

WEEK TWO
SOUTHERN MISS at MISSISSIPPI ST

Hill Leads Mississippi State Past Southern Miss 38-15

STARKVILLE, Miss. -- Kylin Hill rushed for 123 yards and one touchdown to lead Mississippi State to a 38-15 win over Southern Mississippi Saturday at Davis Wade Stadium.

Hill was injured late in the first half but returned in the second half and totaled 67 yards and his touchdown run in the second half. The Bulldogs (2-0) finished with 386 yards of total offense and collected 210 yards on the ground.

"I thought we didn't flinch in the face of adversity and we had moments to do that," said head coach Joe Moorhead. "We had one guy go down on offense and then on defense. But as I've said, we have good leadership in our program and we have to be like our mascot and be a Bulldog. Our offense found a good balance and productivity. We left some things on the field but as we progress, we will clean those things up. It was just a good team win."

Southern Miss (1-1) was held scoreless in the first 40 minutes of action. The Golden Eagles got their first touchdown on a Jack Abraham 28-yard touchdown pass to Jaylond Adams. Abraham also connected with Jordan Mitchell in the final quarter on a 65-yard scoring toss.

Mississippi State was efficient in the first half on offense and held a 21-0 lead at halftime. Quarterback Tommy Stevens opened the game a perfect 9 of 9 passing before being injured late in the second quarter. Stevens had touchdown passes to Osirus Mitchell and Stephen Guidry before exiting the game.

The Bulldogs added a Nick Gibson 13-yard touchdown run with 42 seconds left in the first half. But the first half was costly for Mississippi State as Stevens did not return to action in the second half. The former Penn State transfer finished 9 of 10 passing for 105 yards and two touchdowns.

"I think Tommy started off well and had a good streak going," said Moorhead. "It was not so much what we were seeing but what we gameplanned for. But it is what I was preaching last year. We want to be a team that is balanced and the last two games, hopefully we saw a snapshot of what we want to be. If a team takes away one aspect, we want to be able to throw it or run it."

Abraham finished 16 of 26 passing for 234 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions.

"Give Mississippi State credit," said Southern Miss head coach Jay Hopson. "They played a good game and deserved the win. Our guys fought hard. We had some adversity early. I don't think we came out of the blocks real good in the first quarter. But we got it two scores with (6:31) left to play. Of course, we had a big turnover that sealed the game. We fought hard, but made a lot of mistakes."

Southern Miss' Jordan Mitchell led all receivers with five catches for 94 yards and his third-quarter touchdown. As a team, the Golden Eagles totaled 344 yard of ffense and had three turnovers.

THE TAKEAWAY

Mississippi State's defensive showing was much better on Saturday against Southern Miss compared to the opener. The offense was also balanced again but the status of quarterback Tommy Stevens remains unclear. Stevens exited the game late in the second quarter due to an upper-body injury. Head coach Joe Moorhead said Stevens is day-to-day.

Southern Miss struggled to exhibit any kind of running game for the second straight outing. The Golden Eagles collected just 95 yards rushing in the opener against Alcorn State and managed just 110 yards rushing on Saturday.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USM	0	0	7	8	15
MSST	7	14	7	10	38

Scoring Summary -----

	USM	MSST
FIRST QUARTER		
MSST TD 9:36 Osirus Mitchell 28 Yd pass from Tommy Stevens (Jace Christmann Kick)		7
5 plays, 61 yards, 2:09	0	7
SECOND QUARTER		
MSST TD 14:55 Stephen Guidry 11 Yd pass from Tommy Stevens (Jace Christmann Kick)		14
9 plays, 80 yards, 4:55	0	14
MSST TD 0:42 Nick Gibson 13 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		21
6 plays, 52 yards, 1:55	0	21
THIRD QUARTER		
MSST TD 6:37 Kylin Hill 3 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		28
9 plays, 58 yards, 4:25	0	28
USM TD 4:42 Jaylond Adams 28 Yd pass from Jack Abraham (Andrew Stein Kick)		28
4 plays, 75 yards, 1:55	7	28
FOURTH QUARTER		
MSST FG 14:12 Jace Christmann 30 Yd Field Goal		31
10 plays, 63 yards, 5:30	7	31
USM TD 6:31 Jordan Mitchell 65 Yd pass from Jack Abraham (Jack Abraham Pass to Trevor Terry for Two-Point Conversion)		31
2 plays, 75 yards, 0:33	15	31
MSST TD 2:20 Lee Witherspoon 22 Yd Run (Jace Christmann Kick)		38
2 plays, 22 yards, 0:47	15	38

Team Stats	USM	MSST
First Downs	17	21
Passes for First	10	11
Rushes for First	7	10
Penalties for First	0	0
Third Down Efficiency	2-9	3-9
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Total Yards	344	386
Total Plays	53	62
Avg Gain Per Play	6.5	6.2
Net Yards Rushing	110	210
Rushes	27	41
Yards Per Rush	4.1	5.1
Net Yards Passing	234	176
Comp-Att	18-26	16-21
Yards Per Pass	9.0	8.4
Times Sacked	3	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-20	-12
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	5	4
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	1	2
Penalty Yards	5	10
Fumbles	2	0
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Time of Poss	26:14	33:46

Individual Stats

RUSHING					
SOUTHERN MISS	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Kevin Perkins	5	51	10.2	0	26
De'Michael Harris	6	49	8.2	0	18
Darius Maberry	4	12	3.0	0	8
Steven Anderson	2	11	5.5	0	11
Dee Baker	1	2	2.0	0	2
Jaylond Adams	2	2	1.0	0	2
Jordan Kempf	1	-5	-5.0	0	0
Jack Abraham	6	-12	-2.0	0	4
MISSISSIPPI ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Kylin Hill	14	123	8.8	1	22
Lee Witherspoon	7	40	5.7	1	22
Nick Gibson	5	31	6.2	1	13
Garrett Shrader	9	16	1.8	0	10
Tommy Stevens	6	0	0.0	0	6

PASSING							
SOUTHERN MISS	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jack Abraham	18	26	234	9.0	2	2	37.7
MISSISSIPPI ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Tommy Stevens	9	10	105	10.5	2	0	88.1
Garrett Shrader	7	11	71	6.5	0	0	32.6

RECEIVING					
SOUTHERN MISS	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jordan Mitchell	6	94	15.7	1	65
Tim Jones	5	73	14.6	0	25
Jaylond Adams	4	56	14.0	1	28
Trevor Terry	1	7	7.0	0	7
Kevin Perkins	1	3	3.0	0	3
Neil McLaurin	1	1	1.0	0	1
MISSISSIPPI ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Osirus Mitchell	2	46	23.0	1	28
Stephen Guidry	3	32	10.7	1	11
Isaiah Zuber	2	23	11.5	0	17
Kylin Hill	2	19	9.5	0	15
Austin Williams	1	13	13.0	0	13
Dedrick Thomas	1	12	12.0	0	12
JaVonta Payton	1	10	10.0	0	10
Dontea Jones	2	9	4.5	0	6
Cameron Gardner	1	7	7.0	0	7
Robert Rivers	1	5	5.0	0	5