

Samford Upsets Terriers In Double-OT

Written by Staff Reports

Sunday, 04 November 2012 09:26

Samford quarterback Andy Summerlin hit Kelsey Pope for a 12-yard touchdown in double overtime, and Alvin Hines II recovered a Wofford fumble on the Terriers ensuing possession to give the Bulldog football team a thrilling 24-17 victory

over sixth-ranked Wofford Saturday afternoon at Seibert Stadium. The win is Samford's first win over a top-10 ranked team since 1994 when the Bulldogs took down sixth-ranked UCF, 36-35. The win also guarantees Samford of back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1998 and 1999.

Wofford took a 17-9 lead with 1:52 left in the fourth quarter on Eric Breitenstein's two-yard run. Samford then started its final drive of the fourth quarter with 1:45 to go at its own 28-yard line. The Bulldogs marched 72 yards in 10 plays, with Summerlin hitting Trett Hardman on a one-yard touchdown on the final play of regulation to bring Samford to within two points at 17-15. Summerlin then hit Chris Cephus for the two-point conversion to tie the score at 17-17 and force overtime.

In the first overtime possession, Wofford drove to the Samford 16-yard line, but Kasey Redfern missed a 33-yard field goal attempt. On Samford's first OT possession, the Bulldogs likewise drove to the Wofford 16-yard line, but Cameron Yaw's 34-yard attempt went wide left to send the game to a second overtime.

For the game, Samford was led by Summerlin, completing 29-of-35 passes for 165 yards and two touchdowns. Fabian Truss rushed 26 times for 120 yards. Pope led all receivers with 12 catches for 69 yards and a touchdown. For the Samford defense, Justin Shade led the way with 13 tackles, including six solo stops. Jaquiski Tartt and Darion Sutton finished with nine tackles each. Hines had seven tackles to go along with his fumble recovery.

Samford's Yaw made three of his four field goal attempts, making kicks from 24, 40 and 31 yards out. Punter Greg Peranich averaged 44.8 yards on five punts in the contest. Wofford was led by Breitenstein with 35 rushes for 168 yards and one touchdown. James Zotto led the Terrier defense with 12 tackles, while Mike McCrimon had 11 tackles for Wofford.

After a scoreless first quarter, Samford put the first points on the scoreboard early in the second quarter. Yaw kicked a 24-yard field goal to give the Bulldogs a 3-0 lead with 9:49 to go in the second quarter. The score capped a 14-play, 86-yard drive that took 5:58 off of the clock.

Wofford took the lead with a touchdown late in the second quarter. James Lawson scored on a six-yard run with 3:29 left in the half. Redfern added the extra point to give the Terriers a 7-3 lead. The scoring drive for Wofford was 13 plays, 75 yard and took 6:20.

The Terriers struck again just before halftime. Redfern kicked a school-record 53-yard field goal as time expired to make the score 10-3, Wofford heading into halftime.

Samford scored on its first drive of the second half. Yaw kicked his second field goal of the game, this one from 40-yards out with 7:15 to go in the third quarter to cut the Wofford lead to 10-6. Yaw added a 31-yard field goal to make the score 10-9 with 14.4 seconds to go in the third quarter.

With the win, Samford improves to 6-3 overall and 4-3 in Southern Conference play. Wofford drops to 7-2 overall and 5-2 in SoCon play.

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The Citadel 38, Elon 24

Elon's second-half rally came up just short as the Phoenix found itself on the wrong side of a 38-24 decision at The Citadel in Southern Conference football action from Johnson Hagood Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

The maroon and gold, which trailed 31-6 at one point, closed to within a touchdown at 31-24 with 8:49 left in the game. Elon (3-6, 1-5 SoCon) got the ball at the Bulldog 46 with 12:25 remaining in the fourth quarter. Thomas Wilson completed all six of his passes on the drive, including a six-yard touchdown strike to Tracey Coppedge to trim it to just one score.

The Bulldogs (5-4, 4-3), which had been stuffed for much of the second half, answered with a 14-play, 75-yard drive that ate 6:20 off the clock. It ended with Darien Robinson going in from three yards out to seal the win for The Citadel who snapped a four-game losing streak to the Phoenix.

Wilson completed a career-high 37 passes and threw for 351 yards and two touchdowns. Aaron Mellette caught nine passes for 102 yards, but failed to find the end zone for just the second time this season.

Chattanooga 45, Western Carolina 24

The Chattanooga Mocs (5-4, 4-2 SoCon) dominated play on both sides of the ball in the second half running away with a 45-24 win at Western Carolina (1-9, 0-8 SoCon). Chattanooga recovered from a 24-16 halftime deficit to score 29 unanswered points after intermission.

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It was powered by a ferocious rushing attack. Freshmen Kendrix Huitt and Jacob Huesman combined for 267 rushing yards and three touchdowns on the ground. The Mocs accumulated 291 of its 367 yards in the final 30 minutes with 225 coming from Huitt (111) and Huesman (114). It was the most rushing yards by the Mocs since 404 against VMI on October 15, 1994. The defensive effort matched the ground game. UTC allowed the Catamounts a lone first down in the second half. Western Carolina gained just 33 yards in 19 plays after the break.

Southern Conference Standings

Georgia Southern 6 - 2; 7 - 2

Wofford 5 - 2; 7 - 2

Appalachian State 5 - 2; 7 - 3

Chattanooga 4 - 2; 5 - 4

Samford 4 - 3; 6 - 3

Citadel 4 - 3; 5 - 4

Furman 2 - 4; 3 - 6

Elon 1 - 5; 3 - 6

Western Carolina 0 - 8; 1 - 9

Saturday's Games

Appalachian State 31, Georgia Southern 28

Chattanooga 45, Western Carolina 24

The Citadel 38, Elon 24

Samford 24, Wofford 17 (2 OT)

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Saturday, November 10

Furman @ Appalachian State, 3:30 p.m.

Howard @ Georgia Southern, 2 p.m.

The Citadel @ VMI, 1:30 p.m.

Chattanooga @ Wofford, 1:30 p.m.

Samford @ Elon, 1:30 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: Samford QB Andy Summerlin , SoCon Athletics

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