

# Braves rally back with 21 unanswered points

By Nick Phillips  
Sports Editor

Down 14-7 with one 12 minute quarter to go and facing a even longer bus ride back home, the UNCP football team clawed back to score 21-unanswered fourth quarter points for a comeback victory over Glenville State in Glenville, W.Va, on Oct. 2.

Braves senior quarterback Cory Smith tallied two of his three touchdown passes in the fourth quarter as he led the offense down the field for the three scores in the final stanza.

"I was disappointed that we came out of the gates as slow as we did," UNCP head coach Pete Shinnick said after the game.

"We were very fortunate to win the game today. We did not play very well offensively in the first half, but we found a way to get it done. We have to correct our inability to start fast, but I was pleased with the way we finished," Shinnick added.

Smith finished with 164

yards on a 16-for-29 passing performance. Smith spread the ball around to seven different receivers, with redshirt senior St. Anthony Lloyd collecting four passes, including a 16-yard third quarter touchdown, for 54 yards to lead all Braves receivers.

Senior Josh Throckmorton finished with three catches for 29 yards and the game-tying touchdown, while redshirt-freshman Josh Carter's only catch of the afternoon was good for a 22-yard touchdown.

The UNCP offense didn't rely on its rushing attack for the second consecutive week, with the Braves' 74 total rushing yards their lowest mark since finishing with only 62 yards in a losing effort at Wingate on Sept. 13, 2008.

Junior Travis Daniels tallied the most yardage, with 38 yards on seven carries, while senior Keith Gore totaled the most touches with 14 rushing attempts as he finished with 33 yards on the ground.

Redshirt-freshman Fred



UNCP running backs, including Travis Daniels, gained the least yards on the ground since 2008, but the Braves' 21 fourth quarter points gave them the 28-14 victory over Glenville State.

Photo by Nick Faulkner

Williams and redshirt-senior Adam Deese each played a major factor in the second-consecutive game.

Williams and Deese each finished with game-best 13 tackles for the Braves, while the pair combined for three tackles for a loss.

Senior defensive lineman James Alexander had two sacks in the game, while his fellow defensive lineman, sophomore Zack Bohannon, and junior linebacker Jamaral Rease had a sack apiece.

Glenville State led 6-0 at halftime thanks to two field goals, from 22 and 31 yards out. If not for the Braves defense, they could have had more points.

In just the second quarter, Glenville State totaled 121 yards, while the Braves

only had one offensive yard.

One. However, both times Glenville State entered the red zone, they were unable to gain positive yardage as the UNCP defense built a wall inside the 20 yard line.

The Braves got on the board in the third quarter after they moved the ball 87 yards in 11 plays before Smith connected with a wide open Lloyd to give UNCP a slim, 7-6 lead.

Immediately following the Braves' score, Glenville State regained the lead on a nine-yard touchdown pass by quarterback Darold Hughes. Little did Glenville State know, but their 14-7 lead after the two-point conversion would be the last time they would be ahead.

UNCP took total control of the fourth quarter, out-

gaining Glenville State by 72 yards in the final period.

First, the Braves tied the game with Throckmorton's touchdown catch before regaining possession after Glenville State mishandled a punt with just over seven minutes to go.

UNCP jumped ahead four plays later when Smith found Carter at the 5:51 mark, but the nail in the coffin came a minute later.

UNCP redshirt-freshman Rakim Williams blocked and recovered the loose ball and went in for the touchdown and the game's final score.

The Braves have a long ride down to Florida Oct. 9 as they travel to take on Webber International. UNCP is 3-0 all time against Webber International.



UNCP quarterback Cory Smith led the Braves offense to three fourth quarter touchdowns in their comeback win Oct 2.

Photo by Nick Faulkner

## Braves regain winning ways against Carson-Newman on Parents' Weekend

By Nick Phillips  
Sports Editor

UNCP linebacker Fred Williams walked into the post-game press conference wearing a shirt with the words 'Braves: Just do it' on front.

After the Braves' convincing, 30-7 victory over 14th-ranked Carson-Newman Sept. 25, Williams' shirt should have read 'Braves: Just did it' as UNCP's defense held Carson-Newman to just 168 yards of total offense and never allowed the Eagles' wheels to get moving.

The Braves jumped out to a 17-point halftime advantage before finishing with a 30-7 victory as UNCP totaled 305 offensive

yards.

The Braves, coming off their only loss of the season at Wingate on Sept. 18, allowed only nine Carson-Newman first downs in the game, with three of those first downs coming during Carson-Newman's lone scoring drive late in the fourth quarter.

After the game, UNCP head coach Pete Shinnick said he was extremely happy with the defense and the final outcome.

"Our guys were dialed in and focused, and we had an answer for every little deal (Carson-Newman) could come up with," Shinnick said.

Fred Williams led the defense with a game-high 11 tackles, while Quentin

Pate finished with six tackles of his own as well as a fourth quarter interception. Kellen Rankin totaled five tackles and a second quarter interception in the defensive cause.

The highlight defensive play of the game came from Braves' linebacker and Laurinburg native Adam Deese, as he intercepted a Carson-Newman pass attempt and rumbled 43 yards for the touchdown.

When asked if he had ever run that far before, Deese, Williams, quarterback Cory Smith and Shinnick had a good laugh before Deese replied that it was "definitely a first, my first ever touchdown."

### Flipped script

Offensively, UNCP had a complete role reversal from its usual attack pattern. The Braves finished with just 78 rushing yards but Smith threw for 227 yards in the air. Smith finished 19-for-28 on the day.

"It was vice versa of what we usually do, the run game setting up the pass. Here it was more of the pass to set up the run," Smith said of the offensive game-plan.

"It's week by week. We feel like if we are strong in both aspects on the offensive side of the ball then no matter what the defense's strength is, we have something to counter them with,"



Braves' defensive line coach Jim Miller (right) reacts after the UNCP defense forced a fumble against Carson-Newman. Head coach Pete Shinnick (back left) also celebrates.

Photo by Gabrielle Lovar

Smith finished.

Smith and the Braves' offense opened the scoring midway through the first quarter when Te'vell Williams spun off a defender and raced 59 yards down the sideline for the touchdown.

Travis Daniels finished up a 13-play, 75-yard drive with a 14-yard run into the endzone in the second quarter to double the UNCP lead.

Kicker Taylor Baskett added a field goal late in the second quarter, which was set up thanks to Rankin's interception.

A rare bright spot for Carson-Newman came before the half, when they created a drive that moved all

the way to the UNCP 19-yard line. The 35-yard field goal try was blocked by James Alexander to kill the little momentum Carson-Newman had.

Baskett tallied another field goal, this time from 37 yards out, in the third quarter to extend the lead to 20-0 before Deese stepped in front of a Carson-Newman pass for his 'pick six' interception. Baskett's third field goal of the game, a 48-yard shot, finished off UNCP's scoring.

Carson-Newman scored their lone goal on Otis Rumph's 22-yard touchdown run with less than three minutes to play to avoid being shutout for the first time since 1992.



UNCP's Kellen Rankin makes one of his five tackles against Carson-Newman on Sept. 25.

Photo by Gabrielle Lovar