



# POSTGAME NOTES

Game Twelve • Mississippi State (8-4, 4-4 SEC) at Ole Miss (6-6, 3-5 SEC) • Saturday, Nov. 24, 2012 • Vaught-Hemingway Stadium

## TEAM NOTABLES

- In the nation's sixth-longest uninterrupted series between two teams, Mississippi State fell to 42-61-6 all-time in the Battle for the Golden Egg, falling for the first time since 2008.
- State broke the single-season school record for passing completions (237) and tied for third place all-time for passing attempts in a single season (395).
- The Bulldogs moved into second place all-time in school history for first downs in a single season (244).
- Tonight's game was only the second time under Head Coach Dan Mullen where MSU lost the game despite winning the turnover margin (23-2).
- Mullen fell to 0-19 all-time when trailing after three quarters (28-0 when leading after three) and 0-9 when failing to rush for 100 yards (29-12 when rushing for 100-plus yards).
- Mullen has yet to be shutout in 50 games as MSU head coach, the third-longest stretch without being shutout in school history (90 from 1978 to 1986; 76 from 1990-1997).

## TEAM NOTABLES

- Sophomore wide receiver Jameon Lewis' 100-yard kickoff return for a touchdown was the longest play in the 109-year history of the Egg Bowl, the fifth 100-yard play in the 113-year history of MSU football (three kickoff returns, two interceptions) and the fourth 100-yard play in the SEC in 2012.
- Lewis' kickoff return was the first for a touchdown by a State player since Leon Berry ran one back for a 97-yard score against Alcorn State on Oct. 2, 2010, and the first in a SEC game by a Bulldog since Kevin Prentiss returned a 91-yard kickoff for a touchdown against South Carolina on Sept. 26, 1998.
- With one passing touchdown Saturday and 24 total scores this season, junior quarterback Tyler Russell tied Jackie Parker's 60-year-old single-season school record for touchdowns responsible (1952). Russell moved into sixth place all-time in career passing yardage (4,460).
- Russell extended his school record with his eighth 200-yard passing game of the season. The Meridian, Miss., native is the fifth quarterback in school history with at least nine career 200-yard passing games (9, T-4th).
- Senior wide receiver Chad Bumphis broke the school record for career receiving yards with his 68-yard reception in the second quarter (2,252), while also extending his school records in single-season touchdown receptions (12) and career touchdown receptions (24).
- In the single-season record book, Bumphis moved into fifth place all-time in receiving yards (904) and sixth in receptions (55).
- Bumphis recorded his fourth 100-yard receiving game of 2012 (T-3rd in school history) and his seventh career 100-yard receiving game (T-2nd in school history).
- In his last three games, junior defensive end Denico Autry has collected 4.0 tackles for loss, 3.0 sacks and two forced fumbles.
- Junior running back LaDarius Perkins passed Mardye McDole (3,353 from 1977-80) for sixth all-time in career all-purpose yards (3,379). Bumphis passed McDole and Dicenso Miller (3,274 from 1998-2001) for seventh place all-time in the same category (3,359).
- Perkins also moved into sixth-place all-time for all-purpose yards in a single season (1,425).
- Sophomore defensive lineman Kaleb Eulls notched his first-career fumble recovery in the second quarter.
- Senior linebacker Cameron Lawrence picked off a career-high two passes, becoming the third Bulldog with two interceptions in a game this season (Johnthan Banks vs. Auburn Sept. 8; Darius Slay at Troy Sept. 15). Lawrence, who had 3.0 tackles for loss Saturday, has tallied double-digit tackles in three-consecutive games.



## REBEL FOOTBALL

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# POSTGAME NOTES

## MISSISSIPPI STATE GAME - 11/24/12

### SERIES INFORMATION

- Today's meeting was the 109th meeting between Ole Miss and Mississippi State, which is the second-most played rivalry in the SEC (behind Georgia-Auburn) ... Ole Miss now leads the series 61-42-6.
- This was the 85th edition of the Egg Bowl ... Ole Miss now holds a 55-25-5 advantage.
- Ole Miss snapped Mississippi State's three-game winning streak in the series.

