

WEEK TWO
TULANE at AUBURN

No. 10 Auburn's offense sluggish in 24-6 win over Tulane

AUBURN, Ala. -- In the first home start of quarterback Bo Nix's Auburn career, the true freshman had to carry the load for his offense the majority of the night.

Nix threw for 207 yards and a touchdown, No. 10 Auburn ran for 172 yards after amassing just 20 in the first half and the Tigers' defense dominated in a 24-6 victory over Tulane on Saturday night.

With a broken game clock already making for a slow and low-energy start to the game, the teams combined for 86 yards of offense across the first nine drives, with Tulane kicking a field goal on its opening series and Auburn (2-0) losing a fumble on its second.

After Tulane's first scoring drive, Auburn's defense locked down the Green Wave (1-1), allowing minus-3 yards over the next four possessions.

A week after leading the Tigers to a last-second victory over Oregon last week in Texas, Nix found Will Hastings for a 31-yard touchdown pass two minutes into the second quarter to give Auburn the lead. The Tigers scored on back-to-back drives, with Nix's 40-yard completion to Seth Williams setting them up for a 4-yard touchdown run by Eli Stove.

Nix was 19 for 37, tying the fifth-most passing attempts in a game by a freshman quarterback in program history.

"On first down, we've got to get some positive yards and get us not behind the chains," Auburn coach Gus Malzahn said. "That would have helped. But no, that's not good when your quarterback has to throw it that many times in the first half."

After Auburn's running backs combined for 42 rushing yards on 13 carries late into the third quarter, starter JaTarvious Whitlow carried the ball eight times for 54 yards -- including a 14-yard touchdown run -- on Auburn's third scoring drive of the night.

Whitlow had 121 yards from scrimmage, but fumbled three times and lost two of them.

"We take great pride in holding onto the football," Malzahn said. "That's something that (Whitlow) knows that we gotta improve. It can't happen."

Tulane quarterback Justin McMillan -- an LSU transfer -- completed 10 of 33 passes for 103 yards and an interception by Auburn safety Jeremiah Dinson. McMillan also led the team in rushing with 54 yards.

THE TAKEAWAY

Auburn: The rushing stat line improved mightily in the second half, but that's two straight games with slow starts on the ground behind an offensive line that has struggled to get push early.

Tulane: While the Green Wave offense was ultimately stifled when it mattered, it rushed for over 100 yards for the 42nd straight game -- an ongoing school record.

AUBURN INJURED RECEIVERS

Williams and Hastings, both starters for Auburn, sustained injuries in the win. On Williams' 40-yard reception, Tulane cornerback Willie Langham landed hard on Williams' left shoulder.

In the third quarter, Hastings was hit in the helmet going up for a reception by Tulane's Macon Clark, who was then ejected for targeting. Hastings walked off under his own power.

Neither player returned to the game, and Malzahn had no concrete updates on either after the game. With sophomore Anthony Schwartz still recovering from offseason hand surgery, Stove is Auburn's only healthy starter out wide.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
TULN	3	3	0	0	6
AUB	0	14	7	3	24

Scoring Summary -----

	TULN	AUB
FIRST QUARTER		
TULN FG 10:13 Merek Glover 44 Yd Field Goal		0
9 plays, 48 yards, 3:17	3	
SECOND QUARTER		
AUB TD 12:54 Will Hastings 31 Yd pass from Bo Nix (Anders Carlson Kick)		7
5 plays, 66 yards, 1:48	3	
AUB TD 9:37 Eli Stove 4 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		14
7 plays, 58 yards, 2:11	3	
TULN FG 0:40 Merek Glover 32 Yd Field Goal		14
8 plays, 40 yards, 1:54	6	
THIRD QUARTER		
AUB TD 1:51 JaTarvious Whitlow 14 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		21
11 plays, 82 yards, 5:20	6	
FOURTH QUARTER		
AUB FG 12:36 Anders Carlson 22 Yd Field Goal		24
10 plays, 59 yards, 3:44	6	

Team Stats	TULN	AUB
First Downs	12	20
Passes for First	4	9
Rushes for First	6	9
Penalties for First	2	2
Third Down Efficiency	2-15	10-19
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-2	0-1
Total Yards	223	379
Total Plays	64	82
Avg Gain Per Play	3.5	4.6
Net Yards Rushing	120	172
Rushes	30	45
Yards Per Rush	4.0	3.8
Net Yards Passing	103	207
Comp-Att	10-34	19-37
Yards Per Pass	3.0	5.6
Times Sacked	0	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	0
Interceptions	1	0
Punts	8	6
Punt Average	40.1	43.8
Penalties	11	5
Penalty Yards	80	51
Fumbles	2	3
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Time of Poss	25:27	34:33

Individual Stats

RUSHING

TULANE	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Justin McMillan	7	54	7.7	0	12
Darius Bradwell	12	30	2.5	0	8
Corey Dauphine	5	23	4.6	0	24
Amare Jones	6	13	2.2	0	18
AUBURN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
JaTarvious Whitlow	23	96	4.2	1	24
Kam Martin	10	32	3.2	0	8
Joey Gatewood	6	21	3.5	0	14
Bo Nix	2	16	8.0	0	13
Eli Stove	2	4	2.0	1	4
Shaun Shivers	1	4	4.0	0	4

PASSING

TULANE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Justin McMillan	10	33	103	3.1	0	1	16.0
Amare Jones	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	2.6
AUBURN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Bo Nix	19	37	207	5.6	1	0	67.6

RECEIVING

TULANE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Darnell Mooney	3	48	16.0	0	22
Amare Jones	3	29	9.7	0	19
Jaetavian Toles	1	19	19.0	0	19
Jacob Robertson Jr.	1	3	3.0	0	3
Jalen McCleskey	1	2	2.0	0	2
Jorien Vallien	1	2	2.0	0	2
AUBURN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Will Hastings	5	75	15.0	1	31
Seth Williams	1	40	40.0	0	40
Eli Stove	7	27	3.9	0	7
JaTarvious Whitlow	1	25	25.0	0	25
Kam Martin	2	11	5.5	0	10
Sal Cannella	1	10	10.0	0	10
Matthew Hill	1	10	10.0	0	10
John Samuel Shenker	1	9	9.0	0	9