WEEK THREE
FURMAN at VIRGINIA TECH

**Turner's scores help Virginia Tech pull past Furman**

BLACKSBURG, Va. -- Virginia Tech head coach Justin Fuente always has been able to multi-task, and that trait certainly came in handy Saturday.

With his team trailing by double digits at halftime, Fuente morphed from coach into counselor, and certainly in his eyes and those of the Hokies' fan base, sanity prevailed in the end. Tre Turner scored second half touchdowns rushing and receiving, pushing Virginia Tech past upset-minded Furman and propelling the Hokies to a 24-17 victory on Saturday.

The Hokies (2-1) trailed 14-3 at halftime, but scored on their first two possessions of the second half to grab the lead. Turner's 29-yard touchdown run with 5:04 remaining sealed the win.

"I told the team at halftime, `We're down by 11 points, and we have control over how this goes," Virginia Tech head coach Justin Fuente said. "We can hang our heads and sulk, or we can stand up and can go compete and do our best to rectify what happened in the first half. I don't know that we wholly rectified it, but we at least found a way to get it done."

Virginia Tech tailback Keshawn King, making his first collegiate start, rushed for 119 yards. His 54-yard run on the second play of the second half to set up a 3-yard touchdown run by James Mitchell that cut the Furman lead to 14-10.

A fumble by Furman's Devin Wynn on the ensuing possession was costly, with the Hokies converting on Ryan Willis' 2-yard touchdown pass to Turner with 8:12 left in the third. That score put Virginia Tech in the lead for good.

"We came out third quarter and scored on two straight drives," Turner said. "We can do that for a whole game as long as we're consistent and not beating ourselves. The false starts, the turnovers, those things hurt us. That's why we were down 14-3 at halftime."

Turner, a receiver, rushed for 68 yards and caught four passes for 29 yards. Willis completed 17 of 21 for 123 yards, with a touchdown and an interception.

Devin Abrams paced Furman (1-2) with 72 yards rushing on 10 carries.

"I thought our defense kept us in the game," Furman head coach Clay Hendrix said. "We just couldn't get enough going on offense."

TAKEAWAYS

Furman: The Paladins came into the game having amassed more than 500 yards of offense in their first two games, but outside of one 70-yard drive that led to a field goal late in the game, did little against Virginia Tech's defense. The Paladins' two touchdowns came after Virginia Tech turnovers gave them field position in Hokie territory.

Virginia Tech: The Hokies won, but didn't look particularly great again, and turnovers have been the problem. The Hokies entered the game tied for last among 130 FBS schools in turnover margin, and their two turnovers in the first half led to 14 Furman points. The Hokies now have turned the ball over eight times in three games this season.

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Despite leading for much of the first half, Furman lost its 17th consecutive game against a Power 5 opponent. The Paladins last victory over a Power 5 team came in 1999 when they registered a 28-3 victory over North Carolina.

"It's disappointing," Hendrix said. "We had all types of chances to win the football game."

QUOTE TO NOTE

Turner gave an interesting quote on his 29-yard touchdown run that gave the Hokies a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter.

"The funny thing is coach just told me to get the first down," he said. "So, when I got the first down, all I saw was green grass, and I chose to go get the touchdown because I didn't want to get tackled. I don't like getting tackled."

YOUTH BEING SERVED

Part of Virginia Tech's issues on offense stem from the Hokies' youth. Fuente started four true freshmen -- King, receiver Tayvion Robinson, and offensive linemen Bryan Hudson and Doug Nester. Willis represented the lone senior to start on offense.

| Final | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FUR | 0 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 17 |
| VT | 3 | 0 | 14 | 7 | 24 |

Scoring Summary ---------------

| FIRST QUARTER | | FUR | VT |
|---|---|---|---|
| VT FG 5:37 Brian Johnson 35 Yd Field Goal | | | |
| 10 plays, 28 yards, 4:34 | | 0 | 3 |
| **SECOND QUARTER** | | **FUR** | **VT** |
| FUR TD 14:56 Devin Abrams 4 Yd Run (Grayson Atkins Kick) | | | |
| 6 plays, 41 yards, 3:16 | | 7 | 3 |
| FUR TD 5:35 Darren Grainger 15 Yd Run (Grayson Atkins Kick) | | | |
| 9 plays, 42 yards, 5:10 | | 14 | 3 |
| **THIRD QUARTER** | | **FUR** | **VT** |
| VT TD 10:00 James Mitchell 3 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick) | | | |
| 6 plays, 83 yards, 2:15 | | 14 | 10 |
| VT TD 8:12 Tre Turner 2 Yd pass from Ryan Willis (Brian Johnson Kick) | | | |
| 4 plays, 26 yards, 1:38 | | 14 | 17 |
| **FOURTH QUARTER** | | **FUR** | **VT** |
| VT TD 5:04 Tre Turner 29 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick) | | | |
| 5 plays, 62 yards, 1:51 | | 14 | 24 |
| FUR FG 1:49 Grayson Atkins 22 Yd Field Goal | | | |
| 10 plays, 70 yards, 3:15 | | 17 | 24 |