### CAPTAINS

(All Seniors): Tanner Burns (DB), H.R. Greer (TE), Jason Jones (DE), Randall Mackey (RB)

### GENERAL NOTES

- The Rebels finish the regular season at 6-6 and are bowl eligible for the first time since 2009.
- Tonight's attendance was 61,005, the second 60K+ game of the year ... The season attendance of 398,462 is the second-highest mark in school history (behind 2002).
- This marked the Rebels' first win over a ranked opponent since beating No. 18 Oklahoma State in the 2010 Cotton Bowl.
- Ole Miss lost the coin toss for just the fourth time this year ... The Rebels are now 1-3 when they lose the coin toss.
- The Rebels now own an all-time record of 627-492-35 (.558 winning percentage).

### OFFENSIVE NOTES

- Ole Miss gained 527 yards of total offense, its third 500-yard game of the year.
- The Rebels gained 233 yards on the ground, their fifth 200-yard game of the year.
- Sophomore WR Donte Moncrief had seven catches for a career-high 173 yards, his second straight game with a career-high receiving yards ... The 173-yard performance ranks fourth in a game in school history, the most ever against Mississippi State, and the most overall since Eddie Small's school-record 210 against Vanderbilt in 1993 ... It was Moncrief's fourth 100-yard receiving game of the season and his career, which ranks him tied for second in school history for a season and tied for fourth in school history for a career.
- Moncrief tied the school record (held by several others) with three TD catches in the game, with connections from Bo Wallace of 77, 21 and 16 yards.
- Moncrief moved into a tie for the school record with 10 TD catches this season ... Chris Collins also had 10 in 2002 ... Moncrief moved up to fifth place in school history with 14 career TD grabs.
- Moncrief moved up to third place in school history with 948 receiving yards on the year ... Shay Hodge (1,135 in 2009) and Chris Collins (949 in 2003) are 1-2.
- Moncrief moved up to third place in school history with 60 receptions on the year ... Chris Collins (77 in 2003) and Shay Hodge (70 in 2009) hold the top spots.
- With 334 total offensive yards, sophomore QB Bo Wallace now has 3,206 for the season ... He is the second player in school history to eclipse 3,000 yards in a season ... Eli Manning reached that total twice, in 2002 (3,281) and 2003 (3,572).
- Wallace moved into fourth place in school history for passing yards in a season (2,843), behind Eli Manning's three full-time seasons as the Rebel QB.
- Wallace's five touchdown passes in the game is tied for third-most in school history (Eli Manning had six in a game twice).
- Wallace's touchdown pass to Moncrief for 77 yards was the Rebels' longest hookup of the year ... The duo had a 75-yard connection against Texas.
- Junior RB Jeff Scott rushed 28 times for 111 yards, his fourth 100-yard effort of the year and seventh of his career.
- Scott moved past Kayo Dottley, Dou Innocent, Freddie Lee Williams and Junie Hovious into 10th place in school history with 2,926 career all-purpose yards ... He moved past Charlie Flowers into 10th place with 1,788 career rushing yards.

### DEFENSIVE NOTES

- The Rebels held Mississippi State to just 1-of-13 on third-down conversions.
- Ole Miss had eight tackles for loss and three sacks in the game ... The Rebels came into the game ranked top 15 nationally in both categories.
- Junior DB Dehendret Collins and redshirt-freshman LB Denzel Nkemdiche both recorded their third interception of the year, which leads the team this season.
- Sophomore DE C.J. Johnson registered 2.0 sacks in the game to increase his team-leading season total to 6.5.

### SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Senior K Bryson Rose made two field goals (43 yards, 41 yards) and all five PATs ... He came into the game leading all SEC players in scoring in league play.
- Rose moves up to third place in school history with 42 career field goals made and remains third with 109 PATs made and 235 career points by a kicker ... He is fourth in career points overall.

**OLE MISS VS. MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
**November 24, 2012**  
**Vaught-Hemingway Stadium**

**Postgame Quotes**

**Mississippi State Head Coach Dan Mullen**

**Opening comments:**

“Give them credit, their kids played hard, made a lot of plays when they needed to make big plays. We had a lot of critical errors, especially in the red zone, three opportunities in the reverse first half made it to three points. Those are things that you obviously cannot make those mistakes on the road in the SEC by coming away with points.”

**Turnovers and missed points:**

“Looking at the first half, it was sloppy, they made some mistakes and we made a lot of mistakes. When you’re on the road in this league and you get opportunities and don’t capitalize on them, you’re not going to be successful.

