

**Curtis' 3 TDs lifts UMass past winless Akron 37-29**

AMHERST, Mass. -- Michael Curtis threw for two touchdowns and ran for another and UMass defeated Akron 37-29 on Saturday.

UMass (1-4) led 20-14 at intermission, but after the break, Curtis led the Minutemen on 12-play, 72-yard drive in four minutes for a 27-14 lead.

On the ensuing kickoff, Akron (0-5) secured favorable field position when Michael Mathieson returned it to the Zips' 37-yard line. But on the next play, Jordan Adams intercepted Robbie Kelly and returned it 45 yards to the Akron 18-yard line. A personal foul penalty on Akron moved the ball near the goal line. Curtis plunged in from two yards out on the next play for a 20-point lead.

The Zips used three different quarterbacks with Kato Nelson throwing for two touchdowns and Zach Gibson, making his collegiate debut, throwing for another.

UMass entered the game without six players -- three offensive starters and a special teams starter -- after coach Walt Bell suspended them for a violation of team rules.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
AKR	7	7	7	8	29
MASS	7	13	14	3	37

**Scoring Summary**

	AKR	MASS
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
AKR TD 8:43 Julian Hicks 3 Yd pass from Kato Nelson (Cory Smigel Kick)	7	0
7 plays, 61 yards, 3:22		
MASS TD 6:57 Samuel Emilus 6 Yd pass from Michael Curtis (Cooper Garcia Kick)		7
5 plays, 75 yards, 1:46		7
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
MASS TD 13:12 Isaiah Rodgers 58 Yd Interception Return (Cooper Garcia Kick)		7
3 plays, 14 yards, 1:01		14
MASS FG 8:22 Cooper Garcia 30 Yd Field Goal		7
10 plays, 46 yards, 3:50		17
AKR TD 2:02 Dustin Burkhart 3 Yd pass from Kato Nelson (Cory Smigel Kick)	14	17
13 plays, 75 yards, 6:20		
MASS FG 0:27 Cooper Garcia 38 Yd Field Goal		14
10 plays, 37 yards, 1:35		20
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
MASS TD 7:12 Sadiq Palmer 8 Yd pass from Michael Curtis (Cooper Garcia Kick)		14
12 plays, 72 yards, 4:04		27
MASS TD 6:47 Michael Curtis 2 Yd Run (Cooper Garcia Kick)		14
1 play, 2 yards, 0:05		34
AKR TD 1:48 Michiah Burton 2 Yd Run (Cory Smigel Kick)	21	34
7 plays, 80 yards, 2:55		
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
MASS FG 13:15 Cooper Garcia 34 Yd Field Goal		21
7 plays, 49 yards, 3:33		37
AKR TD 5:24 Nate Stewart 17 Yd pass from Zach Gibson (Nate Stewart Pass to Zach Gibson for Two-Point Conversion)	29	37
11 plays, 98 yards, 3:15		

Team Stats	AKR	MASS
First Downs	22	24
Passes for First	13	10
Rushes for First	8	11
Penalties for First	1	3
Third Down Efficiency	8-14	10-17
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-2	1-1
Total Yards	406	433
Total Plays	69	75
Avg Gain Per Play	5.9	5.8
Net Yards Rushing	71	220
Rushes	27	42
Yards Per Rush	2.6	5.2
Net Yards Passing	335	213
Comp-Att	28-42	19-33
Yards Per Pass	8.0	6.5
Times Sacked	0	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-10
Interceptions	2	1
Punts	4	4
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	5	9
Penalty Yards	41	62
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Time of Poss	29:02	30:58

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>AKRON</b>					
Michiah Burton	8	25	3.1	1	10
Kato Nelson	5	18	3.6	0	9
Brandon Lee	9	12	1.3	0	7
Deltron Sands	2	8	4.0	0	5
Zach Gibson	2	5	2.5	0	12
Jeremiah Knight	1	3	3.0	0	0
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>					
Bilal Ally	15	97	6.5	0	26
Michael Curtis	10	69	6.9	1	20
Kevin Brown	10	50	5.0	0	18
Cam Roberson	6	6	1.0	0	3
Team	1	-2	-2.0	0	0

**PASSING**

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
<b>AKRON</b>							
Zach Gibson	12	16	173	10.8	1	0	89.0
Kato Nelson	13	17	141	8.3	2	1	70.6
Robbie Kelley	3	8	21	2.6	0	1	1.5
Nate Stewart	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	10.4
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>							
Michael Curtis	17	31	173	5.6	2	1	70.2
Mike Fallon	2	2	40	20.0	0	0	99.4

**RECEIVING**

	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>AKRON</b>					
Jeremiah Knight	5	100	20.0	0	33
Michael Mathison	6	72	12.0	0	47
Nate Stewart	4	46	11.5	1	17
Dustin Burkhart	4	41	10.3	1	19
Timothy Scippio	2	34	17.0	0	28
Brandon Lee	2	15	7.5	0	8
Julian Hicks	2	12	6.0	1	9
Michiah Burton	1	10	10.0	0	10
Deltron Sands	2	5	2.5	0	8
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>					
Samuel Emilus	6	70	11.7	1	29
Josiah Johnson	1	34	34.0	0	34
Jessie Britt	2	29	14.5	0	21
Jermaine Johnson Jr.	1	21	21.0	0	21
Sadiq Palmer	3	20	6.7	1	9
Zak Simon	2	15	7.5	0	8
Melvin Hill	1	8	8.0	0	8
Taylor Edwards	1	6	6.0	0	6
Cam Roberson	1	6	6.0	0	6
Bilal Ally	1	4	4.0	0	4