

WEEK FIVE
NC STATE at FLORIDA ST

Hornibrook fills in, leads Florida State over NC State

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- Alex Hornibrook did more than just fill in as Florida State's starter. He had a career night and gave the Seminoles a much-needed victory.

Hornibrook, a graduate transfer from Wisconsin, made his first start at Florida State and threw for a career-high 316 yards, tossing three touchdown passes in the Seminoles' 31-13 win over North Carolina State on Saturday night.

"I was just proud of the way the team finished today," Hornibrook said. "And we were able to separate a little bit and not be a one-possession game at the end."

Hornibrook was often pressured and was sacked eight times. But he completed 29 of 40 passes and had two touchdown passes to Tamorrion Terry and another to Ontaria Wilson for Florida State (3-2, 2-1 Atlantic Coast Conference). He improves to 27-6 as a starter.

James Blackman suffered a knee injury in last week's win over Louisville and "tweaked" it again on Friday in practice, coach Willie Taggart said.

"We wanted to see how he'd go through warmups and everything, see how it felt," Taggart said. "Thought it would be best that we didn't put him in there."

Hornibrook helped the Seminoles' offense put together plenty of scoring drives, helping them build a 17-6 halftime lead that they would not relinquish. Florida State had let fourth-quarter leads slip away against Boise State and Virginia but have now finished off Louisville and NC State (3-2, 0-1) on consecutive weeks.

The Seminoles won back-to-back ACC games for the first time since Nov. 2016.

"Our guys are improving each and every week," Taggart said. "To have back-to-back ACC wins at home is big for our football team and big for where we're trying to go and get our program back to where we want to be."

NC State had more sacks (eight) than points (six) through three quarters. Defensive tackle Darrell Murchison had 3.5 sacks in three quarters.

But the Wolfpack weren't very effective on offense. They fumbled twice, turned it over on downs twice and punted six times.

"Weird feeling after this game," NC State coach Dave Doeren said. "I'm really proud of the way our defensive kids battled. We struggled offensively in a lot of ways."

Ricky Person Jr. was carted off with 13:28 left in the third quarter. The sophomore tailback had his left leg in an air cast. X-rays were negative, a school spokesperson said.

Bailey Hockman, who transferred from Florida State to a junior college in August 2018 and eventually signed with NC State, played the majority of the game. He completed 21 of 40 passes for 208 yards and had a fourth-quarter touchdown pass to Emeka Emezie for the Wolfpack.

"Wish we could have won," Hockman said. "I think I played well, did the best I can. Just got to get it done. Got to execute."

Cam Akers had 17 carries for 83 yards but nearly half of them came on a 41-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. Still, Florida State surpassed the 30-point mark for the fourth time in five games.

TARGETING

Florida State outside linebacker Janarius Robinson was ejected for targeting after a booth review. Robinson will miss the first half of the Seminoles' next game, at Clemson. Another targeting, against Florida State defensive back Hamsah Nasirildeen, was reversed by a booth review.

THE TAKEAWAY

NC State: The Wolfpack managed just 88 rushing yards, averaging 3.1 yards per carry, and were just 4 of 16 on third downs

Florida State: The Seminoles held an 11-point halftime lead and didn't allow an opponent to rally in the fourth quarter for the first time this season.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NCST	0	6	0	7	13
FSU	3	14	7	7	31

Scoring Summary -----

	NCST	FSU
FIRST QUARTER		
FSU FG 5:40 Ricky Aguayo 37 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 40 yards, 4:21	0	3
SECOND QUARTER		
NCST FG 14:20 Christopher Dunn 29 Yd Field Goal		
6 plays, 18 yards, 3:03	3	3
NCST FG 6:25 Christopher Dunn 26 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 51 yards, 3:55	6	3
FSU TD 4:59 Tamorrion Terry 43 Yd pass from Alex Hornibrook (Ricky Aguayo Kick)		
5 plays, 75 yards, 1:26	6	10
FSU TD 0:58 Ontaria Wilson 40 Yd pass from Alex Hornibrook (Ricky Aguayo Kick)		
5 plays, 61 yards, 1:51	6	17
THIRD QUARTER		
FSU TD 0:59 Tamorrion Terry 9 Yd pass from Alex Hornibrook (Parker Grothaus Kick)		
6 plays, 51 yards, 2:30	6	24
FOURTH QUARTER		
NCST TD 13:04 Emeka Emezie 3 Yd pass from Bailey Hockman (Christopher Dunn Kick)		
6 plays, 75 yards, 2:55	13	24
FSU TD 9:13 Cam Akers 41 Yd Run (Parker Grothaus Kick)		
8 plays, 75 yards, 3:51	13	31

Team Stats	NCST	FSU
First Downs	24	22
Passes for First	15	15
Rushes for First	4	4
Penalties for First	5	3
Third Down Efficiency	4-16	5-15
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-3	1-1
Total Yards	370	369
Total Plays	80	72
Avg Gain Per Play	4.6	5.1
Net Yards Rushing	88	53
Rushes	28	32
Yards Per Rush	3.1	1.7
Net Yards Passing	282	316
Comp-Att	28-52	29-40
Yards Per Pass	5.4	7.9
Times Sacked	2	8
Yds Lost To Sacks	-15	-45
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	6	7
Punt Average	47.5	40.0
Penalties	8	13
Penalty Yards	57	99
Fumbles	3	1
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Time of Poss	29:11	30:49

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
NC STATE	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Jordan Houston	9	61	6.8	0	19		
Ricky Person Jr.	7	26	3.7	0	8		
Zonovan Knight	7	24	3.4	0	11		
Devin Leary	1	-4	-4.0	0	0		
Matthew McKay	1	-5	-5.0	0	0		
Bailey Hockman	3	-14	-4.7	0	2		
FLORIDA ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Cam Akers	17	83	4.9	1	41		
Khalan Laborn	3	12	4.0	0	6		
Team	2	-2	-1.0	0	0		
Alex Hornibrook	10	-40	-4.0	0	3		
PASSING							
NC STATE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Bailey Hockman	21	40	208	5.2	1	0	37.4
Devin Leary	4	5	54	10.8	0	0	94.1
Matthew McKay	3	7	20	2.9	0	0	37.3
FLORIDA ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Alex Hornibrook	29	40	316	7.9	3	0	45.5
RECEIVING							
NC STATE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Devin Carter	4	68	17.0	0	33		
Cary Angeline	4	56	14.0	0	16		
Max Fisher	2	41	20.5	0	24		
Thayer Thomas	4	37	9.3	0	15		
Emeka Emezie	3	29	9.7	1	17		
Tabari Hines	6	24	4.0	0	11		
Cecil Powell	3	22	7.3	0	11		
Trent Pennix	1	5	5.0	0	5		
Jordan Houston	1	0	0.0	0	0		
FLORIDA ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Ontaria Wilson	4	91	22.8	1	40		
Tamorrion Terry	5	77	15.4	2	43		
Keyshawn Helton	3	44	14.7	0	24		
D.J. Matthews	2	27	13.5	0	22		
Warren Thompson	2	26	13.0	0	14		
Keith Gavin	2	16	8.0	0	11		
Cam Akers	2	11	5.5	0	7		
Tre' McKitty	2	11	5.5	0	8		
Tre'Shaun Harrison	5	7	1.4	0	9		
Khalan Laborn	2	6	3.0	0	3		