

= Calvin McCarty =

Calvin McCarty (born November 2 , 1984) is a Canadian football running back for the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League (CFL) . He played as a tailback until 2014 , when he became the starting fullback for the Eskimos . McCarty is known for being able to fill many roles at his position , with TSN sportscaster Chris Schultz noting in 2010 that he is a " multi @-@ purpose running back who catches the ball extremely well , blocks well and runs well " . He is a champion of the 103rd Grey Cup .

Prior to being drafted by the Edmonton Eskimos in the fourth round of the 2007 CFL Draft , McCarty played high school football for the St. Thomas More Knights , where he broke multiple school records . He later played college football for the Western Washington Vikings . With the Vikings , McCarty developed into a dual threat , being used heavily as a rusher and receiver . McCarty has spent his entire professional career with the Edmonton Eskimos , making him the most veteran player on the team as of the 2015 season .

= = High school career = =

McCarty played high school football for the St. Thomas More Knights in Burnaby , British Columbia beginning in 1998 , playing as both a running back and middle linebacker on the Grade 8 team . He quickly became a key player on the team , including rushing for 185 yards and four touchdowns while adding 10 defensive tackles in the Grade 8 provincial semi @-@ finals on November 24 against the Handsworth Royals . For that performance , he was named " Star of the Week " by The Vancouver Sun . The Knights went on to defeat the Vancouver College Fighting Irish 48 ? 0 in the Grade 8 B.C. championship game , where McCarty scored another three touchdowns .

The following year , McCarty joined the senior team at St. Thomas More , skipping the junior team entirely . He continued in his role as a running back while switching to the secondary defensively . Despite being a rare Grade 9 player on the senior team , he was one of the Knights ' two leading rushers that year . McCarty scored a touchdown in the AAA B.C. championship game , helping the Knights win their first senior title as they beat the Pinetree T @-@ Wolves 29 ? 6 . While K.C. Steele , the Knights ' coach , has a policy of not recording player statistics , it is estimated that McCarty finished 1999 with over 1 @, @ 000 rushing yards and 15 touchdowns .

In 2000 , McCarty played a significant role in the Knights ' rushing and return game . He rushed for 150 yards and three touchdowns against the Burnaby Central Wildcats in the annual Burnaby Bowl , adding two punt returns for touchdowns . By the end of October , the Knights had compiled a perfect 6 ? 0 record , and defensive coordinator and former CFL defensive back Lou Deslauriers called McCarty " the best player for his age and talent that we 've ever had at our school " . He recorded 238 yards and four consecutive touchdowns with only 23 carries in the Knights ' 46 ? 12 victory over the W. J. Mouat Hawks in the AAA championship game . For his role in earning the Knights their second AAA title , McCarty was named the game 's MVP , becoming the youngest player to earn this award .

McCarty remained a presence on the field for the Knights in 2001 , expanding his role by playing some snaps as a fullback . He rushed for 160 yards in that year 's Burnaby Bowl , including three touchdowns as a halfback and one as a fullback . McCarty had another notable performance in a 67 ? 7 blowout against the South Delta Sun Devils , running for 200 yards and three touchdowns . He also showed himself to be a capable receiver , including making five catches for 66 yards in a match against the Holy Cross Crusaders . McCarty also finished that game with 110 yards and two touchdowns on only three carries . Despite giving up only 19 points during the entire regular season , the Knights lost 32 ? 26 in the quarter @-@ finals of the playoffs against the Centennial Centaurs after McCarty was stopped one yard away from the endzone on the last play of the game .

As a senior , McCarty recorded 2 @, @ 400 yards and scored 33 touchdowns in just nine games , averaging 266 @. @ 7 yards and over three touchdowns per game . He ran for 380 yards and three touchdowns in a 21 ? 20 loss against the W. J. Mouat Hawks in the quarter @-@ finals of the AAA playoffs . He was named the 2002 Provincial Player of the Year for his performance and finished his

four @-@ year AAA career at St. Thomas More with 84 touchdowns , breaking a school record .

