



Postgame Notes

Cincinnati 24, Notre Dame 13

Oct. 2, 2021 | Attendance: 77,622 | Notre Dame Stadium

Highlights

- The win over No. 9-ranked Notre Dame marks Cincinnati's FIRST-EVER ROAD WIN over a Top-10 team in school history.
- It also marks the first win over a Top 10 team since Cincinnati defeated No. 7 Rutgers, 30-11, on Nov. 18, 2006 at Nippert Stadium.
- The win is also the Bearcats' highest over a ranked team on the road, No. 14 Pitt in 2009. It also won 42-13 at No. 16 SMU in 2020.
- Cincinnati snapped Notre Dame's 26-game home win streak.
- The Bearcats, with 22 straight home wins at Nippert Stadium, now have the second-longest home win streak in the nation behind only Clemson (30). Cincinnati's last home loss came against Temple, 35-24, on Nov. 10, 2017.
- UC is now 35-5 since 2018, ranking among the top five teams in CFB in winning percentage during that span (.875).
- Head Coach Luke Fickell is now 39-13 (.750) in five seasons at Cincinnati, fifth-best in program history.
- Cincinnati held Notre Dame scoreless until the 1:19 mark in the third quarter and held the Fighting Irish to its lowest total points (13) of the year. They had 31 in the fourth quarter of last Saturday's win over No. 18 Wisconsin.
- Today's captain were Desmond Ridder, Myjai Sanders and Coby Bryant. Cincinnati won the toss and elected to defer to the second half.

Offensive Notes

- Quarterback Desmond Ridder accounted for 323 yards of total offense (297 passing yards, 26 rushing yards) and three total touchdowns, tossing for a pair of first-half scores and putting the game away with a six-yard touchdown rush with five minutes left in the game.
- Wide receiver Alec Pierce tallied his third career 100-yard game, finishing with six receptions for 144 yards.
- Tight end Leonard Taylor's 1-yard touchdown reception at the 12:09 mark in the second quarter marked the game's first touchdown. It was his second touchdown reception of the season and fourth score of his career.
- Wide receiver Tre Tucker secured his first touchdown reception of the year and fourth of his career. The junior from Akron, Ohio, had his second career kick return touchdown last game at Indiana. He has six total touchdowns (4 receiving, 2 kick returns) in his career.
- Lorenz Metz (right guard) earned his second-straight start (15th career).

Defensive Notes

- Cincinnati forced three turnovers in the first half as the Bearcats jumped out to a 17-0 lead.
- The Bearcats have 11 takeaways over the last three games (8 interceptions and three fumble recoveries).
- Cornerback Ahmad "Sauce" Gardner recorded his eighth career interception, and second of the season, when he picked off Notre Dame quarterback Jack Coan in the end zone to stop the Irish in the red zone at the 10:03 mark in the first quarter.
- Linebacker Deshawn Pace tallied his second interception of the season and his career when he picked off Notre Dame freshman Tyler Buchner at the start of the second quarter. Pace's 27-yard run set up the Bearcats' first score of the season. It marked back-to-back games with an interception for Pace.
- Backup linebacker Wilson Huber secured Cincinnati's third takeaway of the game less than three minutes into the second quarter when he jumped on a muffed kickoff return following the Bearcats' first touchdown.
- Cincinnati is among the nation's leaders in red zone defense, allowing opponents to score only 46.1% of the time (6 for 13).