

WEEK EIGHT
NC STATE AT CLEMSON

CLEMSON, S.C. -- Trevor Lawrence threw for a career-high 308 yards, Travis Etienne rushed for three touchdowns and No. 3 Clemson turned an expected Atlantic Coast Conference showdown with No. 16 North Carolina State into a 41-7 rout Saturday.

The Tigers (7-0, 4-0) opened with seven straight wins for the third time in four seasons in topping the Wolfpack (5-1, 2-1) for the seventh consecutive season.

It was the ACC's first matchup of undefeated teams this deep in a season since 2013, a game that also took place in Death Valley. But unlike five years ago when the 6-0 Tigers were pummeled by eventual national champ Florida State 51-14, it was Clemson who took control early and never gave the Wolfpack a chance to rally.

North Carolina State quarterback Ryan Finley came in leading the ACC at more than 324 yards passing a game. He managed just 156 yards passing with two interceptions and a fumble.

The Wolfpack avoided their first shutout in four years on Reggie Gallaspy's 9-yard TD run to start the fourth quarter. Still, it was their fewest points scored since that 41-0 loss to the Tigers in 2014.

Clemson quickly took the steam out of this showdown with touchdowns on two of its first three possessions. Etienne had a 3-yard TD run to close the first one while Lawrence threw a 46-yard scoring pass to Tee Higgins to lead 14-0.

The Wolfpack seemed to stabilize themselves and drove into Clemson territory looking for points when Ryan Finley bobbled a shotgun snap and defensive tackle Dexter Lawrence pounced on it. Etienne closed that series, too, with a 2-yard touchdown run.

Clemson piled on right before the half ended when on safety K'Von Wallace's interception and 46-yard return to the Wolfpack 4 and led to Greg Huegel's 28-yard field goal for a 24-0 lead at the half.

Etienne's third-quarter touchdown run gave him an ACC-leading 14 this season.

Lawrence, the 6-foot-6 freshman whose rise led last year's starter Kelly Bryant to transfer, looked smooth and polished in his third career start. He completed 26 of 39 passes and his long TD throw.

The Wolfpack came in averaging 480 yards of offense a game, but were held to 297.

TAKEAWAYS

North Carolina State: The Wolfpack kept the last two games with Clemson within a touchdown because of the talent they sent to the NFL last year, particularly defensive end Bradley Chubb. This group is not yet ready to match Clemson's firepower.

Clemson: The Tigers' road to a fourth straight ACC title game seems well paved and smooth with few speed bumps to negotiate. The trickiest game might be at Boston College on Nov. 10.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NCST	0	0	0	7	7
CLEM	14	10	7	10	41

Scoring Summary -----

	NCST	CLEM
FIRST QUARTER		
CLEM TD 11:23		
Travis Etienne 3 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)	0	7
9 plays, 57 yards, 3:37		
CLEM TD 2:59		
Tee Higgins 46 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Greg Huegel Kick)	0	14
6 plays, 75 yards, 2:12		
SECOND QUARTER		
CLEM TD 0:46		
Travis Etienne 2 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)	0	21
7 plays, 54 yards, 1:29		
CLEM FG 0:02		
Greg Huegel 28 Yd Field Goal	0	24
3 plays, -7 yards, 0:17		
THIRD QUARTER		
CLEM TD 3:54		
Travis Etienne 1 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)	0	31
4 plays, 22 yards, 1:29		
FOURTH QUARTER		
NCST TD 14:56		
Reggie Gallaspy II 9 Yd Run (Christopher Dunn Kick)	7	31
10 plays, 75 yards, 3:58		
CLEM FG 12:32		
Greg Huegel 27 Yd Field Goal	7	34
8 plays, 41 yards, 2:24		
CLEM TD 8:11		
Lyn-J Dixon 2 Yd Run (Greg Huegel Kick)	7	41
8 plays, 84 yards, 3:37		

Team Stats	NCST	CLEM
First Downs	16	24
Total Yards	297	471
Total Plays	67	80
Avg Gain Per Play	4.4	5.9
Net Yards Rushing	104	91
Rushes	32	32
Yards Per Rush	3.3	2.8
Net Yards Passing	193	380
Comp-Att	22-35	32-48
Yards Per Pass	5.5	7.9
Times Sacked	1	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-9	-13
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	6	4
Punt Average	48.3	40.0
Penalties	6	8
Penalty Yards	49	67
Fumbles	1	2
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Possession	30:36	29:24

Individual Stats

RUSHING

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
NCST					
Reggie Gallaspy II	9	59	6.6	1	20
Ricky Person Jr.	12	54	4.5	0	19
Stephen Louis	1	6	6.0	0	6
Damontay Rhem	1	4	4.0	0	4
Brady Bodine	3	-2	-0.7	0	4
Matthew McKay	1	-4	-4.0	0	0
Ryan Finley	3	-5	-1.7	0	4
Team	2	-8	-4.0	0	0
CLEM					
Travis Etienne	15	39	2.6	3	6
Lyn-J Dixon	4	25	6.3	1	15
Trevor Lawrence	5	12	2.4	0	12
Adam Choice	3	8	2.7	0	4
Tavien Feaster	3	5	1.7	0	3
Darien Rencher	1	2	2.0	0	2
Will Swinney	1	0	0.0	0	0

PASSING

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
NCST							
Ryan Finley	21	34	156	4.6	0	2	88.5
Matthew McKay	1	1	37	37.0	0	0	410.8
CLEM							
Trevor Lawrence	26	39	308	7.9	1	0	141.5
Chase Brice	6	9	72	8.0	0	0	133.9

RECEIVING

	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
NCST					
C.J. Riley	3	66	22.0	0	37
Jakobi Meyers	8	61	7.6	0	26
Stephen Louis	2	16	8.0	0	12
Kelvin Harmon	2	13	6.5	0	8
Thayer Thomas	2	13	6.5	0	8
Emeka Emezie	2	12	6.0	0	8
Reggie Gallaspy II	1	8	8.0	0	8
Ricky Person Jr.	1	3	3.0	0	3
Damontay Rhem	1	1	1.0	0	1
CLEM					
Tee Higgins	8	119	14.9	1	46
Justyn Ross	5	75	15.0	0	24
Trevion Thompson	4	45	11.3	0	21
Hunter Renfrow	5	41	8.2	0	16
Diondre Overton	2	32	16.0	0	24
Travis Etienne	1	24	24.0	0	24
Derion Kendrick	2	24	12.0	0	16
Milan Richard	1	13	13.0	0	13
T.J. Chase	1	11	11.0	0	11
Amari Rodgers	1	0	0.0	0	0
Will Swinney	1	0	0.0	0	0
Darien Rencher	1	-4	-4.0	0	0