

FIU Football Post Game Notes

Indiana 34 (1-0), FIU 13 (0-1)

Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Ocean Bank Field at FIU Stadium, Miami, Fla.

Team Notes

- Indiana won the toss and deferred until the second half ... FIU is 0-1 when losing the opening coin toss.
- FIU drops its record in season openers to 4-11 all-time with tonight's 34-13 loss to Indiana ... The setback was the Panthers' fourth in the last five lid lifters.
- FIU's record all-time in home-openers drops to 5-10 following its loss to the Hoosiers.
- Tonight was just FIU's ninth game all-time – out of 167 in the programs history – that have been played on a Thursday night ... The loss drops the Panthers' ledger to 5-4 all-time on Thursdays, and snaps a modest two-game winning streak in games played on Thursday nights ... FIU defeated UCF (15-14) on Sept. 3, 2015 and North Texas (41-16) on Sept. 1, 2011 in its last two Thursday night tilts.
- Thursday's game is just FIU's seventh game all-time on ESPNU – and just its 12th contest all-time on the ESPN family of channels (ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU) – and its first appearance on the ESPNU since a 34-24 win over Florida Atlantic on Nov. 16, 2012 ... The Panthers are now 4-8 on the trio of networks (1-6 on ESPNU).

Individual Notes

- QB Alex McGough, TE Jonnu Smith Alfonso Randolph, LB Treyvon Williams and DT Leonard Washington were FIU's captains for tonight's season opener
- Tonight's offensive starters were: LT Dieugot Joseph, LG Kai Absheer, C Mike Montero, RG Trenton Saunders, RT Daquane Wilkie, WR Thomas Owens, WR Stanley Thomas, WR Tony Gaiter IV, TE Jonnu Smith, QB Alex McGough, RB Alex Gardner ...
- Tonight's defensive starters were: DE Ferman Silva, DT Imarjaye Albury, DT Leonard Washington, DE Newton Salisbury, LB Treyvon Williams, LB Anthony Wint, LB Davison Colimon, CB Emmanuel Lubin, CB Deonte Wilson, S Niko Gonzalez, S Xavier Hines ...
- QB Alex McGough threw for 263 yards on 23-of-46 passing on the night, with three interceptions ... His 263 yards marked his 11th 200-yard passing game of his career, and equals the third most of his career ... He also threw for 263 yards against Louisiana Tech on Sept. 26, 2015 ... His top two passing performances were against Charlotte (284 yards) on Nov. 7, 2015 and UTEP (270) on Oct. 10, 2015.
- TE Jonnu Smith's first reception in the first quarter marked the 33rd –straight game with a reception ... Smith finished the night with eight receptions for 83 yards.
- K Austin Taylor capped an 11-play, 63-yard drive – FIU's first drive of the season – with a 28-yard field goal with 9:40 left in the opening quarter ... He kicked a 29-yard field goal with eight seconds remaining in the third quarter to give the Panthers the lead, 13-12.
- True freshman WR Stanley Thomas had a breakout game in his collegiate debut logging a team-high 91 receiving yards on three catches ... Thomas had a long of 40 yards in the second quarter on the drive that set up the first touchdown of the season for the Panthers ... Thomas would surpass his 40-yard pass play in the third quarter with a 45-yard reception from McGough.
- True freshman WR Tony Gaiter IV started in his first collegiate game and recorded nine receiving yards on three receptions ... He also recorded one rush for 27 yards.
- RB Alex Gardner scored the Panthers' first touchdown of the season capping a seven-play, 56-yard drive with 10:04 left in the first half.