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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Snyder's 53-Yard Field Goal Sends Louisiana Past Georgia Southern

The Eagles travel to ULM next Saturday.

Football

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LAFAYETTE, La. – Nate Snyder booted a 53-yard field goal as the final gun sounded to lift No. 19 Louisiana to a 20-18 Sun Belt football win over Georgia Southern Saturday afternoon at Cajun Field.

Georgia Southern (1-1, 0-1) took the lead with 54 seconds left when [Shai Werts](#) connected with [Khaleb Hood](#) for a 28-yard touchdown pass that made the score 17-16. The Eagles elected to go for two, and Werts avoided a sack, scrambled around and threw to a diving [Darion Anderson](#) in the end zone for an 18-17 advantage.

Levi Lewis completed three passes for 49 yards as Louisiana (3-0, 2-0) moved the ball down to the Georgia Southern 36-yard line with two seconds to go. It was one of two field goals on the day for Snyder, who came into the game 1-for-4 on this season and missed a 34-yarder in the second quarter.

Eagles of the Game: [J.D. King](#) rushed 24 times for 100 yards and a touchdown, and [Wesley Kennedy III](#) caught two balls for 105 yards. [Java'n Singletary](#) and [Rashad Byrd](#) led the Eagles with eight tackles each.

Key Moments: With the Eagles trailing 17-10 late in the fourth, [Beau Johnson](#) caught a pass from Werts, avoided some tackles, tip-toed down the sideline but fumbled as he tried to extend the ball over the goal line. It wound up being a 57-yard gain, a fumble out of the end zone and a touchback, giving Louisiana the ball with 2:48 to go.

The Eagle defense gave up just two yards on the first two downs of Louisiana's ensuing possession, and on 3rd-and-8, Lewis missed on a long pass try, giving Georgia Southern the ball back at its own 39-yard line with 1:34 remaining. Werts completed three passes and ran for 10-yards before hitting Hood for the 28-yard touchdown pass with 54 seconds left. Hood made a diving, one-handed grab on the play.

With the score tied 10-10, the Eagles went 3-and-out for just the first time all day, and Louisiana capitalized early in the fourth quarter. Lewis completed passes of 18 and 20 yards and then found Errol Rogers Jr. for a 27-yard touchdown pass as the Ragin' Cajuns opened up a 17-10 lead.

The Eagles came right back as Werts found Kennedy III for a 44-yard gain, and GS moved the ball down to the Louisiana 24-yard line. After [Matt LaRoche](#) was stopped on 3rd-and-4, [Alex Raynor's](#) 41-yard field goal try sailed wide right. The Eagle defense posted its second 3-and-out of the game, and GS got the ball back on its own 30-yard line with 5:48 remaining.

Fun Stat: The Eagles were 8 of 14 on 3rd down and held the ball for 11 minutes longer than Louisiana.

Scoring Plays:

GS – King 2-yard run with 14:53 left in the 2nd 7-0

ULL – Trey Ragas 10-yard run with 9:25 left in the 2nd, 7-7

GS – Raynor 27-yard FG with 5:49 left in the 3rd, 10-7

ULL – Snyder 25-yard FG with 0:30 left in the 3rd, 10-10

ULL – Lewis 27-yard pass to Rogers with 10:34 left in the 4th, 10-17

GS – Werts 28-yard pass to Hood with 54 seconds left in the 4th, Werts pass to Anderson for 2-pt conversion, 18-17.

ULL – Snyder 53-yard FG with 0:00 left, 18-20

Up Next

The Eagles travel to ULM for a 7 p.m. Sun Belt contest next Saturday. The game will be broadcast live on ESPN+.