

WEEK SEVEN
SOUTH CAROLINA at GEORGIA

Mukuamu’s 3 picks help SC shock No. 3 Georgia 20-17 in 2OT

ATHENS, Ga. -- Israel Mukuamu returned the first of his three interceptions 53 yards for a touchdown and South Carolina took advantage of Jake Fromm’s four turnovers to beat No. 3 Georgia 17-10 in double overtime on Saturday.

Parker White’s 23-yard field goal in the second overtime proved to be enough when Georgia’s Rodrigo Blankenship was wide left on his attempt from 42 yards. Blankenship’s second miss of the game sent South Carolina players charging onto the field to celebrate the upset.

ADVERTISEMENT

Georgia (5-1, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) suffered a big hit to its national championship hopes. The Bulldogs, favored by 24 1/2 points, could not overcome three interceptions and a lost fumble by Fromm, the senior quarterback known for avoiding mistakes. Fromm did not throw an interception in the Bulldogs’ first five games.

On the second play of overtime, Fromm’s pass glanced off the hands of receiver Tyler Simmons and was intercepted by Mukuamu. White’s 33-yard field-goal attempt missed wide right to keep the game alive.

Fromm led Georgia on a tying 96-yard touchdown drive capped by his 6-yard scoring pass to Demetris Robertson with less than two minutes remaining in regulation.

White, who made a 49-yard field goal in the first half, missed a 57-yarder with 40 seconds remaining to give the Bulldogs one final possession in regulation.

Fromm moved the Bulldogs to the South Carolina 38, in possible position for Blankenship to attempt a game-winning field goal. But an illegal shift penalty pushed Georgia back five yards, ending the field-goal possibility as regulation ended.

South Carolina (3-3, 2-2) took its first win over a ranked opponent since beating No. 18 Tennessee in 2016. It was an important signature win for coach Will Muschamp over his alma mater.

The Gamecocks won despite losing quarterback Ryan Hilinski to an apparent knee injury.

Hilinski completed 15 of 20 passes for 116 yards and a touchdown before leaving the game after a late hit in the third quarter. Georgia linebacker Adam Anderson was penalized for roughing the passer.

Fromm threw no interceptions on 111 passes through five games, but his first giveaway in the second quarter was costly.

Pressure from the South Carolina defense forced Fromm to attempt a pass off his back foot. The floater from Fromm, intended for George Pickens, was intercepted by Mukuamu, whose 53-yard return gave the Gamecocks the lead.

With Georgia driving for a potential tying touchdown, Fromm fumbled the first snap of the fourth quarter. T.J. Brunson recovered for the Gamecocks at the South Carolina 29.

Mukuamu’s second interception stopped Georgia, again in South Carolina territory, in the fourth quarter.

The Gamecocks’ 17-10 lead held when senior Rodrigo Blankenship’s 53-yard field goal attempt on the last play of the half was deflected by D.J. Wonnnum. It was Blankenship’s first miss of the season.

Hilinski, the freshman from Orange, California, who was recruited by Georgia, enjoyed a strong first half, completing 13 of 16 passes. Hilinski’s 46-yard touchdown pass to Bryan Edwards in the first quarter gave the Gamecocks a 7-3 lead.

D’Andre Swift had a 1-yard scoring run early in the second quarter.

INJURY REPORT

South Carolina: There was no immediate report on the severity of Hilinski’s injury. He pounded the grass for several minutes until being helped off the field. He watched the remainder of the game on the South Carolina bench. ... LT Sadarius Hutcherson was helped off the field early in the fourth.

Georgia: Defensive back Mark Webb left the game in the third quarter with a left knee injury. ... WR Lawrence Cager appeared to aggravate a left shoulder injury when making a third-down catch in the second quarter. Cager returned to make another catch but left the game for good with injured ribs.

THE TAKEAWAY

South Carolina: The Gamecocks gave up 468 total yards but showed surprising strength to contain Georgia’s SEC-leading rushing attack. The Bulldogs averaged 250 yards rushing before being held to 173. The Gamecocks remained poised after Joyner replaced Hilinski.

