Two costly interceptions late in the fourth quarter gave South Carolina a 27-24 victory over Va. Tech before a Homecoming crowd of 42,963 at Lane Stadium.

The game looked like it would be a high scoring affair as Tech took the opening kickoff and scored on the second play from scrimmage. After Barker had gained five, Popp threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Bill Williams and Tech gave the Hokies a quick 7-0 lead with 14:10 remaining.

Senior quarterback Jeff Grantz came right back as he led the Gamecocks on a 62-yard drive that ended with Grantz scoring a touchdown from one yard out and the extra point from Bobby Marino elevated the score to 7-7 with 10:44 left in the first quarter.

Tech's Dick off and Tech's Heath returned 20yards to the 30. The Hokies ran off four plays and attempted to try a 49-yard field goal. However, the Techmen were penalized five yards for delay of game and this caused them to punt the ball.

The Gamecocks took over on their own 20 and fifty-five yards enabling Marino to boot a 42-yard field goal giving USC a 10-7 lead. The big play on this drive was Grantz pass to flanker Eddie Mulford good for 20 yards at the 29 of Tech's 29.

With Tech down 10-7, and failed to put together a drive, McDaniell punted 41 yards to the endzone. South Carolina was held and forced to punt to Tech's 36, where Popp threw a long pass to Rick Scales for a first down at USC's 18. Barker then went off the left side and shot through a hole and later found RB Thomas at the 5, he pitched out to Barber, but the ball squirted away as Barber fell on it at the 18. Wayne Latimer came in and booted a 35 yard field goal to tie the contest at 10-10 with 12:18 remaining in the half.

The Gamecocks game right back, using their vengeous offense as Jay Hodgings went in, Spinks carried for five and Grantz completed a pass for 12 yards to split-end Mike Farrell for a first down at USC's 22. On the next three downs, Spinks carried twice more and Hodgings again to give South Carolina a first at midfield. Spinks went around left end for 10 yards and another first at Tech's 40. Then, came the old fashioned Grantz pitchout to Hodging, who saw Farrell vireo teen at the 10, and threw him an easy touchdown pass as the Hokie defense went to sleep.

Down 17-10 with 9:29 left in the half, Tech started from its own 18 and the Hokies bucked for five and Barber went for 15 yards on a delay for a first down at the 49. Popp went to the air for Hardee and again for Jerry Inge but both passes went incomplete.

It was third and 10 and Popp caught South Carolina flat-footed as Scales gained 15 yards on the end around to the 'Carolina 36. With 7:46 left Popp fired a 36-yard touchdown to Scales to even the score at 17-17.

Carolina, however, was not through scoring yet, as Grantz went five yards and Tech was penalized 15 yards for a personal foul to put the ball at the 49. Grantz fired 17 yards to Mulford for a first down at the Tech's 18. Then, Tech tricked right back as Hardee picked up the lookout at the 50 and the final play was a 36-yard touchdown, giving USC a 24-17 lead.

After the crowning of a pretty brunette, Denise Grumph of Hokie cheerleaders, USC took the kickoff and marched to Tech's 19 where Marine kicked a 38-yard field goal with 11:27 to go in the period and giving USC a 10 point lead. However, Tech struck right back as Hardee picked up the lookout at the 50 and the final play was a 36-yard touchdown, giving USC a 24-17 lead.

Little did the 38,000 fans know it that this was the end of the scoring in Lane Stadium that afternoon, and this remains both teams ran out of gas. Both teams ran out of gas and up and down the field only to have their drives killed by fumbles or interceptions.

In the fourth quarter Carolina went to Tech's two where LeHeup fumbled and Bill Housewright of Gate City recovered the ball at the USC's 38 and ran it for a first at the 36. Rodgers went for 16 yards and Barber hit for 4 at USC's 45. Then, it happened as Popp threw an interception at the 36 to stop the drive.

Science failed to move the ball and punt. Tech again started a drive but with second and seven, Popp was intercepted by Laws at South Carolina's 38. South Carolina drove to Tech's two, but failed to score as Grantz attempted to hit Farrell in the endzone. So ended 27-24 a disappointing day for Tech fans and alumni.