**On attacking Ole Miss’ run game:**

“We Lost two linemen in the first quarter, with (Charles) Siddoway out for a couple series and Tobias (Smith) in warm-ups just didn’t feel like he could go; don’t know if it was weather or what it was. I think that hurt early on and I just don’t think we played very well on the offensive side at all.”

**Overconfidence a factor:**

No, our kids prepared to go play, but we didn’t execute very well, we didn’t play very well. We had a good week of practice, but you never know exactly how it’s going to play out until you to gameday and start doing it on the field.

**On Ole Miss’ energy and their stakes for the game:**

“I can’t imagine it playing to any more stakes than for us. This is such a big game for us, and we take this game extremely serious. I would be shocked if they didn’t have that much energy for this game.”

**On Tyler Russell:**

“He was holding the ball a little too long and he missed a couple of throws, had a couple of high throws, especially in the first half. He never got himself in rhythm.

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**Postgame Quotes**

**Ole Miss Head Coach Hugh Freeze:**

**(Opening Comments)**

“I cannot be more proud of this group of young men and coaches. I’m first and foremost happy and thrilled for them, and then secondly for our fans, administration and the people of the Rebel Nation who had to go through losing the momentum in this series. I understand that was difficult. I’ve lived it, I’ve been through it, and I know how important it is to this state and to our University, and our kids were very aware of that tonight. I think our coaches did a great job of going through the week and making sure that whether a kid was from Tennessee or Alabama or Florida or Illinois or California that they better understand that the University of Mississippi has signed them on and is paying for their scholarship here and that this game is important. Our kids proved that tonight. Regardless of how you motivate your team, every coach has to decide what is best for him and his program. We went about it a little different than some. We didn’t play out of hatred for anyone. It was more about playing out of love for one another and this University, and our kids proved that they thought about one another and that they care for one another tonight. “

**(On Senior Gilbert Pena’s performance)**

“Gilbert has had a phenomenal year. People don’t realize how good he is. He’s going to get a shot in the NFL somewhere as a nose guard. Last night at the hotel we gave our seniors the opportunity to stand up and share a little bit about what today meant to them, and his was one of the more powerful ones. Even though he isn’t from around here, he talked about never feeling the essence of family and love like he has this year. He promised he would lay it on the line today, and he did.”

**(On impact on seniors)**

“It’s so important. I hate to keep saying it, but those seniors have had to go through two or three years of having to hear what they’ve had to hear everywhere they go, and you know how social media is and even how our own people talk about how bad it is. Well, I would like to take this opportunity to challenge us. Let’s stick together through the thick and thin. We’re going to have some fun times together. Those kids have had some difficult times, and now they can hear the good side of it, so I’m thrilled. To send them out to a bowl game somewhere will be really nice.”

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**Postgame Quotes**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE PLAYERS**

**1 WR CHAD BUMPHIS**

**ON THE FIRST HALF:**

"It's frustrating. You get in the red zone, you have to score, and we didn't do that. It affects the outcome of the game if you don't score when you get the opportunity."

**ON BEING TIED 17-17:**

"You've got to give them credit, they played a good game. They executed better than we did, and they just made plays."

**ON EACH TEAM'S EMOTIONS/ENERGY:**

"It came down to execution. Everybody's going to be excited about a rivalry game."

**ON PREPARING FOR A BOWL GAME AFTER THIS LOSS:**

"It's going to be tough. We're going to have to put it in the back of our minds and worry about playing a bowl game."

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**OLE MISS PLAYERS**

**LB Denzel Nkemdiche**

**On the win:**

"It's hard to explain, it was a great game. We played our hearts out and we have been upset so many times this year. Those losses were heartbreaking and I feel honored to get this one. It's just a great feeling."

**S Cody Prewitt**

**On bowl eligibility:**

"It's a great feeling to finally get number six and we are looking forward to continuing our season."

**WR Donte Moncrief**

**On touchdown in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter:**

"Bo put it in the right spot, and I knew I had to make a play, and I got the catch."

**On Bowl Game:**

"Last year hurt, so we got the bowl game this year and I'm happy."

**QB Bo Wallace**

**On game:**

"I think coming into the game I let my emotions play into the game more than they should have. But in the second half I settled down and eliminated turnovers, and it worked."

**On Mississippi State:**

"We were going against one of the best secondaries in the country, but I think we have some of the best receivers and playmakers."

**On past week:**

"I feel like there were some things I could have done better, but I just have to improve and continue to get better and bring this team to another level."