

WEEK THREE
BOSTON AT WAKE FOREST

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. -- Anthony Brown kept beating Wake Forest's defensive backs with long throws. That helped Boston College beat the Demon Deacons -- and Hurricane Florence.

Brown threw two of his career-high five touchdown passes to Jeff Smith, and BC defeated Wake Forest 41-34 on Thursday night in a game that started two hours early with the hurricane approaching.

"Everybody was on point with what we were doing and everybody was in tune with what we had to execute," Brown said.

Brown was 16 of 25 for a career-best 304 yards with touchdowns of 27 and 71 yards to Smith, plus TDs of 35 yards to Kobay White, 29 yards to Tom Sweeney and 40 yards to Ben Glines for the Eagles (3-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Brown sensed that Wake Forest was determined to not let AJ Dillon, the ACC's leading rusher, run wild by creeping its safeties closer to the line of scrimmage.

"If you don't," Brown said, "he's going to run the ball."

He did anyway: Dillon finished with 185 yards rushing and scored a 45-yard touchdown on the third play from scrimmage.

"We knew we wanted to throw the ball tonight, and we knew there would be opportunities in the play-action game because the safeties would be violently coming into the box" to counter Dillon, BC coach Steve Addazio said.

Freshman Sam Hartman was 20 of 45 for 214 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions for the Demon Deacons (2-1, 0-1). His 5-yard score to Jack Freudenthal with 1:33 left made it a seven-point game, but White recovered the ensuing onside kick.

Matt Colburn rushed for 117 yards with a 2-yard touchdown run, Malik Grate recovered a blocked punt in the end zone for another score, and Nick Sciba kicked two field goals for Wake Forest.

Kickoff was moved up to the early evening in an attempt to beat the oncoming, 400-mile-wide storm that was creeping toward the coast some 200 miles from Winston-Salem. While there were occasional gusts of wind blowing across the field, it was a rain-free night with the first half played in sun conditions.

THE TAKEAWAY

Boston College: The Eagles entered the season as a trendy potential challenger to No. 2 Clemson in the ACC's Atlantic Division. With Brown turning play-action passes into long touchdowns, BC is off to its best start since it was 8-0 in 2007 -- the year the Eagles climbed to No. 2 in the AP Top 25 and made the first of two consecutive league championship games.

"Honestly, we started preparing for this game in the summer," Brown said. "It was just a feeling of relief, to finally get to this game."

Wake Forest: This one will sting the Demon Deacons, who had this game circled for months as their opportunity to establish themselves as division contenders. Instead, the secondary's knack for giving up long touchdown passes -- Tulane hit on two 50-plus-yard TDs in the opener -- wound up costing them.

"Our eyes were in the wrong place," coach Dave Clawson said. "It isn't getting better. It's getting worse."

STAR WATCH

Dillon cracked triple figures in rushing for the seventh time in eight games dating to last season. BC improved to 8-2 in the 10 games since he took over as the starter midway through 2017.

DOWNTOWN BROWN

Brown surpassed his previous career bests of 279 yards passing and four touchdowns, both set two weeks ago against Massachusetts. "That's what a big-time player should do, and he did it," Addazio said about Brown.

KEY STATS

Wake Forest entered having allowed one sack in two previous games, but Hartman was brought down four times by a BC defense that was averaging 3 1/2 sacks. ... Smith finished with six catches for a career-best 145 yards.

HISTORY

These schools played a 3-0 game three years ago in Boston. This was the exact opposite of that -- the highest-scoring game in a series that dates to 1941. It surpassed the 65 combined points scored in 2005, a 35-30 win by BC.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
BC	7	14	7	13	41
WAKE	7	14	3	10	34

Scoring Summary -----

	BC	WAKE
FIRST QUARTER		
BC TD 13:53		
AJ Dillon 45 Yd Run (John Tessitore Kick)		
3 plays, 52 yards, 1:07	7	0
WAKE TD 4:24		
Matt Colburn 2 Yd Run (Nick Sciba Kick)		
3 plays, 13 yards, 0:35	7	7
SECOND QUARTER		
BC TD 12:11		
Jeff Smith 27 Yd pass from Anthony Brown (John Tessitore Kick)		
4 plays, 56 yards, 1:22	4	7
WAKE TD 8:56		
Malik Grate 0 Yd Return of Blocked Punt (Nick Sciba Kick)		
3 plays, 7 yards, 1:55	4	14
WAKE TD 4:14		
Sage Surratt 5 Yd pass from Sam Hartman (Nick Sciba Kick)		
10 plays, 81 yards, 2:36	14	21
BC TD 3:01		
Kobay White 35 Yd pass from Anthony Brown (John Tessitore Kick)		
3 plays, 78 yards, 1:13	21	21
THIRD QUARTER		
WAKE FG 12:11		
Nick Sciba 27 Yd Field Goal		
8 plays, 75 yards, 2:49	1	24
BC TD 8:39		
Tommy Sweeney 29 Yd pass from Anthony Brown (John Tessitore Kick)		
8 plays, 78 yards, 3:32	28	24
FOURTH QUARTER		
BC TD 13:29		
Jeff Smith 71 Yd pass from Anthony Brown (John Tessitore PAT blocked)		
5 plays, 92 yards, 2:11	34	24
WAKE FG 11:13		
Nick Sciba 23 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 69 yards, 2:16	34	27
BC TD 8:48		
Ben Glines 40 Yd pass from Anthony Brown (John Tessitore Kick)		
6 plays, 75 yards, 2:25	41	27
WAKE TD 1:33		
Jack Freudenthal 5 Yd pass from Sam Hartman (Nick Sciba Kick)		
14 plays, 52 yards, 3:09	41	34

Team Stats	BC	WAKE
First Downs	18	27
Total Yards	524	512
Total Plays	69	105
Avg Gain Per Play	7.6	4.9
Net Yards Rushing	220	298
Rushes	44	60
Yards Per Rush	5.0	5.0
Net Yards Passing	304	214
Comp-Att	16-25	20-45
Yards Per Pass	12.2	4.8
Times Sacked	1	4
Yds Lost To Sacks	-2	-25
Interceptions	0	2
Punts	8	7
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	4	3
Penalty Yards	35	35
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Possession	29:33	30:27

Individual Stats

RUSHING

BC	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
2 AJ Dillon	33	185	5.6	45	1
6 Jeff Smith	3	42	14.0	30	0
13 Anthony Brown	3	5	1.7	6	0
23 Travis Levy	1	2	2.0	2	0
16 Davon Jones	1	1	1.0	1	0

WAKE	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
22 Matt Colburn II	23	117	5.1	35	1
36 Cade Carney	18	116	6.4	42	0
10 Sam Hartman	19	65	3.4	23	0

PASSING

BC	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
13 Anthony Brown	16	25	304	12.2	5	0	232.1
WAKE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
10 Sam Hartman	20	45	214	4.8	2	2	90.2

RECEIVING

BC	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
6 Jeff Smith	6	145	24.2	71	2
89 Tommy Sweeney	5	58	11.6	29	1
19 Ben Glines	2	45	22.5	40	1
9 Kobay White	1	35	35.0	35	1
3 Michael Walker	1	17	17.0	17	0
11 CJ Lewis	1	4	4.0	4	0

WAKE	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
3 Greg Dortch	9	93	10.3	22	0
14 Sage Surratt	3	50	16.7	32	1
88 Steve Claude	2	32	16.0	26	0
22 Matt Colburn II	2	16	8.0	9	0
23 Brandon Chapman	1	9	9.0	9	0
36 Cade Carney	1	9	9.0	9	0
86 Jack Freudenthal	2	5	2.5	5	1