



Postgame Notes

Game 4: Cincinnati vs. Kansas State

Sept. 26, 2026 | Historic Nippert Stadium

Team Notes

- With a win Saturday, Cincinnati will complete back-to-back perfect Septembers across the last two seasons (2025: 3–0; 2026: 4–0). Entering this weekend, the Bearcats are one of just 10 FBS programs undefeated in September games over the last two years: 7–0 (1.000): Indiana, Ole Miss, Missouri, Vanderbilt | 6–0 (1.000): Cincinnati, Alabama, BYU, Miami (FL), Texas, Texas Tech.
- The win over Kansas State gave Cincinnati its first 4-0 start since 2021 and just its seventh 4-0 start since the turn of the century (2007, 2009, 2012, 2018, 2020, and 2021). Cincinnati went to a bowl game in each of the six aforementioned seasons.
- Today's game captains were Antwan Peek Jr., JC French, and Evan Tengesdahl
- Wide receiver Malachi Henry and defensive lineman Drew Logan started again for consecutive weeks.
- Cincinnati is now 41–16 (71.9%) in "Nippert at Night" games since 2006.
- Cincinnati's all-time record now stands at 677-620-51.
- Cincinnati leads the all-time series vs. Kansas State, 5–3.
- For the first time in his coaching career, head coach Scott Satterfield is 4-0 to start a season.
- The Bearcats overcame a 10-point deficit to beat K-State, the second straight week they have overcome a double-digit deficit to win. The last time UC overcame a double-digit deficit to win in back-to-back games was 2011 against South Florida (Oct. 22, 2011) and Pitt (Nov. 5, 2011).

Offensive Notes

- Cincinnati outscored K-State 21-9 in the second half and is outscoring opponents in the second half 107-27 over the first four matchups.
- The Bearcats' offense recorded six plays of 30-plus yards (two passes, four runs). That's the most in a game this season and the most in a game by UC since Aug. 31, 2024 vs. Towson (seven).
- After missing on his first three throws of the game, quarterback JC French completed 8-of-10 passes for 165 yards and a touchdown.

- The 39-yard TD toss from French to Malachi Henry in the second quarter was the longest passing touchdown of the year for Cincinnati. It was Henry's first receiving touchdown as a Bearcat.
- Cincinnati rushed for 271 yards on Saturday, its third game with at least 250 rushing yards this season. Since 1996 it is the first time the Bearcats have had three games with at least 250 yards rushing in the same month.
- Gi'Bran Payne (126) and Cole Tabb (124) both eclipsed 100 yards rushing, the first running back tandem since Ryan Montgomery and Corey Kiner in 2023 to do that.
- It was Payne's third 100-yard rushing game of the season and the second of Tabb's career.
- Payne's 53-yard rush in the second quarter was the longest of his career and tied for the longest this season by a Bearcat. Cole Tabb had a 53-yard rushing touchdown vs. Miami last week.
- Tabb rushed for three touchdowns on Saturday, becoming the first Bearcat since Demarco McCleskey (1998) to have three touchdowns in back-to-back games.
- It was Tabb's first 100-yard performance as a Bearcat and his second career as he rushed for 118 yards vs. Florida State last November as a member of Stanford.
- Payne and Tabb each rushed over the 100-yard milestone, the first time two UC running backs each rushed over the century mark in the same game since Corey Kiner and Ryan Montgomery did so vs. UCF in 2023.
- With Tabb's two rushing scores, it marks back-to-back weeks he has had at least two rushing touchdowns, the first time a Bearcat back has had two rushing scores in consecutive weeks since Jerome Ford did so vs. Temple (Game 5) and UCF (Game 6) in 2021.
- The Bearcats totaled three drives of 70-plus yards, including an 88-yard drive in the second quarter. Cincinnati now has seven 80-yard drives on the season.
- Kansas State had allowed an average of 182.3 yards per game through its first three games, ranking second nationally entering the game. Cincinnati's offense put up 436 total yards on Saturday.

Defensive Notes

- Antwan Peek Jr.'s forced fumble in the third quarter was the ninth of his career, moving him into sole possession of second place all-time in school history. Peek's father, Antwan Sr., holds the school record with 17.
- Peek's forced fumble in the second quarter put him in sole possession of the most career forced fumbles among active players.
- Peek has three forced fumbles on the young season, forcing two last week vs. Miami (Ohio).

- Jonathan Thompson led Cincinnati with eight tackles, the second time this year he has led UC in tackling.

Special Teams Notes

- Max Fletcher punted four times, with a long of 57 yards, and had one land inside the 20-yard line. He has now pinned the opposing team inside the 20 five times this year and 56 times in his career.
- Fletcher's career punt average is now 45.6 as a Bearcat, which is the best all-time. UC Athletics Hall of Famer Kevin Huber averaged 45.47 yards per punt during his illustrious career.
- Kicker Stephen Rusnak connected on his only field goal attempt of the game, a 45-yarder.