

WEEK THIRTEEN
SAMFORD at AUBURN

No. 16 Auburn cruises by Samford 52-0

AUBURN, Ala. -- Auburn's defense held Samford to 114 yards and forced four turnovers, JaTarvious Whitlow scored twice, and the No. 16 Tigers tuned up for the Iron Bowl with a 52-0 victory Saturday at rain-drenched Jordan-Hare Stadium.

Auburn forced and recovered a fumble on a fourth-and-4 on Samford's opening drive, the first of three turnovers and a trio of three-and-outs across Samford's first six possessions.

For the game, the Tigers also had 13 tackles for loss and held Samford to 2 yards per play, 2 of 13 on third down as Auburn's defensive starters were benched a few minutes into the third quarter.

Samford had scored in 213 straight games.

"I think if they are in any other division they're probably in the top five," Samford head coach Chris Hatcher said. "That defensive front they have is phenomenal. They've got a great quarterback and some great skill players to go along with him. All in all, we just played a team that was a lot better than us."

As the rain increased, so, too, did Auburn's offensive production. After a seven-point first quarter in which they struggled to convert third downs and had a 43-yard field goal blocked, the Tigers had 193 yards of offense and 24 points in the second.

Whitlow and D.J. Williams accounted for 130 yards from scrimmage in the first half and Williams added his second touchdown of the season in the third quarter.

The Tigers nearly eclipsed 300 rushing yards for the second time this season, finishing with 294 and four rushing scores.

"We knew it was going to rain," Auburn receiver Seth Williams said. "We knew it wasn't going to be the best conditions. But we approached it right."

After completing 15 of 23 passes for 150 yards and a score, Bo Nix's day also was done early in the third quarter.

That allowed 24-year-old redshirt freshman Cord Sandberg, a former member of the Philadelphia Phillies minor league baseball organization, to take the majority of second-half snaps under center.

Sandberg made the most of his first appearance of the year, accounting for 115 yards from scrimmage and throwing the first two TD passes of his Auburn career -- both to junior college transfer Zach Farrar.

NIXED RECORDS

With a 10-yard touchdown pass to Harold Joiner in the second quarter that put Auburn up 21-0, Nix passed Stan White for the most completions (181) and tied him for the most touchdowns (14) by a freshman quarterback in program history. Nix needs 50 passing yards and a touchdown in Auburn's final two games to break White's single-season marks from 1990 in both categories.

CARLSON'S STRUGGLES

Auburn sophomore kicker Anders Carlson had a 43-yard field goal blocked in the first quarter. The younger brother of SEC all-time leading scorer Daniel Carlson is now 9 for 25 on kicks of more than 40 yards in his Auburn career.

IRON BOWL QUESTIONS

Auburn is facing uncertainty at two key positions heading into the 83rd Iron Bowl. Reserve safety Jamien Sherwood, who has 25 tackles, three pass breakups, four tackles for loss and two quarterback hurries over the past five games will miss the first half against the Crimson Tide after being ejected for targeting in the third quarter against Samford.

Additionally, Auburn started Kaleb Kim, who lost his starting job at center three weeks ago, at right guard over Mike Horton, the usual first-teamer at that spot. However, when Kim was injured in the second quarter, freshman Jalil Irvin filled in for him instead of Horton.

Auburn coach Gus Malzahn said postgame that Horton suffered a minor injury last week and is expected to be "fine" to start against Alabama.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
SAM	0	0	0	0	0
AUB	7	24	7	14	52

