

WEEK TWELVE
NC STATE at GEORGIA TECH

Georgia Tech stops NC State's late comeback for 28-26 win

ATLANTA -- Only five days after being removed from Georgia Tech's low point of the season, James Graham showed his dual-threat potential as the new leader of a revamped offense.

Graham threw three touchdown passes, including two to Ahmarean Brown, and Georgia Tech stopped a potential tying 2-point play with about five minutes remaining to beat North Carolina State 28-26 on Thursday night.

Graham also ran for 129 yards with a touchdown as Georgia Tech (3-8, 2-6 Atlantic Coast Conference) snapped a three-game losing streak that included a 45-0 loss to Virginia Tech on Saturday.

Graham, who was pulled from the lopsided loss to the Hokies, wasn't leaving the win over the Wolfpack.

"Especially after last week he had something to prove," said wide receiver Malachi Carter, who had two catches for 74 yards. "He just went out there and did his thing."

N.C. State (4-7, 1-6) suffered its fifth straight loss.

Graham helped the Yellow Jackets gain 395 yards -- a dramatic improvement from their 134 yards in the loss to Virginia Tech.

Even so, Georgia Tech had to withstand N.C. State's comeback after leading 21-3 at halftime and 28-13 to start the fourth quarter.

The Wolfpack rallied on Devin Leary's 4-yard touchdown pass to Cary Angeline and Ricky Person's 1-yard scoring run.

"I thought the guys played their butts off in the second half," said N.C. State coach Dave Doeren. "We just did too many things in the first half that made it difficult to win."

Person's run, with 5:17 remaining, cut the Yellow Jackets' lead to two points.

N.C. State's 2-point try failed. Leary rolled to his right before stopping to throw to tight end Cary Angeline on the left side of the field. But Leary had no time to set his feet because of the pressure from Christian Campbell and the pass fell incomplete.

"He was running away from me," Campbell said of Leary. "He had no idea I was behind him, so as soon as he turned to square up I was in his face."

On the game's first play, Graham threw a 54-yard pass to Carter. Two plays later, Graham found Brown in the right side of the end zone for a 17-yard touchdown pass.

Graham's 13-yard scoring pass to former starting quarterback Tobias Oliver gave the Yellow Jackets a 14-0 lead -- their first two-touchdown advantage of the season.

THE TAKEAWAY

N.C. State: The Wolfpack gained 457 yards in a strong offensive performance, including 230 on the ground. Zonovan Knight ran for 100 yards and Jordan Houston added 89. Still, it wasn't enough to end the losing streak as the defense gave up 266 yards rushing.

Georgia Tech: Graham lost two fumbles but posted big production with 112 yards rushing and 129 yards passing. Jordan Mason ran for 141 yards and couldn't be stopped as the Yellow Jackets held the ball for the final 5 minutes.

GOOD COMPANY

Brown's two touchdowns on his only two catches gave him seven for the season to match Georgia Tech's freshman record set by Calvin Johnson in 2004.

FINALLY, FORCED TURNOVERS

N.C. State entered the game ranked last among 130 FBS teams with five forced turnovers, including none in ACC games. The Wolfpack ended the ACC drought with two takeaways.

The drought ended when Justice Dingle sacked Graham, forcing a fumble recovered by Ja'Quon Griffin at the N.C. State 15 late in the first quarter. Graham's second lost fumble early in the fourth quarter was recovered by Larrell Murchison. That set up Leary's 4-yard touchdown pass to Angeline, trimming Georgia Tech's lead to 28-20.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NCST	0	3	10	13	26
GT	7	14	7	0	28

Scoring Summary -----

FIRST QUARTER		NCST	GT
GT TD 13:44 Ahmarean Brown 17 Yd pass from James Graham (Brenton King Kick)			
3 plays, 70 yards, 1:16		0	7
SECOND QUARTER		NCST	GT
GT TD 13:48 Tobias Oliver 13 Yd pass from James Graham (Brenton King Kick)			
6 plays, 50 yards, 1:30		0	14
NCST FG 2:04 Christopher Dunn 20 Yd Field Goal			
18 plays, 93 yards, 8:25		3	14
GT TD 0:32 Ahmarean Brown 11 Yd pass from James Graham (Brenton King Kick)			
3 plays, 31 yards, 0:31		3	21
THIRD QUARTER		NCST	GT
NCST TD 10:15 Zonovan Knight 7 Yd Run (Christopher Dunn Kick)			
12 plays, 71 yards, 4:45		10	21
GT TD 5:08 James Graham 26 Yd Run (Brenton King Kick)			
11 plays, 67 yards, 5:07		10	28
NCST FG 1:15 Christopher Dunn 29 Yd Field Goal			
11 plays, 63 yards, 3:53		13	28
FOURTH QUARTER		NCST	GT
NCST TD 11:53 Cary Angeline 4 Yd pass from Devin Leary (Christopher Dunn Kick)			
5 plays, 64 yards, 1:31		20	28
NCST TD 5:17 Ricky Person Jr. 1 Yd Run (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)			
12 plays, 80 yards, 5:22		26	28

Team Stats	NCST	GT
First Downs	27	19
Passes for First	9	6
Rushes for First	17	12
Penalties for First	1	1
Third Down Efficiency	7-15	6-13
Fourth Down Efficiency	2-3	2-2
Total Yards	457	395
Total Plays	80	58
Avg Gain Per Play	5.7	6.8
Net Yards Rushing	230	266
Rushes	49	43
Yards Per Rush	4.7	6.2
Net Yards Passing	227	129
Comp-Att	19-31	7-15
Yards Per Pass	7.3	8.6
Times Sacked	0	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	0
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	3	4
Punt Average	40.0	50.5
Penalties	2	3
Penalty Yards	21	20
Fumbles	2	2
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Time of Poss	34:41	25:19

Individual Stats

RUSHING					
NC STATE	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Zonovan Knight	18	100	5.6	1	19
Jordan Houston	16	89	5.6	0	18
Devin Leary	7	18	2.6	0	4
Ricky Person Jr.	7	17	2.4	1	16
Tabari Hines	1	6	6.0	0	6
GEORGIA TECH	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jordan Mason	22	141	6.4	0	48
James Graham	14	112	8.0	1	26
Jamious Griffin	6	14	2.3	0	5
Team	1	-1	-1.0	0	0

PASSING							
NC STATE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Devin Leary	19	31	227	7.3	1	0	71.7
GEORGIA TECH	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
James Graham	7	15	129	8.6	3	0	71.4

RECEIVING					
NC STATE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Tabari Hines	4	88	22.0	0	31
Devin Carter	4	46	11.5	0	22
Jordan Houston	3	39	13.0	0	18
Jasiah Provillon	1	20	20.0	0	20
Zonovan Knight	1	11	11.0	0	11
Cary Angeline	2	10	5.0	1	6
Emeka Emezie	3	7	2.3	0	4
Thayer Thomas	1	6	6.0	0	6
GEORGIA TECH	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Malachi Carter	2	74	37.0	0	54
Ahmarean Brown	2	28	14.0	2	17
Tobias Oliver	1	13	13.0	1	13
Tyler Davis	1	9	9.0	0	9
Nathan Cottrell	1	5	5.0	0	5