

WEEK ONE  
FURMAN AT CLEMSON

CLEMSON, S.C. -- One game against an overwhelmed opponent isn't enough to push the highly touted freshman quarterback at Clemson past the veteran starter.

Freshman Trevor Lawrence threw three touchdown passes and scored on all five of his drives to help No. 2 Clemson beat Football Championship Subdivision Furman 48-7 on Saturday.

But senior starter Kelly Bryant had a touchdown pass of his own. Lawrence completed 10 passes and Bryant completed nine.

"Both missed some throws. Both made some great throws," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said after rattling off their stats and emphasizing how similar they were.

It was the romp everyone expected as Clemson overmatched the Paladins. Clemson is 33-0 against FCS teams, only once winning by less than 10 points.

Swinney said he let his quarterback rotation go as planned. Bryant played the first quarter, Lawrence played the second quarter and they each got two drives to start the second half.

Lawrence was 9 for 15 for 137 yards. His best pass was a 40-yard strike where only Cornell Powell could get to it when Furman jumped offense and the freshman recognized he had a free play. Several of Lawrence's incompletions were behind receivers or overthrown.

"It's made me better," Lawrence said about having to compete for the job after four years as a star in high school, breaking several records set by Deshaun Watson, the former Tigers star who shoved aside a veteran as a freshman to start in 2014.

Bryant, who started every game in Clemson's playoff run last year, went 9 for 15 for 137 yards. Bryant threw several passes at the feet of his receivers. He did show some nice moves on a 35-yard touchdown run -- mobility Lawrence doesn't quite have. Bryant has thrown for 15 touchdowns and run for 15 TDs in his career.

Bryant also was one of the first players to congratulate Lawrence when he scored his first college touchdown.

"I've been in his shoes," Bryant said. "My first touchdown, Deshaun congratulated me."

With all the talk about depth with a Clemson team that brought back 15 of 22 starters, plenty of newcomers took advantage of their opportunities. Freshman receiver Justyn Ross and freshman tight end Braden Galloway caught the Tigers final two touchdowns. Freshman Lyn-J Dixon led the team with 89 yards on six carries, his Clemson debut was a 16-yard run and he followed it with a 61-yard run the next play.

"Honestly, with that many young wideouts, I wasn't watching the quarterbacks," co-offensive coordinator Jeff Scott said.

FEARSOME FOURSOME

One other story line coming into this season for Clemson is the front four on defense -- who may all end up as NFL first-rounders. They dominated Furman's option attack. The Paladins gained just 163 yards and the one touchdown came with 1:18 left after Clemson emptied its bench on a steamy afternoon.

"We didn't have a shutout. We didn't allow zero yards. So we're always improving," said defensive lineman Christian Wilkins, who skipped a likely high draft spot to return after Clemson's loss to Alabama last season in the playoff semifinals.

THE TAKEAWAY

Furman: Nobody appeared to be injured. The Paladins picked up \$360,000 for their short trip to Death Valley. The ride back to Greenville is about 30 miles and the bus has air conditioning.

Clemson: A no pressure, no injury opener was just what the Tigers wanted. Freshman running back Lyn-J Dixon ran six times for 89 yards in an impressive debut. Kicker Greg Huegel returned from a knee injury suffered in practice last September to make five extra points and two field goals, including a 49-yarder. The Tigers haven't lost to a Southern Conference team since 1952 (the year they left for the Atlantic Coast Conference) and are now 33-0 against FCS teams, winning by less than 10 points just once.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

The No. 2 team in the country beating a FCS team by 41 isn't going to move the poll needle much -- unless No. 1 Alabama loses.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
FUR	0	0	0	7	7
CLEM	10	17	14	7	48

