

POSTGAME REPORT: WEEK 3

PLAYERS/PERFORMANCES

Sporting News Today's Derek Samson covers the best and worst performances of the week.

Game balls

1. **Jahvid Best, Cal RB.** Best rushed for 131 yards and a modern school-record five touchdowns to help the No. 8 Golden Bears beat Minnesota. He scored on runs of 33, 27 and 2 yards in the first half, then added a pair of 2-yarders in the second half.

2. **Dwight Dasher, Middle Tennessee QB.** Dasher completed 27-of-44 passes for 324 yards and two touchdowns, plus he ran for a score in knocking off Maryland 32-31 (side note: Maryland-Virginia ought to be a thriller, huh?). But most impressive, Dasher went 4-for-4 for 69 yards on the game-winning drive—an eight-play, 73-yard drive that began with 1:30 left.

3. **Jake Locker, Washington QB.** He went 4-for-4 for 56 yards, including a 21-yard pass on third-and-15, on the decisive final drive as the Huskies stunned No. 3 USC 16-13.

4. **Donovan Travis, Army FS.** Travis intercepted two passes in the fourth quarter, returning the second one 18 yards for the go-ahead touchdown as the Black Knights defeated Ball State 24-17.

5. **Andre Dixon, UConn RB.** Dixon ran for 149 yards and three touchdowns in the 30-22 win at Baylor, proving that despite rumors to the contrary, Baylor is still Baylor.



California's Jahvid Best, left, went airborne to score on this 33-yard touchdown run.

Good hands award

Minnesota WR **Eric Decker** continues to prove he's one of the best—if not the best—college wide receiver. He caught eight passes for 119 yards and two touchdowns (and threw a TD pass). That gives him 27 catches for 415 yards through three games. But it was his touchdown in the first quarter worthy of multiple replays. Decker caught a fade at the pylon just as he was getting drilled in the chin. Somehow, his head

stayed attached to his body and the ball stayed attached to his hands.

Good hands, Part 2

Arkansas WR **Greg Childs'** fully-extended, diving, fingertip catch to put the Hogs up 21-10 on Georgia in the first quarter could have been the highlight of the day.

Bad news for Cats

Arizona star TE **Rob Gronkowski** will miss the rest of the season



Hayes' Heisman watch

Sporting News Today college football columnist Matt Hayes sizes up the Heisman Trophy race after Week 3.

1. **QB Tim Tebow, Sr., Florida:** If Tebow is forced to lug it 24 times a game, he won't last the season—and Florida won't repeat as national champions.
2. **QB Colt McCoy, Sr., Texas:** McCoy's efficient play hasn't changed from last fall. Big numbers equal big wins.
3. **RB Jahvid Best, Jr., California:** While everyone else looked average, Best got five touchdowns in a tough road environment for surging Bears.
4. **QB Jacory Harris, So., Miami:** Welcome to the Heisman race, Mr. Cool. Harris needs signature win on the road.
5. **QB Case Keenum, Jr., Houston:** Just because Cougars were idle doesn't mean Keenum slips.

What's next

After three gimme putts, Penn State plays host to Iowa next week, and TB Evan Royster's candidacy can take off.

Closing in

Playtime is over for Ole Miss. Here comes the SEC season: Time for QB Evan Sead to elevate his play.

Making history

SMU WR Emmanuel Sanders

Caught a school-record 18 passes for 178 yards in a loss to Washington State. His QB with three first names, **Bo Levi Mitchell**, completed 40 of 57 passes for 424 yards and two touchdowns, but also four interceptions.

Kentucky RB Derrick Locke

Returned a kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown to become the first Wildcats player in history to return two 100-yard kickoffs for TDs (he also did it last year against Western Kentucky). Locke ran for another TD in the 31-27 win over Louisville.

Oklahoma QB Landry Jones

Filling in for injured Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford, Jones set a school record with six touchdown passes as No. 12 Oklahoma beat Tulsa 45-0 for its second straight shutout.

Clemson K Richard Jackson

Tied a school record with six field goals.



SMU WR Emmanuel Sanders caught 18 passes.

up another victory for the MAC over the Big Ten. Bolden was averaging 178.5 rushing yards after two games. But he wasn't even the best back on the field Saturday, as NIU's **Me'o Brown** ran for 150 yards.

Injury report

Notre Dame WR **Michael Floyd** likely broke a collarbone in the first half against Michigan State. Coach **Charlie Weis** said the training staff told him "clavicle," and he assumes that means it's broken. It's unclear how long Floyd might be out, though it wouldn't be surprising to see him miss six weeks if it is broken.

Bounceback kid

Consider Ohio State QB **Terrelle Pryor** recovered from the USC loss: 262 yards passing and 110 rushing vs. Toledo.

