Lawrence leads No. 3 Clemson to 45-10 rout of Louisville

LOUISVILLE, Ky. -- Trevor Lawrence overcame two early interceptions to throw three touchdown passes, Travis Etienne rushed for 192 yards and a score and No. 3 Clemson routed Louisville 45-10 on Saturday for its 22nd consecutive victory.

Darien Rencher and Chez Mellusi added rushing TDs for the Tigers (7-0, 5-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), who missed first-quarter chances to build a big lead when Lawrence was picked off twice near the goal line. The sophomore quarterback settled down to hit Joseph Ngata and Justyn Ross with second-quarter TDs for a 17-3 halftime lead.

"They really played us tough," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. "We knew this was a game we were going to have to eventually knock them out because they were not going to give up."

Lawrence's 10-yard TD to Cornell Powell made it 31-3, and he finished 20 of 29 for 233 yards.

The Tigers also posted six sacks and kept Louisville (4-3, 2-2) out of the end zone until Javian Hawkins' 3-yard TD late in the game. Clemson outgained Louisville 551-263 and improved to 6-0 all-time against the Cardinals.

Hawkins had 129 yards on 26 carries, but Louisville never got closer than 10-3 after winning its previous two games.

"We just didn't make enough plays," first-year Louisville coach Scott Satterfield said. "The bottom line is they out-executed us and we didn't we didn't execute when we needed to. We were not able to get any kind of momentum in that game."

EJECTION

Clemson cornerback Andrew Booth Jr. was ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct late in the third quarter after punching Louisville's Trennell Troutman as he lay on the ground. The players tussled as Troutman ran downfield to cover a Louisville punt before Booth threw him to the turf around the Clemson 20. The scuffle continued and Booth threw a punch with his right hand as he straddled Troutman. Players from both teams swarmed them, and there was more pushing and shoving.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Clemson will retain its top-five spot with a decisive win after a slow start.

THE TAKEAWAY

Clemson: After initially looking like they'd have to work to get past Louisville, the Tigers dialed in on both sides of the ball for another blowout since their one-point escape at North Carolina. They rushed for 298 yards and held the Cardinals to just 107 yards passing., The Tigers have scored over 40 points in two straight games.

Louisville: The Cardinals' hopes of following up their win over Wake Forest with a huge upset never materialized despite hanging in with defense early on. They couldn't take advantage of those initial interceptions and eventually faded against the ACC's top defense and one of its best offenses.

Final	1	2	3		4	т		
CLEM	3	14	7		21	45		
LOU	0	3	0		7	10		
Scoring Summary					CT 1	-	1.011	
FIRST QUARTER CLEM FG 9:27 B.T.		51 Yd F	ield Go	al	CLI		LOU	
5 plays, 46 yards, SECOND QUARTER	2:08				3 CLE		0 LOU	
CLEM TD 10:41 Joe	Ngata 6	Yd pas	s from	Trevo				Sawic-
ki Kick) 6 plays, 81 yards,	3:04				10)	0	
LOU FG 4:57 Blanto	on Creque	e 28 Yd	Field	Goal			2	
11 plays, 52 yards CLEM TD 0:05 Justy	n Ross 2	25 Yd pa	ass fro	m Tre	evor Lav	vrence	(Steve	n
Sawicki Kick) 5 plays, 77 yards,					17		3	
THIRD QUARTER					CLE	EM	LÕU	
CLEM TD 1:35 Travi 2 plays, 58 yards,		ne 49 Yo	d Run (в.т.	Potter 24		3	
FOURTH QUARTER CLEM TD 12:43 Corr		11 10	Vd nace	from	CLE		LOU	m
Potter Kick)			iu pass	1101	u iievoi	Lawre	псе (в	• 1 •
7 plays, 63 yards, CLEM TD 10:14 Dari	2:10	ner 8 V	d Run (в. т.	31 Potter		3	
5 plays, 25 yards,	1:57				38	3	3	
LOU TD 5:10 Javiar 9 plays, 75 yards,		3 Yd 1	Run (Bl	antor	n Creque 38		10	
CLEM TD 1:00 Chez	Mellusi	16 Yd 1	Run (B.	т. Рс	otter Ki	ick)		
10 plays, 75 yards	s, 4:10				45)	10	
Team Stats			CLEM		LOU	Г		
First Downs Passes for First	F		23 11		15 6			
Rushes for First			11		8			
Penalties for F:			1		1	4		
Third Down Effic: Fourth Down Effic			5-11 0-0		5-1 0-1			
Total Yards	1		551		263			
Total Plays	a 17		70 7.9		65 4.0			
Avg Gain Per Play Net Yards Rushing			298			156		
Rushes			37		43			
Yards Per Rush Net Yards Passin	nq		8.1 253		3.6 107			
Comp-Att	5		22-33		8-2			
Yards Per Pass Times Sacked			7.7 1		4.9 6)		
Yds Lost To Sacks			-4		-39			
Interceptions			2		2			
Punts Punt Average			3 36.0		6 48.	5		
Penalties			6		5	0		
Penalty Yards Fumbles			47 1		40 1			
Fumbles Lost			0		1			
Time of Poss	30:06 29			:54				
Individual Stats								
RUSHING			_				_	
CLEMSON Travis Etienne	Rush 14	Yds 192			TD 1	LON 49		
Trevor Lawrence	10 5	47 35	4.7		0 1	20		
Chez Mellusi Lyn-J Dixon	5	11	7.0 2.2		1 0	16 7		
Darien Rencher Michel Dukes	1 2	8 5	8.0 2.5		1 0	8 8		
LOUISVILLE	Rush	Yds	Avg		TD	LON		
Javian Hawkins Hassan Hall	26 3	129 15	5.0 5.0		1 0	25 7		
Tutu Atwell Evan Conley	1	9 7	9.0		0	9 15		
Maurice Burkley	8	6	3.0		0	4		
Micale Cunningham PASSING	3	-10	-3.3	3	0	0		
CLEMSON	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A		Int	QBRat	
Trevor Lawrence Chase Brice	20 2	29 3	233 20	8.0 6.7	3 0	2 0	60.7 99.0	
LOUISVILLE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat	
Micale Cunningham Evan Conley	4	11 11	63 44	5.7 4.0	0 0	1 1	4.8 13.3	
RECEIVING CLEMSON	Rec	Yds	Avg		TD	LONG		
Amari Rodgers	3	78	26.0		0	61		
Justyn Ross Diondre Overton	5 3	55 43	11.0 14.3		1 0	25 18		
Travis Etienne	4	35	8.8		0	16		
T.J. Chase Cornell Powell	1 1	13 10	13.0 10.0		0 1	13 10		
Davis Allen	1	10	10.0		0	10		
Joe Ngata Will Swinney	1 1	6 4	6.0 4.0		1 0	6 4		
Tee Higgins	1	3	3.0		0	3		
Lyn-J Dixon LOUISVILLE	1 Rec	-4 ¥ds	-4.0 Avg		0 TD	0 LONG		
Dez Fitzpatrick	3	63	21.0		0	38		
Tutu Atwell Seth Dawkins	3 1	37 6	12.3 6.0		0 0	19 6		
Jordan Davis	1	1	1.0		0	1		