

WEEK TWELVE
 MASSACHUSETTS at NORTHWESTERN

Hull scores 4 TDs, Northwestern routs UMass 45-6

EVANSTON, Ill. -- After waiting his turn for nearly three months, Evan Hull made the most of his opportunity on Saturday.

The freshman running back had four touchdowns and 220 yards rushing as Northwestern snapped a seven-game losing streak with a 45-6 victory over UMass.

Hull averaged 9.2 yards on 24 carries and became the first Wildcats player with at least 200 yards and four touchdowns in a game since Tyrell Sutton against Northern Illinois in 2005.

Hull had a total of 15 yards and eight carries (an average of 1.9 yards) before moving into the starting lineup because of injuries.

"I put a lot of work into this, so to have this happen for me was a very good feeling," he said.

Northwestern (2-8) last won on Sept. 14 with a 30-14 victory over UNLV.

"A great team win," Wildcats coach Pat Fitzgerald said. "I'm really happy for our guys. It's been a long time in the making for a win."

Quarterback Randall West was 19 of 36 for 175 yards and Bilal Ally had 66 yards rushing on 16 carries for UMass (1-10), which has dropped five straight.

UMass led 3-0 at the end of the first quarter and had a chance to expand the lead on the first play of the second quarter. However, Cooper Garcia's 30-yard field-goal attempt was blocked by Joe Gaziano and Chris Bergin picked up the ball at the 15 and returned it 85 yards for the game-turning touchdown.

"The protection was good," UMass coach Walt Bell said. "The field goal just got hit low and they turned it back for a touchdown. "It had a chance to be a really close game at halftime, the majority of that being because of the way our defense played."

After Garcia connected on a 23-yard field goal, Hull had a 6-yard TD run for a 14-6 lead with 7:59 left in the first half. Less than three minutes later, Hull had a 38-yard TD run to cap a 95-yard drive to make it 21-6. Hull had three rushes on the series for a total of 90 yards.

Charlie Kuhbander hit a 31-yard field goal in the third -- following an interception by Blake Gallagher -- to make it 24-6.

Hull had a 46-yard TD early in the fourth for a 31-6 advantage and added a 31-yard TD a few minutes later to make it 38-6.

"I'm ecstatic for him," Fitzgerald said of Hull. "He's a great young man. He's got a bright future. Obviously, we're depleted at that position and I'm really proud of him playing the way he did."

Northwestern's final score was an 11-yard TD run by Raymond Niro after Hull left the game.

"We started to wear down in the back half of the game," Bell said. "Having a really young, really thin defense on the field for that amount of time, I just thought the Big Ten football started to wear on us a little bit."

THE TAKEAWAY

UMass: The Minutemen had 227 yards passing but could have had much more. Both West and backup Andrew Brito missed a slew of open receivers.

Northwestern: Aside from Hull's rushing, the offense continued to sputter and Aidan Smith (7 of 13 for 76 yards with two interceptions) was less than impressive at quarterback. But following seven straight losses, any win is a thing of beauty and the Wildcats will take it. The defense gave up 310 yards but kept UMass out of the end zone.

PLAYING FAVORITES

Afterward, Hull was asked which TD was his favorite.

"All of them," he said. "This is still pretty new for me. Just being out there today and having the success that I did, just the whole day is my favorite."

JOHNSON SITS

Northwestern played three quarterbacks, but not opening-day starter Hunter Johnson.

"He was banged up last week, so we were resting him this week," Fitzgerald said.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
MASS	3	3	0	0	6
NW	0	21	3	21	45

Scoring Summary -----

	MASS	NW
FIRST QUARTER		
MASS FG 10:44 Cooper Garcia 32 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 38 yards, 3:16	3	0
SECOND QUARTER		
NW TD 14:43 Chris Bergin 85 Yd Return of Blocked Field Goal (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)		
12 plays, 71 yards, 4:28	3	7
MASS FG 11:13 Cooper Garcia 23 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 69 yards, 3:30	6	7
NW TD 7:59 Evan Hull 6 Yd Run (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)		
8 plays, 60 yards, 3:11	6	14
NW TD 5:18 Evan Hull 38 Yd Run (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)		
5 plays, 95 yards, 1:38	6	21
THIRD QUARTER		
NW FG 1:01 Charlie Kuhbander 31 Yd Field Goal		
4 plays, -1 yard, 1:26	6	24
FOURTH QUARTER		
NW TD 13:42 Evan Hull 46 Yd Run (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)		
1 play, 46 yards, 0:12	6	31
NW TD 9:06 Evan Hull 31 Yd Run (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)		
6 plays, 56 yards, 3:04	6	38
NW TD 5:36 Raymond Niro III 11 Yd Run (Drew Luckenbaugh Kick)		
5 plays, 33 yards, 3:27	6	45

Team Stats	MASS	NW
First Downs	16	16
Passes for First	13	4
Rushes for First	3	11
Penalties for First	0	1
Third Down Efficiency	6-19	7-14
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-2	0-1
Total Yards	310	410
Total Plays	77	65
Avg Gain Per Play	4.0	6.3
Net Yards Rushing	83	334
Rushes	31	52
Yards Per Rush	2.7	6.4
Net Yards Passing	227	76
Comp-Att	25-46	7-13
Yards Per Pass	4.9	5.8
Times Sacked	1	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-5	-17
Interceptions	1	2
Punts	8	4
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	8	0
Penalty Yards	55	0
Fumbles	0	4
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	30:08	29:52

Individual Stats

RUSHING		Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
MASSACHUSETTS						
Bilal Ally		16	66	4.1	0	31
Cam Roberson		10	29	2.9	0	12
Jermaine Johnson Jr.		1	4	4.0	0	4
Andrew Brito		2	-7	-3.5	0	1
Randall West		2	-9	-4.5	0	0
NORTHWESTERN						
Evan Hull		24	220	9.2	4	48
Aidan Smith		7	47	6.7	0	19
Raymond Niro III		7	45	6.4	1	11
Andrew Marty		3	20	6.7	0	8
Drake Anderson		5	15	3.0	0	9
Riley Lees		1	4	4.0	0	4
Jason Whittaker		2	3	1.5	0	4
Team		1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Berkeley Holman		1	-6	-6.0	0	0
Conrad Rowley		1	-13	-13.0	0	0

PASSING		Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
MASSACHUSETTS								
Randall West		19	36	175	4.9	0	1	28.6
Andrew Brito		6	10	52	5.2	0	0	8.6
NORTHWESTERN								
Aidan Smith		7	13	76	5.8	0	2	32.7
RECEIVING		Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
MASSACHUSETTS								
Brennon Dingle		4	66	16.5	0	32		
Zak Simon		6	58	9.7	0	15		
Sadiq Palmer		4	38	9.5	0	16		
Samuel Emilus		3	19	6.3	0	10		
Cam Roberson		3	18	6.0	0	15		
Dariyan Wiley		2	16	8.0	0	9		
Bilal Ally		1	11	11.0	0	11		
Adam Billard		1	4	4.0	0	4		
Jermaine Johnson Jr.		1	-3	-3.0	0	0		
NORTHWESTERN								
Riley Lees		7	76	10.9	0	27		