

WEEK SIX  
 GEORGIA TECH AT LOUISVILLE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. -- Earlier this season, Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson decided to make a change.

After Johnson's Yellow Jackets walked out of Louisville with a 66-31 victory Friday night, it might be time for the Cardinals to make some changes, too.

TaQuon Marshall ran for 175 yards and two scores. In all, the Yellow Jackets (3-3, 1-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) ran for a season-high 542 yards, the third-best total in school history and the second most ever yielded by the Cardinals (2-4, 0-3). Tobias Oliver, who relieved Marshall at quarterback late in the third quarter, ran for 108 yards and two scores on eight carries.

Three games into season, the Yellow Jackets were 1-2 and coming off a 24-19 loss to Pittsburgh on Sept. 15 where they only gained 320 yards on the ground and had a couple turnovers. Johnson felt the need to focus on just four or five plays for his triple-option offense.

"We had a good nucleus back from last year on offense, but I was frustrated early because we weren't playing better," he said. "We went back and simplified and went back to basics. Then the kids got better."

While Georgia Tech fell to Clemson a week later, Johnson said he saw some improvement in the second half. Things then took off last week in a 63-17 home victory over Bowling Green, as the Yellow Jackets racked up 532 yards of offense and scored on their first seven drives.

They followed it up Friday with a performance that tied for their sixth-most points in a modern-era game. In their first nine drives, the Yellow Jackets scored eight touchdowns and a field goal. Then they got a 95-yard interception return for a score from Juanyeh Thomas with 2:18 left.

The 10th drive ended the game.

"Everybody did a tremendous job playing super hard from the start to the finish," Marshall said. "I thought the guys up front blocked very well. The guys on the perimeter did a great job blocking for each other. Overall, I thought it was really different. Everybody was really locked in coming from the hotel. I could just tell how focused everybody was. It was a different energy we had coming into this one."

Louisville coach Bobby Petrino said his players knew what to expect from the Yellow Jackets attack as the coach said he started planning for the game in the spring.

"We didn't have any answers for their offense," he said. "They did a good job executing. They ran the fullback, the quarterback, the pitch guy, and we weren't able to get it stopped."

Jawon Pass completed 23 of 35 passes for 299 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Cardinals.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Georgia Tech: The Yellow Jackets' win was big for more reasons than just the score. Not only did Georgia Tech break a three-game conference losing streak, but the win also marked its first away from home in nearly two years. The Yellow Jackets beat Kentucky in the 2016 TaxSlayer Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida, on Dec. 31, 2016.

Louisville: A bad season only looks to get worse for the Cardinals. Playing against a team that had lost its last three conference games, Louisville posted its worst home loss in the 20-year history of Cardinal Stadium, topping the 68-34 loss to Kentucky in the stadium's first game on Sept. 5, 1998. The 66 points also are the most points surrendered by a Petrino-led Cardinals squad.

**QUICK FIX**

Georgia Tech only threw the ball twice, including on its first play of the game. Marshall's sideline pass went incomplete as Johnson said the team made the wrong formation call. Even as the Yellow Jackets began to take off after that, the coach saw his quarterback getting frustrated, even after they converted on a third down two plays later. So, Johnson felt the need to pull his senior aside.

Two plays later, Marshall's 33-yard touchdown run started the scoring.

"I said, 'Dude, we made a first down. Just relax. Just play,'" Johnson said. "And so, when he gets in that groove, he's a really good player."

**EXPECTATIONS STILL HIGH**

Even after losing former Heisman Trophy candidate Lamar Jackson to the NFL after last season, Petrino was bullish about this team. After Friday, he admitted he may have set expectations a little too lofty.

"I'm always going to come out with high expectations and set the standards high," he said. "We've got to come back and get back to being a good football team. We're actually not excelling right now and that's coaching."

