



FOOTBALL

WVU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS
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WEST VIRGINIA vs. GEORGIA SOUTHERN // POSTGAME NOTES Milan Puskar Stadium // September 5, 2015

Four Mountaineers earned their first career starts tonight: Shelton Gibson, Yodny Cajuste, Kyle Bosch and Jovon Durante. A total of 31 Mountaineer players have at least one career start.

With tonight's shutout victory, the Mountaineers have now posted back-to-back shutouts in home season openers at Mountaineer Field at Milan Puskar Stadium for the first time in program history. WVU last posted consecutive shutouts in home openers in 1967 (40-0 vs. Villanova) and 1968 (17-0 vs. Richmond).

The Mountaineers finished the night with four interceptions. WVU last had four INTs in one game in a 35-28 win at Boston College on Nov. 8, 2003.

Karl Joseph finished with three interceptions, pushing his career total to six. They were his first INTs since 2013. Joseph is the first Mountaineer to nab three interceptions in a game since Vann Washington did so in a 52-16 win over Louisiana Tech on Oct. 29, 2004.

Dravon Askew-Henry's second-quarter interception was the third of his career.

Georgia Southern's 29 passing yards are the fewest passing yards allowed by the WVU defense in the 2010 decade and under coach Holgorsen.

Georgia Southern's two passing first downs match the fewest allowed by the WVU defense in the 2010 decade and under coach Holgorsen (2 vs. Kansas, 2013).

Jovon Durante's first career catch was for a 41-yard touchdown in the first quarter. The last Mountaineer to score a touchdown on his first career catch was then-redshirt freshman K.J. Myers in 2012 (3-yard catch in 69-34 win vs. Marshall, on Sept. 1, in Morgantown).

Skyler Howard's 57-yard pass to Shelton Gibson in the first quarter was a career-long pass and catch for the duo. Howard threw a second 57-yard pass, connecting with Durante in the final seconds of the first quarter.

Gibson and Howard connected on a 26-yard touchdown in the third quarter for Gibson's first career touchdown.

Gibson (130) and Durante (121) each netted 100+ yards receiving for the first time in their careers. Tonight marked the first time two Mountaineers netted 100+ receiving yards in a game since Kevin White (123) and Jordan Thompson (109) did so in a 37-34 win at Texas Tech on Oct. 11, 2014.

Josh Lambert finished with 14 points, one point short of his career high (15 vs. Kansas, Oct. 4, 2014).

With the win, WVU improves to 88-31-4 in all-time season openers, 95-20-6 in all-time home season openers and 31-4-1 in season openers at Milan Puskar Stadium.

Since 2000, WVU is 93-12 when scoring 30 or more points in a contest.

- In the Holgorsen era, WVU has thrown for 300 or more yards 29 times, 400 or more 10 times and 500 or more twice



GEORGIA SOUTHERN POSTGAME NOTES

SEPT. 5, 2015 • vs. WEST VIRGINIA



- GAME CAPTAINS: #5 Darrius Jones, Jr., #54 Lennie Richardson, #63 Darien Foreman, #96 Jeff Ward
- Georgia Southern wore blue helmets, with white jerseys and white pants today. The Eagles are now 4-3 in this combination under head coach Willie Fritz.
- Georgia Southern won the toss and deferred to the second half.
- West Virginia scored on the opening possession of the game. Georgia Southern only allowed two opening drive touchdowns last season, at Georgia Tech and at Navy.
- Eleven position players made their first career start tonight: Tommy Boynton (OT), Chris DeLaRosa (LB), Deshawntee Gallon (LB), Derek Keaton (WR), Andy Kwon (C), Ryan Longoria (WR), Max Magaña (OT), Darrius Sapp (DT), Favian Upshaw (QB), Darrius White (CB) and Caleb Williams (CB). Additionally, one other made his first start at Georgia Southern as offensive guard Roscoe Byrd started 20 games for UAB.
- True freshmen to play in the game: Jeremiah Culbreth, Wesley Fields, Malik Henry, Logan Hunt and Curtis Rainey
- Georgia Southern opened the game with a rush by Matt Breida, marking the 13th straight game where he ran the ball on the opening play.
- The Eagles committed four turnovers in the game. GSU is now 1-3 under Fritz when losing the turnover battle.
- Shelton Gibson had 130 yards receiving for the Mountaineers while Jovon Duvonte had 121 yards. The last time two receivers each had over 100 yards receiving against GSU was in 2009 when Appalachian State's Tony Washington (129) and Andrew Peacock (127) did it.
- Josh Lambert kicked three field goals for WVU. The last opposing kicker to boot three field goals against GSU was Samford's Warren Handrahan in 2013.
- The last time an Eagle quarterback threw three or more interceptions was when Lee Chapple threw three against Samford in 2009. Favian Upshaw threw four interceptions Saturday night. The last time GSU threw four interceptions in a game was in 2009 at North Carolina.
- Georgia Southern had an active scoring streak of 242 games, dating back almost two decades. The last time the Eagles were shut out prior to tonight was on Dec. 2, 1995, a 45-0 loss to Montana in the Division I-AA Playoffs.