

Terriers Nip Chattanooga

Written by SoCon Sports Information
Sunday, 20 November 2011 09:17

Down to the final minute of the regular season, the Wofford football team scored a touchdown with 37 seconds remaining to win 28-27 over Chattanooga on Saturday afternoon at Finley Stadium.

The Terriers are 8-3 on the season and 6-2 in the SoCon to finish second. Chattanooga is 5-6 overall and 3-5 in conference play. For Wofford, Eric Breitenstein and Donovan Johnson each

had over 100 rushing yards. Johnson had 141 yards and two touchdowns, while Breitenstein had 140 yards and one touchdown. Mitch Allen added a touchdown run. The Mocs were led by B.J. Coleman with 26-of-39 passing for 232 yards and three touchdowns. Three different receivers had touchdowns for the Mocs.

Donovan Johnson then ran for 34-yard on third-and-eleven to get the ball inside the 20. On fourth-and-three, Brenton Bersin picked up the first down with 1:01 remaining. Two plays later, Mitch Allen ran in from one-yard for the touchdown. After the point after, Wofford had a 28-27 lead with 37 seconds left. On the second play for the Mocs, James Zotto picked off B.J. Coleman to secure the victory.

Wofford had 388 total yards, with 358 on the ground. Chattanooga had 350 total yards, 232 of which were rushing. Wofford was 7-of-14 on third downs and 2-of-5 on fourth down.

Chattanooga was 4-of-11 on third down and 2-of-3 on fourth down. Wofford had three penalties, while Chattanooga was flagged once. Wofford had the time of possession by a 30:56 to 29:04 margin.

South Carolina 41, The Citadel 20

Three second-half touchdowns by 14th-ranked South Carolina proved to be the difference in the 41-20 victory over The Citadel at Williams-Brice Stadium in front of 76,816 in attendance on Saturday.

The Gamecocks avenged a 38-35 Citadel victory that took place 21 years ago when the two teams last met at Williams-Brice and now hold a 40-7-3 edge in the all-time series between the two schools.

The Citadel offensive attack was highlighted by 241 yards on the ground, including a team-high

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88 by Darien Robinson. The Bulldogs also had solid performances from Rickey Anderson (8 carries, 69 yards) and Ben Dupree (18 carries, 61 yards). The offense committed four fumbles, but recovered all of them, resulting in no turnovers on the day. The Cadets also showed their discipline with only one penalty for a total of five yards, maintaining their ranking as the least penalized team in the FCS. Defensively, the efforts of Rod Harland, who finished with a team-high nine tackles, including one for a loss of 11 yards, led the way for the Dogs. Teammate Tolu Akindele added eight tackles, including five solo, to cap off his four-year career.

Florida 54, Furman 32

John Brantley passed for 329 yards and four touchdowns to lead Florida to a 54-32 win over FCS 24th-ranked Furman in football action Saturday afternoon at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. Brantley completed 16 of 28 passes, including scoring strikes of 14, 80, 29, and 64 yards, to help Florida (6-5) overcome a 22-7 second quarter deficit.

Jerodis Williams rushed for 133 yards and two touchdowns to lead Furman (6-5) and become the first Paladin 1,000-yard rusher since 2003. Williams, a junior from Prattville, Ala., finished the season with 1,055 yards and nine touchdowns.

Furman quarterback Chris Forcier passed for 166 yards and a touchdown but was intercepted twice in the second half, both of which were returned for touchdowns. His first half scoring strike, a 31-yard connection to David Hendrix that staked the Paladins a 15-0 lead, gave him 23 touchdown passes for the season, a new Furman season mark.

Alabama 45, #2 Georgia Southern 21

The Georgia Southern Football team put forth a solid effort on the road in their final regular season game of the year. The Eagles fell 45-21 to the Alabama Crimson Tide Saturday and now await the FCS Playoffs. GSU had a number of bright spots in the contest, including scoring the most points and rushing for the most yards allowed by UA this season.

"I am proud of our team and how hard they fought. I thought our kids put forth a tremendous effort against what I think is one of the best college football teams in America," said Head Coach Jeff Monken.

Alabama (10-1) outscored Georgia Southern (9-2) 21-7 in the second half to pull away with the win. The Eagles trailed by 10 points at halftime but could have entered the locker room tied at 17 all if it had not been for a 10-point swing on a blocked field goal in the first quarter.

Coastal Carolina 45, Western Carolina 21

Western Carolina scored three touchdowns through the air on Saturday afternoon in the first-ever meeting with Coastal Carolina on the football gridiron. However, the Catamounts were unable to score a victory for their 14 seniors - four of whom were forced to the sidelines by injury - in the final game of the 2011 season, falling to the Chanticleers, 45-21, at E.J. Whitmire Stadium / Bob Waters Field.

Coastal Carolina quarterback Aramis Hillary threw three touchdown passes to a trio of receivers, while also adding a rushing score to lead the Chanticleers past WCU in the regular season finale for both squads. Hillary threw for 213 yards on 15-of-25 passing with one interception.

Sophomore quarterback Brandon Pechloff completed 14-of-26 passes for 229 and three scores for the Catamounts. But, the Glenn Ellyn, III., native tossed a costly interception from his own end zone that the Coastal's Johnnie Houston returned for a touchdown that turned a 10-point deficit into a 24-7 hole late in the second quarter.

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Auburn 35, Samford 16

The Samford football team wrapped up the 2011 season with a hard-fought 35-16 loss at defending BCS National Champion Auburn Saturday afternoon in front of a crowd of 85,347 at Jordan-Hare Stadium. The crowd was the largest to ever see a Samford game.

Freshman running back Jeremiaha Gates led the Samford offense with 28 rushes for a career-high 119 yards. The game marked the first time the freshman has rushed for 100 yards in a game. Senior quarterback Dustin Taliaferro completed 17-of-33 passes for 161 yards, a touchdown and two interceptions. Taliaferro finishes his career with a Samford record 707 completions, surpassing the old record of 704 set by Ray Nelson from 2001-04.

"I thought our kids played awfully hard today," Samford head coach Pat Sullivan said. "We blocked a little better up front than I thought we could. Dustin (Taliaferro) had a good game and we were able to get some things going. Jeremiaha Gates ran the ball well."

Sullivan was honored before the game for the 40th anniversary of his Heisman Trophy winning season as Auburn's quarterback in 1971. Sullivan's teammates from Auburn, his family and the Samford and Auburn teams joined in the ceremony.

Southern Conference

Georgia Southern 7 - 1; 9 - 2

Wofford 6-2; 8-3

Appalachian State 6 - 2; 8 - 3

Furman 5 - 3; 6 - 5

Samford 4 - 4; 6 - 5

Chattanooga 3 - 5; 5 - 6

Elon 3 - 5; 5 - 6

Citadel 2 - 6; 4 - 7

Western Carolina 0 - 8; 1 - 1 0

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SATURDAY'S GAMES

APPALACHIAN STATE 28, ELON 24

WOFFORD 28, CHATTANOOGA 27

ALABAMA 45, GEORGIA SOUTHERN 21

FLORIDA 54, FURMAN 32

AUBURN 35, SAMFORD 16

COASTAL CAROLINA 45, WESTERN CAROLINA 21

SOUTH CAROLINA 41, THE CITADEL 20

Photo Courtesy: Donovan Johnson, Wofford College Athletics

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