

# 1961 GAME DETAILS

## ALABAMA 32 — GEORGIA 6

Sept. 23, Athens, Ga.

Alabama opened an all-winning '61 season with a solid 32-6 thumping of Georgia's Bulldogs behind the running of junior Fullback Mike Fracchia.

Fracchia, who gained 70 yards on 16 rushes, scored the Tide's first touchdown in the second quarter on a one-yard dive and came back for another score in the fourth quarter on a two-yard plunge.

Specialist Tim Davis opened the scoring in the first period with the first (and longest) of his nine field goals of the year by booming one through from 41 yards away. It was 10-0 at the half with Fracchia's score.

Quarterback Pat Trammell passed 36 yards to Halfback Butch Wilson for a third-period tally after Wilson had intercepted a Jaye Saye pass on the Bulldogs' 36. Then Fracchia got his second TD early in the fourth quarter before Quarterback Mal Moore wrapped up the scoring with a 10-yard toss to End Red Wilkins midway through the last quarter.

Georgia tallied on the last play of the game on a Dale Williams to Carlton Guthrie pass from 13 yards out. The pass for the two-point conversion was intercepted.

## ALABAMA 9 — TULANE 0

Sept. 30, Mobile, Ala.

Looking a little deflated, Alabama still had plenty of guns to win and knocked off Tulane, 9-0, in Mobile's Ladd Stadium.

A Tulane fumble on the first play from scrimmage set up the first score when Guard Jimmy Wilson fell on the bobble at the Greenies' 44. Alabama punched over the score on eight plays with Pat Trammell throwing the last 22 yards to End Tommy Brooker for the score. Tim Davis' extra point try was wide to the right.

Davis capped the scoring with a 24-yard field goal with 12:40 gone in the third period after Alabama had driven to the Tulane eight.

The Alabama defense kept the Green Wave pretty much in check all night, with Tulane managing but six first downs and 84 yards rushing and 27 passing.

Mike Fracchia was the game's leading rusher with 66 yards on 22 carries.



## **ALABAMA 35 — VANDERBILT 6**

**Oct. 7, Nashville, Tenn.**

Running up a 28-6 halftime margin Alabama coasted to its third victory over Vanderbilt's outmanned Commodores, 35-6, at Nashville's Dudley Field.

Mike Fracchia went through right guard for 66 yards on the Tide's first series of plays and Tim Davis made it 7-0 with 12:43 left in the quarter.

Pat Trammell went around right end for eight yards and the next score, capping an 80-yard march on the seventh play.

Alabama added to a 13-0 first quarter lead with two more scores in the second period. Trammell picked right end again for the next TD and Fullback Larry Wall dived one yard for the fourth tally.

Alabama went out with a 28-6 halftime lead after Vandy had scored on a 13-yard Hank Lesesne to Jeff Starling pass in the second quarter.

Trammell ended a big night with his third score on a four-yard keeper in the third quarter.

## **ALABAMA 26 — NORTH CAROLINA STATE 7**

**Oct. 14, Tuscaloosa, Ala.**

After trailing for the first time of the year, Alabama rolled back in the second half to down North Carolina State, 26-7, at Denny Stadium.

Behind their bullet-throwing All-American, Roman Gabriel, the Wolfpack moved out to a 7-0 lead halfway through the second period. After passing State down to the Tide one, Gabriel plunged over for the TD and Jack Shafer kicked the point after.

Alabama regrouped for two quick scores to take a 12-7 halftime lead, going 39 yards on three plays for the first, and 69 yards on six plays for the second.

Pat Trammell passed 12 yards to End Richard Williamson for the first tally and two yards to End Bill Battle for the lead at the half. Trammell added another score on a five-yard sweep in the final stanza and Fullback Ed Versprille notched the other on a 45-yard sprint.

Trammell out-dueled the heralded Gabriel by hitting 10 of 14 passes for 155 yards and adding 43 yards rushing on 13 carries. Gabriel completed 16 of 23 passes for 123 yards but wound up with minus 25 yards on the ground.



## **ALABAMA 34 — TENNESSEE 3**

**Oct. 21, Birmingham, Ala.**

Alabama struck down old nemesis Tennessee, 34-3, before a regional television audience and 48,000 Legion Field fans.

The Tide spotted the Vols a 3-0 lead on a fantastic 53-yard field goal by George Shuford in the first quarter but then stifled the Orange completely in running up its first win over Tennessee since 1954.

Uncorking the Utah pass after Tennessee scored, the Tide drove 59 yards on six plays, with Mike Fracchia going the last five yards.

