



**Postgame Notes**  
**Cincinnati 6, Alabama 27**  
**Dec 31, 2021 | AT&T Stadium**

**Highlights**

- Cincinnati ends the season with a 13-1 record. This was its first loss in almost exactly one calendar year, with the last one being against Georgia in last year's Peach Bowl on Jan. 1, 2021.
- Cincinnati became the first ever non-Power Five school to play in the College Football Playoff.
- Cincinnati's all-time bowl record moves to 10-11. The Bearcats have appeared in a bowl game in four-straight seasons.
- This game marked the fourth time an AAC and SEC team met in a bowl game.
- UC is now 44-7 (.863) since 2018, ranking among the top five teams in CFB in winning percentage during that span.
- Head Coach Luke Fickell is now 48-15 (.762) in five seasons at Cincinnati.
- After today's performance, the Bearcats have 70 touchdowns and 516 points this season. The previous records were 502 points and 66 touchdowns, which were broken during the AAC Championship game against Houston.
- Today's captains were Desmond Ridder, Coby Bryant, Myjai Sanders and Joel Dublanko.
- UC won the coin toss and elected to defer.
- UC's all-time record is now 650-595-50 (.521).

**Charting Quarterback Desmond Ridder**

- Ridder trails only Brady White (Memphis, 90) in career passing touchdowns in the AAC. He ends today with 87 in his career.
- Ridder ends the season with 3,334 passing yards. He is just short of the single-season school record of 3,543 set by current quarterbacks coach and passing game coordinator Gino Guidugli in 2002.
- Ridder (12,418 career total yards) broke the AAC and Cincinnati total yardage records earlier this season. He is also the AAC's and Cincinnati's all-time leader in total touchdowns with 116 (87 passing, 28 rushing, 1 receiving). He broke Guidugli's career touchdown pass mark of 79 earlier in the season.
- Ridder remains the winningest active quarterback in college football with a 44-6 (88.0%) record. The 44 wins are good for third place all-time. The only two quarterbacks who have more are Colt McCoy (45-8, Texas) and Kellen Moore (50-3, Boise State)
- With 144 passing yards today, Ridder now has 10,239 passing yards in his career becomes just the second player in UC history to pass for 10,000 yards (Gino Guidugli, 11,453).
- With 30 touchdown passes in 2021, the senior ends just one behind the school record of 31 set by Ben Mauk (2007) and Gunner Kiel (2014).

### **Offensive Notes**

- After rushing for 77 yards today Jerome Ford brings his season total to 1,319 yards, which is the fifth-most in UC history for a single season.
- Michael Young Jr. led the Bearcats with four catches and 55 yards, including a 28-yard catch in the second half.
- Tyler Scott's 40-yard kickoff return near the end of the first half was a career-long. He also ended the game with four catches for 43 yards.
- Cole Smith hit a 33-yard field goal on Cincinnati's opening drive and a 37-yarder in the third quarter. They were his fourth and fifth made field goals this season and his first since Oct. 8 against Temple. The 37-yard kick is a season long and the two makes are a season high.
- Punter Mason Fletcher launched a season-long 54-yard punt in the second quarter to pin Alabama at its own nine-yard line. It was his 16<sup>th</sup> punt this season inside the 20-yard line and his sixth of 50 or more yards.

- With 17 receiving yards today, Alec Pierce ends his season with 884 yards, which is the most on the team.

## **Defense**

- Cincinnati forced 1 turnover today, giving it 34 forced turnovers of the season, the most in the FBS.
- Safety Bryan Cook picked off Alabama quarterback Bryce Young in the third quarter for his second interception of the season.
- The Bearcats held the Crimson Tide to a season-low 181 passing yards. They are the only team to hold Alabama to under 200 passing yards all season.
- Darrian Beavers recorded his fifth sack of the season at the end of the first quarter. Beavers ended the game with a team-high 10 tackles and two tackles for loss, tying a season high. He now has 12 TFLs on the season.
- Myjai Sanders led the Bearcats with five quarterback hurries, bringing his season total to 15, which leads the team.
- Wilson Huber recorded his third sack of the season in the third quarter.
- Before the game, Huber was named the Dan S. Petty Scholar-Athlete Award winner for Cincinnati at the 2021 Cotton Bowl. The award, which is given to one player on each team, recognizes the student-athlete for their excellence in athletics and academics.