

SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) vs. VIRGINIA TECH (0-1)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025 • MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM | ATLANTA, GA.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA NOTES

- Attendance at Mercedes-Benz Stadium was 55,531 for the second Aflac Kickoff game of the weekend
- South Carolina's captains for the game were Nick Barrett, Luke Doty, LaNorris Sellers and DQ Smith
- Carolina has an 12-7-2 series advantage on Virginia Tech and has won four in a row in the series and is unbeaten in the last seven
- South Carolina is now 644-617-44 all-time.
- Shane Beamer is now 30-22 as a head coach at South Carolina.
- Shane Beamer went up against his alma mater for the first time as a head coach. Beamer is a 1999 graduate of Virginia Tech and played for the Hokies from 1995-99
- Carolina played in Atlanta and played indoors for the first time since the 2010 Chik-fil-A Bowl against Florida State
- Virginia Tech won the toss and deferred until the second half.
- Carolina improved to 88-40-4 in season openers and 4-2 in lidlifters at a neutral site
- Maurice Brown II, Rodney Newsom Jr., Boaz Stanley, Monkel Goodwine, Shawn Murphy, Fred Johnson and Brandon Cisse all made their first starts in a Gamecock uniform.
- Carolina now has a seven-game winning streak in the regular season.
- Carolina allowed a safety for the first time since the Clemson game to close out the 2022 regular season.

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA OFFENSE NOTES

- LaNorris Sellers ran for a 16-yard touchdown with 12:09 left in the first quarter. It was Sellers' ninth career touchdown run on Carolina's first touchdown of the 2025 season
- Sellers threw his first touchdown pass of the season, connecting with Nyck Harbor for a 64-yard touchdown with 7:42 left in the game. It was Harbor's fifth career touchdown reception.
- Sellers was 12-for-19 passing for 209 yards and a touchdown. He also ran the ball 13 times for 25 yards, including a big first down on the final drive to salt the game away.
- Carolina's leading rusher was Oscar Adaway III, who ran for 60 yards on 14 attempts
- Raahsul Faison, playing in his first game in a Carolina uniform, had 40 yards on seven carries
- Carolina's leading receiver was Harbor, who caught three passes for 99 yards, which was a career high, and a touchdown
- Brady Hunt had the most receptions for the Gamecocks with four for 45 yards
- Carolina averaged 5.9 yards per play in the win

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE NOTES

- Fred Johnson picked up his first career interception in the first quarter. Johnson ended the game with a team-best 10 tackles, six solos, and a pass breakup.
- Dylan Stewart had his first sack of the season in the third quarter, upping his career total to 7.5 in just 14 games. Stewart had seven tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss and the sack
- Jarius Geer had a sack for the Gamecocks, his second with Carolina and 5.5 in his career
- Peyton Williams had his first career interception with 4:43 left in the fourth quarter. He returned it for 23 yards
- Carolina had two interceptions and three breakups in the win
- Brandon Cisse had two pass breakups and a half tackle for loss in his first game at Carolina.
- Carolina held Virginia Tech to 336 total yards and just 115 yards on the ground
- The last time the Gamecock defense held an opponent out of the end zone was the regular-season finale against Clemson in 2023

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>>> SOUTH CAROLINA SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Vicari Swain ran back a punt 80 yards for a touchdown with 13:36 left in the fourth quarter, giving Carolina a 17-8 lead. It was Swain's first punt return touchdown in his Carolina career.
- Swain's punt return for a touchdown was the first for the Gamecocks since Ace Sanders ran one back 63 yards vs. Michigan in the 2013 Outback Bowl
- William Joyce connected on his first field goal attempt in his Carolina career, a 27-yarder with 3:42 left in the second quarter
- Mason Love punted five times for a 47.8-yard average