



## 2018 CINCINNATI BEARCATS FOOTBALL

### POSTGAME NOTES

#### **CINCINNATI 63, ALABAMA A&M 7**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 | 7:05 PM | CINCINNATI, OH | NIPPERT STADIUM

**ATTENDANCE:** 28,834

#### **SERIES INFORMATION**

- The Bearcats now lead the all-time series, 2-0, with both wins coming in Cincinnati
- UC has now outscored the Bulldogs, 115-17, in the two games played after winning the first game, 52-10, in 2015

#### **CAPTAINS/COIN TOSS**

- Cincinnati Captains: #1 WR Khalil Lewis, #4 LB Malik Clements, #72 OL Garrett Campbell, #96 DT Cortez Broughton
- Coin Toss: Cincinnati won the toss and deferred; Alabama A&M received and defended the south

#### **TEAM NOTES**

- The Bearcats tallied 741 yards of total offense on the night, the second-most in school history. The all-time record of 752 yards was recorded September 24, 2014, in a 53-46 loss at Memphis.
- The ground game accounted for 409 yards on 55 carries. The last time the Bearcats rushed for 400 or more in a single game came in 1996 when UC rushed for 405 yards against visiting Miami (Ohio), a 30-23 triple-overtime victory.
- UC rushed for six touchdowns in the game. It marked the third game in a row this year that the Bearcats have recorded at least two scores on the ground after scoring two at UCLA and three at Miami (Ohio). In total, the Bearcats now have tallied 11 rushing scores in 2018 after scoring 11 total in 2017.
- UC scored 63 points, which stands as the most scored in a game since September 14, 2013, when the Bearcats defeated visiting Northwestern State, 63-9.
- The Bearcats, who scored 28 or more points only twice in 2017, scored 28 in the first quarter against the Bulldogs. With 42 points total in the opening half, it marked the most points UC has put up in the first two quarters of a game since scoring 49 on Akron on September 17, 2011, in Cincinnati.
- UC entered the game a perfect 7-of-7 in red zone scoring opportunities in 2018 before going 6-of-6 tonight. All told in 2018, the Bearcats have converted 12 of their 13 red zone visits into touchdowns with one field goal.

#### **INDIVIDUAL NOTES**

- Four Bearcats recorded their first career touchdowns in the game, including QB Desmond Ridder, RB Tavion Thomas, RB Charles McClelland and TE Wilson Huber. Ridder, who had one passing touchdown to his credit entering the game and connected with Thomas Geddis in the first quarter for a 29 yard strike, rushed for a 22-yard scored in the first quarter to make it 14-0 for the hosts. Thomas scored a pair of touchdowns for UC, grabbing his first with an 11-yards scamper in the second quarter (42-0) before adding a 1-yard plunge in the third (49-0). McClelland got in on the act at the end of the third quarter as he rushed 1 from 1 yard out (56-7) before Huber recovered a Thomas fumble in the end zone for the final score of the game.
- UC saw four quarterbacks play in the game with Ridder playing the first quarter, Hayden Moore the second, Ben Bryant in the third and Jake Sopko in the fourth. The four signal callers combined to go 21-of-26 passing for 332 yards with 3 touchdowns and one interception. All four quarterbacks also saw their first drives with the offense culminate in touchdowns.
- Thomas entered the game with having carried the ball once earlier in the year for three yards. Tonight, he led the team in carries (18), rushing yards (141) and rushing touchdowns (2). With his scores on the ground, he made it three games in a row that a UC back has scored twice on the ground in a game after Michael Warren II scored twice at UCLA and three times at Miami (Ohio).
- Thomas (141) and McClelland (121) both recorded over 100 yards of rushing in the game, marking the first time the Bearcats have two 100-yard rushers in a game since 2015. That season, Hosey Williams (140) and Mike Booke (117) both broke the century mark as the Bearcats defeated UConn, 37-13, at home on October 24.
- When Thomas scored his second touchdown of the game, he capped a 14-play, 72-yard drive that took 6:38 off the clock. That tied for the UC's longest drive of the year in terms of plays and is the second longest of the year behind the first scoring drive of the season. That drive covered 75 yards in 14 plays and took 7:00 off the clock at UCLA. Similarly, both drives ended with 1-yard scoring rushes with Warren II hitting pay dirt in Pasadena.

#### **FIRST APPEARANCES**

- Among the 92 Bearcats who saw the field against the Bulldogs were 35 making their first appearance for the Red & Black: LS Corey Armstrong, DT Blake Bacevich, LS Blake Bammann, OL Doug Bates, LB Kyle Bolden, QB Ben Bryant, CB Arquon Bush, OL Jeremy Cooper, WR Wyatt Fischer, OL Mason Garrison, OL Darius Harper, WR Meechi Harris, OL Drew Hartmann, OL Alex Heil, DE Angelo Howze, S TJ Johnson, RB Casey Kirk, RB Michael Kopaygorodsky, OL Cody Lamb, OL Dylan O'Quinn, TE Mick Oakes, WR Jack Peterson, WR Jake Peterson, CB Josiah Robey, OL Jakari Robinson, WR Yanez Rogers, LB Ryan Royer, DT Joe Schroer, QB Jake Sopko, DT Nick Staderman, WR Tyrin Summers, TE Leonard Taylor, CB Taj Ward, S Collin Widecan, OL Colin Woodside.

#### **NEXT UP**

- Cincinnati returns home next Saturday when the Bearcats play host to Ohio inside Nippert Stadium. The game is scheduled to start at noon and will be broadcast live on ESPNU.