

WEEK TEN
 MASSACHUSETTS at ARMY

McCoy scores 3 times, Army beats UMass 63-7 to snap skid

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Army said goodbye to that losing streak in a big way. Sandon McCoy scored three touchdowns on short runs, Jabari Laws rushed for a career-high 140 yards and another score, and Army's triple option overwhelmed UMass 63-7 on Saturday as the Black Knights snapped a five-game skid.

"Gosh, it feels good to be in here after a victory," Army coach Jeff Monken said. "We were so desperate to get a win. I'm proud of the guys. They stayed resilient."

Army (4-6) was coming off a tough 17-13 loss at service academy rival Air Force, unable to score twice within the shadow of the goal line -- on the first drive of the game and in the final seconds.

That punctuated a streak in which every game was lost by nine points or fewer.

"We didn't want to make it five games," Monken said. "One was too many. It's hard when you're going through something like that, and here we've become accustomed to winning a lot, and winning close games, and in that stretch we just lost a lot of close games."

"It's tough on the confidence of the team. It's the emotions of losing and losing again and again. It's been a tough stretch, but our players have continued to work and practice hard."

In this one, the Black Knights quickly recovered from an early gaffe against UMass (1-9), whose only victory came against winless Akron in late September.

The Minutemen own the worst scoring defense in the nation and Army took advantage, reeling off four straight touchdowns to gain a 35-7 halftime lead. UMass entered the game allowing 52 points per game, 54.9 in their eight losses.

The Black Knights finished with a season-high 498 yards rushing and the Army defense stopped the Minutemen in their tracks. Army limited them to 26 yards rushing on 26 tries, intercepted two passes, and held the ball for over 41 minutes.

"We couldn't stay on the field offensively," UMass coach Walt Bell said. "That kept our defense out on the field knowing that we were trying to control the pace, keep our defense off the field as much as possible."

Subtract tight end Kyle Horn's 56-yard touchdown catch for the Minutemen, and they netted just 50 yards offensively on 26 plays in the first two quarters. There were no big plays after the break -- UMass netted just 19 yards offensively in the final two quarters.

McCoy scored twice in the first quarter on a pair of 4-yard runs and added a 5-yard scoring run early in the second to stake Army to a 21-7 lead.

"It feels good," McCoy said. "It gets us back on the right page. It builds confidence. It feels good in terms of the team. We still know we can get better."

Connor Slomka and Artice Hobbs IV each scored from the 3 in the second quarter, Slomka after an interception and Hobbs after a fourth-down pass on a fake punt by the Minutemen failed. Slomka's tally came after UMass quarterback Andrew Brito was pressured heavily by Army nose tackle Kwabena Bonsu and Ryan Velez intercepted his off-balance pass near the UMass 30 and returned it 16 yards.

TRICKERY WORKS

UMass executed a flea-flicker to perfection with a pair of laterals in the first quarter that caught the Army defense off-guard, with Andrew Brito hitting the 6-foot-5 Horn in the middle of the field with no defenders even close, and he rumbled in for an easy score that tied the game at 7-all.

"It was a well-designed play," Monken said. "We just came out of coverage."

TRICKERY BACKFIRES

Trailing 28-7 late in the second quarter, UMass gambled again, this time on fourth down from the UMass 9-yard line, and only a bad pass prevented it from succeeding. Backup quarterback Michael Curtis took the snap and freshman wide receiver Dariyan Wiley was open over the middle, but the throw at the 25-yard line was just off his fingertips. It would have been his first college catch.

RETURN MAN

UMass senior cornerback Isaiah Rodgers was averaging 27.1 on 36 kickoff returns, the most in the nation, and his 974 yards on kickoff returns were more than any other team in the nation. He finished the game with eight kickoff returns for 159 yards.

THE TAKEAWAY

UMass: The Minutemen will be challenged to win again in their final two games. Their offense managed just 125 yards on 48 plays.

