

WEEK TWELVE
ALABAMA at MISSISSIPPI ST

Tagovailoa injured in Alabama's 38-7 win at MSU

STARKVILLE, Miss. -- Tua Tagovailoa injured his hip while being dragged down late in the first half on what was likely his final series of the day and No. 4 Alabama went on to beat Mississippi State 38-7 Saturday in a game that might have cost the Crimson Tide its star quarterback.

Tagovailoa was injured after a scramble when he was tackled from behind by Bulldogs linebacker Leo Lewis. Tagovailoa needed help getting to his feet and was carted off the field with 3:01 left in the second quarter.

The junior had been nursing an ankle injury that needed surgery four weeks ago and caused him to miss a game and a half. Alabama coach Nick Saban said Saturday's injury was unrelated to the ankle. Saban called it a "freak injury." Saban told ESPN at halftime the plan was to remove Tagovailoa from the game before the series when the quarterback was injured. Alabama was already up 35-7, but it was decided to let Tagovailoa play one possession to get some work in the two-minute drill.

Alabama officials confirmed Tagovailoa was flown by helicopter to the St. Vincent's Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama. He was 14 of 18 for 256 yards and two touchdown passes against Mississippi State, giving him 31 TD passes on the season. He was replaced in the second half by Mac Jones, who went 7 for 11 for 94 yards.

The Crimson Tide (9-1, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) were coming off a 46-41 loss to LSU that nudged it out of College Football Playoff position to fifth in the latest selection committee rankings. Now the Crimson Tide is facing the possibility of trying to impress the committee without Tagovailoa, the Heisman Trophy runner-up from last season and a potential top-10 selection in the NFL draft.

Tagovailoa played well against LSU, passing for more than 400 yards, but he was gimpy at times, favoring his right ankle. Saban said Tagovailoa was a game-time decision against Mississippi State. He started and the Tide jumped out to a 14-0 lead on a touchdown run and a touchdown catch by Najee Harris, who finished with four TDs.

Mississippi State (4-6, 2-5) cut the lead to 14-7 on a 1-yard scoring run by Kylin Hill. The Bulldogs must now win out to be bowl eligible.

Harris finished with 88 yards rushing and 51 yards receiving. Jerry Jeudy had seven catches for 114 yards to pace the Alabama passing attack.

Tommy Stevens was 12 of 21 passing for Mississippi State and had just 82 yards passing. Stevens did rush for 96 yards on 10 carries.

TAKEAWAY

Alabama: Tide defensive tackle Raekwon Davis was also taken off the field with an apparent leg injury.

Mississippi State: The Bulldogs' struggles on offense continued against Alabama. Mississippi State had just 270 yards of offense and had only 82 yards passing against the Crimson Tide. In the past two meetings with Alabama, the Bulldogs have mustered seven points.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
ALA	21	14	3	0	38
MSST	7	0	0	0	7

Scoring Summary -----

	ALA	MSST
FIRST QUARTER		
ALA TD 13:08 Najee Harris 10 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)		7
5 plays, 55 yards, 1:52		0
ALA TD 12:54 Najee Harris 19 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	14	0
1 play, 19 yards, 0:05		
MSST TD 8:37 Kylin Hill 1 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		7
8 plays, 75 yards, 4:17		
ALA TD 3:22 Najee Harris 5 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	21	7
10 plays, 71 yards, 5:15		
SECOND QUARTER		
ALA TD 14:15 Jaylen Waddle 35 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	28	7
4 plays, 69 yards, 1:44		
ALA TD 6:08 Najee Harris 5 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	35	7
13 plays, 70 yards, 5:49		
THIRD QUARTER		
ALA FG 7:28 Joseph Bulovas 22 Yd Field Goal	38	7
9 plays, 81 yards, 4:04		

Team Stats	ALA	MSST
First Downs	24	11
Passes for First	13	4
Rushes for First	8	5
Penalties for First	3	2
Third Down Efficiency	6-10	3-12
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-1	1-4
Total Yards	510	270
Total Plays	60	58
Avg Gain Per Play	8.5	4.7
Net Yards Rushing	160	188
Rushes	31	37
Yards Per Rush	5.2	5.1
Net Yards Passing	350	82
Comp-Att	21-29	12-21
Yards Per Pass	12.1	3.9
Times Sacked	1	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-8	-8
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	2	5
Punt Average	39.5	39.4
Penalties	7	5
Penalty Yards	86	37
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Time of Poss	27:57	32:03

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
ALABAMA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Najee Harris	17	88	5.2	3	20		
Brian Robinson Jr.	8	56	7.0	0	20		
Tyrell Shavers	1	14	14.0	0	14		
Keilan Robinson	3	10	3.3	0	9		
Tua Tagovailoa	2	-8	-4.0	0	0		
MISSISSIPPI ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Tommy Stevens	10	96	9.6	0	46		
Nick Gibson	9	56	6.2	0	20		
Kylin Hill	16	35	2.2	1	7		
Isaiah Zuber	1	2	2.0	0	2		
Garrett Shrader	1	-1	-1.0	0	0		
PASSING							
ALABAMA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Tua Tagovailoa	14	18	256	14.2	2	0	98.9
Mac Jones	7	11	94	8.5	0	0	64.6
MISSISSIPPI ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Tommy Stevens	12	21	82	3.9	0	1	24.7
RECEIVING							
ALABAMA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Jerry Jeudy	7	114	16.3	0	37		
DeVonta Smith	6	92	15.3	0	34		
Najee Harris	3	51	17.0	1	23		
Henry Ruggs III	3	39	13.0	0	26		
Jaylen Waddle	1	35	35.0	1	35		
Jahleel Billingsley	1	19	19.0	0	19		
MISSISSIPPI ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Farrod Green	1	30	30.0	0	30		
Kylin Hill	3	21	7.0	0	19		
Stephen Guidry	3	18	6.0	0	10		
Dedrick Thomas	2	6	3.0	0	5		
Nick Gibson	2	4	2.0	0	5		
Lee Witherspoon	1	3	3.0	0	3		