<b>Final</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>T</b>
GT	21	10	14	21	66
LOU	0	17	0	14	31

**Scoring Summary** -----

	GT	LOU
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
GT TD 10:08		
TaQuon Marshall 33 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	7	0
5 plays, 50 yards, 2:08		
GT TD 7:15		
TaQuon Marshall 1 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	14	0
5 plays, 36 yards, 2:24		
GT TD 0:03		
Jordan Mason 2 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	21	0
9 plays, 76 yards, 5:06		
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
LOU TD 11:22		
Tutu Atwell 29 Yd pass from Jawon Pass (Blanton Creque Kick)	21	7
8 plays, 71 yards, 3:41		
GT FG 6:46		
Wesley Wells 41 Yd Field Goal	24	7
8 plays, 52 yards, 4:36		
LOU TD 2:49		
Trey Smith 5 Yd Run (Blanton Creque Kick)	24	14
12 plays, 75 yards, 3:57		
GT TD 0:32		
Qua Searcy 2 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	31	14
9 plays, 62 yards, 2:17		
LOU FG 0:00		
Blanton Creque 46 Yd Field Goal	31	17
5 plays, 59 yards, 0:32		
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
GT TD 8:02		
Qua Searcy 1 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	38	17
13 plays, 79 yards, 6:58		
GT TD 4:19		
Tobias Oliver 1 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	45	17
5 plays, 34 yards, 2:34		
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
GT TD 13:13		
Tobias Oliver 5 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	52	17
5 plays, 87 yards, 2:22		
LOU TD 11:13		
Dez Fitzpatrick 42 Yd pass from Jawon Pass (Blanton Creque Kick)	52	24
8 plays, 74 yards, 2:00		
GT TD 6:35		
Jerry Howard 2 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)	59	24
8 plays, 75 yards, 4:38		
GT TD 2:18		
Juanyeh Thomas 95 Yd Interception Return (Wesley Wells Kick)	66	24
9 plays, 73 yards, 4:17		
LOU TD 0:28		
Tutu Atwell 29 Yd pass from Jordan Travis (Blanton Creque Kick)	66	31
6 plays, 63 yards, 1:50		

<b>Team Stats</b>	GT	LOU
First Downs	28	23
Total Yards	554	483
Total Plays	67	67
Avg Gain Per Play	8.3	7.2
Net Yards Rushing	542	113
Rushes	65	23
Yards Per Rush	8.3	4.9
Net Yards Passing	12	370
Comp-Att	1-2	27-44
Yards Per Pass	6.0	8.4
Times Sacked	0	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-12
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	0	2
Punt Average	0.0	41.5
Penalties	4	4
Penalty Yards	50	35
Fumbles	1	2
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Possession	33:31	26:29

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

GT	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
16 TaQuon Marshall	23	175	7.6	33	2
8 Tobias Oliver	8	103	12.9	65	2
24 Jordan Mason	13	78	6.0	16	1
15 Jerry Howard	8	58	7.3	12	1
22 Clinton Lynch	5	41	8.2	11	0
2 Omahri Jarrett	1	29	29.0	29	0
1 Qua Searcy	3	28	9.3	25	2
31 Nathan Cottrell	3	27	9.0	11	0
36 Malik Rivera	1	3	3.0	3	0
LOU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
6 Jordan Travis	5	48	9.6	25	0
12 Trey Smith	5	32	6.4	14	1
19 Hassan Hall	5	23	4.6	17	0
3 Malik Cunningham	1	11	11.0	11	0
9 Jaylen Smith	2	5	2.5	3	0
33 Colin Wilson	1	2	2.0	2	0
10 Javian Hawkins	1	1	1.0	1	0
4 Jawon Pass	3	-9	-3.0	1	0

**PASSING**

GT	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
16 TaQuon Marshall	1	2	12	6.0	0	0	100.4
LOU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
4 Jawon Pass	23	35	299	8.5	2	0	156.3
6 Jordan Travis	4	9	71	7.9	1	1	125.2

**RECEIVING**

GT	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
83 Brad Stewart	1	12	12.0	12	0
LOU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
1 Chatarius Atwell	4	79	19.8	29	2
7 Dez Fitzpatrick	4	58	14.5	42	1
86 Devante Peete	2	45	22.5	37	0
9 Jaylen Smith	3	42	14.0	16	0
87 Tyler Harrell	2	36	18.0	31	0
19 Hassan Hall	4	33	8.3	11	0
83 Micky Crum	2	28	14.0	22	0
5 Seth Dawkins	2	21	10.5	12	0
11 Kemari Averett	1	15	15.0	15	0
12 Trey Smith	2	7	3.5	7	0
81 Emonee Spence	1	6	6.0	6	0