

WEEK ONE
INDIANA vs BALL ST

Scott's strong 2nd half sends Indiana past Ball State 34-24

INDIANAPOLIS -- Stevie Scott III ran for two second-half touchdowns and Logan Justus made four field goals Saturday to help Indiana get past Ball State 34-24.

The Hoosiers have won 14 of their last 16 season openers.

Ball State has lost five of its last six overall and six straight against Big Ten foes and three in a row against the in-state Hoosiers.

Indiana quarterback Michael Penix Jr. had a roller coaster day in his starting debut. He led the Hoosiers to a field goal on their first possession and hooked up with Nick Westbrook for a 75-yard touchdown on the second series.

Then things got rougher. Penix was picked off on each of his next two series and the Hoosiers didn't reach the end zone again until Scott's 4-yard TD plunge to open the third quarter. That made it 23-10.

Ball State answered with a 45-yard TD pass from Drew Plitt to Walter Fletcher.

Scott scored on a 2-yard run with 13:47 remaining and a 2-point conversion pass from David Ellis to Peyton Hendershot gave Indiana a 31-17 lead.

The Cardinals made it 31-24 on Yo'Heinz Tyler's 36-yard touchdown catch with 6:28 left before Justus sealed the victory with his third career-long field goal of the game, a 50-yarder with 2:15 to go. Justus made a 48-yarder in the first quarter and a 49-yarder just before halftime.

Scott carried 19 times for 48 yards.

THE TAKEAWAY

Indiana: The Hoosiers got what they needed -- a win -- but know they must make dramatic improvements before facing No. 5 Ohio State in two weeks.

Ball State: Plitt played well and the Cardinals were better than expected after winning only 10 games in coach Mike Neu's first three seasons. And while they didn't take advantage of all their opportunities, it was a promising start for Neu's team.

MIXED BAG

Penix showed a little bit of everything Saturday.

At times, he looked picture perfect. At others, he made poor decisions and poor throws. And some dropped balls didn't help.

He was 8 of 11 with 144 yards, one touchdown and one interception in the first quarter. The finally tally: 24 of 40, 326 yards, a second interception and seven carries for 67 yards.

Penix became the fourth Indiana freshman to top 300 yards in a single game and finished with the second-highest yards passing in a starting debut behind only Antwaan Randle El (386) in 1997.

STREAKING

Indiana: The Hoosiers intercepted Plitt with 1:14 to go, extending their streak of consecutive games with a turnover to 19 and their streak of consecutive games with an interception to 11. Indiana started Saturday with the nation's second-longest streak of games with a turnover.

Ball State: Receiver Riley Miller had his six-game streak with a touchdown catch end.

STAT SHEET

Indiana: Westbrook had three receptions for 103 yards, Whop Philyor caught six passes for 66 yards and Hendershot had four catches for 69 yards.

Ball State: Plitt was 26 of 41 with 208 yards, two TDs and one interception in his first start as Ball State's full-time starter. Caleb Huntley ran 22 times for 81 yards and one touchdown. Justin Hall had six catches for 39 yards.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
IND	10	6	7	11	34
BALL	3	7	7	7	24

Scoring Summary -----

	IND	BALL
FIRST QUARTER		
IND FG 9:44 Logan Justus 48 Yd Field Goal		3
10 plays, 60 yards, 3:29		0
BALL FG 3:30 Ryan Rimmer 22 Yd Field Goal		3
13 plays, 70 yards, 6:14		3
IND TD 2:41 Nick Westbrook 75 Yd pass from Michael Penix Jr. (Logan Justus Kick)	10	3
2 plays, 78 yards, 0:42		
SECOND QUARTER		
BALL TD 13:58 Caleb Huntley 1 Yd Run (Ryan Rimmer Kick)		10
5 plays, 45 yards, 1:31		10
IND FG 3:12 Logan Justus 30 Yd Field Goal		13
11 plays, 57 yards, 3:21		10
IND FG 0:01 Logan Justus 49 Yd Field Goal		16
9 plays, 59 yards, 1:10		10
THIRD QUARTER		
IND TD 11:53 Stevie Scott III 4 Yd Run (Logan Justus Kick)	23	10
7 plays, 63 yards, 2:54		
BALL TD 8:34 Walter Fletcher 45 Yd pass from Drew Plitt (Ryan Rimmer Kick)		23
7 plays, 65 yards, 3:19		17
FOURTH QUARTER		
IND TD 13:47 Stevie Scott III 2 Yd Run (David Ellis Pass to Peyton Hendershot for Two-Point Conversion)	31	17
8 plays, 65 yards, 2:20		
BALL TD 6:28 Yo'Heinz Tyler 36 Yd pass from Drew Plitt (Ryan Rimmer Kick)		31
8 plays, 93 yards, 2:25		24
IND FG 2:15 Logan Justus 50 Yd Field Goal		34
7 plays, 38 yards, 4:05		24

Team Stats	IND	BALL
First Downs	25	26
Passes for First	15	14
Rushes for First	9	8
Penalties for First	1	4
Third Down Efficiency	6-12	7-16
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	1-2
Total Yards	474	398
Total Plays	74	81
Avg Gain Per Play	6.4	4.9
Net Yards Rushing	148	100
Rushes	33	40
Yards Per Rush	4.5	2.5
Net Yards Passing	326	298
Comp-Att	24-41	26-41
Yards Per Pass	8.0	7.3
Times Sacked	3	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	0
Interceptions	2	1
Punts	3	5
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	65	35
Fumbles	0	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Time of Poss	29:01	30:59

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
INDIANA							
Michael Penix Jr.	7	67	9.6	0	24		
Stevie Scott III	19	48	2.5	2	7		
Whop Philyor	1	22	22.0	0	22		
Ronnie Walker Jr.	1	14	14.0	0	14		
Cole Gest	1	3	3.0	0	3		
Sampson James	1	0	0.0	0	0		
BALL ST							
Caleb Huntley	22	81	3.7	1	11		
Justin Hall	2	13	6.5	0	9		
Walter Fletcher	5	11	2.2	0	6		
Malik Dunner	1	4	4.0	0	4		
Markice Hurt Jr.	2	-1	-0.5	0	2		
Drew Plitt	8	-8	-1.0	0	12		
PASSING							
	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
INDIANA							
Michael Penix Jr.	24	40	326	8.2	1	2	
BALL ST							
Drew Plitt	26	41	298	7.3	2	1	
RECEIVING							
	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
INDIANA							
Nick Westbrook	3	103	34.3	1	75		
Peyton Hendershot	4	69	17.3	0	22		
Whop Philyor	6	66	11.0	0	18		
Ty Fryfogle	6	41	6.8	0	13		
Stevie Scott III	3	28	9.3	0	17		
Donavan Hale	1	16	16.0	0	16		
Ronnie Walker Jr.	1	3	3.0	0	3		
BALL ST							
Yo'Heinz Tyler	3	71	23.7	1	36		
Antwan Davis	3	60	20.0	0	28		
Riley Miller	5	51	10.2	0	16		
Walter Fletcher	4	45	11.3	1	45		
Justin Hall	6	39	6.5	0	16		
Will Jones	2	16	8.0	0	11		
Nolan Givan	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Caleb Huntley	2	7	3.5	0	5		