Army: Laws got the start because he's healthier and he played well, scoring on an 83-yard run in the third quarter. It was the second-longest run by an Army QB in the program's 129-year history, just shy of George Smythe's 95-yarder against Lebanon Valley in 1923. Laws was relieved by senior Kelvin Hopkins Jr., who scored on a 9-yard run late in the third and gave way to Christian Anderson in the fourth. The Black Knights can still achieve the six victories needed to qualify for the postseason but have obstacles ahead with a road game at Hawaii and the traditional season finale against archrival Navy, which was ranked No. 25 this week.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
ARMY	7	0	0	0	7
MASS	14	21	14	14	63

Scoring Summary -----

	MASS	ARMY
FIRST QUARTER		
ARMY TD 11:14 Sandon McCoy 4 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		7
5 plays, 52 yards, 2:11	0	
MASS TD 9:55 Kyle Horn 56 Yd pass from Andrew Brito (Cooper Garcia Kick)	7	
4 plays, 68 yards, 1:12		7
ARMY TD 4:00 Sandon McCoy 4 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		14
11 plays, 75 yards, 5:55	7	
SECOND QUARTER		
ARMY TD 11:48 Sandon McCoy 5 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		21
12 plays, 73 yards, 6:07	7	
ARMY TD 9:34 Connor Slomka 3 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		28
2 plays, 12 yards, 0:50	7	
ARMY TD 0:56 Artice Hobbs IV 3 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		35
3 plays, 9 yards, 1:23	7	
THIRD QUARTER		
ARMY TD 11:54 Jabari Laws 83 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		42
1 play, 83 yards, 0:16	7	
ARMY TD 2:33 Kelvin Hopkins Jr. 9 Yd Run (Cole Talley Kick)		49
6 plays, 60 yards, 2:57	7	
FOURTH QUARTER		
ARMY TD 9:55 Cade Barnard 2 Yd Run (David Cooper Kick)		56
11 plays, 60 yards, 5:10	7	
ARMY TD 0:55 Jemel Jones 4 Yd Run (David Cooper Kick)		63
13 plays, 70 yards, 7:10	7	

Team Stats	MASS	ARMY
First Downs	7	34
Passes for First	4	2
Rushes for First	2	30
Penalties for First	1	2
Third Down Efficiency	2-12	7-11
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-3	2-2
Total Yards	125	546
Total Plays	48	84
Avg Gain Per Play	2.6	6.5
Net Yards Rushing	26	498
Rushes	26	78
Yards Per Rush	1.0	6.4
Net Yards Passing	99	48
Comp-Att	9-22	3-6
Yards Per Pass	4.5	8.0
Times Sacked	0	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-16
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	6	2
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	5	2
Penalty Yards	44	20
Fumbles	1	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	18:47	41:13

Individual Stats

RUSHING					
MASSACHUSETTS	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Bilal Ally	10	26	2.6	0	22
Cam Roberson	10	16	1.6	0	3
Josiah Johnson	2	5	2.5	0	7
Team	1	-5	-5.0	0	0
Andrew Brito	3	-16	-5.3	0	0
ARMY	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jabari Laws	8	140	17.5	1	83
Jakobi Buchanan	12	63	5.3	0	10
Kell Walker	7	60	8.6	0	24
Sandon McCoy	14	52	3.7	3	10
Connor Slomka	9	42	4.7	1	9
Jemel Jones	6	35	5.8	1	7
Kelvin Hopkins Jr.	7	30	4.3	1	9
A.J. Howard	1	20	20.0	0	20
Cade Barnard	5	18	3.6	1	4
Christian Anderson	2	15	7.5	0	9
Artice Hobbs IV	3	10	3.3	1	7
Malik Hancock	1	9	9.0	0	9
Anthony Adkins	1	8	8.0	0	8
Brandon Walters	2	-4	-2.0	0	1

PASSING							
MASSACHUSETTS	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Andrew Brito	6	16	75	4.7	1	1	
Randall West	3	5	24	4.8	0	1	
Chinedu Ogbonna	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	
ARMY	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jabari Laws	3	5	48	9.6	0	0	
Kelvin Hopkins Jr	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	

RECEIVING					
MASSACHUSETTS	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Kyle Horn	1	56	56.0	1	56
Zak Simon	2	21	10.5	0	16
Samuel Emilus	1	15	15.0	0	15
Brennon Dingle	2	11	5.5	0	7
Cam Roberson	1	1	1.0	0	1
Dariyan Wiley	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
Josiah Johnson	1	-3	-3.0	0	0
ARMY	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Artice Hobbs IV	1	30	30.0	0	30
Michael Roberts	1	15	15.0	0	15
Brandon Walters	1	3	3.0	0	3