

WEEK FOUR
CLEMSON AT GEORGIA TECH

ATLANTA -- Freshman Trevor Lawrence took a leading role in Clemson's quarterback rotation, coming off the bench to throw four touchdown passes as the No. 3 Tigers produced their most complete performance of the season Saturday in a 49-21 rout of Georgia Tech.

After starter Kelly Bryant produced just 13 yards and one first down on Clemson's first two possessions, Lawrence entered the game early in the second quarter. The youngster, a native of nearby Cartersville, quickly guided the Tigers on a seven-play, 74-yard drive capped by a 17-yard touchdown pass to Hunter Renfrow that made it 14-0.

Lawrence finished with 176 yards on 13-of-18 passing for the Tigers (4-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), also connecting with Justyn Ross for a 53-yard score, Travis Etienne on a 3-yard touchdown just before halftime and Tee Higgins for a 30-yard TD in the closing minutes.

Bryant also directed a touchdown drive, winding up 6 of 10 passing for 56 yards.

It was a thoroughly dismal performance by Georgia Tech (1-3, 0-2), even with a couple of garbage-time touchdowns. The Yellow Jackets are off to their worst start since 2003 and sure to face increasing questions about Paul Johnson's coaching future.

The Yellow Jackets fumbled eight times, recovering seven of them but giving up a touchdown when Clelin Ferrell fell on a loose ball in the end zone for Clemson's first TD. The home team completed just three passes and was held to 146 yards on the ground -- not even close to its nation-high rushing average of 392.7 coming into the game.

Georgia Tech's lone score of the first half came after Lawrence tried to set up a screen pass out of the backfield, only to hit an offensive lineman in the back with the short throw. Desmond Branch picked off the deflected ball, returning the gift interception to the Tigers 23.

Four plays later, TaQuon Marshall scored on an 11-yard run to cut Clemson's lead to 21-7, giving Georgia Tech a glimmer of hope with just over 2 minutes left in the first half.

Lawrence quickly snuffed out any thoughts of an upset.

Guiding Clemson down the field like a veteran, Lawrence completed six passes for 54 yards -- shoveling a toss to Etienne with five seconds left in the half to restore a commanding three-touchdown edge before the Tigers headed to the locker room.

Many Georgia Tech fans didn't bother returning for the second half on a blistering day with temperatures in the low 90s, leaving a stadium that already was packed with huge swaths of orange-clad fans looking like an Atlanta version of Death Valley.

THE TAKEAWAY

Clemson: The Tigers insist they're perfectly comfortable with their two-quarterback rotation, but it will be interesting to see how the playing time is doled out in the weeks to come if Lawrence continues to shine. The defense left little doubt that it's one of the nation's best, thoroughly stifling the Yellow Jackets' option offense most of the game while playing everyone on the roster.

Georgia Tech: A team that had hopes of contending for a division title is now in full-scale crisis mode, already facing a deep hole before it even begins the bulk of its ACC schedule. Since winning the Orange Bowl and finishing No. 8 nationally during the 2014 season, the Yellow Jackets are 18-22 overall and 9-17 in the league. The fan base is grumbling and athletic director Todd Stansbury surely took note of all the empty seats at Bobby Dodd Stadium, even on a day when the visiting team brought a huge contingent to Atlanta.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
CLEM	7	21	14	7	49
GT	0	7	7	7	21

Scoring Summary -----

	CLEM	GT
FIRST QUARTER		
CLEM TD 3:42		
Clelin Ferrell 0 Yd Fumble Return (Greg Huegel Kick)		
3 plays, -25 yards, 1:20		0
SECOND QUARTER		
CLEM TD 9:11		
Hunter Renfrow 17 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		
7 plays, 74 yards, 2:44	14	0
CLEM TD 7:05		
Justyn Ross 53 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		
2 plays, 55 yards, 0:37	21	0
GT TD 2:08		
TaQuon Marshall 11 Yd Run (Shawn Davis Kick)		
4 plays, 23 yards, 1:46	21	7
CLEM TD 0:05		
Travis Etienne 3 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		
12 plays, 64 yards, 2:03	28	7
THIRD QUARTER		
CLEM TD 12:20		
Tavien Feaster 27 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)		
7 plays, 75 yards, 2:40	35	7
CLEM TD 5:10		
Travis Etienne 3 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)		
10 plays, 83 yards, 4:27	42	7
GT TD 1:43		
Nathan Cottrell 2 Yd Run (Shawn Davis Kick)		
8 plays, 75 yards, 3:27	42	14
FOURTH QUARTER		
GT TD 6:15		
Clinton Lynch 5 Yd pass from Tobias Oliver (Shawn Davis Kick)		
7 plays, 33 yards, 3:58	42	21
CLEM TD 4:01		
Tee Higgins 30 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)		
5 plays, 77 yards, 2:14	49	21

Team Stats	CLEM	GT
First Downs	25	15
Total Yards	480	203
Total Plays	66	64
Avg Gain Per Play	7.3	3.2
Net Yards Rushing	248	146
Rushes	36	56
Yards Per Rush	6.9	2.6
Net Yards Passing	232	57
Comp-Att	19-30	3-8
Yards Per Pass	7.7	7.1
Times Sacked	1	4
Yds Lost To Sacks	-6	-26
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	3	6
Punt Average	40.7	48.5
Penalties	6	4
Penalty Yards	68	30
Fumbles	1	8
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	23:55	36:05

Individual Stats

RUSHING

CLEM	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Travis Etienne	11	122	11.1	1	30
Tavien Feaster	8	75	9.4	1	27
Lyn-J Dixon	6	20	3.3	0	9
Adam Choice	5	15	3.0	0	4
Trevor Lawrence	2	11	5.5	0	11
Kelly Bryant	4	5	1.3	0	7

GT	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
TaQuon Marshall	25	47	1.9	1	11
Tobias Oliver	9	34	3.8	0	39
Jordan Mason	4	30	7.5	0	24
Jerry Howard	10	18	1.8	0	7
Clinton Lynch	2	10	5.0	0	7
Qua Searcy	3	7	2.3	0	20
Nathan Cottrell	2	1	0.5	1	2
Team	1	-1	-1.0	0	0

PASSING

CLEM	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Trevor Lawrence	13	18	176	9.8	4	1	94.0
Kelly Bryant	6	10	56	5.6	0	0	17.3
Chase Brice	0	2	0	0.0	0	1	0.0
GT	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
TaQuon Marshall	1	6	29	4.8	0	0	5.0
Tobias Oliver	2	2	28	14.0	1	0	73.4

RECEIVING

CLEM	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Amari Rodgers	6	60	10.0	0	21
Justyn Ross	1	53	53.0	1	53
T.J. Chase	2	34	17.0	0	20
Tee Higgins	1	30	30.0	1	30
Hunter Renfrow	3	28	9.3	1	17
Cornell Powell	3	17	5.7	0	11
Derion Kendrick	1	6	6.0	0	6
Travis Etienne	1	3	3.0	1	3
Milan Richard	1	1	1.0	0	1
GT	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Clinton Lynch	3	57	19.0	1	29