

## **Apps fall to McNeese, 40-35**

Written by Mike Kelly

Saturday, 12 September 2009 15:13

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The Appalachian State football team, which began the season ranked No.1 in the nation, is currently 0-2.

The Apps suffered the latest setback Saturday afternoon as McNeese State (2-0), which struggled to beat Division II Henderson State last week, outscored ASU 40-35 in a playoff-type game in the second week of the regular season.

Quarterback Derrick Fourroux threw for 341 yards and three touchdowns, running back Todd Pendland backboned a running game that piled up 181 yards. In all, the Cowboys racked up 525 yards of total offense, and they also became the first non-conference team to beat ASU at Kidd Brewer Stadium in a regular-season game since Troy State did it in 2000.

Armanti Edwards, making his first start of the year and playing in his first game since last December against Richmond, had 307 yards offensively, including 235 through the air, and he scored twice.

The Apps played from behind for most of the afternoon. They finally took their only lead with 1:20 left in the third quarter on Matt Cline's 20-yard run. That gave ASU a 28-27 lead in a game that also featured four ties. But ASU couldn't hang on as the Cowboys grabbed the lead on a 95-yard drive that resulted in a two-yard run by Fourroux and his two-point conversion run. That gave McNeese State a 35-28 lead with 4:50 left, but ASU marched 62 yards in six plays and eventually tied it on Cedric Baker's two-yard run with 2:05 to go. Unfortunately, Fourroux marched his team 79 yards in ten plays setting up freshman Josh Lewis, who kicked the game-winning field goal from 18 yards out with four seconds to go.

Devon Moore led the Mountaineers with 155 yards on 23 carries and a touchdown. The Apps have a bye this week; they will begin SoCon play at home Saturday, September 26 when Samford comes to town for a 3:30 pm. Our coverage begins at 1:30 pm on WATA 1450 AM. The Mountaineers are 29-8 in SoCon openers.

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Richmond, the defending national champion and the No.1 team in the country, survived a scare as the Spiders rallied to beat Delaware, 16-15.