

WEEK FIVE
USC at WASHINGTON

Ahmed leads No. 17 Washington past No. 21 USC 28-14

SEATTLE -- Salvon Ahmed rushed for a career-high 153 yards, including an 89-yard touchdown run in the third quarter, and No. 17 Washington beat No. 21 Southern California 28-14 on Saturday.

Ahmed missed last week's win at BYU with a leg injury. But he was back in a big way against the Trojans, breaking off the longest run play for Washington (4-1, 1-1 Pac-12) in 25 years and moments after USC quarterback Matt Fink made his biggest mistake of the day.

With USC (3-2, 2-1) trailing 20-7 and driving, Fink failed to see Elijah Molden dropping into a zone and had a pass intercepted at the Washington 1 as he tried to hit Michael Pittman Jr. Two plays later, Ahmed waited for the hole to open then burst into the open field and ran away from the defense.

It was Washington's longest run play since a 91-yard TD run by Napoleon Kaufman in 1994 against San Jose State.

"Those are the kinds of runs that you dream for," Ahmad said. "I'm happy that I've got an offensive line that can make those things happen up front for us. They work their tails off every single down and that is a reward to them and a reward to me."

Fink, the No. 3 QB when the season started, carved up Utah a week ago throwing for 351 yards after being called into duty when Kedon Slovis went down with a concussion. Fink found passing quite a bit tougher against Washington and its standout secondary.

Fink was intercepted three times, the first two leading to Washington touchdowns. More importantly, the Trojans found nothing open downfield. Pittman caught a 44-yard touchdown on a blown coverage late in the third quarter. It was the Trojans' first pass play of more than 8 yards. USC's last hope ended when Myles Bryant broke up a fourth-and-goal pass in the end zone with 4:47 left.

"Those are some of the best receivers in the Pac-12. I've been competing against those guys for a long time, but we came in understanding they were going to test us," Bryant said. "They ended up getting one on us but I think guys played big and we ended up getting turnovers and helping our offense out."

Fink finished 19 of 31 for 163 yards and had a 3-yard TD run. Stephen Carr rushed for 94 yards, but for this day USC's version of the 'Air Raid' offense was grounded.

"We made enough mistakes to lose the game," USC coach Clay Helton said.

Washington QB Jacob Eason was 16 of 26 for 180 yards.

Washington took an early 14-0 lead, continuing its first-quarter dominance this season. The Huskies took advantage of a short punt and capped a 35-yard scoring drive with Newton's 1-yard TD plunge. Fink followed with a bad overthrow that was intercepted by Cameron Williams and Washington built a two-touchdown advantage when Andre Baccellia recovered Ahmed's fumble in the end zone. Ahmed fumbled at the 1, but Baccellia won the scramble and gave the Huskies a 14-point lead.

Washington has outscored opponents 77-3 in the first quarter this season.

But the Huskies were unable to add on, and eventually it was the Trojans using a short-field to get back in the game. Fink scored on a 3-yard run late in the second quarter to cut the deficit in half. Peyton Henry added a 28-yard field goal on the last play of the first half.

THE TAKEAWAY

USC: The Trojans were unable to get Pittman free a week after he caught 10 passes for 232 yards against Utah. Pittman didn't get his first target, and catch, until midway through the second quarter. He finished with four catches for 64 yards, but 44 coming on one play.

Washington: Ahmed's previous career high came earlier this year when he rushed for 119 yards against California. The Huskies rushed for 193 yards as a team.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USC	0	7	3	0	14
WASH	14	3	11	0	28

Scoring Summary -----

	USC	WASH
FIRST QUARTER		
WASH TD 3:38 Richard Newton 1 Yd Run (Peyton Henry Kick)	0	7
5 plays, 35 yards, 2:04		
WASH TD 0:29 Andre Baccellia 0 Yd Fumble Return (Peyton Henry Kick)	0	14
4 plays, 38 yards, 1:51		
SECOND QUARTER		
USC TD 4:14 Matt Fink 3 Yd Run (Chase McGrath Kick)	7	14
12 plays, 39 yards, 5:41		
WASH FG 0:00 Peyton Henry 28 Yd Field Goal	7	17
11 plays, 49 yards, 4:14		
THIRD QUARTER		
WASH FG 12:02 Peyton Henry 35 Yd Field Goal	7	20
7 plays, 45 yards, 2:58		
WASH TD 4:56 Salvon Ahmed 89 Yd Run (Jacob Eason Pass to Chico McClatcher for Two-Point Conversion)	7	28
2 plays, 96 yards, 0:43		
USC TD 2:10 Michael Pittman Jr. 44 Yd pass from Matt Fink (Chase McGrath Kick)	14	28
5 plays, 65 yards, 2:46		

	USC	WASH
Team Stats		
First Downs	18	16
Passes for First	9	7
Rushes for First	8	8
Penalties for First	1	1
Third Down Efficiency	4-13	3-12
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-2	1-1
Total Yards	375	373
Total Plays	65	61
Avg Gain Per Play	5.8	6.1
Net Yards Rushing	212	193
Rushes	33	35
Yards Per Rush	6.4	5.5
Net Yards Passing	163	180
Comp-Att	19-32	16-26
Yards Per Pass	5.1	6.9
Times Sacked	1	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-12	-5
Interceptions	3	0
Punts	6	6
Punt Average	41.0	44.3
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	80	44
Fumbles	0	2
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	31:09	28:51

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
USC							
Stephen Carr	7	94	13.4	0	60		
Markese Stepp	10	62	6.2	0	35		
Vavae Malepeai	10	49	4.9	0	15		
Matt Fink	6	7	1.2	1	8		
WASHINGTON							
Salvon Ahmed	17	153	9.0	1	89		
Chico McClatcher	2	21	10.5	0	19		
Richard Newton	9	20	2.2	1	6		
Sean McGrew	2	8	4.0	0	8		
Andre Baccellia	0	0	0.0	1	0		
Jacob Eason	3	0	0.0	0	5		
Team	1	-1	-1.0	0	0		
Hunter Bryant	1	-8	-8.0	0	0		
PASSING							
	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
USC							
Matt Fink	19	32	163	5.1	1	3	16.5
WASHINGTON							
Jacob Eason	16	26	180	6.9	0	0	42.4
RECEIVING							
	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
USC							
Michael Pittman Jr.	4	64	16.0	1	44		
Tyler Vaughns	4	44	11.0	0	19		
Amon-Ra St. Brown	5	31	6.2	0	8		
Erik Krommenhoek	2	10	5.0	0	6		
Vavae Malepeai	2	8	4.0	0	5		
Josh Faló	1	6	6.0	0	6		
Stephen Carr	1	0	0.0	0	0		
WASHINGTON							
Aaron Fuller	6	68	11.3	0	23		
Hunter Bryant	4	49	12.3	0	20		
Cade Otton	2	43	21.5	0	36		
Andre Baccellia	2	13	6.5	0	7		
Salvon Ahmed	1	6	6.0	0	6		
Sean McGrew	1	1	1.0	0	1		