



## 2018 CINCINNATI BEARCATS FOOTBALL

### POSTGAME NOTES

**rv/rv CINCINNATI 56, ECU 6**

NOVEMBER 23, 2018 | 3:38 PM | CINCINNATI, OH | NIPPERT STADIUM

**ATTENDANCE:** 21,230

#### SERIES INFORMATION

- Cincinnati continues to trail ECU in the all-time series, 13-9, but reclaimed the lead when the series is played in the Queen City with a 6-5 advantage after winning its fourth in a row at home over the Pirates. The win also got the Bearcats back in the win column after the Pirates won, 48-20, last in Greenville to snap a six-game winning streak for the Bearcats.
- The 56 points scored by UC marks the most it has tallied against the Pirates in the series, surpassing the 54 points scored in a 54-46 win in 2014 in Cincinnati. It also ties the most points either team has scored in the series after the Pirates tallied 56 in both 1987 and 1990.
- The 50-point margin is the largest for either team in the all-time series, easily surpassing the previous highs of 37 by the Bearcats (40-3) 2003 and 35 by the Pirates (49-14) in 1988.

#### CAPTAINS/COIN TOSS

- Cincinnati's captains for today's game: #4 Malik Clements, #51 Kimoni Fitz, #72 Garrett Campbell, #96 Coretz Broughton
- ECU wins the toss and defers; Cincinnati will receive and defend the south
- After starting the season winning the coin toss in the first seven games, the Bearcats have won the toss just once since, including losing the last three in a row.

#### TEAM NOTES

- Today's victory pushed Cincinnati to 10-2 on the year, marking just the seventh time in program history the Bearcats hit double digits in the win column. The most recent instance came in 2012 when the Bearcats finished 10-3 for the second year in a row. Excluding a 10-1 record in 1951, the other six instances have all come since the start of 2007 season which, in that span, has seen the Bearcats record 100 wins with the 100<sup>th</sup> coming today against the Pirates.

##### ***Cincinnati's 10-Plus Win Seasons***

- 1951 • 10-1
  - 2007 • 10-3
  - 2008 • 11-3
  - 2009 • 12-1
  - 2011 • 10-3
  - 2012 • 10-3
  - **2018 • 10-2**
- The Cincinnati offense put up 641 yards of total offense today, accumulating 394 yards through the air and added 247 on the ground to mark the eighth time this year UC has rushed for over 200 yards. The 641 yards ranks as the eighth-highest total in a single game in program history and marked the third time this year the Bearcats have added a total to the all-time Top 10 behind the school-record 741 yards against Alabama A&M and the 659 yards accumulated at UConn.

##### ***Cincinnati's Single Game Total Yards Top 10***

1. **741 vs Alabama A&M • 2018**
2. 711 vs UConn • 2009
3. 684 vs Ohio • 1968
4. 669 vs Northwestern State • 2013
5. 661 vs Rutgers • 2010
6. **659 at UConn • 2018**
7. 647 vs Miami (Ohio) • 1986
8. **641 vs ECU • Today**
9. 620 at Memphis • 2015
10. 619 at Rutgers • 2013

- The Bearcats led at halftime, 42-6, tying the most points they have scored in the first half of a game this year with the 42 they posted against Alabama A&M in Cincinnati's 63-7 home-opening victory. Prior to tonight, the most points UC has scored in the opening half against an FBS opponent also came a home when the Bearcats led Navy, 28-0
- Cincinnati finished its home slate with an unblemished 6-0 record, the first time the Bearcats have gone undefeated at home since their 6-0 record in 2009. That year, UC finished the regular season 12-0 and played in the Allstate Sugar Bowl.
- The Bearcats scored six touchdowns in the first half, marking the seventh time this season UC has scored five or more touchdowns in a single game. UC finished with eight touchdowns in the game, including seven on offense and one pick-six, to tally the second-most scores in a game in 2018 behind the nine scored against Alabama A&M (eight offensive, one defensive).
- Of the touchdowns scored tonight, five came through the air with Desmond Ridder recording a career-high four and senior Hayden Moore adding the fifth. Overall, the five passing touchdowns ties for the fifth-most in a single game (the record is six) with five other games, the most recent coming in 2013 when UC threw for five against both UConn and Northwestern State.
- Jayshon Jackson pulled in a 10-yard strike from Desmond Ridder in the first quarter, giving the Bearcats their eighth opening-drive touchdown this season. At home, the Bearcats scored a touchdown on their opening drive in five of their six games with the lone non-score coming against Tulane when Cincinnati punted.
- When the first quarter ended, the Bearcats had scored three touchdowns and turned the ball over on downs once. In the same span, the Pirates had the ball three times and went three-and-out three times. ECU was limited to -15 yards of total offense with 12 yards passing and -27 rushing yards thanks, in large part, to a pair of third-down sacks by Marquise Copeland (-13 & -12).
- On the first drive of the third quarter for the Bearcats and Hayden Moore in at quarterback, the Bearcats marched down the field and scored on a 7-yard strike from Moore to Khalil Lewis. That touchdown capped a 12-play, 98-yard drive (5:04 elapsed), which stands as the longest drive of the season. The previous long was a 92-yard scoring drive against Ohio.
- The Bearcats defense recorded three interceptions in the game, including one returned for a touchdown (Arquon Bush), to mark the second time they have done so in 2018 after also picking three Temple passes earlier this season. UC has now recorded at least one interception in eight games this year.
- To add to it, the Bush pick-six was the fourth score by the UC defense in 2018 and its first at home. Previously, the defense recorded a safety at UCLA, an 86-yard pick-six by James Wiggins at SMU (in overtime to win the game) and a Kimoni Fitz fumble recovery in the end zone at UCF.
- The Bearcats' starting line-up had remained static for most of the season, but it was a different story against ECU. Chris Fergsuon (illness), Rashad Medaris (hamstring), Michael Warren II (shoulder) and Tyrell Gilbert (shoulder) all missed the game. C Jakari Robinson moved back into the starting lineup with Kyle Trout shifting to right tackle and Garrett Campbell shifting to left guard.
- Since 1996... football and men's basketball have played on the same day 16 times previously with both teams winning on the say day 15 times, a split being recorded 15 times and both teams losing their game once. The basketball team will play George Mason tonight at 7 p.m. in the Emerald Coast Classic semifinals in Niceville, Fla.

