

**WEEK THIRTEEN**  
**GEORGIA SOUTHERN at ARKANSAS ST**

**Arkansas State tops Georgia Southern 38-33**

JONESBORO, Ark. -- Layne Hatcher threw for 354 yards and four touchdowns, Kirk Merritt returned a kickoff 94 yards for a score and Arkansas State used a big defensive stand to hold off Georgia Southern 38-33 on Saturday.

Trailing 38-33 with 1:29 left after a missed Arkansas State field goal, the Eagles drove to the Red Wolves' 34, but were stopped on downs.

Hatcher threw TD passes of 32 and 63 yards to Jonathan Adams Jr. in consecutive drives in the first quarter. Tukua Ahoia's fumble recovery set up Hatcher's 32-yard TD pass to Omar Bayless on the next possession. Later in the second quarter after Merritt's kickoff return, Hatcher hit Merritt on a 27-yard TD pass for a 35-19 halftime lead for the Red Wolves (7-4, 5-2 Sun Belt).

Hatcher completed 19 of 24 passes. Adams had seven catches for 158 yards and Bayless, the conference's leading receiver, had seven grabs for 113 yards.

Shai Werts threw three touchdown passes for the Eagles (6-5, 4-3) and rushed for 158 yards on 18 carries, including a 10-yard scoring run. He was 14 of 24 for 175 yards passing and was also sacked for a safety.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
GASO	3	16	8	6	33
ARST	14	21	3	0	38

**Scoring Summary -----**

	GASO	ARST
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
GASO FG 9:19 Tyler Bass 26 Yd Field Goal		
6 plays, 62 yards, 2:46	3	0
ARST TD 6:54 Jonathan Adams Jr. 32 Yd pass from Layne Hatcher (Blake Grupe Kick)		
7 plays, 64 yards, 2:17	3	7
ARST TD 0:00 Jonathan Adams Jr. 63 Yd pass from Layne Hatcher (Blake Grupe Kick)		
3 plays, 78 yards, 0:44	3	14
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
ARST TD 14:37 Omar Bayless 32 Yd pass from Layne Hatcher (Blake Grupe Kick)		
1 play, 32 yards, 0:06	3	21
GASO TD 8:11 Shai Werts 10 Yd Run (Tyler Bass Kick)		
10 plays, 63 yards, 6:19	10	21
ARST TD 7:57 Kirk Merritt 94 Yd Kickoff Return (Blake Grupe Kick)		
0 plays, 0 yards, 0:00	10	28
ARST TD 6:07 Kirk Merritt 27 Yd pass from Layne Hatcher (Blake Grupe Kick)		
1 play, 27 yards, 0:07	10	35
GASO SF 2:34 Raymond Johnson III Safety		
2 plays, -3 yards, 0:44	12	35
GASO TD 0:52 Malik Murray 11 Yd pass from Shai Werts (Tyler Bass Kick)		
8 plays, 58 yards, 1:41	19	35
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
ARST FG 9:43 Blake Grupe 19 Yd Field Goal		
11 plays, 65 yards, 4:04	19	38
GASO TD 6:51 Mark Michaud 8 Yd pass from Shai Werts (Shai Werts Pass to Mark Michaud for Two-Point Conversion)		
5 plays, 71 yards, 2:44	27	38
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
GASO TD 4:50 Mark Michaud 25 Yd pass from Shai Werts (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		
8 plays, 73 yards, 4:10	33	38

Team Stats	GASO	ARST
First Downs	23	21
Passes for First	10	13
Rushes for First	9	7
Penalties for First	4	1
Third Down Efficiency	5-14	4-9
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-4	0-1
Total Yards	481	444
Total Plays	76	56
Avg Gain Per Play	6.3	7.9
Net Yards Rushing	299	91
Rushes	50	32
Yards Per Rush	6.0	2.8
Net Yards Passing	182	353
Comp-Att	15-26	19-24
Yards Per Pass	7.0	14.7
Times Sacked	4	6
Yds Lost To Sacks	-19	-23
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	4	2
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	67	80
Fumbles	1	2
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Time of Poss	37:23	22:37

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

GEORGIA SOUTHERN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Shai Werts	18	151	8.4	1	64
Wesley Kennedy III	19	74	3.9	0	56
Gerald Green	9	55	6.1	0	19
Matt LaRoche	4	12	3.0	0	14
ARKANSAS ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jamal Jones	10	74	7.4	0	17
Marcel Murray	13	37	2.8	0	15
Team	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
Layne Hatcher	8	-18	-2.3	0	7

**PASSING**

GEORGIA SOUTHERN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Shai Werts	14	24	175	7.3	3	0	76.8
Tyler Bass	1	1	7	7.0	0	0	100.0
Khaleb Hood	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
ARKANSAS ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Layne Hatcher	19	24	354	14.8	4	0	80.7

**RECEIVING**

GEORGIA SOUTHERN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Mark Michaud	6	96	16.0	2	32
NaJee Thompson	2	43	21.5	0	24
Malik Murray	4	22	5.5	1	11
Darion Anderson	1	12	12.0	0	12
Anthony Beck II	1	7	7.0	0	7
Wesley Kennedy III	1	2	2.0	0	2
ARKANSAS ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jonathan Adams Jr.	7	158	22.6	2	63
Omar Bayless	7	113	16.1	1	32
Kirk Merritt	2	41	20.5	1	27
Brandon Bowling	1	21	21.0	0	21
Reed Tyler	1	16	16.0	0	16
Jamal Jones	1	5	5.0	0	5