= = = Other sports = = =

McCarty played basketball and baseball during high school as well . He lettered in basketball with the Knights . At the 2001 Big League World Series , McCarty played for Team Canada as a shortstop and center fielder , helping the team to third place in the international competition . Despite being skilled as a baseball player , McCarty chose football over professional baseball due to the physicality of the former sport .

= = College career = =

= = = Boise State = = =

McCarty originally committed to Boise State University and played for the Broncos . In 2003 , he was given redshirt status and did not play . McCarty played a limited role the following year , but capitalized on the opportunities he was given , rushing for 104 yards on only 10 carries . His only touchdown came on a 7 @-@ yard carry in the October 24 game against the Fresno State Bulldogs . The Bulldogs finished with an 11 ? 1 season in 2004 .

= = = Reedley = = =

McCarty transferred to Reedley College and played for the Tigers in 2005 . He ended the season with 620 rushing yards , 500 receiving yards , and 14 touchdowns , as the Tigers earned a 10 ? 1 record along their way to the Central Valley Conference championship title . McCarty also played baseball at Reedley .

= = = Western Washington = = =

After his single season at Reedley , McCarty transferred to Western Washington University and played football for the Vikings . McCarty was immediately a significant factor in the Vikings ' gameplan . In the season opener , he rushed for 139 yards and three touchdowns on 30 carries against the Humboldt State Lumberjacks . He also played a large role in the passing game early in the season , making eight receptions for 126 yards through the first two games . After starting the first seven games for the Vikings , McCarty broke his foot in a game against the South Dakota Hardrockers . At the time of his injury , he led the Vikings in rushing and receiving yards . He finished the season with 492 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 130 carries , as well as 30 receptions for 278 yards . McCarty was also named a second @-@ team all @-@ star of the North Central Conference .

= = Professional career = =

= = = Edmonton Eskimos = = =

Following his only season at Western Washington , McCarty declared himself eligible for the 2007 CFL Draft . He was selected in the fourth round of the draft by the Edmonton Eskimos with the 27th overall pick . He was re @-@ signed on December 19 , 2008 to a multiple @-@ year contract , and again following the 2011 season .

= = = = 2007 season = = = =

McCarty made the active roster and played in all 18 regular season games his rookie season . He was used in the passing game and on the special teams , finishing with seven receptions for 99 yards and a touchdown as well as five special @-@ teams tackles . McCarty made his CFL debut on June 28 in the season opener against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers . He received his first carry and reception in a Week 10 game against the Calgary Stampeders , where he was given two carries for one yard and caught one reception for 10 yards .

===== 2008 season =====

McCarty played a larger role in his second season with the Eskimos , especially as a receiver . On September 1 in a match against the Stampeders , starting running back A. J. Harris was injured , and McCarty rushed for 73 yards on 12 carries as a backup . Filling in again for the injured Harris on September 13 against the Montreal Alouettes , McCarty was named Canadian Player of the Week for the first time with 72 yards on only 9 carries and a touchdown . Receiving his first start of his career on October 4 , McCarty rushed for 88 yards on 19 carries with a touchdown along with eight catches for 80 yards , earning him another Canadian Player of the Week award . He played in all 18 games and started three times in his second year , finishing with 490 yards and four touchdowns on 88 carries . He had 70 catches , the second @-@ highest amount among running backs . He also continued his role on the special teams , ending the season with 11 special @-@ teams tackles . During the season , head coach Danny Maciocia referred to McCarty as " the best fourth @-@ round pick he 'd ever been associated with " .

===== 2009 season =====

McCarty split time with Arkee Whitlock in 2009 . He rushed for two touchdowns in Week 4 , being named the Canadian Player of the Week for the third time . He was also named the Canadian Player of the Month in July after continuing to play a large role in the rushing game . In August , McCarty injured his hamstring in a game against the Stampeders and missed several games . He briefly returned in mid @-@ September before being sidelined again with recurring hamstringing issues until late October . In Week 19 , McCarty ran for 81 yards and a touchdown off of 10 carries , helping the Eskimos defeat the BC Lions in a 45 ? 13 blowout . Despite having his season sidetracked by injuries , McCarty finished 2009 with 348 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 67 attempts , as well as seven special @-@ teams tackles . He saw a significantly smaller role as a receiver , catching 20 passes for only 124 yards .

