

# Gamecocks' Anderson catching up



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(Photo: MYKAL McELDOWNEY, Staff)

COLUMBIA – South Carolina tight end Rory "Buster" Anderson did not have a touchdown reception in 2013.

That streak ended Saturday against then-No. 6 Georgia. The senior scored on an 18-yard pass from Dylan Thompson in the second quarter of the Gamecocks' 38-35 victory.

"It felt great to get the touchdown against Georgia," said Anderson, who had a team-high five receptions in the game. "It meant a lot to go out there and get into a bit of groove."

Anderson tore his right triceps during USC's 2014 spring game. That forced him to miss much of the summer workouts and part of the fall contact.

But he's back and said Tuesday that he's ready to make an even bigger contribution.

"It was tough in the offseason," Anderson said. "I had some ups and downs after the surgery. There was a lot going on, not just physically. It was hard emotionally.

"Keeping a positive attitude got me through. Once practice started and I still wasn't ready to go, it was still wearing on me. Then, when I finally got back with the team, it felt like it was brand new for me all over again."

- Although Vanderbilt (1-2) has gotten off to a slow start, USC coach Steve Spurrier believes first-year Commodores coach Derek Mason, formerly the defensive coordinator at Stanford, is doing the right things.

"Vandy plays tough," Spurrier said. "We've been watching them on tape, and the players play smart, play tough, aggressive."

- On Sunday, Spurrier said running back Mike Davis twisted an ankle and probably would not practice until today. On Tuesday, Spurrier said Davis' condition has improved.

"He was running around (Monday) night," Spurrier said. "Yeah, he's fine."

However, after Brandon Wilds rushed for 93 yards, including a 24-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter, against Georgia, Spurrier said he was unsure who would start against Vanderbilt.

"We went back and gave (Wilds) a game ball after the way he ran that inside zone there in the third and fourth quarter," Spurrier said. "He was very instrumental in our victory, Brandon Wilds was. They're both going to play. I'm not sure which one will be out there first right now."

- Anderson said the Gamecocks have responded well to their 24-point opening loss to Texas A&M.

"I feel like that humbled us as a team," he said. "It brought us together and allowed us to come out on top this last weekend."

- The Indianapolis Colts have signed former USC defensive tackle Kelcy Quarles to their 53-man roster. He had been on the New England Patriots' practice squad.

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