54	62
Avg Gain Per Play	5.3	4.8
Net Yards Rushing	68	280
Rushes	31	53
Yards Per Rush	2.2	5.3
Net Yards Passing	216	18
Comp-Att	15-23	3-9
Yards Per Pass	9.4	2.0
Times Sacked	4	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-37	0
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	7	5
Punt Average	41.1	43.0
Penalties	5	4
Penalty Yards	25	35
Fumbles	4	3
Fumbles Lost	2	2
Possession	28:53	31:07

Individual Stats

RUSHING

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
VAN					
Jamauri Wakefield	19	74	3.9	0	11
Ja'Veon Marlow	2	17	8.5	0	11
Josh Crawford	2	5	2.5	0	3
Bruno Reagan	0	4	0.0	0	0
Khari Blasingame	3	3	1.0	0	4
Kaliya Lipscomb	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Kyle Shurmur	4	-34	-8.5	0	0

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
UK					
Benny Snell Jr.	32	169	5.3	1	22
Terry Wilson	12	91	7.6	0	23
Asim Rose	5	17	3.4	0	7
Lynn Bowden Jr.	2	5	2.5	0	12
- Team	2	-2	-1.0	0	0

PASSING

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
VAN							
Kyle Shurmur	15	23	216	9.4	1	0	158.5
UK							
Terry Wilson	3	9	18	2.0	1	0	86.8

RECEIVING

	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
VAN					
C.J. Bolar	2	78	39.0	1	49
Jared Pinkney	3	44	14.7	0	21
Khari Blasingame	3	40	13.3	0	33
Kaliya Lipscomb	5	28	5.6	0	12
Donaven Tennyson	1	20	20.0	0	20
Jamauri Wakefield	1	6	6.0	0	6
UK					
Lynn Bowden Jr.	3	18	6.0	1	11