

WEEK EIGHT
TEXAS A&M at MISSISSIPPI

Fumble recovery, late TD helps Texas A&M beat Ole Miss 24-17

OXFORD, Miss. -- Texas A&M defensive tackle Justin Madubuike needed less than five minutes to turn two game-changing plays Saturday night that lifted the Aggies to a 24-17 comeback win over Mississippi.

"I just tried to put myself in position to make big plays for my team, said Madubuike, who finished with five tackles, including a tackle for loss and a quarterback hurry. "It's blocking a ball, sacking a quarterback and all those little things that helped us come out with a win." Trailing 14-10 midway through the third quarter, Madubuike teamed with Jhamon Ausbon to force a fumble on a sack of Ole Miss quarterback John Rhys Plumlee. Linebacker Buddy Johnson scooped the loose ball and returned it for a 62-yard touchdown that gave the Aggies a 17-14 lead they never surrendered.

On the ensuing drive by the Rebels, Madubuike swatted away a potential game-tying 35-yard field goal. The Aggies (4-3, 2-2 Southeastern Conference) added a clinching touchdown drive, capped by a 22-yard touchdown run from Isaiah Spiller, to survive a game that featured five lead changes, four turnovers and three missed field goals.

"You've got to learn to win on the bad days," Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher said. "You have to find a way to come out on top and I give our team credit for that."

Kellen Mond was 16 of 28 for 172 yards passing and added 76 yards rushing on 15 attempts for the Aggies. Braden Mann kept Ole Miss in poor field position with five punts for a 52.2 yard average, with a final fourth quarter kick of 55 yards that rolled out at the Ole Miss 1-yard line.

The Rebels (3-5, 2-3) scored on touchdown runs of 69 and 2 yards from freshmen Jerrion Ealy and Snoop Conner, respectively, to build the third quarter lead. The Rebels got a 35-yard field goal from Luke Logan with 1:59 left but failed to recover the ensuing onside kick.

"We had chances to make it a two score game. We had chances all over the place, but we didn't make the plays," Mississippi coach Matt Luke said. They made the plays. We played our guts out, but we just missed our opportunities.

THE TAKEAWAY

Texas A&M: Winning on the road prior to a three-game home stand sets up the Aggies to clinch a postseason berth before closing the regular season with road games at No. 10 Georgia and No. 2 LSU. Defensively, Johnson finished with 10 tackles, while end Tyree Johnson had eight tackles including two for loss, one sack and one quarterback hurry.

"This is a great push for us for the rest of the season," Madubuike said. We had to bring our own juice and we got the win."

Ole Miss: Close losses aren't unexpected with young, untested teams, but the Rebels have been on the short end against Memphis, California and Texas A&M. The Rebels are an exciting team with a promising future, but a postseason bowl berth would require a couple of SEC signature wins at home with No. 2 LSU or on the road at No. 11 Auburn and rival Mississippi State.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
TA&M	3	7	7	7	24
MISS	7	0	7	3	17

Scoring Summary -----

TA&M	MISS
FIRST QUARTER	
TA&M FG 6:04 Seth Small 24 Yd Field Goal	
10 plays, 73 yards, 5:45	3 0
MISS TD 5:22 Jerrion Ealy 69 Yd Run (Luke Logan Kick)	
2 plays, 75 yards, 0:42	3 7
SECOND QUARTER	
TA&M TD 0:38 Kendrick Rogers 18 Yd pass from Kellen Mond (Seth Small Kick)	
6 plays, 67 yards, 1:17	10 7
THIRD QUARTER	
MISS TD 13:30 Snoop Conner 2 Yd Run (Luke Logan Kick)	
5 plays, 65 yards, 1:30	10 14
TA&M TD 7:37 Buddy Johnson 62 Yd Fumble Return (Seth Small Kick)	
9 plays, 34 yards, 3:39	17 14
FOURTH QUARTER	
TA&M TD 2:34 Isaiah Spiller 22 Yd Run (Seth Small Kick)	
7 plays, 55 yards, 3:57	24 14
MISS FG 0:26 Luke Logan 35 Yd Field Goal	
17 plays, 65 yards, 2:34	24 17

Team Stats	TA&M	MISS
First Downs	20	22
Passes for First	9	8
Rushes for First	10	10
Penalties for First	1	4
Third Down Efficiency	3-13	4-16
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	3-3
Total Yards	337	405
Total Plays	66	75
Avg Gain Per Play	5.1	5.4
Net Yards Rushing	165	250
Rushes	38	44
Yards Per Rush	4.3	5.7
Net Yards Passing	172	155
Comp-Att	16-28	14-31
Yards Per Pass	6.1	5.0
Times Sacked	4	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	-29
Interceptions	2	1
Punts	5	6
Punt Average	52.2	44.8
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	68	65
Fumbles	0	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	34:07	25:53

Individual Stats							
RUSHING							
TEXAS A&M	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Isaiah Spiller	16	78	4.9	1	22		
Kellen Mond	15	76	5.1	0	22		
Quartney Davis	2	9	4.5	0	15		
Cordarrrian Richardson	2	5	2.5	0	4		
Team	3	-3	-1.0	0	0		
MISSISSIPPI	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Jerrion Ealy	6	80	13.3	1	69		
Scottie Phillips	14	67	4.8	0	38		
Snoop Conner	5	52	10.4	1	36		
John Rhys Plumlee	13	38	2.9	0	16		
Tylan Knight	1	5	5.0	0	5		
Matt Corral	4	5	1.3	0	16		
Dannis Jackson	1	3	3.0	0	3		
PASSING							
TEXAS A&M	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Kellen Mond	16	28	172	6.1	1	2	49.0
MISSISSIPPI	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Matt Corral	10	17	124	7.3	0	1	34.8
John Rhys Plumlee	4	12	31	2.6	0	0	24.1
RECEIVING							
TEXAS A&M	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Jalen Wydermyer	4	67	16.8	0	29		
Jhamon Ausbon	5	47	9.4	0	14		
Kendrick Rogers	2	23	11.5	1	18		
Camron Buckley	1	16	16.0	0	16		
Quartney Davis	1	15	15.0	0	15		
Isaiah Spiller	3	4	1.3	0	2		
MISSISSIPPI	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Elijah Moore	5	59	11.8	0	20		
Dontario Drummond	2	27	13.5	0	15		
Scottie Phillips	1	22	22.0	0	22		
Snoop Conner	3	22	7.3	0	13		
Octavious Cooley	1	16	16.0	0	16		
Braylon Sanders	1	6	6.0	0	6		
Jason Pellerin	1	3	3.0	0	3		