

WEEK EIGHT
NORTH CAROLINA at VIRGINIA TECH

Virginia Tech gets 60T win over UNC in longest game in ACC history

BLACKSBURG, Va. -- Fans who attended the Virginia Tech-North Carolina game certainly got their money's worth Saturday evening.

The Hokies themselves actually got much, much more.

In a game that took six overtimes and more than four hours to play, Virginia Tech finally put away the Tar Heels when third-team quarterback Quincy Patterson's two-point conversion run in the sixth overtime propelled the Hokies to a wild 43-41 victory in the longest game in ACC history.

The victory enabled the Hokies (5-2, 2-2 ACC) to keep pace in the race for the ACC's Coastal Division crown and kept the Tar Heels (3-4, 2-2) from jumping to the top of the division.

"I'm just proud of those kids," Virginia Tech head coach Justin Fuente said. "It goes back to a couple of weeks ago (after a 45-10 loss to Duke), and we had to look ourselves in the mirror and talk about how we would handle tough situations. We were certainly in our fair share of them tonight. If they had made one more field goal or whatever, I would still feel the same way about our team. If it had gone another way, I still would've been up here talking about how proud I am of our guys' ability to battle."

Both teams squandered opportunities to win in earlier overtime periods, as Virginia Tech kicker Brian Johnson missed game-winning attempts from 41 and 42 yards and North Carolina kicker Noah Ruggles missed from 35 yards and had a 44-yard attempt blocked.

The game marked the debut of college football's new overtime rules, which now call for going for two points after the fourth overtime. In the fifth overtime, Virginia Tech had the ball first, but Patterson's pass to Damon Hazelton was broken up by the Tar Heels' Storm Duck, giving the Tar Heels an opportunity to win the game.

North Carolina, though, couldn't convert. Virginia Tech's Khalil Ladler read an option play perfectly and tackled Michael Carter for a loss, sending the game into a sixth overtime. The Tar Heels received the ball first, but quarterback Sam Howell was tackled for a loss, setting up Patterson's game-winning conversion.

The loss spoiled an outstanding game by Howell, who completed 26 of 49 for 348 yards and five touchdowns.

"It hurts when you have to go in and talk to your team when they fought really hard," North Carolina head coach Mack Brown said. "There is nothing really that you can say to them because of losing really stinks. You work way too hard to lose, and it's not worth playing if you lose. When you lose, you have to take it and learn from it. That's what we will do."

Patterson -- the Hokies' third-team quarterback coming into the game -- played the majority of the second half for the Hokies after starting quarterback Hendon Hooker went down with an injury late in the first half and Fuente elected to replace backup Ryan Willis with Patterson after three series.

Patterson rushed for 122 yards on 21 carries and threw for 54 yards and a touchdown to pace the Hokies.

"After Hendon got the job, and he played a great game against Miami, it's really easy to get down on yourself and think your shot is never going to come," Patterson said. "But I just had to stay in that zone of preparing like I was the starter, and today was that day that I got to play quarterback, so that was pretty cool."

TAKEAWAYS

North Carolina: The Tar Heels need to find a way to close out games. Playing in yet another close one -- North Carolina has played in six games that have been decided by six points or less -- the Tar Heels fell to 2-4 in such contests, misfiring Saturday on an opportunity to take control of the ACC's Coastal Division race.

Virginia Tech: Given up for dead after a 45-10 loss at home to Duke on Sept. 27, the Hokies now have won three straight games heading into a much-needed bye week -- one that could allow Hooker to heal from an undisclosed injury. They need only to win two of their final five games to become bowl eligible for the 27th consecutive season.

