

WEEK THREE  
NC STATE at WEST VIRGINIA

Kendall throws 2 TDs, West Virginia beats NC State 44-27

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. -- Austin Kendall and Kennedy McKoy made sure that West Virginia didn't repeat a miserable offensive showing from its last game.

Kendall threw three touchdown passes to lead West Virginia to a 44-27 victory over North Carolina State on Saturday.

McKoy helped West Virginia's run game break out of a slump with a pair of scores, and the Mountaineers (2-1) had by far their highest offensive production of the season one week after looking lethargic in a 38-7 loss at Missouri.

"For us to play winning football, we have to identity ourselves as a blue-collar unit," West Virginia coach Neal Brown said. "We have to outwork people, we have to outphysical people. And we embraced that this week. I think what you saw on that field today was a product of that."

Kendall threw two interceptions against Missouri and had another pick on Saturday but overcame that with mostly solid decisions. Kendall had first-half TD tosses of 20 and 13 yards. His 25-yard run early in the fourth quarter set up his 9-yard scoring toss to freshman Ali Jennings for a 38-27 lead.

Kendall went 27 of 40 for 272 yards.

West Virginia broke a 21-21 halftime tie with the help of its special teams and defense, which had been criticized by the coaching staff for 22 missed tackles a week ago.

North Carolina State (2-1) managed just 97 yards of offense in the second half. Sophomore Matthew McKay threw a first-quarter touchdown pass but was harassed all game in his first road start.

McKay finished 23 of 48 for 207 yards. He was 9 of 24 for 72 yards after halftime.

West Virginia's McKoy had a 23-yard TD run in the first quarter and scored from 5 yards out in the third after Logan Thimons blocked a North Carolina State punt at the 12.

After combining for 27 points in its first two games, West Virginia finished with 445 yards of offense Saturday and avoided its worst three-game start to a season in 11 years.

"I told them, I said, they got embarrassed last week at Missouri. You're going to get their best," said North Carolina State coach Dave Doeren. "They're going to come home and not want to show that to their fans. I knew that was coming. I told them that was coming."

THE TAKEAWAY

North Carolina State: Facing its first Power 5 opponent, the Wolf-pack ran 18 more offensive plays than West Virginia but fell flat. They were limited to two second-half field goals after outscoring their first two opponents 75-6.

West Virginia: The Mountaineers entered the game with an FBS-worst 1.1 yard per rushing attempt and wasn't expected to improve much with the pregame announcement that right guard Josh Sills would miss the game with an injured shoulder and left guard Michael Brown was out with an illness. But West Virginia's offense avoided the middle for most of the game. Its most effective plays went to the outside and through laterals.

McKoy said he saw a big difference in blocking on Saturday compared with the previous two games.

"When you get that movement, it makes it easier for us running backs to find those holes," he said.

STREAK BROKEN

Christopher Dunn's 51-yard field goal try on North Carolina State's first drive was well short, breaking his streak of 19 consecutive made field goals, the longest streak in the nation.

FROSH WR CONTRIBUTIONS

Three freshmen receivers helped infuse some needed life into West Virginia's offense.

Sam James caught nine passes for 155 yards and a score, Winston Wright had four catches for 13 yards and Jennings had three catches for 28 yards, including the fourth-quarter TD.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NCST	7	14	6	0	27
WVU	14	7	10	13	44