===== 2010 season =====

McCarty remained in a multi @-@ purpose role in 2010 and was utilized more frequently in the passing game compared to the previous season . He made a reception for a first down following a fake punt in Week 6 . He missed two games later in the season due to a hand injury . In a September 26 game against the Toronto Argonauts , McCarty rushed for 84 yards on 10 carries and two fourth @-@ quarter touchdowns , including a 46 @-@ yard breakaway . McCarty was utilized about equally on the ground and in the air , ending his season with 287 rushing yards on 62 carries and 278 receiving yards on 36 catches as well as five total touchdowns . He continued to play on the special teams where he made eight tackles . He started in six of the 15 games he played , and the Eskimos nominated him for Most Outstanding Canadian .

===== 2011 season =====

In 2011 , the Eskimos utilized a committee of running backs , with McCarty , Daniel Porter , and Jerome Messam all receiving significant playing time . McCarty was used mostly in short @-@ yardage situations on the ground , while also being active as a receiver and on special teams . He played in 18 games , made eight starts , and finished with 209 yards on 52 carries with no

touchdowns . He also caught 22 passes for 150 yards and a touchdown . McCarty played in both of the Eskimos ' playoff games . In the West Semi @-@ Finals against the Stampeders , he rushed for a goal @-@ line touchdown , in addition to making three receptions and two special @-@ teams tackles . McCarty played a more limited role in the West Finals against the BC Lions , where he was given only one carry for six yards , made one tackle on special teams , and caught two passes for a total of four yards .

===== 2012 season =====

McCarty played a limited role in 2012 , both due to injuries and competition from other backs , including Cory Boyd , Hugh Charles , and Jerome Messam . McCarty missed six games due to a high ankle sprain suffered during the Labour Day Rematch . Playing in the other 12 games but starting in none , McCarty rushed only 12 times and made five receptions with a lone rushing touchdown . He added four special @-@ teams tackles .

===== 2013 season =====

McCarty played a role as a receiver and special teams player in 2013 , but was almost entirely absent from the rushing game . He rushed for 48 yards on 9 carries , but caught 20 passes for 186 yards and two touchdowns . He continued to play on the special teams , and recorded nine special @-@ teams tackles .

===== 2014 season =====

McCarty was shifted from playing mostly as a backup tailback to the fullback position , where he started all 18 regular season games . In his new position , McCarty was primarily used for blocking and remained involved on special teams and as a receiver . He continued his extremely limited role as a rusher , finishing the season with just eight carries . McCarty had 16 catches for 123 yards and two touchdowns , as well as a career @-@ high 12 special @-@ teams tackles .

===== 2015 season =====

McCarty was again used as a fullback and special teams player in 2015 . After sustaining an unspecified injury in week 12 , he missed several games and was placed on the six @-@ game injured list . McCarty finished the season with only one carry and nine catches , his lowest total number of touches in any CFL season . With 12 starts , McCarty finished with one carry for 20 yards , nine receptions for 68 yards , as well as five special teams tackles and one kick return for 17 yards . McCarty played in the West Final and had one special teams tackle . He became a Grey Cup champion for the first time after rushing for three yards on a fake punt in the championship game versus the Redblacks .

===== Season statistics =====

===== Personal life =====

McCarty grew up in Muskogee , Oklahoma . After his mother , Jackie Conway , was unable to financially support him , McCarty moved to Canada and lived with his father , Orlando McCarty .

His mother was a college softball player for the NEO Lady Norse , while his father was a college basketball player for the Bacone Warriors and the Southeastern Oklahoma State Savage Storm . McCarty 's siblings were also college athletes ; Tiffany played softball for the McPherson Bulldogs while Jordan was a quarterback with the Reedley Tigers .