UAB picked up its ninth win of the season, topping divisional foe North Texas 26-21 to clinch the Conference USA West Division title on Saturday afternoon at Apogee Stadium. The Blazers are now 9-3 overall and 6-2 in Conference USA.

The division-clinching win marked UAB’s 28th total win and 20th conference win since The Return, the most by any C-USA program since 2017.

The Blazers are now 10-3 in one possession games since The Return.

The UAB defense were active in the North Texas backfield throughout the game, adding 11 tackles for loss, seven sacks, a forced fumble and two interceptions.

Both interceptions were the first in each Blazer's career. After redshirt junior defensive back TD Marshall snagged his first career interception, he returned it 76 yards for a touchdown. The pick-six was the first by North Texas quarterback Mason Fine since 2017. Sophomore corner Starling Thomas’ first pick came in a crucial moment in the end zone.

The Blazers contained North Texas on the money down, holding the Mean Green to 4-of-14 on third downs and denying a pair of fourth down attempts, including a crucial sack late in the game. The nation’s sixth-ranked defense, UAB came into the matchup marked third in the country in third down defense, allowing opposing teams to convert at just 27.4 percent.

Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year candidate Kris Moll lived in the Mean Green backfield, coming away with five tackles and two sacks on the day. Redshirt sophomore Jordan Smith also added two sacks and three total tackles. The two sacks for each were career highs in a game for both players. Moll continues to lead the team in tackles with 89 despite missing the first game of the season, while Smith continues to lead the squad in sacks with 10.

Redshirt sophomore Noah Wilder led the defense in tackles, finishing with 7 and 0.5 TFL. Fitz Mofor and Fish McWilliams each added a sack, while Alex Wright and Will Boler each added 0.5 sack to reach the Blazers’ sack total.

The UAB offense found much success on the ground, outgaining North Texas 203-21 in rushing yards.

True junior running back Spencer Brown became the first Blazer to reach 3,000 career rushing yards on Saturday night after turning in a 111-yard performance with a touchdown to reach 3,018 total yards. By surpassing 100 yards, Brown also took sole possession of the No. 1 spot in career 100-yard rushing games with 13 to date. The performance marked his strongest yardage output of the season.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Dylan Hopkins picked up his third career win in four starts, completing 50 percent of his passes.

Senior wideout Kendall Parham led the Blazer receivers, finishing with two receptions for 60 yards and a long of 36 yards (30 ypc).

Placekicker Nick Vogel went 2-for-2 on field goals in the game to reach 16 field goals on the year. That mark is his career high in field goals through one season.