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Subject: Terriers Defeat Georgetown 38-21 In Season Opener
Date: September 1, 2007 at 11:27 PM

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Saturday, September 1, 2007

Terriers Defeat Georgetown 38-21 In Season Opener

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford scored twice in the fourth quarter to open the season with a 38-21 victory over Georgetown (Ky.) on Saturday evening at Gibbs Stadium. Senior quarterback Josh Collier led the Terriers with two rushing touchdowns as Wofford rushed for 401 total yards on the night.

The Tigers had the ball first and picked up two first downs. The Terriers' Brian Kemp intercepted Any Aherns at the Wofford 41 yard line and returned it 23 yards. Wofford was unable to advance the ball and quarterback Josh Collier punted into the endzone.

Following a Tigers' punt, the Terriers got on a roll with 12-yard runs by Michael Hobbs and Kevious Johnson. Josh Collier added a 23-yard run before taking it in to the endzone on a nine-yard run. The drive was six plays for 68 yards for a 7-0 lead.

Georgetown punted for the second time of the evening and the Terriers took over at their own one-yard line. Josh Collier completed a pass for a twelve yard gain to Jeremy Marshall. Adrian Young then added a 28-yard run to advance into Tigers' territory at the end of the first quarter. Josh Collier capped the eleven play, 99-yard drive with a twelve yard touchdown run to take a 14-0 lead.

On the Tigers next drive, they were able to drive to the Terriers' 24-yard line before turning the ball over on downs. Wofford only gained one first down on their next possession and were forced to punt. Georgetown began the drive on their own 45-yard line and an Andy Aherns pass to Brian Piner gained 29 yards. Aherns then found Piner again for a 23-yard

gain and a touchdown with 2:42 remaining in the half.

In the third quarter, Wofford drove 57 yards in 14 plays and added to the lead with a 28-yard field goal by Patrick Muga. Following a Tiger punt, the Terriers drove 76 yards in twelve plays, capped by a 18-yard touchdown run by Kevious Johnson for a 24-7 lead.

At the beginning of the fourth quarter, Andy Aherns kept the ball and went in for a four-yard touchdown run to cut the Terriers' lead to 24-14. With 6:05 remaining in the game, Brian Piper caught his second touchdown pass of the game from Aherns for 29-yard to make it a 24-21 game.

On the ensuing Wofford drive, Jeremy Marshall broke free and went 60-yards for a touchdown at 5:03. The Terrier defense came up with a big three-and-out series which forced a punt. Wofford's offense then capped the day with a 37-yard touchdown pass from Ben Widmyer to Justice Joslin for a 38-21 lead. Brian Ford sealed the victory with an interception of Andy Aherns along with a 28-yard return.

"We had a lot of penalties tonight and we have to make sure we correct those," said Wofford head coach Mike Ayers. "The holding calls were the ones that hurt us and normally we don't do that. We will look at the film and make a judgement on those. Georgetown is a good football team that is used to winning and competing at their level. They did a lot of good things tonight, including keeping our defense on the field in the second quarter. The game was right there and give our kids credit for making plays on both sides of the ball to win the game."

Wofford will return to Gibbs Stadium next weekend when they host Charleston Southern at 7:00 pm.

Wofford vs. Georgetown

Post-Game Notes

Wofford is 45-53-1 all-time in season openers, and have won four straight season openers.

Wofford is 23-20-1 in season openers at home.

Wofford is now 3-0 against Georgetown all-time.

Josh Collier had 46 passing yards and moves to #12 all-time in Wofford history with 1233 yards.

Collier added two rushing touchdowns, giving him 19 in his career.

Wofford gained 401 net yards on the ground. That is the most since Wofford had 441 yards against VMI on October 15, 2005.

Kevious Johnson had 94 yards rushing, giving him 3872 career all-purpose yards, fourth all-time at Wofford.

The touchdown pass by Ben Widmyer was the second of his career and the first since November 12, 2005 against Furman.

