

SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) vs. EASTERN ILLINOIS (0-2)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 • WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA NOTES

- Attendance at Williams-Brice Stadium was 64,868
- The Gamecocks earned their first shutout since Aug. 28, 2008 (34-0, NC State), to give South Carolina a 46-0 victory over Eastern Illinois in their season opener.
- This was the first meeting between the Gamecock and Panthers and Carolina's first game against a member from the Ohio Valley Conference.
- South Carolina is now 85-39-4 all-time in season openers.
- The Gamecocks are now 72-20-4 when opening the season at home.
- South Carolina improves to 33-11 in their last 44 contests against teams outside of the SEC.
- The Gamecocks improve to 47-4 against non-Power 5 schools since the turn of the century.
- South Carolina's captains for the game were: Nick Muse, Jaylan Foster, Aaron Sterling, and Jovaughn Gwyn
- The victory was the first for head coach Shane Beamer in his first game leading the Gamecocks.
- The victory snaps a six-game losing streak for the Gamecocks (Oct. 17 vs. Auburn).
- Seven players made their first career start for the Gamecocks: Jaheim Bell, Zeb Noland, Zaquandre White, Jaylin Dickerson, Marcellas Dial, Darius Rush, and David Spaulding.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA OFFENSE NOTES

- Carolina converted on a 2-point attempt on their first scoring drive, their first converted attempt since Dec. 5, 2020 against Kentucky
- The 46 points are tied for the seventh most scored by South Carolina in a season opener.
 - > It's the most points in an opener since scoring 49 against Coastal Carolina in 2018.
- Zeb Noland completed 13-of-22 passes in his debut for the Gamecocks.
 - > Noland threw for a career-high four touchdowns.
- Zaquandre White finished the game with a career-high 129 yards rushing on 12 attempts. It's the first 100-yard rusher in a season opener since Rico Dowdle against Coastal Carolina in 2018.
 - > White rushed for his first career touchdown.
 - > It's the fourth most rushing yards all-time in a season opener.
 - > It's the most rushing yards by a player in a season opener since Duce Staley in 1996 against UCF.
 - > White also finished with a career-high four receptions for 39 yards and a touchdown.
- Eleven different Gamecocks recorded a catch in the game. It's the most since 10 players had a reception against Charleston Southern on Sept. 7, 2019.
- Jaheim Bell scored his first career touchdown and had a career-high two receptions.
- MarShawn Lloyd carried the ball 14 times for 62 yards and had one reception for 19 yards in his Gamecock debut.
- Juju McDowell made his South Carolina debut and finished with 46 yards on 12 carries.
- Jason Brown completed 4-of-5 passes for 45 yards in his Gamecock debut.
- True freshman Colten Gauthier completed his only pass attempt for 19 yards.
- South Carolina had the ball for 34:40, the most since Florida (36:23) on Oct. 3, 2020.
- The 443 yards of offense are the most since Vanderbilt (485) on Oct. 10, 2020.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE NOTES

- Jordan Burch's interception returned for a touchdown in the fourth quarter was the first for South Carolina since Israel Mukuamu returned one against Georgia on Oct. 12, 2019.
 - > It was Burch's first career interception.

SOUTH CAROLINA (0-0) vs. EASTERN ILLINOIS (0-1)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 • WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

- Jaylan Foster recorded his first career interception.
- Brad Johnson recorded his first sack since Dec. 1, 2018 against Akron.
- The Gamecock defense held the Panthers to 78 yard passing, the fewest allowed since holding Vanderbilt to 76 on Nov. 2, 2019.
- South Carolina held EIU to 109 total yards, its the first time holding an opponent under 200 yards since Vanderbilt (189) on Nov. 2, 2019.
 - > It's the fewest since holding Appalachian State to 105 on Nov. 9, 2019.
- Cam Smith led the team with a career-high four tackles.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Debo Williams' blocked punt in the first quarter was the first by South Carolina since Carlton Heard blocked one against Florida on Nov. 15, 2014.
- Jordan Strachan's also blocked a punt in the second quarter.
- Parker White connected on a 36-yard field goal in the third quarter, it was his 57th career field goal made.
- Mitch Jeter connected on two PAT's in the fourth quarter, the first of his career.