Tackle Billy Neighbors fell on a Vol fumble after the kickoff and Bama took it in on five plays from the Tennessee 25. Pat Trammell tossed nine yards to Butch Wilson for the score.

Alabama went out with a 20-3 halftime lead on two straight Tim Davis field goals in the second quarter, the first a 35-yarder and the second a 31-yard kick.

Halfback Billy Richardson's eight-yard run and Trammell's one-yarder added two more scores in the last half.

Tennessee could hack but 38 yards rushing and 23 passing through the Tide's nationally ranked defense.

## **ALABAMA 17 — HOUSTON 0**

**Oct. 28, Houston, Texas**

The Crimson Tide ground out its sixth win of the year, 17-0, over Houston's Cougars at Houston's Rice Stadium with workhorse Fullback Mike Fracchia doing the damage.

It was Fracchia's recovery of a Cougar fumble in the second quarter which set up the first Tide score from the Houston 42. Alabama drove to the Houston 17 where Tim Davis booted a 33-yard field goal for a 3-0 lead.

Alabama went 62 yards on nine plays for a 10-0 halftime lead. Pat Trammell tossed five yards to Halfback Bill Oliver for the last five yards and the TD.

End Richard Williamson picked off a Houston fumble in mid-air on the Cougar 15 to set the stage for the final Bama score. Fracchia's 11-yard run got a first down on the two and Trammell kept at left tackle for the score.

Fracchia ended up as the game's leading rusher with 86 yards on 16 carries.



## **ALABAMA 24 — MISSISSIPPI STATE 0**

**Nov. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.**

Wading through Mississippi State in a driving rain, Alabama posted a 24-0 Homecoming win before 39,000 fans at Denny Stadium.

Bama's Larry McGill grabbed a State fumble on the opening kickoff at the Bulldogs' 15 and Bama rammed it home on four plays. Billy Richardson went around right end for the score with 2:15 gone in the game.

A poor punt set the Tide up again on the State 41 and Pat Trammell capped the march with a one-yard plunge for the TD.

It was 14-0 at the end of the first period and 17-0 at the half after Tim Davis kicked a 26-yard field goal.

Larry Wall tallied the last Bama TD on a one-yard plunge in the final quarter and ended a 37-yard march.

Mike Fracchia rambled for 116 yards on 20 carries to nab rushing honors for the game.

## **ALABAMA 66 — RICHMOND 0**

**Nov. 11, Tuscaloosa, Ala.**

Using 50 players, Alabama rolled to its biggest win statistically by burying Richmond, 66-0, at Denny Stadium.

The Tide rolled up 26 first downs, gained 330 yards passing, 286 yards rushing, and wound up with a total offensive output of 616 yards. The passing and total offense marks set new records.

No. 2 Fullback Larry Wall paced the win with three scores on runs of 30, 12, and one yards. Six more players also scored.



## **ALABAMA 10 — GEORGIA TECH 0**

**Nov. 18, Birmingham, Ala.**

Combining straight power plays and the nation's best defense, Alabama blanked Georgia Tech, 10-0, and removed another big obstacle in the path of an undefeated season.

Mike Fracchia's 16-yard jaunt around end got Bama its only TD in the game, coming with 8:26 left in the second period.

Tim Davis added a 32-yard three-pointer in the third quarter and the 10 points were more than adequate as it was obvious from the start that Tech was going nowhere.

The Engineers could make but six first downs and 30 yards rushing in the game. They added 66 yards through the air.

## **ALABAMA 34 — AUBURN 0**

**December 2, Birmingham, Ala.**

Jumping cross-state rival Auburn for a 24-0 halftime lead, bowl-bound Alabama never let up in rapping the Tigers, 34-0, and putting the finishing touches on its first undefeated season since 1945.

The Tide went 35 yards to score the first time it had the ball, with Billy Richardson going for 11 yards and the tally.

Bama added 17 points in the second quarter on a one-yard sneak by Pat Trammell, a Tim Davis field goal, and a 19-yard Trammell to Richard Williamson pass.

Richardson got the next Tide score in the third period on a six-yard pitchout and Davis capped the scoring in the fourth quarter with his ninth field goal of the year.

The Tigers, running off the spread formation to boost Quarterback Bobby Hunt's passing, got off one TD threat, driving to the Alabama two-yard line. Three running plays netted one yard and a fourth down pass went incomplete.

It was the fifth straight shutout for Bama and the sixth in 10 regular season games.