

SPORTS

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JESSI DODGE/Missourian

Missouri defensive lineman Terry Beckner Jr. stands on the field alone after Missouri's loss to Kentucky on Saturday at Kroger Field in Lexington, Ky.

KENTUCKY 40, MISSOURI 34

UNLUCKY IN KENTUCKY

*Tigers show life, but chance for victory
over Wildcats swatted away late*

Anne Rogers | Missourian

Four long passes from the junior quarterback helped keep the score close in Missouri's 40-34 loss to Kentucky (5-1, 2-1 SEC).

But on the last play of the game — one that would have won the contest if it resulted in a TD, assuming the extra point was made — Lock came up short on a pass from Kentucky's 20-yard line to tight end Albert Okwuegbunam near the end zone.

"There were obviously plays throughout the game that I wish I could have back," Lock said. "There are so many plays in a game that one doesn't define the game, but it definitely hurts. I have to be able to make a better throw and move around in the pocket a little better."

The beginning wasn't pretty for the Tigers (1-4, 0-3), and the ending didn't turn in their favor, either. But in between, Missouri did

something it hasn't done in a while: It kept the game close.

"I'm proud of the way our offense went out and made big plays, kept responding, and I thought we were able to run the ball and open some things up in the pass game," Missouri coach Barry Odom said in his postgame press conference. "Close doesn't count it, and in the course of a game in a couple of evenly matched teams, I think comes down to who makes more plays."

Missouri trailed 13-0 before Lock began stretching footballs down the field and inching Missouri's score closer to Kentucky's.

He threw a 50-yard pass to wide receiver J'Mon Moore with seven minutes to go in the second quarter to bring the score to 13-7. After a 71-yard touchdown run from Kentucky running back Benny Snell, Lock flung a 58-yard

touchdown to wide receiver Emanuel Hall with 40 seconds to go in the first half.

The Tigers were down 20-14, and they had hope heading into the locker room.

"I think we were really confident because we got that touchdown at the end there," Hall said. "We really built off the energy and were able to start coming back."

Lock connected with Hall again for 48 yards to put Missouri on the one yard line, and Lock ran it in to cut the deficit to three. Sophomore kicker Tucker McCann tied the game with a 25-yard field goal.

The quarterback's longest pass of the night came early in the fourth quarter, on a 75-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Johnathon Johnson to tie the game yet again. After being limited to one touchdown in the 31-13 loss to

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Martin, Porter to debut 'Mizzou Madness'

BY WILL JARVIS
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Michael Porter Jr., Cuonzo Martin and the rest of the revamped Tigers basketball team will make their first public appearance on Saturday, Oct. 21, when the Missouri men's and women's teams host 'Mizzou Madness' at Mizzou Arena.

MU football plays its homecoming game that same day against Idaho. The game's start time, which will be announced Monday, will determine the time of Mizzou Madness.

The event will be similar to last year's 'Halloween & Hoops,' which featured a dunk contest, three-point shooting contest and men's and women's scrimmages.

The event will be free.

COMMENTARY

MU brings energy and attitude, but there are no moral victories

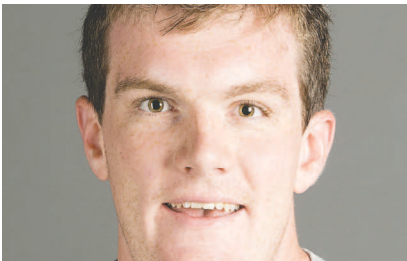
LEXINGTON, Kentucky. — While Kentucky fans jumped up and down to Zombie Nation's "Kernkraft 400" — that "ohhohhohhohh, oh, ohhohhohhohhohhohh, ohhoh, ohhoh" song you hear at almost every sporting event — ahead of kickoff Saturday, Missouri players joined in on the opposing sidelines. When the Tigers ran out for the second half down 20-14, a few players motioned their arms up and down in an attempt to pump up Kroger Field.

"We were trying to change something," Paul Adams said. "Obviously, what we've been doing in the past hasn't been working."

The Tigers fed off the energy of their first trip to an opposing stadium — and made some of their own — and it produced the best game they've played all season. Regardless, Missouri will leave Lexington, Kentucky, winless in conference road games since Nov. 22, 2014.

Missouri tried everything it could to show fans it wasn't the same team that disappointed for three straight weeks at Memorial Stadium — even down to the bare-bones optics.

The Tigers donned new white uniforms and black helmets and debuted offensive packages that ranged from Alec Abeln at fullback



BROOKS HOLTON

to Drew Lock motioning out to wide receiver and Damarea Crockett taking snaps out of the wildcat formation. Terez Hall and other members of the defense celebrated key tackles and big hits with swagger (and a close enough game to back up the showboating). Lock made it through an entire game without throwing an interception, Ish Witter had his first 100-yard rushing game of the season and the wide receiving corps looked better than it has all season a week after sophomore Dimetrios Mason was dismissed from the team.

But even on a night where one could argue more things went right than even Missouri's 72-point performance against Missouri State in Week 1, a high snap caused

Tuck McCann's game-tying field goal attempt to be blocked and the Kentucky offense ran through the Tigers' defense en route to what proved to be the game-clinching field goal.

You know what they say about the more things change.

"Close doesn't cut it," Barry Odom said.

Earlier this week, senior tight end Jason Reese referenced the Tigers' 2016 31-21 loss at South Carolina to explain the attitude they needed to bring to Lexington. There were no bottles of "water" chugged by Lock, but Missouri asserted itself physically for four quarters and played with an attitude that wasn't present often during the season-opening homestand.

Case in point: Kevin Pendleton was flagged for a personal foul in the second quarter after he kept pushing a Kentucky lineman — bulldozing him into the ground — after the play had been whistled dead and appeared, for lack of a better word, visibly pissed off at the call.

"Should have focused on the whistle; I didn't hear the whistle," Pendleton said. "That's something we do in practice. (Offensive line)

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LOOKING AHEAD

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Missouri vs. Mississippi

When: Noon Sunday

Where: Hearnes Center

Watch: SEC Network

GIRLS GOLF

Rock Bridge in MSHSAA Class 2 Championship

When: 8:30 a.m.

Monday and Tuesday

Where: Sedalia

Tolton in MSHSAA Class 1 Championship

When: 8:30 a.m.

Monday and Tuesday

Where: Columbia Country Club

INSIDE

HIGH SCHOOL FB

Rock Bridge and Tolton both come up with big wins Friday as postseason draws closer

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