Scoring Summary -----

FIRST QUARTER		NCST	WVU
WVU TD 9:06 Sam James 20 Yd pass from Austin Kendall (Evan Staley Kick)			
5 plays, 66 yards, 2:08		0	7
NCST TD 4:49 Thayer Thomas 8 Yd pass from Matthew McKay (Christopher Dunn Kick)			
10 plays, 75 yards, 4:17		7	7
WVU TD 3:54 Kennedy McKoy 23 Yd Run (Evan Staley Kick)			
4 plays, 75 yards, 0:55		7	14
SECOND QUARTER		NCST	WVU
NCST TD 12:11 Jordan Houston 1 Yd Run (Christopher Dunn Kick)			
12 plays, 80 yards, 5:14		14	14
NCST TD 3:13 Cary Angeline 18 Yd pass from Thayer Thomas (Christopher Dunn Kick)			
7 plays, 92 yards, 3:06		21	14
WVU TD 0:34 George Campbell 13 Yd pass from Austin Kendall (Evan Staley Kick)			
9 plays, 75 yards, 2:39		21	21
THIRD QUARTER		NCST	WVU
WVU FG 10:42 Evan Staley 23 Yd Field Goal			
11 plays, 89 yards, 4:10		21	24
WVU TD 6:24 Kennedy McKoy 5 Yd Run (Evan Staley Kick)			
3 plays, 12 yards, 0:27		21	31
NCST FG 2:14 Christopher Dunn 41 Yd Field Goal			
11 plays, 36 yards, 4:10		24	31
NCST FG 0:10 Christopher Dunn 37 Yd Field Goal			
4 plays, 1 yard, 1:21		27	31
FOURTH QUARTER		NCST	WVU
WVU TD 12:24 Ali Jennings 9 Yd pass from Austin Kendall (Evan Staley Kick)			
7 plays, 75 yards, 2:46		27	38
WVU TD 3:04 Leddie Brown 3 Yd Run (Two-Point Run Conversion Failed)			
4 plays, 23 yards, 1:44		27	44

Team Stats	NCST	WVU
First Downs	24	25
Passes for First	9	14
Rushes for First	12	7
Penalties for First	3	4
Third Down Efficiency	5-17	3-11
Fourth Down Efficiency	2-5	0-0
Total Yards	369	445
Total Plays	86	68
Avg Gain Per Play	4.3	6.5
Net Yards Rushing	144	173
Rushes	37	28
Yards Per Rush	3.9	6.2
Net Yards Passing	225	272
Comp-Att	24-49	27-40
Yards Per Pass	4.6	6.8
Times Sacked	1	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-4	-17
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	4	5
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	9	12
Penalty Yards	88	105
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Time of Poss	32:29	27:31

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
NC STATE	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Zonovan Knight	12	72	6.0	0	26		
Ricky Person Jr.	11	52	4.7	0	11		
Payton Wilson	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Matthew McKay	10	9	0.9	0	14		
Jordan Houston	3	2	0.7	1	3		
WEST VIRGINIA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Kennedy McKoy	10	66	6.6	2	23		
Leddie Brown	7	35	5.0	1	15		
Austin Kendall	4	33	8.3	0	25		
Sean Ryan	1	24	24.0	0	24		
Alec Sinkfield	4	10	2.5	0	4		
Sam James	1	7	7.0	0	7		
Team	1	-2	-2.0	0	0		
PASSING							
NC STATE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Matthew McKay	23/48	207	4.3	1	0		
Thayer Thomas	1/1	18	18.0	1	0		
WEST VIRGINIA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Austin Kendall	27/40	272	6.8	3	1		
RECEIVING							
NC STATE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Emeka Emezie	12	103	8.6	0	17		
Cary Angeline	4	74	18.5	1	39		
Tabari Hines	2	19	9.5	0	11		
Devin Carter	2	16	8.0	0	10		
Thayer Thomas	1	8	8.0	1	8		
Jordan Houston	1	3	3.0	0	3		
Ricky Person Jr.	2	2	1.0	0	2		
WEST VIRGINIA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Sam James	9	155	17.2	1	51		
Sean Ryan	4	38	9.5	0	22		
Ali Jennings	3	28	9.3	1	14		
T.J. Simmons	3	16	5.3	0	12		
George Campbell	1	13	13.0	1	13		
Winston Wright	4	13	3.3	0	7		
Kennedy McKoy	3	9	3.0	0	5		