

WEEK FIVE
NORTHERN ILLINOIS at VANDERBILT

Vaughn, Neal lead Vanderbilt over Northern Illinois 24-18

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Ke'Shawn Vaughn rushed for 138 yards and one touchdown, Riley Neal threw for 189 yards and a touchdown and Vanderbilt defeated Northern Illinois 24-18.

The victory was the first of the season for the Commodores (1-3), who dropped their first three games to Power Five teams, two of which came against Top Five ranked opponents No. 3 Georgia and No. 4 LSU.

After winning their season opening game, Northern Illinois (1-3) has dropped three straight, all against Power Five teams.

Vanderbilt's Keyon Brooks and Vaughn scored rushing touchdowns on the first two Vanderbilt drives of the game.

On Vanderbilt's opening drive, Brooks broke loose for a 61-yard touchdown run, the freshman's first of the season. He had only one more carry of the game. Entering Saturday, Brooks had just eight carries for a total of seven yards in two games this season.

The Huskies pulled to within four in the third quarter after posting points on their first two drives of the second half. John Richardson kicked a 39-yard field goal to get Northern Illinois on the scoreboard, and then Mitchell Brinkman had a 38-yard touchdown reception. But Vanderbilt answered right back 1:49 later when Neal found Kalija Lipscomb with a 38-yard touchdown pass.

Vanderbilt improved its record to 8-2 against Mid-American Conference opponents, including 4-0 against Northern Illinois.

Neal is a graduate transfer from Ball State. His Cardinals teams never defeated MAC foe Northern Illinois.

Early in the fourth, the Huskies cut the deficit to six following a one-yard touchdown run by Marcus Jones and a two-point conversion reception by Brinkman, but the Commodore defense denied the Huskies on their final drive, and the Vanderbilt offense was able to run out the remaining three minutes to seal the victory.

THE TAKEAWAY

Northern Illinois: After not allowing a 100-yard rusher in 17-straight games, the Huskies allowed an opponent to eclipse the century mark for the second consecutive game. Vanderbilt's Vaughn rushed for 138 yards on 17 carries and one touchdown. In Northern Illinois last game Sept. 14, Nebraska's Detric Mills ran for 116 yards on 11 carries.

Vanderbilt: In their three losses to open the season, the Commodores allowed an average of 46 points to Georgia, Purdue and LSU. After not allowing any points in the first half, Northern Illinois recorded a field goal and a touchdown on their first two possessions of the second half. The Commodores allowed the Huskies to convert just four of 13 third down opportunities in the game.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NIU	0	0	10	8	18
VAN	14	0	7	3	24

Scoring Summary -----

	NIU	VAN
FIRST QUARTER		
VAN TD 13:25 Keyon Brooks 61 Yd Run (Javan Rice Kick)	0	7
4 plays, 80 yards, 1:35		
VAN TD 8:57 Ke'Shawn Vaughn 1 Yd Run (Javan Rice Kick)	0	14
5 plays, 31 yards, 2:49		
THIRD QUARTER		
NIU FG 12:51 John Richardson 39 Yd Field Goal	3	14
5 plays, 52 yards, 2:02		
NIU TD 7:01 Mitchell Brinkman 38 Yd pass from Ross Bowers (John Richardson Kick)	10	14
8 plays, 83 yards, 3:34		
VAN TD 5:12 Kalija Lipscomb 38 Yd pass from Riley Neal (Javan Rice Kick)	10	21
4 plays, 75 yards, 1:49		
FOURTH QUARTER		
VAN FG 13:46 Javan Rice 28 Yd Field Goal	10	24
10 plays, 44 yards, 5:06		
NIU TD 11:44 Marcus Jones 1 Yd Run (Ross Bowers Pass to Mitchell Brinkman for Two-Point Conversion)	18	24
6 plays, 75 yards, 2:02		

Team Stats	NIU	VAN
First Downs	20	16
Passes for First	8	5
Rushes for First	9	10
Penalties for First	3	1
Third Down Efficiency	4-13	3-11
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Total Yards	388	373
Total Plays	63	54
Avg Gain Per Play	6.2	6.9
Net Yards Rushing	108	184
Rushes	31	26
Yards Per Rush	3.5	7.1
Net Yards Passing	280	189
Comp-Att	17-32	21-28
Yards Per Pass	8.8	6.8
Times Sacked	2	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-16	-23
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	8	6
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	9	9
Penalty Yards	74	97
Fumbles	1	1
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Time of Poss	31:25	28:35

Individual Stats

RUSHING

NORTHERN ILLINOIS	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jordan Nettles	10	64	6.4	0	34
Tre Harbison	13	62	4.8	0	10
Tyrice Richie	2	18	9.0	0	11
Marcus Jones	2	-4	-2.0	1	2
Ross Bowers	4	-32	-8.0	0	0
VANDERBILT	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Ke'Shawn Vaughn	17	138	8.1	1	39
Keyon Brooks	2	61	30.5	1	61
Justice Shelton-Mosley	1	4	4.0	0	4
Team	3	-5	-1.7	0	0
Riley Neal	3	-14	-4.7	0	2

PASSING

NORTHERN ILLINOIS	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Ross Bowers	17	32	280	8.8	1	0	43.9
VANDERBILT	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Riley Neal	21	28	189	6.8	1	0	45.6

RECEIVING

NORTHERN ILLINOIS	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Spencer Tears	3	100	33.3	0	44
Mitchell Brinkman	2	45	22.5	1	38
Cole Tucker	2	43	21.5	0	28
Daniel Crawford	3	36	12.0	0	20
Marcus Jones	3	34	11.3	0	18
Tyrice Richie	1	18	18.0	0	18
Rayshawn Gay	1	10	10.0	0	10
Tre Harbison	1	1	1.0	0	1
Jordan Nettles	1	-7	-7.0	0	0
VANDERBILT	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Kalija Lipscomb	7	94	13.4	1	38
Cam Johnson	6	64	10.7	0	23
Justice Shelton-Mosley	2	11	5.5	0	6
Ke'Shawn Vaughn	3	8	2.7	0	8
C.J. Bolar	1	6	6.0	0	6
Keyon Brooks	1	5	5.0	0	5
Jared Pinkney	1	1	1.0	0	1