## INDIVIDUAL NOTES

- Khalil Lewis pulled down three touchdown catches, including two from Desmond Ridder and one from Hayden Moore, finishing the game with 203 yards on nine catches (targeted 12 times). The three scores marked the first time a UC receiver hauled in three touchdown passes since Lewis did so against ECU on October 22, 2016, while his yardage, a career high, ranks as the fifth-highest total in a single game in program history. The last time a Bearcat recorded 200+ yards in a game came in 2014 when Chris Moore accumulated 221 yards at Ohio State.
- For his career, Lewis broke the 2,000 yard barrier with his 2,102 career yards, which ranks as the eighth-most in program history. With his three scoring grabs, Lewis also brought his career total to 21, the fourth-most for a receiver in UC history.
- Ridder's 57-yard touchdown strike to Khalil Lewis in the first quarter marked the third-longest passing score of the season and tied for the fifth-longest play overall in 2018 for the Bearcats. Then, in the second quarter, Charles McClelland broke off a run up the middle for a 55-yard score, tying for the seventh-longest scoring play of the year and the third-longest rushing play of 2018. The 55-yard scamper also is a career long for McClelland, surpassing the 42-yard scoring run he had at Temple.
- Hayden Moore finished his final home game with 59 yards on 5-of-11 passing and one touchdown and no interceptions. Those numbers saw his career totals climb higher in the Bearcats' all-time record book, including:
  - #2 in pass attempts with 929
  - #3 in passing yards with 6,398
  - #4 in touchdown passes with 42
- DL Marquise Copeland sacked ECU QB Holton Ahlers for a 13-yard loss on the Pirates' opening drive. The sack yardage is the third-largest this year behind a pair of 14-yard losses recorded by Michael Pitts (vs. Alabama A&M) and Kimoni Fitz (vs. USF). He added a 12-yard loss on the Pirates' second drive, also on third down, to give him 25-yards of loss and sending ECU to -30 rushing as that point in the game. His 2.0 sacks is a career high, surpassing his previous high of 1.0 he recorded six times.
- **STARTER NOTES:** CB Arquon Bush, WR Jayshon Jackson and RB Tavion Thomas made their first career starts. DT Cortez Broughton made his 48<sup>th</sup> career start while also making his 39<sup>th</sup>-consecutive start for the Bearcats while both WR Kahlil Lewis (35) and LT Dino Boyd (32) have also started 30+ career contests at UC.

- Not only did Arquon Bush see his first career start, but he put together a career game. Bush not only recorded three tackles and tallied two pass defenses, he also picked off a pair of ECU passes, his first two career interceptions. His second interception came in the fourth quarter as he jumped the route and ran it back 36 yards for his first career touchdown as well.
- Ridder had one of his best games of the year as he went 20-of-29 through the air for 335 yards with four touchdowns and no interceptions while adding two carries for seven yards on the ground. His yardage total is the second-highest of his career behind only the 352 yards he recorded against SMU while touchdown total is a single-game best, surpassing the three he threw against Alabama A&M.
- On the night, nine different Bearcats caught a total of 25 passes for 394 yards and five scores. One of those receptions was an oddity as Hayden Moore connected with... himself! On the play, Moore tried to hit a receiver in the flat, but his pass was deflected into the air. He caught the ball and was tackled for an 8-yard loss. It marks the second career reception for Moore who also pulled in a touchdown pass from Tyler Cogswell against Tulsa in 2016.
- **QUICK HITS**
  - Josiah Degara pulled in a 30-yard pass from Ridder for his fifth touchdown of the season and the fifth of his career.
  - Jayshon Jackson opened the scoring for UC with a 10-yard reception from Ridder for his second career touchdown catch and his first since the Ohio game.
  - Charlie McClelland pulled in a 20-yard reception early in the game for the longest of his career (previous was 9 yards)
  - Yanez Rogers recorded his first career catch, a 4-yard pass from Ridder.

#### **NEXT UP**

- The Bearcats are bowl eligible and will now await word as to which game they will be invited to play. Announcements regarding game location, game time, opponent and tickets will be made available on GoBearcats.com once all details are known.