

Mountaineers Rout Aggies In Home Opener

Written by Mike Kelly

Saturday, 10 September 2011 19:56

The Appalachian State University football team belted North Carolina A&T 58-6 in its home opener on Saturday at Kidd Brewer Stadium.

And the Mountaineers (1-1) also handed head coach Jerry Moore his 200th win in the process. Moore also becomes the 16th head coach at the Division I level to win 200 games at the same school.

"It's all about being around the right people," said Moore, the all-time winningest coach in school and Southern Conference history. "Doctor (Kenneth E.) Peacock, (Athletics Director) Charlies (Cobb), Roachel (Laney, former AD) have allowed us to do some good things here. The three national championships, the players I've coached, and to win this with my son (running backs coach Chris) on the sidelines is very special for our family. I've been blessed."

ASU didn't waste any time taking control of the game. The Mountaineers took the opening kick-off and marched 69 yards in eight plays to take an early 7-0 lead. Deandre Presley, who was 8-9 for 81 yards in the first quarter alone, hooked up with Brian Quick on a 19-yard scoring toss and the rout was on. The drive only took 2:55.

And the Mountaineers followed that up by scoring on their next possession as Presley capped off a 13-play, 98-yard drive by scoring on an eight-yard run for a 14-0 advantage with 4:50 left in the first quarter. A 31-yard run by Cedric Baker-Boney on third and five from the ASU seven-yard-line highlighted the drive. Baker-Boney finished with a career-best 111 yards on 12 carries and a touchdown.

"I really expected us to play much better today," Moore said. "Now North Carolina A&T isn't Virginia Tech. Heck, we got our heads beaten in last week. We needed a good win, and our players really responded."

Presley was 19-23 on the day for 197 yards and two touchdown passes; he also ran for 24 yards and a pair of touchdowns. He left the game in the third quarter nursing a sore ankle. He had an ice pack on his right ankle and did not return, but the injury wasn't considered serious. The Mountaineers, who piled up 491 yards offensively, led 21-0 at the intermission. But the Aggies (1-1) did make it a little interesting in the third quarter.

A 40-yard scoring pass from quarterback Lewis Kendle to wide out Wallace Miles made it 21-6 at the 13:02 mark of the third period. But ASU came charging back on its next possession as the Mountaineers marched 78-yards on 12 plays. Presley hooked up with Quick on a nine-yard scoring toss for a 28-6 lead. An interception by Tony Sanders at his five-yard-line set up a six-play, 68-yard scoring drive as Presley scored on a two-yard run that made it 35-6.

"We really wanted to redeem ourselves after last week," Quick said. "Last week wasn't too good for any of us. But today, we capitalized on things, both offensively and defensively. We practiced hard all week, the coaches got us ready and we played hard today."

Quick had a career day as the senior hauled in 11 receptions for 113 yards and two touchdowns. And Sam Martin, who was named the co-SoCon Special Teams Player of the Week last week, had a 69-yard punt in the second quarter, and a career-best 51-yard field goal on his first collegiate attempt in the fourth quarter that gave ASU a 45-6 lead. It was the longest field goal by an ASU kicker since Jason Vitaris booted a 50-yarder against Wofford College last season.

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"I really didn't think I got it clean," he said. "I thought I chucked it (he felt he got too much ground under it), and I really thought it was going to fall short. But it did clear the bar, and that's all that counts. Confidence and experience has a lot to do with it. But I was real determined to have a big year this season."

And a true freshman got in on the act as well. Defensive back Doug Middleton returned an interception 97 yards for a touchdown in the final stanza. It was the fourth longest return since Rico Mack returned an interception 100 yards against James Madison in 1990.

"I understood as a freshman I wasn't going to get a lot of playing time," said Middleton, who also had five tackles on the day. "But I got a chance today, and it worked out."

"We played a lot of people today," Moore said. "There were a lot of bright spots, but we still have a lot to improve on to be a championship football team. But this team has a strong character. We worked them hard all week, and they have a lot of fight in them."