Georgia: The Bulldogs expected to have a commanding advantage on each line, but they could not wear down South Carolina’s defense as they had against previous opponents. Instead, attempts by D’Andre Swift and other backs to run at the heart of the Gamecocks’ defense had less success during the game.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Georgia, tied with Ohio State at No. 3, is headed for a fall in the next Top 25.

Final	1	2	3	4	OT	T
SC	7	10	0	0	3	20
UGA	3	7	0	7	0	17

Scoring Summary -----

	SC	UGA
FIRST QUARTER		
UGA FG 10:15 Rodrigo Blankenship 50 Yd Field Goal		
9 plays, 42 yards, 4:45	0	3
SC TD 1:58 Bryan Edwards 46 Yd pass from Ryan Hilinski (Parker White Kick)		
9 plays, 93 yards, 3:59	7	3
SECOND QUARTER		
UGA TD 13:35 D’Andre Swift 1 Yd Run (Rodrigo Blankenship Kick)		
9 plays, 75 yards, 3:23	7	10
SC FG 3:00 Parker White 49 Yd Field Goal		
7 plays, 30 yards, 2:31	10	10
SC TD 1:00 Israel Mukuamu 53 Yd Interception Return (Parker White Kick)		
5 plays, 22 yards, 2:00	17	10
FOURTH QUARTER		
UGA TD 1:48 Demetris Robertson 6 Yd pass from Jake Fromm (Rodrigo Blankenship Kick)		
13 plays, 96 yards, 4:38	17	17
SECOND OVERTIME		
SC FG Parker White 24 Yd Field Goal		
8 plays, 19 yards	20	17

Team Stats	SC	UGA
First Downs	16	30
Passes for First	7	18
Rushes for First	6	7
Penalties for First	3	5
Third Down Efficiency	5-17	9-18
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-1	0-1
Total Yards	297	468
Total Plays	68	95
Avg Gain Per Play	4.4	4.9
Net Yards Rushing	142	173
Rushes	36	43
Yards Per Rush	3.9	4.0
Net Yards Passing	155	295
Comp-Att	21-32	28-52
Yards Per Pass	4.8	5.7
Times Sacked	0	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-11
Interceptions	0	3
Punts	7	3
Punt Average	45.4	57.7
Penalties	11	6
Penalty Yards	68	60
Fumbles	0	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	23:56	36:04

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
SOUTH CAROLINA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Rico Dowdle	21	79	3.8	0	17		
Dakereon Joyner	6	28	4.7	0	10		
Tavien Feaster	7	27	3.9	0	17		
Bryan Edwards	1	7	7.0	0	7		
Shi Smith	1	1	1.0	0	1		
GEORGIA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
D’Andre Swift	23	113	4.9	1	14		
Zamir White	12	44	3.7	0	12		
James Cook	2	10	5.0	0	5		
Jake Fromm	6	6	1.0	0	9		
PASSING							
SOUTH CAROLINA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Ryan Hilinski	15	20	116	5.8	1	0	77.4
Dakereon Joyner	6	12	39	3.3	0	0	26.6
GEORGIA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jake Fromm	28	51	295	5.8	1	3	34.0
Team	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	--
RECEIVING							
SOUTH CAROLINA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Bryan Edwards	6	78	13.0	1	46		
Nick Muse	3	31	10.3	0	13		
Shi Smith	5	14	2.8	0	11		
Chavis Dawkins	1	11	11.0	0	11		
Josh Vann	2	10	5.0	0	7		
Rico Dowdle	3	6	2.0	0	5		
Kyle Markway	1	5	5.0	0	5		
GEORGIA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
George Pickens	7	98	14.0	0	33		
Demetris Robertson	5	51	10.2	1	17		
Lawrence Cager	4	48	12.0	0	18		
Tyler Simmons	4	33	8.3	0	14		
Dominick Blaylock	2	27	13.5	0	16		
Zamir White	1	15	15.0	0	15		
James Cook	3	15	5.0	0	10		
D’Andre Swift	2	8	4.0	0	6		