Quote of the day

"Clearly, we have superior athletes. But hard work beats athleticism every time. That's what happened today."

—USC RB Joe McElhenny, who ran for 100 yards in 17 carries with a touchdown in the loss at Washington.

because of a strained back. Arizona coach **Mike Stoops** said after the Wildcats' 27-17 loss at Iowa that Gronkowski will have back surgery next week. Gronkowski, a junior, was a third-team All-American last season after making 47

catches for 672 yards and 10 TDs.

Bolden Corral

Purdue's **Ralph Bolden**, the nation's leading rusher heading into the weekend, was held to 64 yards as Northern Illinois chalked

Middle Tennessee 32, **Wake Forest** 27

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Raiders rally, upset Terps with field goal

COLLEGE PARK, MD.—Middle Tennessee's spread offense piled up yardage and its no-huddle attack tired out Maryland's defense.

Nothing the Blue Raiders did, however, hurt as much as the mistakes the Terrapins inflicted upon themselves.

Alan Genereau made a 19-yard field goal as time expired and Middle Tennessee rallied for a 32-31 victory over turnover-prone Maryland on Saturday.

"I would think this is the biggest win ever for our program on the road," said Blue Raiders coach Rick Stockstill, whose team amassed 438 offensive yards. "To come into an ACC stadium like this and beat a very, very good Maryland team is a tremendous accomplishment."

Dwight Dasher completed 27-of-44 passes for 324 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a score for Middle Tennessee (2-1). Dasher was 4 of 4 for 69 yards on the decisive drive, an eight-play, 73-yard march that began with 1:30 left after Maryland's Nick Ferrara went wide right on a 42-yard field goal attempt.

"It was (saying) everybody needs to pick up their blocks and everybody needs to make plays, and we got to get down there and win this game," said Dasher. "I told the line to give me some time so I could make some plays and they did that."

Da'Rel Scott rushed for 117 yards and a TD for the Terps, but fumbled twice. Maryland QB Chris Turner was 19-for-30 for 288 yards. Overall, Maryland committed four turnovers leading to 17 Blue Raiders points and offsetting 446 offensive yards.

N.C. State 45, Gardner-Webb 14

RALEIGH, N.C.—Russell Wilson had four touchdown passes for the second straight week, threw for a career-high 345 yards and set an NCAA passing record in North Carolina State's rout of Gardner-Webb.

Toney Baker had two early scoring runs before Wilson threw touchdown passes



NICK RASS/AP

Blue Raiders K Alan Genereau, getting a hug from teammate Evn Lovtson, made the decisive kick as time expired.

covering 17 and 12 yards to George Bryan, 24 yards to T.J. Graham and 16 yards to Jarvis Williams for the Wolfpack (2-1).

For most of the game, the only question was whether Wilson would play long enough to break the NCAA record of 325 consecutive passes without an interception, a mark set by Kentucky's Andre Woodson from 2006-07. He entered 32 attempts behind Woodson but surpassed him late in the third quarter with a 13-yard dump-off over the middle to running back James Washington.

Six plays later, Wilson threw his fourth touchdown pass—the strike to Williams that capped his night and extended the pick-free streak to 329.

Wake Forest 35, Elon 7

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—Riley Skinner threw for a career-high 289 yards and three touch-

downs, and Wake Forest tuned up for its conference schedule by beating Elon.

Not that they needed it, but even the officials helped the Demon Deacons (2-1) in the first meeting in 70 years between the neighboring schools.

Skinner's 54-yard touchdown pass to Chris Givens late in the second quarter came after back judge Tommy Pace inadvertently tripped Elon cornerback Karlos Sullivan near the goal line.

The blower made it 21-0, and Skinner was through for the night after throwing an 80-yard touchdown to Marshall Williams late in the third quarter.

Never threatened against the Phoenix (2-1)—a Division I-AA program—the Demon Deacons won their second straight. Wake Forest plays at Boston College in its ACC opener next week.

—The Associated Press



ACC

TEAM	CONF.	OVERALL	NEXT
ATLANTIC			
Clemson	1-1	2-1	No. 15 TCU, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
North Carolina State	0-0	2-1	Pittsburgh, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
Wake Forest	0-0	2-1	at Boston College, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Maryland	0-0	3-2	Rutgers, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
Boston College	0-1	2-1	Wake Forest, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Florida State	0-1	2-1	South Florida, Saturday, noon
COASTAL			
Miami	2-0	2-0	at No. 13 Virginia Tech, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech	1-1	2-1	No. 24 North Carolina, Saturday, noon
North Carolina	0-0	3-0	at No. 14 Georgia Tech, Saturday, noon
Virginia Tech	0-0	2-1	No. 20 Miami, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
Duke	0-0	3-2	N.C. Central, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Virginia	0-0	0-3	at No. 24 North Carolina, Oct. 1, 7 PM