NOTES: ASU moved to 60-19-2 (.747) all-time in home openers. It has won 25 of its last 28 and 10 of its last 11 home openers.....ASU moved to 19-1 in its last 20 games that immediately followed a same-season loss.....ASU won its 30th-straight home game versus an in-state opponent. ASU has not lost to an in-state opponent at home since a 34-7 loss to Western Carolina on Oct. 6, 1984 at then-Conrad Stadium.....Senior wide receiver Brian Quick had a career-high 11 receptions, the most by a Mountaineer since DaVon Fowlkes caught a school-record 17 passes versus Elon on Nov. 6, 2004.....Quick's two touchdown receptions give him 23 for his career, moving him past Fowlkes (22 – 2001-04) and into a tie with current ASU senior associate athletics director Rick Beasley for second in ASU history (record: 25 – Bob Agle, 1965-68).....Senior running back Cedric Baker Boney rushed for a career-high 111 yards (prev.: 107 at Chattanooga, Nov. 8, 2008).....Senior Phillip Strickland tied a school record with two punt blocks. It is only the fourth time in ASU history that one player has blocked two punts in a game – Chuck Hill accomplished the feat twice in 1987 (Oct. 10 vs. Liberty, Nov. 21 at Western Carolina) and Dino Hackett did it at East Tennessee State on Nov. 23, 1985.....Junior Sam Martin kicked a career-long 51-yard field goal. The 51-yarder is tied for the seventh-longest in ASU history and the longest by a Mountaineer since Mark Wright kicked a school-record 57-yarder vs. Troy State on Sept. 9, 2000.

SCORING:

	1	2	3	4	- T
North Carolina A&T	0	0	6	0	- 6
Appalachian State	14	7	21	16	- 58

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1st 12:05 ASU - Brian Quick 19 yd pass from DeAndre Presley (Sam Martin kick), 8-69 2:55 0 - 7

04:50 ASU - DeAndre Presley 8 yd run (Sam Martin kick), 13-98 4:57 0 - 14

2nd 02:52 ASU - Cedric Baker Boney 3 yd run (Sam Martin kick), 9-50 4:18 0 - 21

3rd 13:02 NCAT - MILES,Wallace 40 yd pass from KINDLE,Lewis (GARCIA,CAMACHO kick failed), 4-60 0:00 6 - 21

07:59 ASU - Brian Quick 9 yd pass from DeAndre Presley (Sam Martin kick), 12-78 4:55 6 - 28

05:03 ASU - DeAndre Presley 3 yd run (Sam Martin kick), 6-68 2:18 6 - 35

02:11 ASU - Jamal Jackson 1 yd run (Sam Martin kick), 4-63 1:19 6 - 42

4th 12:30 ASU - Sam Martin 51 yd field goal, 7-13 2:21 6 - 45

10:21 ASU - Doug Middleton 97 yd interception return (Sam Martin kick failed) 6 - 51

02:32 ASU - Jamal Jackson 3 yd run (Sam Martin kick), 10-57 5:13 6 - 58

STATISTICS:

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TOTAL YARDS: ASU 491, NCAT 335
RUSHING YARDS: ASU 255, NCAT 167
PASSING YARDS: ASU 236, NCAT 168
FIRST DOWNS: ASU 24, NCAT 16
3RD DOWN CONVERSIONS: ASU 10-14, NCAT 4-12
4TH DOWN CONVERSIONS: ASU 2-2, NCAT 0-1
TIME OF POSSESSION: ASU 30:28, NCAT 29:32
TURNOVERS: ASU 1, NCAT 3
PENALTIES: ASU 6-65, NCAT 5-51

ASU:

RUSHING: BAKER-BONEY 12-111-TD, CADET 7-75
PASSING: PRESLEY 19-23-197-2TD, JACKSON 3-5-39
RECEIVING: QUICK 11-113-2TD, MILLER 4-54

NCAT:

RUSHING: EVERETT 17-68, MATTOCKS 9-56
PASSING: KINDLE 10-17-165-2INT-TD
RECEIVING: MILES 7-155-TD

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