

Georgia holds off Auburn to clinch third straight SEC East title

AUBURN, Ala. -- Jake Fromm passed for three touchdowns and No. 4 Georgia's defense produced two late stops, clinching the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division title with a 21-14 victory over No. 12 Auburn on Saturday.

The Bulldogs (9-1, 6-1 SEC, No. 5 AP) sailed through three quarters with a 21-0 lead before Auburn (7-3, 4-3, No. 13 AP) rallied in the fourth.

Georgia held on to become the first team to win three consecutive SEC East titles since Florida won five in a row from 1992-96.

Fromm and De'Andre Swift delivered enough offense to keep the Bulldogs on track for a shot at the College Football Playoffs. Most of the way, though, it was clear the game featured two of the league's top defenses.

Auburn scored two touchdowns in the fourth, then had a pair of drives stopped on fourth down in the final minutes. Freshman Bo Nix threw three incompletions and was sacked on the Tigers' final drive starting from their 27.

Fromm was 13-of-28 passing for just 110 yards, but had a 51-yard touchdown pass to Dominick Blaylock and a pair of 5-yarders to Eli Wolf and Brian Herrien. Swift ran for 106 yards on 17 carries.

Nix completed 30 of 50 passes for 245 yards and a touchdown. He also ran 13 times for 42 yards. Seth Williams caught 13 passes for 121 yards.

The Tigers finally scored on Nix's 3-yard touchdown pass to Eli Stove with 10:04 left, taking advantage of a pass interference call on the previous third-down play. Auburn appeared to recover an onside kick but it was overturned upon review because of an illegal block by Anthony Schwartz.

A Georgia three-and-out and three minutes later, Nix dove into the end zone for a 2-yard score after a play fake.

It was the first rushing touchdown the Bulldogs had allowed all season.

Auburn again drove into Georgia territory with Nix running for 8 yards on a fourth-and-5 play. Harold Joiner couldn't collect a pass that was slightly behind him on the next fourth-down play.

THE TAKEAWAY

Georgia: Has won 15 of the last 19 meetings. Was outgained by 329-251 in total yards.

Auburn: Continued to struggle offensively against top teams. But the defense remains good enough to keep the Tigers in most games. Fell to 1/3 in games against teams currently ranked in the Top 11.

STALLED DRIVES

Auburn did have a handful of promising drives before the fourth but struggled to cash in with points. In the first half, the Tigers had a missed field goal, a 13-yard loss on fourth down and a fumble by Nix. With the game still in reach, Auburn had the ball in Georgia territory on its first two possessions of the second half but came up empty.

PHOTOGRAPHER HURT

A photographer was taken to the hospital after she was hit on the sideline and carted off the field. A Georgia statement said Chamberlain Smith was sent to East Alabama Medical Center in nearby Opelika for treatment. The school didn't specify her injury.

A photography intern for the University of Georgia Athletic Association, the Georgia graduate was hurt when Herrien ran into her several feet off the sideline late in the second quarter. Smith was kneeling down to take a picture and appeared to get hit in the head by Herrien's knee.

Smith drew immediate medical attention and was down on the ground for several minutes. She had her eyes open, along with a bruise above her eye, when she was taken off on a stretcher.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
UGA	7	7	7	0	21
AUB	0	0	0	14	14

Scoring Summary -----

<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>	<b>UGA</b>	<b>AUB</b>
UGA TD 5:56 Dominick Blaylock 51 Yd pass from Jake Fromm (Rodrigo Blankenship Kick)		
3 plays, 61 yards, 1:22	7	0
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>	<b>UGA</b>	<b>AUB</b>
UGA TD 0:20 Brian Herrien 5 Yd pass from Jake Fromm (Rodrigo Blankenship Kick)		
7 plays, 81 yards, 0:59	14	0
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>	<b>UGA</b>	<b>AUB</b>
UGA TD 0:13 Eli Wolf 5 Yd pass from Jake Fromm (Rodrigo Blankenship Kick)		
12 plays, 88 yards, 6:27	21	0
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>	<b>UGA</b>	<b>AUB</b>
AUB TD 10:04 Eli Stove 3 Yd pass from Bo Nix (Anders Carlson Kick)		
12 plays, 75 yards, 5:09	21	7
AUB TD 7:03 Bo Nix 2 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		
5 plays, 57 yards, 1:08	21	14

<b>Team Stats</b>	<b>UGA</b>	<b>AUB</b>
First Downs	16	22
Passes for First	5	13
Rushes for First	8	7
Penalties for First	3	2
Third Down Efficiency	3-15	5-18
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	1-4
Total Yards	251	329
Total Plays	64	86
Avg Gain Per Play	3.9	3.8
Net Yards Rushing	141	84
Rushes	36	36
Yards Per Rush	3.9	2.3
Net Yards Passing	110	245
Comp-Att	13-28	30-50
Yards Per Pass	3.9	4.9
Times Sacked	1	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-8	-8
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	11	7
Punt Average	50.7	45.1
Penalties	7	4
Penalty Yards	56	35
Fumbles	1	2
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	27:43	32:17

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
GEORGIA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
D'Andre Swift	17	106	6.2	0	26		
Brian Herrien	7	24	3.4	0	15		
Zamir White	3	10	3.3	0	5		
Kearis Jackson	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Demetris Robertson	2	3	1.5	0	4		
James Cook	1	1	1.0	0	1		
Team	3	-4	-1.3	0	0		
Jake Fromm	2	-8	-4.0	0	0		
AUBURN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Bo Nix	13	42	3.2	1	9		
D.J. Williams	8	26	3.3	0	7		
JaTarvious Whitlow	11	23	2.1	0	9		
Shaun Shivers	1	3	3.0	0	3		
Eli Stove	1	1	1.0	0	1		
Team	1	-3	-3.0	0	0		
Anthony Schwartz	1	-8	-8.0	0	0		
PASSING							
GEORGIA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jake Fromm	13	28	110	3.9	3	0	21.0
AUBURN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Bo Nix	30	50	245	4.9	1	0	23.7

<b>RECEIVING</b>					
<b>GEORGIA</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>TD</b>	<b>LONG</b>
Dominick Blaylock	2	50	25.0	1	51
Demetris Robertson	3	20	6.7	0	13
Kearis Jackson	1	13	13.0	0	13
George Pickens	1	11	11.0	0	11
Brian Herrien	2	8	4.0	1	5
Lawrence Cager	1	6	6.0	0	6
Eli Wolf	1	5	5.0	1	5
D'Andre Swift	2	-3	-1.5	0	0
<b>AUBURN</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>TD</b>	<b>LONG</b>
Seth Williams	13	121	9.3	0	28
Anthony Schwartz	7	48	6.9	0	10
Shedrick Jackson	1	25	25.0	0	25
Will Hastings	4	23	5.8	0	9
Eli Stove	3	20	6.7	1	15
JaTarvious Whitlow	1	6	6.0	0	6
Shaun Shivers	1	2	2.0	0	2