Scoring Summary -----

Quarter	Time	Team	Score
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>			
CLEM TD 7:50		FUR	CLEM
Amari Rodgers 40 Yd pass from Kelly Bryant (Greg Huegel Kick)			
4 plays, 57 yards, 1:19		0	7
CLEM FG 2:45			
Greg Huegel 35 Yd Field Goal		0	10
4 plays, 2 yards, 1:14		FUR	CLEM
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>			
CLEM FG 9:19			
Greg Huegel 49 Yd Field Goal		0	13
9 plays, 30 yards, 3:45			
CLEM TD 2:54			
Diondre Overton 6 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		0	20
11 plays, 95 yards, 2:26			
CLEM TD 1:03			
Travis Etienne 7 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)		0	27
5 plays, 38 yards, 1:11		FUR	CLEM
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>			
CLEM TD 5:26			
Kelly Bryant 35 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)		0	34
4 plays, 79 yards, 0:00			
CLEM TD 0:08			
Justyn Ross 15 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		0	41
3 plays, 92 yards, 1:17		FUR	CLEM
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>			
CLEM TD 13:42			
Braden Galloway 9 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Alex Spence Kick)		0	48
2 plays, 12 yards, 0:00			
FUR TD 1:18			
Ryan DeLuca 16 Yd pass from Darren Grainger (Grayson Atkins Kick)		7	48
4 plays, 41 yards, 1:52			

Team Stats	FUR	CLEM
First Downs	13	23
Total Yards	163	531
Total Plays	62	71
Avg Gain Per Play	2.6	7.5
Net Yards Rushing	117	254
Rushes	53	36
Yards Per Rush	2.2	7.1
Net Yards Passing	46	277
Comp-Att	4-9	22-35
Yards Per Pass	5.1	7.9
Times Sacked	2	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	16	13
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	8	2
Punt Average	42.1	33.5
Penalties	3	4
Penalty Yards	22	50
Fumbles	5	1
Fumbles Lost	2	0

Individual Stats

RUSHING

Player	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
<b>FUR</b>					
Deon Sanders	4	50	12.5	0	45
Corey Watkins	4	30	7.5	0	19
Kealand Dirks	7	15	2.1	0	4
JeMar Lincoln	12	13	1.1	0	20
Darren Grainger	11	13	1.2	0	11
Devin Wynn	4	12	3.0	0	4
Ridge Gibson	6	8	1.3	0	4
Dejuan Bell	3	6	2.0	0	8
Darius Morehead	1	0	0.0	0	0
Team	1	-30	-30.0	0	0
<b>CLEM</b>					
Lyn-J Dixon	6	89	14.8	0	61
Travis Etienne	11	63	5.7	1	11
Kelly Bryant	5	44	8.8	1	35
Tavien Feaster	3	24	8.0	0	10
Darien Rencher	2	11	5.5	0	7
Amari Rodgers	2	10	5.0	0	5
Adam Choice	2	6	3.0	0	6
Chase Brice	2	6	3.0	0	6
Trevor Lawrence	3	1	0.3	0	4

PASSING

Player	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
<b>FUR</b>							
Darren Grainger	3	5	30	6.0	1	0	--
JeMar Lincoln	1	4	16	4.0	0	0	--
<b>CLEM</b>							
Darren Grainger	3	5	30	6.0	1	0	--
JeMar Lincoln	1	4	16	4.0	0	0	--

RECEIVING

Player	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
<b>FUR</b>					
Ryan DeLuca	1	16	16.0	1	16
Thomas Gordon	1	16	16.0	0	16
Deon Sanders	1	7	7.0	0	7
Dejuan Bell	1	7	7.0	0	7
<b>CLEM</b>					
Amari Rodgers	3	44	14.7	1	40
Cornell Powell	1	42	42.0	0	42
Derion Kendrick	1	38	38.0	0	38
Tee Higgins	3	35	11.7	0	19
Braden Galloway	3	34	11.3	1	15
Hunter Renfrow	3	24	8.0	0	16
Trevion Thompson	2	22	11.0	0	18
Justyn Ross	2	16	8.0	1	15
Diondre Overton	2	10	5.0	1	6
Cannon Smith	1	6	6.0	0	6
Will Swinney	1	6	6.0	0	6