

FSU Football Wins Home Season Opener Over Virginia Union

By Aaron Williams

The Fayetteville State Broncos opened its home schedule on Saturday evening with a 28-17 victory over the Virginia Union Panthers at Luther "Nick" Jeralds Stadium. The victory for the Broncos was their first of the 2012 season.

Fayetteville State (1-2) rushed for 131 yards as a team, led by Colon Bailey (Jr., Manteo, NC) with 80 yards on 15 carries, and had two touchdowns in the fourth quarter to rally from a three-point deficit against the Panthers (2-1). The Broncos scored their two rushing touchdowns within a six-minute span in the final quarter, highlighted by Bailey's 15-yard run to seal the game with 2:40 left in the contest.

"It's a good feeling to get the first win of the season in the books," said head coach Kenny Phillips. "Overall we did a good job of getting off the field on third down. It was a great team win for us tonight in all aspects of the game. The biggest difference tonight was overcoming the mistakes we made in the football game and be able to get a win."

Virginia Union was led offensively by running back Jerrell Washington with 152 yards on 24 carries, and put the Panthers on the scoreboard first in the opening quarter scoring his only touchdown of the game from 16 yards out. The Fayetteville State defense limited Virginia Union quarterback Kenneth Graham to just 46 yards passing on 4-of-20 attempts, while compiling two sacks and one interception.

After the touchdown run by Washington put the Panthers in front 7-0 with 5:30 left in the first quarter, the Broncos answered back to tie the game 7-7 on a 48 yard touchdown pass connection from Chauncey Concepcion (So., Charlotte, NC) to Kasunn Williams (So., Rocky Mount, NC). The touchdown pass by Concepcion was his first of the season, and also the first

passing touchdown of the season by Fayetteville State.

Michael Johnson (So., Clayton, NC) gave the Broncos their first lead of the game at 14-7 just before halftime at the 2:04 mark when he intercepted a Graham pass and returned it 62 yards for a touchdown. It was Johnson's second touchdown of the season as he also had a kickoff return for a touchdown in the season opener at North Carolina Central on Sept. 1.

Virginia Union kicker Stephen Velasquez trimmed its deficit to 14-10 midway through the third quarter with his 36-yard field goal, and then Graham's 13-yard touchdown run put the Panthers back in front 17-14 with 44 seconds left in the third stanza.

From there Fayetteville State's defense held Virginia Union scoreless in the fourth quarter, while its ground game took control and compiled two scoring drives that took a combined 11:18 off the clock. The Broncos held the ball for 12:27 in the final quarter, while the Panthers had the ball for just 2:33. Fayetteville State made its two fourth quarter drives count as Andre Montgomery trimmed Virginia Union's lead to 21-17 with his one-yard touchdown run on fourth-and-goal followed by the run from Bailey.

Concepcion and Andreas Hudson (Sr., Philadelphia, PA) combined to go 10-of-14 through the air for 164 yards and one touchdown for Fayetteville State. Concepcion finished the game 8-of-10 for 109 yards and a touchdown, while Hudson went 2-of-4 for 55 yards. Montgomery added 48 yards on 11 carries and a touchdown for the Broncos, and Williams had a team-high 48 yards receiving with one touchdown. Anthony Duran (Jr., Gilbert, AZ) added four catches for 34 yards and Antonio Allen (Jr., Raleigh, NC) had one catch for 34 yards. Bryce Williams (Sr., St. Petersburg, FL) paced the way for the Fayetteville State defense with 10 total tackles, one sack and 2.5 tackles for loss.



Voice Photo By: Shekiveia "KeiKei" Gilchrist

Andrea Hudson (#12-Quarterback) drops back to pass after getting great pass protection from William Hunt (#64-Offensive Tackle).

Broncos fall by 7 in CIAA Conference opener to ECSU

By Aaron Williams

The Fayetteville State Broncos were defeated by the Elizabeth City State Vikings 20-13 this past Saturday at Luther "Nick" Jeralds Stadium. This was the CIAA opener for both teams.

The Broncos fall 1-3 on the season and 0-1 in conference play, while the Vikings improve to 2-2 overall and 1-0 in CIAA action.

Bronco quarterback Chauncey Concepcion (So., Charlotte, NC) lead offense as he tallied a season-high of 167 yards passing on 16-of-26 attempts, while also running for 14 yards on seven attempts and the team's lone rushing touchdown. Andre Montgomery (Fr., Goldsboro, NC) ran for 64 yards on eight carries, while Colon Bailey, Jr. (Jr., Manteo, NC) had 48 yards on eight carries. Montgomery finished with an average of 8.0 yards and Bailey, Jr. averaged six yards, per carry. The Broncos had two players with over 60 yards receiving each as Kasunn Williams (So., Rocky Mount, NC) had 60 yards and Ricardo White (So., Monroe, NC) recorded 61 yards.

DaRonte McNeill rushed a game-high of 153 yards for the Vikings on ground and a touchdown on 33 carries. Quarterback Namon Jones finished the contest with 14-of-23 passing, one touchdown and one interception, while Darrius Wesson ended with 49 yards receiving and one touchdown catch.

"We knew Elizabeth City State was going to line up and hand the ball off to McNeill, and I thought we did a pretty decent job until the last touchdown that he got," said head coach Kenny Phillips. "We bottled him up pretty good. He had 153 yards rushing, but they were 153 yards that were earned. There was nothing easy about it. They hit us on some third down plays that we normally get off the field on. I told the football team after the game that defensively the only disappointment was our

third-down defense tonight. We gave up some easy first downs that I thought was the difference in the football game."

The Vikings took the game's opening drive and marched 55 yards down the field on 11 plays, and their drive capped off with Wesson's 18-yard touchdown reception from Jones for the only score of the first quarter. Concepcion scored the only touchdown of the second quarter as the Broncos tied the contest at 7-7 on a touchdown run from 14 yards out.

Kicker Antonio Mayo (So., Jacksonville, NC) gave FSU a 10-7 lead with 9:48 remaining in the third quarter on a career-long 42-yard field goal. Mayo's field goal capped a 10-play 50 yard drive that took 5:12 off the clock. Vikings kicker Brett Symonds put the team back in lead for 13-10, with back-to-back field goals from 26 yards and 29 yards. Finally, McNeill extended the Vikings lead to 20-10 on his 10-yard touchdown run.

With 44 seconds left in the game, Mayo trimmed FSU's deficit to 20-13 on his 41-yard field goal but that would be as close as the Broncos could get as their outside kick attempt after the field goal was recovered by the Vikings.

Linebacker Bryce Williams (Sr., St. Petersburg, FL) led Bronco defenders with 16 total tackles (11 solo, 5 assisted), three sacks, 5.5 tackles for loss and one forced fumble. Free safety Michael Johnson contributed 12 tackles (four solo, eight assisted), one interception and one fumble recovery.

Nigel Rios had a team-high nine tackles for ECSU, while Brad Davis had two sacks and Justin Beatty recorded one interception.

The Broncos will remain in CIAA play next week as they travel to Murfreesboro, NC to face the Chowan Hawks at 6 p.m.



Voice Photos By: Shekiveia "KeiKei" Gilchrist

1) AFROTC Deattachment #607 Color guard.

2) FSU teammate Michael Johnson (#18-FS) and William Brown (#40-SS) force ECSU's Lyonnel Cook (#24-RB) out of bounds.

3) Broncos offensive team tries make a final push to win the game.