

Two Freshmen Lead ASU To First Win

Written by Staff Reports

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It was quite an effort by freshmen Marcus Cox and John Law of the Appalachian State University football team on Saturday at Rhodes Stadium. Those two gave ASU

fans a glimpse of the future, and some fond memories.

Cox, a true freshman, ran racked up 308 yards of total offense and scored three times. He averaged 9.9 yards a touch, His three-yard run with 1:27 left put the contest away as ASU (1-2 overall; 1-0 Southern Conference) knocked off Elon 31-21 in the SoCon opener for both teams. Cox's touchdown capped off a seven-play, 75-yard drive. Cox carried the ball six times on that game-clinching drive.

"It feels good to get that first win," Cox said. "I don't care about my stats,. I'm just glad we got our first win. The play call on the final drive just kept coming to me. (The coaches) put the ball in my hands, and I'm glad they had the faith in me to do it."

"The kids played hard tonight," said ASU coach Scott Satterfield, who picked up his first career win as head coach. "But we didn't play well in the third quarter. Great teams finish games off, and that's what we did on that final drive. We marched it down the field and scored that touchdown. I am so proud of these kids. We wanted to see what Marcus could do. He's special. And John Law has been doing it all year. We need leaders to make plays. It doesn't matter what year you are. Leaders have to step up, and those two stepped up tonight."

Law, a red-shirt freshman that had his season cut short by injury in 2012, led the Mountaineers with 15 tackles and three takeaways---two interceptions and a fumble recovery. His second interception of the game on Elon's final drive put the Phoenix out of its misery.

"I had the same focus tonight that I have in every game," Law said. "I want to make every tackle. That's my goal in every game. I love the scheme we're playing. We have some defensive lineman that are pretty quick, and they open up some gaps for me. And I do what I do best, and that's run to the ball. Watching Jeremy Kimbrough and Brandon Grier (last season) gave me the chance to see how they did things. I have always expected myself to be a big contributor on this team. And I'm glad I was able to help."

ASU led 24-7 at halftime, but the Phoenix (1-3; 0-1) narrowed the gap, and trailed 24-21 before the Mountaineers' game-clinch drive. ASU had 599 yard of total offense.

NOTES: • Appalachian State moved to 1-2 overall and 1-0 in Southern Conference play. Elon fell to 1-3 overall and 0-1 in Southern Conference play.

- Appalachian State snapped a three-game overall losing streak (dating back to 38-37 overtime loss to Illinois State in the second round of the 2012 NCAA Division I Football Championship – Dec. 1, 2012).

- Appalachian State avoided its first 0-3 start since 1993. The Mountaineers also avoided three-straight losses in the same season since '93.

- Appalachian State moved to 25-2 in its last 27 games that immediately followed a same-season loss.

- Appalachian State set season highs for points (31), total yards (599), passing yards (404) and rushing yards (195).

- Appalachian State's 31 points were more than it scored in the first two games of the season combined (27).

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- Appalachian State's 599 yards were its most since it amassed 684 in 55-14 win over Coastal Carolina on Sept. 29, 2012.
- Appalachian State defeated Elon for the 18th-straight time, dating back to 1965 (Elon's last win in the series came on Oct. 3, 1964).
- Appalachian State finished with a perfect 11-0 record versus Elon in Southern Conference play. Both teams are in their final SoCon season — Appalachian State joins the NCAA Division I FBS Sun Belt Conference and Elon moves to the NCAA Division I FCS Colonial Athletic Association in 2014.
- Scott Satterfield earned his first win as a head coach.
- In the first start of his career, true freshman running back Marcus Cox amassed 308 all-purpose yards (149 receiving, 159 rushing) and scored three touchdowns, one on a three-yard run and the others on 50- and 73-yard receptions (both career highs).
- Appalachian State employed a two-quarterback system. Playing the primarily in the first and third quarters, senior Jamal Londry-Jackson completed 16-of-21 passes for 205 yards and one touchdowns. Playing primarily in the second and fourth quarters, sophomore Kameron Bryant completed 9-of-12 passes for 199 yards and two touchdowns.
- Londry-Jackson moved in to a tie for third place in Appalachian State history with 476 career completions (tying D.J. Campbell – 1989-92). The 200-yard passing game was the 18th of his career, moving him into a tie for second in Appalachian State history with Richie Williams (2002-05).
- Playing his first game of the season, sophomore Sean Price caught 8 passes for 99 yards, marking the ninth time in 14 career games that he has had at least 90 receiving yards. Check back shortly for a complete game recap.

Photo Courtesy: Marcus Cox, ASU Athletics