

# **SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) vs. GEORGIA STATE (0-1)**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2022 • WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.**

## **>>> SOUTH CAROLINA NOTES**

- Attendance at Williams-Brice Stadium was a sellout of 78,297.
- South Carolina's captains for the game were Jovaughn Gwyn, Dakereon Joyner, Zacch Pickens, and Jordan Strachan.
- This was the first meeting between South Carolina and Georgia State on the gridiron.
- South Carolina is now 86-39-4 in season openers.
- South Carolina is now 622-601-44 all-time.
- The Gamecocks are now 37-12 in their last 49 non-conference games.
- South Carolina is now 50-4 against non-power 5 schools since 2000.
- Carolina is now 34-6 at home against non-conference opponents in their last 41 games.
- The Gamecocks are now 19-3 against Sun Belt Conference teams.
- Shane Beamer improves to 8-6 in his career as a head coach.
- South Carolina won the toss and deferred to the second half. Georgia State received.
- SC players first career start: MarShawn Lloyd, Austin Stogner, Spencer Rattler, Devonni Reed, Jordan Strachan and Alex Huntley.
- SC players in first game: Austin Stogner, Spencer Rattler, Donovan Westmoreland, Keenan Nelson Jr., Ben Rollins, Nick Emmanwori, Zavier Short, Dante Miller, DJ Twitty, DQ Smith, Antwane Wells Jr., Kajuan Banks, Terrell Dawkins, Nate Adkins, William Joyce and Stone Blanton.

## **>>> SOUTH CAROLINA OFFENSE NOTES**

- The Gamecocks completed a pass on the first play of the game for a first down, for the first time since Florida last season (11/6/21)
- Hunter Rogers ran for five yards and a first down on a fake field goal, his first career rush.
- MarShawn Lloyd ran for his second career touchdown on a one-yard rush in the second quarter.
- Lloyd caught his first career touchdown in the third quarter.
- It's his first multi-touchdown game of his career.
- He also set a new career-high with 31 yards receiving and tied a career-high with two receptions.
- Spencer Rattler finished the night with 227 yards passing, becoming the 13th Gamecock to throw for over 200 yards in a season opener. The last time came against Tennessee in 2020.
- His 227 yards are 11th all-time in season openers.
- Jaheim Bell finished with a career-high 39 rushing yards on seven attempts.
- Dante Miller ran the ball twice in his first game as a Gamecock.
- Antwane Wells Jr. caught seven passes for 55 yards in his first appearance for Carolina.
- Jalen Brooks finished with a career-high 88 yards receiving on four catches, including a career-long of 39 yards.
- Juju McDowell tied a career-high with three receptions and set a new career-high with 18 yards, including a new career-long of 16 yards.
- Austin Stogner caught his first pass as a Gamecock in the second quarter.
- Last time the Gamecocks were 2-for-2 or better in a game on fourth down conversions was last year's season opener against Eastern Illinois (3-3).
- Josh Vann finished with one catch, moving him into a tie for 24th all-time with 91 career receptions.

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## **>>> SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE NOTES**

- This is the fifth consecutive season the Gamecocks have not allowed a touchdown on the opening drive of the season.
- Marcellas Dial made his first career interception in the fourth quarter.
- Debo Williams recorded a career-high five tackles.
- Jordan Burch tied a career-high with five tackles.
- Gilber Edmond recorded a career-high four tackles.
- True freshman Nick Emmanwori recorded three tackles in his first career game.
- True freshman DQ Smith finished with two tackles in his first appearance.
- True freshman Kajuan Banks broke up a pass in his first collegiate game.

## **>>> SOUTH CAROLINA SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES**

- Kai Kroger's punt of 79 yards in the second quarter was the longest of his career (73).
- Kroger finished with seven punts for a career-high 344 yards.
- The 53-yard field goal by Mitch Jeter was the first attempt of his career.
- It's also tied for the 7th longest in program history.
- His 51-yard field goal to end the second quarter is tied for 13th all-time.
- It's the first time in program history a player has kicked two field goals of 50-yards or longer in the same game.
- It's the sixth time in program a player has made two field goals of 50-or-more yards in a season.
- The Gamecocks scored a pair of 2-point conversions in the third quarter, marking their second consecutive game with a 2-pt conversion.
- It's the first time they've converted two 2-point conversions in a game since Oct. 13, 2018 against Texas A&M
- The blocked punt by Rashad Amos in the third quarter was the first blocked punt since Jahmar Brown against Troy (10/2/21)
- Traevon Kenion blocked a punt in the fourth quarter, marking the second straight season opener the Gamecocks have blocked two punts in a game.
- The touchdown return by DQ Smith was the first blocked punt returned for a touchdown since Derek Watson vs Florida on Nov. 11, 2000.
- Ahmarean Brown also returned a blocked punt for a touchdown, making it the first time the Gamecocks have returned two blocked punts for a touchdown in the game since that same game against Florida (Watson and Spikes).