| Team Stats | FUR | VT |
|---|---|---|
| First Downs | 12 | 18 |
| Passes for First | 2 | 6 |
| Rushes for First | 8 | 12 |
| Penalties for First | 2 | 0 |
| Third Down Efficiency | 5-14 | 8-15 |
| Fourth Down Efficiency | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Total Yards | 231 | 350 |
| Total Plays | 58 | 64 |
| Avg Gain Per Play | 4.0 | 5.5 |
| Net Yards Rushing | 163 | 227 |
| Rushes | 42 | 43 |
| Yards Per Rush | 3.9 | 5.3 |
| Net Yards Passing | 68 | 123 |
| Comp-Att | 9-16 | 17-21 |
| Yards Per Pass | 4.3 | 5.9 |
| Times Sacked | 4 | 4 |
| Yds Lost To Sacks | -29 | -23 |
| Interceptions | 1 | 1 |
| Punts | 6 | 4 |
| Punt Average | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Penalties | 3 | 6 |
| Penalty Yards | 15 | 40 |
| Fumbles | 1 | 1 |
| Fumbles Lost | 1 | 1 |
| Time of Poss | 30:12 | 29:48 |

Individual Stats

RUSHING

| FURMAN | Rush | Yds | Avg | TD | LONG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Devin Abrams | 10 | 72 | 7.2 | 1 | 48 |
| Devin Wynn | 13 | 66 | 5.1 | 0 | 20 |
| Darren Grainger | 15 | 19 | 1.3 | 1 | 15 |
| Thomas Gordon | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 | 5 |
| Corey Watkins | 3 | 1 | 0.3 | 0 | 1 |
| **VIRGINIA TECH** | **Rush** | **Yds** | **Avg** | **TD** | **LONG** |
| Keshawn King | 12 | 119 | 9.9 | 0 | 54 |
| Tre Turner | 5 | 68 | 13.6 | 1 | 29 |
| Deshawn McClease | 10 | 24 | 2.4 | 0 | 4 |
| Tayvion Robinson | 1 | 21 | 21.0 | 0 | 21 |
| James Mitchell | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 1 | 3 |
| Caleb Steward | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 | 3 |
| Ryan Willis | 10 | -5 | -0.5 | 0 | 12 |
| Team | 3 | -6 | -2.0 | 0 | 0 |

PASSING

| FURMAN | Comp | Att | Yds | Y/A | TD | Int | QBRat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Darren Grainger | 8 | 15 | 63 | 4.2 | 0 | 1 | -- |
| Hamp Sisson | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| **VIRGINIA TECH** | **Comp** | **Att** | **Yds** | **Y/A** | **TD** | **Int** | **QBRat** |
| Ryan Willis | 17 | 21 | 123 | 5.9 | 1 | 1 | 31.1 |

RECEIVING

| FURMAN | Rec | Yds | Avg | TD | LONG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thomas Gordon | 4 | 33 | 8.3 | 0 | 11 |
| Wayne Anderson Jr. | 2 | 19 | 9.5 | 0 | 13 |
| Ryan Miller | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 | 8 |
| Devin Wynn | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 | 5 |
| Avery Armstrong | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 | 3 |
| **VIRGINIA TECH** | **Rec** | **Yds** | **Avg** | **TD** | **LONG** |
| Tayvion Robinson | 4 | 31 | 7.8 | 0 | 12 |
| Tre Turner | 4 | 29 | 7.3 | 1 | 17 |
| Kaleb Smith | 2 | 22 | 11.0 | 0 | 22 |
| Keshawn King | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 0 | 13 |
| Dalton Keene | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 0 | 11 |
| James Mitchell | 2 | 10 | 5.0 | 0 | 7 |
| Deshawn McClease | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 | 1 |