

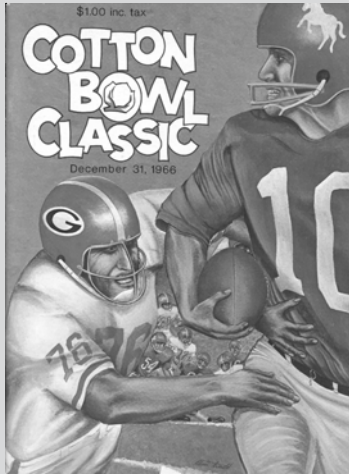


December 31, 1966

Georgia 24, SMU 9

Attendance - 73,000

GAME SUMMARY



Georgia	10	7	0	7	-	24
SMU	3	6	0	0	-	9

First Quarter:

Georgia-Kent Lawrence 74 run (Bobby Etter kick), 13:55, 76 yards in 2 plays following opening kickoff
 SMU-Dennis Partee 22 FG, 6:17, 29 yards in 10 plays following punt
 Georgia-Etter 28 FG, 1:24, 43 yards in 10 plays following kickoff

Second Quarter:

Georgia-Billy Payne 20 pass from Kirby Moore (Etter kick) 14:11, 33 yards in 5 plays following pass interception by Steve Neuhaus
 SMU-Mike Richardson 1 run (Partee kick fail), 1:14, 72 yards in 13 plays following punt

Fourth Quarter:

Georgia-Ronnie Jenkins 4 run (Etter kick), 14:33, 59 yards in 13 plays following punt

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Kent Lawrence, Georgia
 George Patton, Georgia

COACHES

Vince Dooley, Georgia
 Hayden Fry, SMU

WEATHER

Ideal

Actually, this was the second Cotton Bowl Classic played in 1966 — it was played on Saturday, Dec. 31. But, regardless when the game was held, Georgia was simply too strong for the SMU Mustangs who were making their first Cotton Bowl appearance since the days of Doak Walker, 18 years before.

The Bulldogs opened in spectacular fashion. Kent Lawrence, Georgia's miniature sophomore halfback, sprinted 74 yards on the Bulldogs' third play to stake an early 7-0 lead. Minutes later, SMU began to threaten after a poor Georgia punt traveled just 15 yards to the Bulldog 34. The Mustangs jumped on the opportunity, driving to the Georgia five where Dennis Partee was called on to trim the Bulldog lead back to four. Partee's 22-yard attempt was perfect and SMU was on the scoreboard.

The ensuing kickoff came to Lawrence and again he was off to the races, returning the kick 36 yards. Georgia was back on the move. Lawrence combined with Ronnie Jenkins to push the Dawgs into scoring range, setting up Bobby Etter's 28-yard placement. Etter's kick stretched the Georgia lead to 10-3, but the first half still was far from over. The second quarter found the Bulldogs knocking on the door again with the ball at the Pony 22. Two plays later, Billy Payne wrestled Kirby Moore's 20-yard toss away from SMU defender Floyd Burke for Georgia's third score.

Just before halftime, SMU put together its only sustained offensive spurt of the day. However, the Mustangs did it the hard way, overcoming three illegal procedure penalties during the course of the 72-yard drive. Jerry Levias, the SWC Player of the Year, sparked the drive with a pair of key receptions, and Mike Richardson got the touchdown, diving over right guard for the final yard to narrow the Georgia lead to 17-9.

Georgia continued its domination of the game through the third quarter, rolling up 24 offensive plays to the Mustangs' 11. The score remained at 17-9 as the two teams headed into the final 15 minutes, but not for long. The quarter opened with the Dawgs at the SMU five, and in two plays, Jenkins had gained his first touchdown and Georgia's last. The score increased to 24-9, and time was becoming a factor. SMU's best shot came two possessions later after a pass interception set the Mustangs up at the Georgia 40 with 7:11 left. On first down, White passed to Larry Jernigan for 38 yards to the Bulldog two. However, that's as far as they went. Three plays produced minus yardage and Georgia took over at its five to quell the SMU threat.

FUN FACT #31

Only once has the Classic been played prior to New Year's Day. The date was Saturday, December 31, 1966, when Georgia rolled over SMU 24-9 in the 31st Classic. It was a big weekend in Dallas. The following day, the Green Bay Packers earned a trip to Super Bowl I with a 34-27 victory over the Dallas Cowboys at *The Cotton Bowl*.

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	Georgia	SMU
First Downs	17	11
Rushing	13	5
Passing	4	5
Penalty	0	1
Rushes-Net Yards	56-284	43-40
Net Yards Passing	79	165
Passes	6-14-1	10-20-3
Total Plays	70	63
Total Net Yards	363	205
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-37	7-45
Punts-Average	4-28.5	4-36.5

RUSHING

Georgia - Lawrence 16-149, Jenkins 23-88, Patton 1-16, Wheeler 4-13, Johnson 7-12, Moore 5-6.
SMU - Jernigan 9-28, Richardson 11-24, May 2-12, Moore 1-2, Livingston 1-(-5), White 19-(-21).

PASSING

Georgia - Moore 6-11-1, 79 yards; Patton 0-3-0.
SMU - White 9-17-1, 160 yards; Livingston 1-3-2, 5 yards.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PUNTING

Georgia - Moore 4-28.5.
SMU - Perez 4-36.5.

RECEIVING

Georgia - Payne 3-49, Johnson 2-27, Lawrence 1-3.
SMU - Levias 3-62, Richardson 3-45, Jernigan 2-42, Goodrich 2-16.