Attendance: 6420

From: Williamson, D Brent WilliamsonDB@wofford.edu
Subject: Wofford Football Defeats Charleston Southern 52-24
Date: September 8, 2007 at 11:07 PM

DW

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Saturday, September 8, 2007

Terriers Down Charleston Southern 52-24

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford defeated Charleston Southern 52-24 on Saturday night at Gibbs Stadium. The Terriers' defense came up with five interceptions on the night and Kevious Johnson and Andy Strickland both had two touchdowns on the night. Mike Rucker added an 89-yard kickoff return for touchdown in the game as the Terriers had 448 yards of total offense.

After forcing Charleston Southern three-and-out on their first possession, the Terriers wasted little time in scoring when Kevious Johnson capped a six play, 58-yard drive with a nine yard touchdown run at 11:06 in the first quarter.

The Buccaneers responded with an eleven play drive of 75 yards, including a 37-yard reception by Vernon Huger. Kenny Harper scored on a three-yard run to tie the game. On the ensuing kickoff, Mike Rucker went 89-yard for a touchdown.

Both teams traded punts on their next possessions. With Charleston Southern driving, Gary Blount intercepted Eli Byrd and returned the ball to the Buccaneers 30-yard line to end the first quarter.

Wofford took only two plays to go 30 yards as Andy Strickland went 23-yards on a reverse for the touchdown at 14:44 in the second quarter. The Terrier defense forced another three-and-out. A nine-play drive was capped by a 27-yard reception by Kevious Johnson from Ben Widmyer to take a 28-7 lead.

The Terriers forced a punt on the following drive, however the ball was recovered after the punt by the Buccaneers setting up first down on the twelve-yard line. Eli Byrd found Tim

Jones for a touchdown on the next play to cut the lead to 28-14 at 7:40 in the second quarter. Charleston Southern forced Wofford to punt, but the Buccaneers next drive was short-lived when Seth Goldwire intercepted Eli Byrd and returned it to the seven-yard line. Two plays later, Ben Widmyer scored from seven yards out on a quarterback keeper to take a 35-14 lead.

With just 25 seconds left in the first half, Vernon Huger caught his second touchdown pass of the day from Eli Byrd from two-yards out. The half ended with the Terriers having a 35-21 lead.

Wofford opened the second half with a strong drive, but turned the ball over on downs at the 16-yard line. The Buccaneers were able to convert on a 34-yard field goal by Nick Ellis at 7:10 in the third quarter. The Terriers again turned the ball over on downs on their next drive after failing on fourth and one. Once again the Wofford defense stopped the Charleston Southern offense when Brian Kemp intercepted Eli Byrd and returned it to the 46-yard line. The Terriers were able to capitalize on the turnover with a 20-yard field goal by Patrick Mugan with 11:58 remaining in the game.

The Terriers defense stopped another Buccaneers drive when Mychael Johnson intercepted a pass by running back Kenny Harper. Three plays later Ben Widmyer connected with Andy Strickland for a 47-yard touchdown reception for a 45-24 lead. With under a minute remaining in the game, Gary Blount intercepted his second pass of the game. Michael Rucker wrapped up the scoring for the evening with a 15-yard run with 39 seconds left in the game and a 52-24 final score.

“The defense was strong tonight coming up with so many interceptions,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “We rushed the ball well and anytime you can score more than 50 points it is a good night. Charleston Southern is a good, fast team and the bar was raised for us tonight. It was a bigger challenge and our players rose up and did what they needed to do to win the game. We were able to finish the game with a positive. Now we need to stay focused and take games one at a time and not look ahead. NC State is in the ACC, Tom O’Brien is a great coach and they are a physical team. It will be a great challenge next week. We got better this week as a football team, and we need to continue to get better each week.” Next weekend Wofford will travel to Raleigh to face NC State on Saturday at 6 pm. NC State is 0-2 on the season, with a loss at Boston College on September 8.

Wofford vs. Charleston Southern

Post-Game Notes

The 89-yard kickoff return for touchdown by Mike Rucker was the 8th longest in Wofford history.

Josh Collier did not start at quarterback for Wofford for the first time since the 2004 season, ending a streak of 23 straight starts.

