



January 1, 1976

Arkansas 31, Georgia 10

Attendance - 77,500

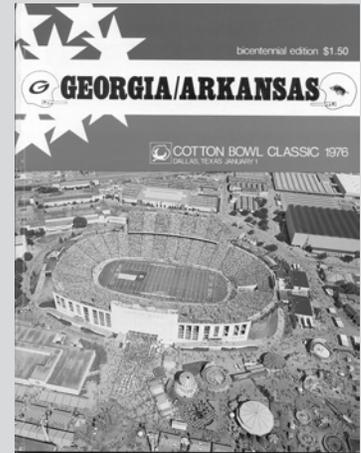
It's true that football is a sixty minute game. However, Arkansas was living proof after the 40th annual Classic that two minutes time can mean all the difference between winning and losing. But by New Year's Day, the Hogs had become accustomed to pressure situations. To reach the Cotton Bowl, the Razorbacks had to knock off unbeaten and second-ranked Texas A&M in the last game of the season. And they did, ambushing the Aggies 31-6 to create a three-way tie for the Southwest Conference championship with A&M and Texas. Now, riding a five-game winning streak to Dallas, the final obstacle would be No. 12 Georgia.

Very little good happened for the 18th-ranked Porkers in the first 28 minutes of the contest. In fact, Georgia kept the football for all but seven plays of the first period, and when the score reached 10-0, it looked as if the Dawgs might blow the Hogs right out of the stadium. A field goal on the Bulldogs' first possession, followed by a 21-yard touchdown pass midway through the second quarter, had dumped Arkansas into a very deep hole. But, once the clock struck two minutes, things began to change. On first down at the Georgia 15, Bulldog quarterback Matt Robinson unwittingly turned the game around. Clobbered by the Hogs' Mark Lewis and Johnny Meadors, Robinson fumbled, and linebacker Hal McAfee scooped up the loose ball. Three plays went by and the Razorbacks had moved just three yards. Out came placekicker Steve Little to boot a 39-yard field goal, and Arkansas suddenly was back in the game.

When Little's kick sailed through the uprights, halftime was only 50 seconds away. By then, the Junkyard Dawgs were on the verge of self-destruction. Georgia coach Vince Dooley wanted to head-off Arkansas' newfound confidence. So, he reached deep into his bag of tricks and pulled out the "shoe-string play." It was a no huddle, reverse pass to the quarterback. But, it didn't work, Hog safety Tommy Harris broke up the play, deflecting Ray Goff's lateral pass to Robinson. The ball spurted free and "Mr. Reliable," Hal McAfee, again was on the spot to make his second fumble recovery of the afternoon. It was a costly mistake. Just 25 seconds were left to play in the first half, yet Arkansas had the ball at the Georgia 13. Depleted of time outs, quarterback Scott Bull quickly flipped a pass to running back Ike Forte, who turned upfield and rambled 12 yards to the Georgia one. Forte scored on the next play. In a matter of seconds, the Hogs had erased Georgia's ten point lead. The score stood 10-10 at the half.

From the time the gimmick play backfired, Georgia was unable to move past its own 30-yard line until Arkansas had put the score completely out of reach. Three missed field goals denied the Hogs the opportunity to break the deadlock in the third quarter. But, in the fourth, Arkansas more than made up for its missed chances. It all started with Bull's 35-yard bomb to Freddie Douglas, setting up Rolland Fuchs' five-yard touchdown run for the tie-breaker, 17-10. Then the dam burst. Another Georgia turnover led to the Hogs' third touchdown, and then late in the game, Forte returned to the end zone to give Arkansas a 31-10 victory.

GAME SUMMARY



Georgia	3	7	0	0	-	10
Arkansas	0	10	0	21	-	31

First Quarter:

Georgia-Allan Leavitt 35 FG, 9:12, 53 yards in 12 plays following opening kick-off

Second Quarter:

Georgia-Gene Washington 21 pass from Matt Robinson (Leavitt kick), 7:21, 58 yards in 10 plays following fumble recovery by Ronnie Swoopes
Arkansas-Steve Little 39 FG, 0:50, -7 yards in 4 plays following fumble recovery by Hal McAfee
Arkansas-Ike Forte 1 run (Little kick), 0:14, 13 yards in 2 plays following fumble recovery by McAfee

Fourth Quarter:

Arkansas-Rolland Fuchs 5 run (Little kick), 11:07, 47 yards in 4 plays following punt
Arkansas-Micheal Forrest 1 run (Little kick), 9:21, 30 yards in 6 plays following pass interception by Howard Sampson
Arkansas-Forte 6 run (Little kick), 1:16, 68 yards in 12 plays following punt

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Ike Forte, Arkansas
Hal McAfee, Arkansas

COACHES

Vince Dooley, Georgia
Frank Broyles, Arkansas

WEATHER

Partly cloudy, 65 degrees

FUN FACT #40

Amazing is the word that best sums up the performance of Dicky Maegle of Rice in 1954. Although he is remembered most for the infamous bench tackle play involving Alabama's Tommy Lewis, Maegle scored three touchdowns on the Crimson Tide with runs of 79, 95 and 34 yards. On just 11 carries, he rushed for 265 yards and averaged an unbelievable 24.1 yards per play!

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	Georgia	Ark
First Downs	13	20
Rushing	9	16
Passing	3	4
Penalty	1	0
Rushes-Net Yards	47-102	65-235
Net Yards Passing	91	89
Passes	8-18-2	5-14-0
Total Plays	65	79
Total Net Yards	193	324
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	6-1
Penalties-Yards	3-15	5-35
Punts-Average	6-38.7	4-43.0

RUSHING

Georgia - Harrison 14-44, Goff 16-32, Reid 5-15, Washington 1-8, Appleby 1-4, Robinson 8-0, Pollard 2-(-1).

Arkansas - Forte 24-119, Fuchs 16-71, Forrest 5-32, Bull 20-13.

PASSING

Georgia - Robinson 7-15-2, 85 yards; Goff 1-3-0, 6 yards.

Arkansas - Bull 5-13-0, 89 yards; Fuchs 0-1-0.

RECEIVING

Georgia - Davis 3-16, Harrison 2-10, Wilson 1-29, Washington 1-21, Pollard 1-15.

Arkansas - Douglas 2-54, Daily 1-13, Forte 1-12, Fuchs 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PUNTING

Georgia - Dilts 6-38.7.

Arkansas - Cheyne 4-43.0.