

## **#5 Georgia Postgame Notes vs. #15 Texas, Jan. 1, 2019 Sugar Bowl**

**\*2018 Season Concludes at Sugar Bowl:** After falling 28-21 tonight, Georgia finishes the season 11-3 while UT improves to 10-4. The Bulldogs made their 55<sup>th</sup> all-time bowl appearance tonight including its 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive appearance. With the loss, the Bulldogs are now 31-21-3. The 2018 senior class finishes its career with a 42-13 mark and that win total ties for third in school history with the 2004 team.

**\*Sugar Bowl/Texas History:** Georgia made its 10<sup>th</sup> all-time appearance in the Sugar Bowl tonight and with the 28-21 loss, it is now 4-6 here. Texas now holds a 4-1 edge in the series history with UGA. The teams are slated to meet during the regular season in 2028 (Austin) and 2029 (Athens).

**\*Offense Struggles:** Coming in to the game, Georgia ranked 13<sup>th</sup> nationally in scoring at 39.2 points per game but was held to 21 points and 274 yards of total offense. The final TD came with 14 seconds left in the contest. Georgia was blanked in the first half for the first time since the LSU game on Oct. 13 (Down 16-0). In the second quarter trailing 17-0 tonight, Georgia responded with a 12 play, 75-yard TD drive in 5:50. It was capped by a 17-yard TD pass from sophomore **Jake Fromm** to junior RB **Brian Herrien**, the first TD catch of Herrien's career. Sophomore QB **Jake Fromm** finished 20-for-34 for 212 yards with three TDs and one INT. Down 28-7 in the fourth quarter, he directed a six-play, 67-yard drive in 1:15 to cut it to 28-14. The drive was capped by a 3-yard TD pass to junior **Mecole Hardman**. It was Hardman's 7<sup>th</sup> TD catch of the year. **D'Andre Swift** had a 5-yard TD catch to cap the scoring. The leading receiver was junior **Riley Ridley** (5 rec., 61 yards) while Swift had five for 30 yards. Graduate PK **Rodrigo Blankenship** converted three more PATs to give him 65 for the year and a perfect 154-for-154 now in his career.

**\*Scoring Defense:** Coming in tonight, the Bulldogs ranked 15<sup>th</sup> nationally in scoring defense (18.5 points per game), and the Longhorns built a 20-7 halftime edge including taking advantage of a couple of Bulldog miscues and then added one more score for the 28-21 final. UT finished with 355 yards of total offense. Tonight marked the first time this season an opponent had scored a touchdown on its first possession as the Longhorns went 75 yards in 10 plays in 4:25 for a 7-0 lead. Then after a bad snap on a punt that freshman **Jake Camarda** fielded and had his knee touch the ground, UT took over at the UGA 27 but was held to a 37-yard field goal for a 10-0 lead. UT's next possession came at the 50 following an 11-yard punt, and the Bulldogs forced them to punt as the drive netted minus two yards. Georgia fumbled on its next drive as UT recovered at the UGA 12 and three plays later added a TD for a 17-0 lead with 14:53 left in half. It was the largest first half deficit of the year for the Bulldogs. Last season, Georgia found itself trailing by 17 in the first half to No. 2 Oklahoma in the Rose Bowl Game (31-14) before rallying for a 54-48 victory in double OT. Tonight, graduate safety **J.R. Reed** led the Bulldogs with eight tackles while sophomore DL **Devonte Wyatt** had seven stops and 1.5 sacks, the first of his career.

**\*Holyfield Becomes Latest 1,000-Yard Rusher:** In the first half, junior **Elijah Holyfield** gained 43 rushing yards on nine carries, to give him 999 yards for the year. He went over the century mark with an 11-yard gain on the first play of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and finished the game with 62 yards and 1,018 total for the season. Holyfield is the 15<sup>th</sup> Bulldog to have a 1,000-yard season and 21<sup>st</sup> time it's been done. Holyfield joins sophomore **D'Andre Swift** who hit that milestone in the SEC Championship Game. Swift finished the season with 1,049 yards. It marks the second straight year that Georgia has had a pair of 1,000-yard rushers after Nick Chubb (1,345 yards) & Sony Michel (1,227 yards) did it a year ago.

**\*Points off Turnovers:** Georgia forced no turnovers while the Longhorns created two turnovers (D'Andre Swift fumble, Jake Fromm INT) and turned it into seven points. For the season, Georgia finished +3 in Turnover Margin, scoring 51 points off 17 turnovers on the year. Opponents scored 37 points off 14 Bulldog turnovers.

**\*For Starters:** Senior C **Lamont Gaillard** started his team-leading 42<sup>nd</sup> straight game, and on defense, the team leader in consecutive starts is junior RS **J.R. Reed** now with 29. Freshman **Brenton Cox** made his first career start at OLB with senior **D'Andre Walker** not 100 percent as he had started all 13 games this season until tonight and did not see action. Also with senior DB **Deandre Baker** unavailable, freshman **Tyson Campbell** returned to a starting role, his 11<sup>th</sup> of the year.

**\*Captains:** Seniors **Lamont Gaillard** and **Jonathan Ledbetter** plus junior **Elijah Holyfield** and sophomore **Jake Fromm** were the captains.

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