Ben Widmyer started the first game of his career. He rushed for a career-high 68 yards on 14 attempts and also had a career-high 131 passing yards.

Mychael Jackson had his first career interception in the fourth quarter of RB Kenny Harper. Gary Blount had two interceptions in the game, marking the first time since Brandon Smith had two picks against Elon on October 9, 2004 that a player had multiple interceptions in a game.

Chris Tommie had three touchbacks on punts in the game. Entering the game, he had one on 83 career punts.

Kevious Johnson had 57 yards rushing and 27 yards receiving, giving him 3956 career all-purpose yards, fourth all-time at Wofford.

Attendance: 5879

From: Williamson, D Brent WilliamsonDB@wofford.edu
Subject: Wofford's Gary Blount named SoCon Defensive Player of the Week
Date: September 10, 2007 at 4:38 PM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monday, September 10, 2007

Wofford's Gary Blount named SoCon Defensive Player of the Week

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford linebacker Gary Blount (St. Mary's, Ga.) was named the Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Week on September 10.

Blount, a sophomore, recorded his first two career interceptions on September 8 against Charleston Southern. His two interceptions marked the first time since Brandon Smith had two picks against Elon on October 9, 2004 that a player had multiple interceptions in a game. Blount also led the team with six tackles for the Terriers.

Also earning Southern Conference honors this week were Georgia Southern quarterback Jayson Foster and Appalachian State quarterback Trey Elder as Offensive Players of the Week, The Citadel's Johnathan Synovec as Special Teams Player of the Week and Elon quarterback Scott Riddle as Freshman of the Week.

The Terriers will face NC State University this Saturday at 6:00 pm in Raleigh.

From: Williamson, D Brent WilliamsonDB@wofford.edu

Subject: Terriers Down Mountaineers 42-31

Date: September 22, 2007 at 8:21 PM

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Saturday, September 22, 2007

Terriers Down Mountaineers 42-31

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford College defeated number one-ranked Appalachian State 42-31 on Saturday afternoon at Gibbs Stadium. Wofford had five different players score touchdowns and the defense came up with two interceptions and a fumble recovery in the victory. Wofford improves to 3-1 on the season and are 1-0 in conference play. Appalachian State is 3-1 and 0-1 in the Southern Conference.

For Wofford, Kevious Johnson led the team with 98 yards on 14 carries and one touchdown. Josh Collier was 7-of-9 passing for 110 yards and one touchdown. Andy Strickland led the receivers with three catches for 68 yards and a touchdown. Jeremy Marshall had a rushing touchdown and a receiving touchdown.

On Appalachian State's opening drive of the game, Dan Tavani intercepted Armanti Edwards and returned it twenty yards. On the Terriers' first drive, Wofford picked up one first down and were forced to punt. The Terrier defense forced the Mountaineers three-and-out, but the Wofford offense was forced to punt on the ensuing drive.

Appalachian State's next drive was again a three-and-out, with Gary Blount and Matt Norcia coming up with tackles for loss. Wofford took over after a punt at the 49 yard line, and on the first play of the drive Josh Collier found Andy Strickland for a touchdown at 5:11 in the

first quarter.

The teams traded punts on their next possessions. On the Mountaineer's fifth drive of the game, they picked up their first first down at 14:07 in the second quarter. However the drive stalled and the teams once again traded punts.

Appalachian State got on the scoreboard with a nine-play, 43 yard touchdown drive that was capped by a 10-yard run by Armanti Edwards at 7:28.

The Terriers responded on the next drive as they went 75 yards in twelve plays. Tripp Smith made a catch of a tipped ball for a 22-yard gain to get into Mountaineer territory. Ben Widmyer reached the endzone on a seven-yard run to cap the drive with 1:10 left in the first half. The lead was short-lived for the Terriers as CoCo Hillary ran the kickoff back 95 yards for a touchdown to tie the game at 14-14. The half ended with a 51-yard field goal attempt by the Mountaineers that was no good.

Wofford had the ball to begin the second half, but went three-and-out. On the Mountaineers opening possession of the second half, they were able to take a 17-14 lead with a 40-yard field goal by Julian Rauch.

