

# Postgame Notes Cincinnati 48, SMU 14 Nov. 20, 2021 | Nippert Stadium

# **Highlights**

- Cincinnati improves to 11-0 for the second time in program history. It is the third time the Bearcats have ever been on an 11-game win streak.
- The win marks Cincinnati's 14<sup>th</sup>-straight win against AAC opponents and third-straight against SMU. It also marks UC's 37<sup>th</sup>-straight win against unranked opponents.
- Cincinnati has won 26-straight games at Nippert Stadium, which is the second-longest home win streak in the nation (Clemson, 33). They are 6-0 at home this season.
- The Bearcats are 20-2 (.909) since 2019 against AAC opponents, which is the best mark in the conference.
- UC is now 42-6 (.875) since 2018, ranking among the top five teams in CFB in winning percentage during that span.
- Head Coach Luke Fickell is now 46-14 (.767) in five seasons at Cincinnati. This is the Bearcats' first 11-0 start under him and second all-time (also 2009).
- UC is 35-2 when leading at the half under Fickell.
- Today's captains were Desmond Ridder, Coby Bryant, Alec Pierce and Joel Dublanko.
- UC won the coin toss and elected to defer.
- UC improved its all-time record to 648-594-50 (.521).

## **Charting Quarterback Desmond Ridder**

- With 325 total yards today, Ridder has 11,750 yards of total offense in his career. He is just 52 yards away from passing Quinton Flowers (USF) for the most in AAC history.
- With his 53-yard touchdown pass to Tyler Scott on the first play from scrimmage, Ridder continued a 22-game streak where he has thrown a touchdown pass.
- Ridder's 40-yard rushing TD in the second quarter was his school-best (among QBs) 28<sup>th</sup> of his career. It was also his longest rush of the season. It's also his 4th career rushing touchdown against SMU.
- Ridder remains the winningest quarterback in college football with a 42-5 (89.4%) record. The 42 wins tie him at fourth all-time with David Greene (42-10, Georgia) and Andy Dalton (42-7, TCU).
- Ridder caught a six-yard touchdown pass from Jordan Jones in the third quarter. It was
  his first receiving touchdown ever. He is the third player in the nation this season to
  have a passing, rushing and receiving touchdown in the same game.
- With five more total touchdowns today, Ridder is tied with Quinton Flowers (112) for
  most touchdowns responsible for in AAC history. He also moved into second-place alltime for touchdown passes in AAC history with 81 and needs 9 more to tie Brady White
  (90) for the most.
- The senior quarterback also needs just 180 more yards of total offense to become the all-time leader for total yards in UC history, passing Gino Guidugli (11,930).
- Career Passing Touchdowns: 81 (Most in UC history)
- Career Passing Yards: 9,604 (Second-most in UC history)
- Career Rushing Touchdowns: 28 (Most by QB in UC history)
- Career Rushing Yards: 2,141 (12<sup>th</sup> in UC history, most by QB)

### **Offensive Notes**

Tyler Scott brought in a 53-yard touchdown on the first play from scrimmage. It was the
first time UC has scored on the first play from scrimmage since we played Memphis on
Oct. 4, 2014. This was the second time he and Ridder have connected on the first
passing play from scrimmage for a touchdown this year, the other being the homeopener against Miami (OH). It was Scott's fourth receiving touchdown of the season.

- Jerome Ford scored on a four-yard rush, giving him 17 total touchdowns and 16 rushing touchdowns on the season. That score moves him into third place on the single season rushing touchdowns list, trailing only David Small (17) and Michael Warren II (19). He trails only Michael Warren II (20) on the total touchdowns list, where he is tied for second.
- Tyler Scott had a career-high 94 receiving yards today on five catches. His previous high was 81 yards.
- Tre Tucker also had a career-high 114 receiving yards today. He did it on seven catches. His previous high was 69 yards.
- Alec Pierce hauled in his fifth and sixth receiving touchdowns of the season (10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of his career) today. Both touchdowns were on 17-yard receptions, the second being a back-shoulder grab in the third quarter. This is Pierce's first-ever two-touchdown game.
- Jordan Jones' passing touchdown to Desmond Ridder in the third quarter was the first passing touchdown of his career.
- Evan Prater found Jordan Jones for a 11-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter. It was Prater's second passing touchdown of the season and Jones' first receiving touchdown as a Bearcat.
- Cincinnati put up 544 yards of total offense, marking the second-straight week it has totaled 500 or more yards on offense and third time this year. The Bearcats had 506 yards of offense last week against USF and 542 against Temple.

#### Defense

- Cincinnati's defense has not given up points on the opponents' opening drive since UCF on Nov. 21, 2020, as well as any to start a half this season.
- The defense has only given up 21 points in the first quarter through 11 games this season.
- Today marked the first time SMU has been shut out in the first half since they played North Texas on Sept. 1, 2018.
- Wilson Huber had a blocked punt today, marking his third blocked kick of his career. He also had one sack.

- Cincinnati forced 1 turnover today, giving it 30 forced turnovers of the season, the most in the FBS.
- Coby Bryant's forced fumble marked his third of the season and fifth of his career.
- Bryant's forced fumble was recovered by Marcus Brown. It is Brown's first recovery of the season and second of his career.
- The Bearcats defense limited Tanner Mordecai, who was second in the nation in passing TD's (37) and first in the AAC in yards (3,264) coming into today, to just 66 yards on 15-26 passing and one touchdown.
- SMU ranked sixth in total offense and eighth in passing offense coming into today. The Bearcats held them to 199 total yards and 66 passing yards. Both are season-lows for SMU. The last time the Mustangs were held under 200 yards was when they only had 97 yards against Memphis on Nov. 28, 2015.
- The last time SMU's offense was held under 300 yards was against UC on Oct. 24, 2020. The Mustangs recorded only 290 yards of offense that game.