

WEEK ONE  
SOUTH CAROLINA vs NORTH CAROLINA

**Return of the Mack: Tar Heels defeat Gamecocks**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- True freshman quarterback Sam Howell threw for 245 yards and two touchdowns, Myles Wolfolk had two late fourth-quarter interceptions and North Carolina battled back to beat South Carolina 24-20 on Saturday in Mack Brown's return to the sideline following a five-year hiatus.

Howell capped second half drives of 98 and 95 yards with a 22-yard TD strike to Dyami Brown and a 17-yard scoring toss to Beau Corrales to give Brown his first win since 2013, when he coached at Texas.

Brown was holding back tears as he was interviewed leaving the field.

The Tar Heels' defense was strong in the second half, and Wolfolk sealed the win by intercepting Jake Bentley twice on South Carolina's final three possessions helping North Carolina register its first win over a power-conference opponent in a season opener since topping Indiana in 1997, Brown's final season in his first stint at the school.

The Tar Heels were remarkably conservative on offense in crucial situations in the first half, not wanting to put Howell in difficult situations. North Carolina ran 12 plays inside the South Carolina 25-yard line in the first half and 11 were runs. The only pass attempt resulted in a sack.

But as the game progressed, the Tar Heels began to take the handcuffs off Howell and he responded with two big TD passes and no major mistakes.

North Carolina did most of its damage on the ground though, rushing for 238 yards on 52 carries. Javonte Williams led the way with 102 yards on 18 carries.

Clemson graduate transfer Tavien Feaster, who won two national championship rings with the Tigers and ran for 1,109 yards and 13 touchdowns over the past two seasons, ran for 72 yards and a touchdown for the Gamecocks.

Bentley was limited to 142 yards passing.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

South Carolina: The Gamecocks defense appeared to wear down in the second half, allowing TD drives of 98 and 95 yards. Coach Will Muschamp will likely take some heat for his decision to punt at midfield on fourth and 1 in the fourth quarter. The Gamecocks need to find some receivers for Bentley and the offensive line has to protect better.

North Carolina: The Tar Heels will need to learn to trust Howell more as they grow on offense. On the game's first drive, the Tar Heels reached the Gamecocks 11 and ran it up the middle three times. On the third drive they ran a draw play on third-and-8 resulting in a three-and-out. And then late in the first half they ran the ball on third-and-goal from the South Carolina 8 instead of taking a shot at the end zone. In the second half, Howell responded with some big plays.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
SC	10	3	7	0	20
UNC	3	3	3	15	24

**Scoring Summary -----**

	SC	UNC
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
SC FG 11:30 Parker White 32 Yd Field Goal		
9 plays, 58 yards, 3:30	3	0
UNC FG 5:58 Noah Ruggles 22 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 70 yards, 5:32	3	3
SC TD 3:09 Tavien Feaster 34 Yd Run (Parker White Kick)		
7 plays, 75 yards, 2:49	10	3
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
SC FG 7:24 Parker White 39 Yd Field Goal		
9 plays, 48 yards, 3:32	13	3
UNC FG 1:50 Noah Ruggles 24 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 68 yards, 5:34	13	6
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
UNC FG 7:55 Noah Ruggles 22 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 53 yards, 4:23	13	9
SC TD 5:10 Kyle Markway 22 Yd pass from Jake Bentley (Parker White Kick)		
6 plays, 36 yards, 2:45	20	9
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
UNC TD 14:27		
Dyami Brown 22 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Sam Howell Run for Two-Point Conversion)		
7 plays, 98 yards, 2:20	20	17
UNC TD 8:26 Beau Corrales 17 Yd pass from Sam Howell (Noah Ruggles Kick)		
7 plays, 95 yards, 3:17	20	24
play		

Team Stats	SC	UNC
First Downs	15	24
Passes for First	6	12
Rushes for First	6	11
Penalties for First	3	1
Third Down Efficiency	3-12	5-16
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	1-2
Total Yards	270	483
Total Plays	61	76
Avg Gain Per Play	4.4	6.4
Net Yards Rushing	128	238
Rushes	31	52
Yards Per Rush	4.1	4.6
Net Yards Passing	142	245
Comp-Att	16-30	15-24
Yards Per Pass	4.7	10.2
Times Sacked	3	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	-19
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	5	5
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	9	10
Penalty Yards	75	90
Fumbles	0	2
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	26:07	33:53

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>					
Tavien Feaster	13	72	5.5	1	34
Rico Dowdle	11	62	5.6	0	21
Team	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Jake Bentley	6	-5	-0.8	0	9
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>					
Javonte Williams	18	102	5.7	0	26
Michael Carter	16	77	4.8	0	26
Antonio Williams	4	53	13.3	0	22
Rontavius Groves	1	8	8.0	0	8
Sam Howell	10	6	0.6	0	8

**PASSING**

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>							
Jake Bentley	16	30	142	4.7	1	2	29.0
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>							
Sam Howell	15	24	245	10.2	2	0	27.7

**RECEIVING**

	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>					
Shi Smith	5	55	11.0	0	26
Kyle Markway	2	37	18.5	1	22
Josh Vann	2	16	8.0	0	11
Rico Dowdle	2	12	6.0	0	16
Tavien Feaster	2	11	5.5	0	7
Bryan Edwards	1	7	7.0	0	7
Dakereon Joynner	2	4	2.0	0	4
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>					
Dazz Newsome	4	74	18.5	0	31
Dyami Brown	4	69	17.3	1	22
Rontavius Groves	3	35	11.7	0	25
Antoine Green	1	25	25.0	0	25
Beau Corrales	1	17	17.0	1	17
Javonte Williams	1	15	15.0	0	15
Michael Carter	1	10	10.0	0	10