Wofford was forced to punt, but Justice Joslin recovered the fumbled return at the 30-yard line. After a 23-yard run by Michael Hobbs, Dan Romero found the endzone from three-yards out on a cut-back run at 5:49 in the third quarter.

On the next Appalachian State drive, Kevin Adleman intercepted Trey Elder and returned it ten yards to the 24-yard line. After a pass interference call moved the ball inside the ten-yard line, Jeremy Marshall went in from six-yards out on a reverse to give the Terriers a 28-17 lead at 3:10 in the third quarter.

The Mountaineers opened the fourth quarter with a one-yard touchdown run by Kevin Richardson. With Wofford starting at their own 20-yard line after the kick-off, the Terriers drove 80-yard in eight plays. Key to the drive was a 20-yard run by Kevious Johnson and the scoring play was a halfback pass from Dane Romero to Jeremy Marshall from nine-yards out.

Appalachian State responded to the challenge on the next drive, going 55 yards in seven plays. Kevin Richardson scored his second touchdown of the game on a three-yard rush. With the Terriers ahead 35-31 at 8:18 in the fourth quarter, Wofford began to drive. With key third-down conversions by Andy Strickland and twice by Kevious Johnson, the Terriers reached the Mountaineer's 13-yard line, but fumbled the ball. The Mountaineers got the ball back with 2:15 remaining in the game. After a first down, the Mountaineers gained eight yards, setting up second and two. After two incompletions by Trey Elder, Appalachian State was stopped on fourth-down with a tackle for loss by Dan Tavani and Layton Baker.

Once the Terriers got the ball back, Kevious Johnson went 27-yards for a touchdown with 38 seconds remaining to seal the victory for Wofford College. The final score was 42-31.

Next weekend the Terriers will face Furman at 6:00 pm at Paladin Stadium in Greenville.

The Paladins are 1-2 this season and were off this weekend.

Wofford vs. Appalachian State

Post-Game Notes

Wofford ended Appalachian State's 17 game winning streak, which was the longest in NCAA Division I Football.

The 11,042 attendance was the fourth-largest in Gibbs Stadium history for a Wofford game. The game marked the third time Wofford has played a team ranked first in the nation and the first time the Terriers have come away with a win.

Wofford is 25 of its last 29 games played at Gibbs Stadium.

Kevin Adleman registered his fourth career interception, while Dan Tavani had his fifth career interception. Justice Joslin had his first career fumble recovery.

Wide receiver Andy Strickland had his fourth receiving touchdown of the season, and has a touchdown catch in the last three games.

The 42 points allowed by the Mountaineers were the most since a 59-56 loss to Chattanooga on October 30, 2004.

Attendance: 11,042

From: Williamson, D Brent WilliamsonDB@wofford.edu
Subject: Dan Tavani named SoCon Defensive Player of the Week
Date: September 24, 2007 at 1:50 PM

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Monday, September 24, 2007

Wofford's Dan Tavani named SoCon Defensive Player of the Week

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford defensive back Dan Tavani (Easton, Pa.) was named the Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Week on September 24.

A senior, Tavani played a major role in the Terrier's 42-31 win over Appalachian State on September 22. He ended the Mountaineer's first drive of the game with an interception of Armanti Edwards and on the final drive of the game had a tackle-for-loss on fourth down. He finished the game with six tackles, a broken up pass, a tackle for loss and one interception. This is the first Player of the Week honor of his career.

Tavani is the second Terrier to earn Defensive Player of the Week honors this season, joining Gary Blount. Blount had two interceptions against Charleston Southern to earn the honor on September 10. In addition, Patrick Mugan earned Special Teams Player of the Week on September 3.

Also earning Southern Conference honors this week were Elon wide receiver Terrell Hudgins as Offensive Players of the Week, Western Carolina place kicker Jonathan Parson and Chattanooga place kicker Craig Camay as Special Teams Players of the Week and Georgia Southern linebacker E.J. Webb as Freshman of the Week.

The Terriers will face Furman University this Saturday at 6:00 pm in Greenville.

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