Scoring Summary -----

	SAM	AUB
FIRST QUARTER		
AUB TD 8:13 JaTarvious Whitlow 1 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)	0	7
9 plays, 51 yards, 3:16		
SECOND QUARTER		
AUB TD 14:08 JaTarvious Whitlow 3 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)	0	14
4 plays, 47 yards, 1:16		
AUB TD 9:37 Harold Joiner 10 Yd pass from Bo Nix (Anders Carlson Kick)	0	21
9 plays, 56 yards, 2:57		
AUB TD 7:14 Shaun Shivers 4 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)	0	28
3 plays, 19 yards, 0:46		
AUB FG 1:16 Anders Carlson 29 Yd Field Goal	0	31
9 plays, 65 yards, 3:14		
THIRD QUARTER		
AUB TD 12:35 D.J. Williams 2 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)	0	38
2 plays, 9 yards, 0:16		
FOURTH QUARTER		
AUB TD 13:32 Zach Farrar 27 Yd pass from Cord Sandberg (Ben Patton Kick)	0	45
10 plays, 68 yards, 4:50		
AUB TD 9:23 Zach Farrar 4 Yd pass from Cord Sandberg (Ben Patton Kick)	0	52
5 plays, 59 yards, 1:59		

Team Stats	SAM	AUB
First Downs	11	28
Passes for First	3	11
Rushes for First	6	16
Penalties for First	2	1
Third Down Efficiency	2-13	3-11
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-3	2-2
Total Yards	114	544
Total Plays	56	85
Avg Gain Per Play	2.0	6.4
Net Yards Rushing	51	293
Rushes	30	53
Yards Per Rush	1.7	5.5
Net Yards Passing	63	251
Comp-Att	15-26	22-32
Yards Per Pass	2.4	7.8
Times Sacked	2	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-18	0
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	6	3
Punt Average	44.5	40.3
Penalties	3	9
Penalty Yards	25	65
Fumbles	3	0
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Time of Poss	24:40	35:20

Individual Stats

RUSHING

SAMFORD	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jay Stanton	10	19	1.9	0	6
Devan Walker	3	15	5.0	0	15
Liam Welch	11	10	0.9	0	15
Chris Oladokun	1	5	5.0	0	5
DeMarcus Ware	2	5	2.5	0	5
Jeremiah Roberts	1	0	0.0	0	0
Jocquet Jiles	2	-3	-1.5	0	0

AUBURN

	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Shaun Shivers	9	55	6.1	1	12
JaTarvious Whitlow	7	49	7.0	2	31
D.J. Williams	8	42	5.3	1	19
Kam Martin	8	39	4.9	0	12
Cord Sandberg	6	31	5.2	0	15
Jashawn Sheffield	2	30	15.0	0	17
Harold Joiner	1	17	17.0	0	17
Malik Miller	5	16	3.2	0	8
Anthony Schwartz	2	14	7.0	0	10
Matthew Hill	1	2	2.0	0	2
Bo Nix	2	1	0.5	0	2
Team	2	-3	-1.5	0	0

PASSING

SAMFORD	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Liam Welch	12	23	66	2.9	0	2	--
Ty Hatcher	2	2	4	2.0	0	0	--
DeMarcus Ware	1	1	-7	-7.0	0	0	--

AUBURN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Bo Nix	15	23	150	6.5	1	0	61.6
Cord Sandberg	5	7	84	12.0	2	0	82.2
Wil Appleton	2	2	17	8.5	0	0	98.5

RECEIVING

SAMFORD	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jai'Rus Creamer	1	20	20.0	0	20
Kendall Watson	3	17	5.7	0	16
Robert Adams	3	15	5.0	0	11
Jay Stanton	1	8	8.0	0	8
Ty King	1	6	6.0	0	6
Chandler Smith	1	4	4.0	0	4
DeMarcus Ware	1	2	2.0	0	2
Michael Vice	2	0	0.0	0	3
Sam Fleming	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
Liam Welch	1	-7	-7.0	0	0

AUBURN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
JaTarvious Whitlow	2	46	23.0	0	36
Seth Williams	4	45	11.3	0	17
Marquis McClain	1	37	37.0	0	37
Zach Farrar	2	31	15.5	2	27
Matthew Hill	3	25	8.3	0	13
Anthony Schwartz	4	25	6.3	0	10
Pace Ozmint	1	13	13.0	0	13
Eli Stove	2	12	6.0	0	8
Harold Joiner	1	10	10.0	1	10
Jackson McFadden	1	4	4.0	0	4
Shaun Shivers	1	3	3.0	0	3