Final	1	2	3	4	OT	T
UNC	10	7	7	7	10	41
VT	7	14	0	10	12	43

Scoring Summary -----

	UNC	VT
FIRST QUARTER		
UNC TD 14:12 Dazz Newsome 47 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)	7	0
4 plays, 75 yards, 0:48		
UNC FG 10:47 Noah Ruggles 26 Yd Field Goal		0
7 plays, 25 yards, 2:20		
VT TD 0:02 Tre Turner 55 Yd pass from Hendon Hooker (Brian Johnson Kick)	10	7
5 plays, 80 yards, 2:01		
SECOND QUARTER		
UNC TD 6:55 Dazz Newsome 10 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)	17	7
9 plays, 81 yards, 3:59		
VT TD 3:29 Deshawn McCleave 2 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick)	17	14
8 plays, 75 yards, 3:26		
VT TD 0:19 Damon Hazelton 11 Yd pass from Ryan Willis (Brian Johnson Kick)	17	21
7 plays, 64 yards, 2:39		
THIRD QUARTER		
UNC TD 9:27 Rontavius Groves 6 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)	24	21
8 plays, 71 yards, 3:48		
FOURTH QUARTER		
VT FG 9:29 Brian Johnson 23 Yd Field Goal		24
13 plays, 61 yards, 6:49		
UNC TD 5:11 Antoine Green 68 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)	31	24
3 plays, 80 yards, 1:06		
VT TD 4:31 Quincy Patterson II 53 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick)	31	31
2 plays, 75 yards, 0:40		
OVERTIME		
VT FG Brian Johnson 38 Yd Field Goal	31	34
4 plays, 5 yards		
UNC FG Noah Ruggles 29 Yd Field Goal		34
7 plays, 13 yards		
UNC TD Beau Corrales 8 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)	41	34
6 plays, 25 yards		
VT TD Damon Hazelton 18 Yd pass from Quincy Patterson II (Brian Johnson Kick)	41	41
4 plays, 25 yards, 0:00		
VT Quincy Patterson II Run for Two-Point Conversion	41	43
0 plays, 0 yards		

Team Stats	UNC	VT
First Downs	23	23
Passes for First	14	9
Rushes for First	8	12
Penalties for First	1	2
Third Down Efficiency	9-21	5-17
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-1	1-1
Total Yards	491	490
Total Plays	89	81
Avg Gain Per Play	5.5	6.0
Net Yards Rushing	143	254
Rushes	40	60
Yards Per Rush	3.6	4.2
Net Yards Passing	348	236
Comp-Att	26-49	14-21
Yards Per Pass	7.1	11.2
Times Sacked	3	5
Yds Lost To Sacks	-21	-25
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	7	6
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	9	5
Penalty Yards	69	36
Fumbles	0	3
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Time of Poss	27:08	32:52

Individual Stats

RUSHING

NORTH CAROLINA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Michael Carter	13	91	7.0	0	28
Javonte Williams	11	37	3.4	0	11
Antonio Williams	4	22	5.5	0	17
Dazz Newsome	1	3	3.0	0	3
Chazz Surratt	1	0	0.0	0	0
Sam Howell	10	-10	-1.0	0	9

VIRGINIA TECH

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Quincy Patterson II	21	122	5.8	1	53
Deshawn McCleave	13	72	5.5	1	24
Hendon Hooker	10	41	4.1	0	13
Dalton Keene	7	25	3.6	0	7
Tre Turner	1	7	7.0	0	7
Damon Hazelton	1	3	3.0	0	3
Tayvion Robinson	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Team	2	-2	-1.0	0	0
Ryan Willis	4	-13	-3.3	0	2

PASSING

NORTH CAROLINA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Sam Howell	26	49	348	7.1	5	0	64.6
VIRGINIA TECH	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Hendon Hooker	8	12	127	10.6	1	0	74.3
Ryan Willis	3	3	55	18.3	1	0	60.9
Quincy Patterson	3	6	54	9.0	1	0	69.7

RECEIVING

NORTH CAROLINA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Dazz Newsome	9	112	12.4	2	47
Antoine Green	1	68	68.0	1	68
Dyami Brown	2	53	26.5	0	43
Beau Corrales	5	48	9.6	1	23
Garrett Walston	4	29	7.3	0	12
Rontavius Groves	3	27	9.0	1	11
Javonte Williams	1	14	14.0	0	14
Michael Carter	1	-3	-3.0	0	0
VIRGINIA TECH	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Tre Turner	5	106	21.2	1	55
Damon Hazelton	3	43	14.3	2	18
James Mitchell	2	23	11.5	0	20
Tayvion Robinson	1	22	22.0	0	22
Deshawn McCleave	1	19	19.0	0	19
Dalton Keene	1	18	18.0	0	18
Kaleb Smith	1	5	5.0	0	5