Middle Tennessee	0	13	0	9	—	32	Elon	0	0	0	7	—	7
Maryland	7	7	7	18	—	31	Wake Forest	14	7	14	0	—	35

First Quarter	Wake: 15 (Alan Genereau kick), 6:46.
Second Quarter	MTSU: Dasher 1 run (Jack Stockstill), 14:30.
Third Quarter	MD: Mays 1 run (Ferrara kick), 1:26.
Fourth Quarter	MD: Smith 37 pass from Turner (Ferrara kick), 12:22.
Final Score	Middle Tennessee 32, Maryland 31.
First Quarter	Wake: 15 (Riley Skinner), 12:15.
Second Quarter	Wake: 15 (Riley Skinner), 12:15.
Third Quarter	Wake: 15 (Riley Skinner), 12:15.
Fourth Quarter	Wake: 15 (Riley Skinner), 12:15.
Final Score	Wake Forest 35, Elon 7.

Team	Elon	Wake
First downs	15	10
Run-yards	27-46	45-132
Passing	195	294
Comp-Att-Int	24-43-0	15-24-1
Return yards	112	30
Punt-yds	6-31.0	5-36.4
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	4-35	2-10
Time of Possession	29:04	30:56

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	RUSHING: Skinner 19-54, Aikens 5-20, Huddle 3-10, Turner 1-6, Baker 1-5, Williams 1-5, Johnson 1-5, Robinson 1-5, Skinner 2-30, Brown 3-30, Givens 1-5, Williams 1-3, Boone 2-10.
PASSING: Skinner 24-43-0, 295, 345, Skinner 14-20-1, 200, Williams 1-4-0-5.	
RECEIVING: Skinner 11-111, Labinovic 4-111, Aikens 3-47, Jeffcoat 2-37, Sherman 1-5, Galloway 1-3, Wake Forest: Givens 3-48, Williams 1-5, Williams 2-41, Roof 2-37, Boone 2-14, Adams 1-3, Robinson 1-4, Williams 1-5.	

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N.C. State's D
Granted, opponents
last two weeks
have been I-AA.
Still, the Wolfpack
have allowed just 24
points total in three
games this season.

FALLING
Cavs' chance for W
Circle Oct. 10, maybe
Virginia's only shot
at a win this season
with Indiana coming
to town. Virginia has
lost to I-AA, MWC
and C-USA so far.

Gardner-Webb	0	0	7	7	—	14
N.C. State	21	10	7	7	—	45

First Quarter	NCS: Baker 11 run (Cajkovski kick), 10:39.
Second Quarter	NCS: Baker 2 run (Cajkovski kick), 5:11.
Third Quarter	NCS: Graham 24 pass from K. Williams (Cajkovski kick), 4:0.
Fourth Quarter	NCS: FG Cajkovski 41, 10:25.
Final Score	NCS: 45, Gardner-Webb 14.
First Quarter	Wake: 17 pass from K. Williams (Cajkovski kick), 9:17.
Second Quarter	Wake: Graham 18 run (Gates kick), 6:30.
Third Quarter	Wake: 17 pass from K. Williams (Cajkovski kick), 9:17.
Fourth Quarter	Wake: 17 pass from K. Williams (Cajkovski kick), 9:17.
Final Score	Wake Forest 35, Elon 7.

Team	Elon	Wake
First downs	13	29
Run-yards	36-101	31-112
Passing	112	300
Comp-Att-Int	14-30-0	20-40-0
Return yards	6	47
Punt-yds	9-40.5	2-30.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-6	2-1
Penalties-Yards	11-106	6-45
Time of Possession	18:06	29:44

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	RUSHING: Gardner-Webb: Pugh 9-30, Sanders 1-8, Hall 1-8, Montgomery 1-2, Doolittle 9-9, Blackson 3-6, N.C. State: Baker 10-71, Barnes 2-27, Washington 6-25, Williams 1-15, Givens 1-10, Turner 1-10.
PASSING: Gardner-Webb: Doolittle 14-22-0-11, N.C. State: K. Williams 20-30-0-14, Sanders 14-0-20.	
RECEIVING: Gardner-Webb: Perry 4-38, Miller 3-34, Palmer 2-34, Melton 3-14, Sanders 1-4, Lymbouziou 1-5, Montgomery 1-10, N.C. State: Bryan 6-88, Graham 5-52, Davis 4-71, Baker 3-34, Johnson 1-1, 2-40, Givens 2-19, Sanders 2-27, Washington 2-16, Howard 1-7, Wilson 1-4, Risher 1-1.	