

WEEK TEN
GEORGIA TECH AT N CAROLINA

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. -- Tobias Oliver got his chance and ran with it.

Oliver rushed for 120 yards and two touchdowns and passed for a score to help Georgia Tech beat North Carolina 38-28 on Saturday.

Oliver broke a 28-28 tie with a 1-yard touchdown run with three minutes remaining for the Yellow Jackets (5-4, 3-3 Atlantic Coast Conference), who won for the fourth time in five games.

North Carolina (1-7, 1-5) had a chance to answer, but Anree Saint-Amour intercepted Nathan Elliott's pass with 2:44 left to set up Georgia Tech's game-clinching field goal.

"We did what we had to do to get out of here winning a game," Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson said.

Georgia Tech, which entered the game averaging a nation-leading 366.5 rushing yards per game, ran for 461 yards against a North Carolina defensive line depleted by injuries and suspensions. It was the Yellow Jackets' fifth 400-yard rushing performance of the season, a school record.

Oliver replaced starting quarterback TaQuon Marshall on Georgia Tech's fourth offensive series and played the rest of the game. He threw an 86-yard touchdown pass to Qua Searcy, the team's longest since 2009.

The performance came nine days after Oliver rushed for 215 yards and three touchdowns in the Yellow Jackets' 49-28 win at Virginia Tech.

"I feel like it's pretty evident that I can get in and play," Oliver said. "But at the same time, we're at the point in the season where I don't want to get too much that I should be the starter. As of right now, I just want to win."

After trailing 28-10 in the third quarter, North Carolina scored on three consecutive possessions, tying the game on a 1-yard touchdown run by Antonio Williams and a 2-point conversion.

Cole Holcomb had a career-high 22 tackles and three forced fumbles for the Tar Heels.

Elliott was replaced in the second quarter by freshman Jace Ruder, who led North Carolina to a field goal and a touchdown on two drives before leaving with an injury. Elliott re-entered the game and finished with no touchdowns and three interceptions.

THE TAKEAWAY

Georgia Tech: The Yellow Jackets moved above .500 for the first time since the season opener, but it wasn't easy. They survived a series of self-inflicted wounds in the second half, sandwiching a pair of lost fumbles around a botched play on fourth and inches that resulted in a turnover on downs. "It got a little crazy there," Johnson said. "To their credit, they kept playing and they fought back. And we did most everything we could to try to help them."

North Carolina: It was another heartbreaker for the Tar Heels, who lost their fifth consecutive game. North Carolina dropped to 5-19 in its last 24 games, a stretch that includes a 2-14 record in conference games and a 2-9 mark at home. "It's a challenge when you don't have success," North Carolina coach Larry Fedora said. "But I don't worry about the guys in that room getting back up off the mat. I don't worry about what they have inside of them. There's no doubt in my mind what kind of grit they have. They will continue to battle and give everything they have."

QB OR NOT QB?

Johnson stuck to his promise to play both of his quarterbacks. Marshall rushed for 61 yards on eight carries, including a 44-yard scamper, before departing. Johnson said he stuck with Oliver because he thought the freshman gave the Yellow Jackets the best chance to win, based on how the game was unfolding. "It was a gut thing, a feel thing," Johnson said. "Probably the rest of the way, that's kind of what it will be."

THE GOOD SON

Georgia Tech freshman defensive back Tre Swilling made his first interception, coming up with a one-handed theft of Elliott late in the first quarter. The play snapped Elliott's streak of 219 consecutive passes without an interception. Swilling is the son of former Georgia Tech star Pat Swilling, a former NFL All-Pro selection. His uncles Ken and Darrell were members of the Yellow Jackets' 1990 national championship team.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
GT	7	14	7	10	38
UNC	7	3	10	8	28

Scoring Summary -----

QUARTER	TIME	PLAY	YARDS	GT	UNC
FIRST QUARTER					
UNC	TD 10:36	Malik Carney 20 Yd Fumble Return (Freeman Jones Kick)		0	7
GT	TD 8:23	Nathan Cottrell 11 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)		7	7
SECOND QUARTER					
GT	TD 12:03	Tobias Oliver 2 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)		14	7
UNC	FG 4:14	Freeman Jones 23 Yd Field Goal		21	10
THIRD QUARTER					
GT	TD 8:43	Clinton Lynch 4 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)		28	10
UNC	TD 5:37	Carl Tucker 9 Yd pass from Jace Ruder (Freeman Jones Kick)		28	17
UNC	FG 1:13	Freeman Jones 25 Yd Field Goal		28	20
FOURTH QUARTER					
UNC	TD 12:35	Antonio Williams 1 Yd Run (Nathan Elliott Pass to Anthony Ratliff-Williams for Two-Point Conversion)		28	28
GT	TD 3:00	Tobias Oliver 1 Yd Run (Wesley Wells Kick)		35	28
GT	FG 0:46	Wesley Wells 22 Yd Field Goal		38	28

Team Stats	GT	UNC
First Downs	27	19
Total Yards	565	374
Total Plays	76	67
Avg Gain Per Play	7.4	5.6
Net Yards Rushing	461	166
Rushes	74	36
Yards Per Rush	6.2	4.6
Net Yards Passing	104	208
Comp-Att	2-2	18-31
Yards Per Pass	52.0	6.7
Times Sacked	0	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	0
Interceptions	0	3
Punts	1	3
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	3	1
Penalty Yards	20	10
Fumbles	4	0
Fumbles Lost	3	0
Possession	36:12	23:48

Individual Stats

RUSHING

GT	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Tobias Oliver	28	120	4.3	2	19
Nathan Cottrell	9	90	10.0	1	23
Jerry Howard	10	90	9.0	0	52
TaQuon Marshall	8	61	7.6	0	44
Jordan Mason	12	40	3.3	0	6
Qua Searcy	2	38	19.0	0	35
Clinton Lynch	5	22	4.4	1	11
UNC					
Michael Carter	10	68	6.8	0	46
Jordon Brown	6	34	5.7	0	15
Antonio Williams	13	33	2.5	1	12
Jace Ruder	3	21	7.0	0	13
Anthony Ratliff-Williams	2	8	4.0	0	12
Nathan Elliott	2	2	1.0	0	2

PASSING

GT	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Tobias Oliver	2	2	104	52.0	1	0	16.7
UNC							
Nathan Elliott	14	26	128	4.9	0	3	12.9
Jace Ruder	4	5	80	16.0	1	0	98.7

RECEIVING

GT	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Qua Searcy	1	86	86.0	1	86
Jerry Howard	1	18	18.0	0	18
UNC					
Anthony Ratliff-Williams	4	103	25.8	0	44
Beau Corrales	2	29	14.5	0	15
Dyami Brown	2	20	10.0	0	12
Carl Tucker	2	17	8.5	1	9
Dazz Newsome	3	17	5.7	0	12
Rontavius Groves	1	15	15.0	0	15
Michael Carter	2	9	4.5	0	5
Thomas Jackson	1	0	0.0	0	0
Jake Bargas	1	-2	-2.0	0	0