

SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) vs. OLD DOMINION (0-1)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2024 • WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA NOTES

- Attendance at Williams-Brice Stadium was a sellout, 78,496.
- South Carolina's captains for the game were Luke Doty, Alex Huntley, Vershon Lee and Debo Williams.
- This was the first-ever meeting between Carolina and Old Dominion.
- South Carolina is now 635-613-44 all-time.
- Carolina is now 87-40-4 in season openers and 74-20-4 in home openers.
- Shane Beamer is now 21-18 as a head coach at South Carolina.
- Carolina won the coin toss and deferred to the second half. ODU received the opening kickoff.
- 11 players made their first career start as a Gamecock: Raheim Sanders, Jared Brown, LaNorris Sellers, Vandrevius Jacobs, Michael Smith, Kamaar Bell, Josiah Thompson, Torricelli Simpkins, Kyle Kennard, Jatius Geer, And Demetrius Knight Jr.
- 22 players Made their first appearances as a Gamecock: Mazeo Bennett Jr., Raheim Sanders, Dylan Stewart, Gage Larvadain, David Bucey, Jared Brown, Dalevon Campbell, Jalewis Solomon, Demetrius Knight Jr., Bangally Kamara, Vandrevius Jacobs, Michael Smith, Gerald Kilgore, Oscar Adaway III, Neil Savage III, Monkell Goodwine, Kamaar Bell, Jake Recker, Josiah Thompson, Torricelli Simpkins, Brady Hunt, and Deandre Jules.
- Michael Smith and Josiah Thompson both earned the start as true freshmen.
- They're the first true freshmen to start for Carolina since 2019.
- They're the 10th and 11th true freshmen to start since 2009.
- The game was delayed with 11:42 left in the second quarter. Play resumed at 5:58 p.m. after a 44 minute delay.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA OFFENSE NOTES

- Carolina held the ball for 35:46, the fourth most under head coach Shane Beamer.
- The Gamecocks scored on the third play of opening drive on a one-yard run by Raheim Sanders.
- It was the fastest touchdown since scoring on the first play of their opening drive against Kentucky (10/8/2022).
- LaNorris Sellers is the first freshman QB to start the season opener since Chris Smelley in 2007.
- He's the first freshman to start a game since Luke Doty in 2020.
- Sellers finished with 22 rush attempts, becoming the first Carolina quarterback with 20+ attempts since Connor Shaw ran 22 times vs Clemson (11/30/2013).
- The 16-play drive to start the third quarter is tied for the longest drive under Beamer (16 plays vs Mississippi State 9/23/23).
- The 7:47 total time of the drive is the second longest under Beamer (7:50 at Missouri, 11/13/21).
- Raheim Sanders tied a career-high with 24 rushing attempts.
- Vandrevius Jacobs had a career-high 59 receiving yards.
- True freshman Mazeo Bennett Jr. made his first collegiate catch in the fourth quarter.
- True freshman Michael Smith made his first career catch on the first passing play of the game.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE NOTES

- Grant Wilson forced a fumble on the second play of the game.
- It was the quickest turnover forced by the Gamecocks since Oct. 8, 2022 against Kentucky when they did so on the first play of the game.
- Kyle Kennard recorded two sacks in the first quarter and finished with 2.5 for the game.
- He now has 15 for his career.
- O'Donnell Fortune made his fifth career interception in the second quarter.
- True freshman Dylan Stewart recorded his first career sack in the second quarter.

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>>> SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE NOTES

- He finished with 1.5 sacks.
- Stewart also forced his first career fumble in the fourth quarter.
- Tonka Hemingway recorded a sack in the second quarter, he now has 6.5 for his career.
- DeAndre Jules recovered his first career fumble in the fourth quarter.
- Jules finished with a career-high five tackles.
- Jalon Kilgore recorded his second career interception in the fourth quarter.
- He tied a career-high with two pass breakups.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Alex Herrera converted on his first career field goal attempt from 40 yards in the first quarter.
- He finished with three field goals, the most by a player since last season at Missouri (10/21).
- DeAndre Jules blocked an extra point in the third quarter.
- It's the first Carolina blocked PAT since Kingsley Enagbare against Chattanooga (11/17/18).