

BY THE NUMBERS...

51,912 – Attendance on Saturday at Bill Snyder Family Stadium, the 10th-consecutive sellout dating back to the beginning of 2022.

4,215 – Career passing yards by **Will Howard**, who is the 12th player in school history to surpass 4,000 career passing yards and now ranks 11th in school history.

536 – Total yards by K-State on Saturday, the second time this season the Wildcats went over the 500-yard mark.

330 – Career completions by **Will Howard**, who now ranks eighth in school history.

293 – Yards from scrimmage by **DJ Giddens**, the third most in school history.

207 – Rushing yards by **DJ Giddens**, the most by a Wildcat since 2018.

57 – Career games played by **Phillip Brooks**, believed to be the most in school history.

44 – Points scored by K-State on Saturday night, the third-straight Big 12 game (not including the Big 12 Championship) in which the Wildcats hit the 40-point mark.

27 – Completions by **Will Howard**, a career high and most by a Wildcat since Skylar Thompson had 29 against Oklahoma in 2021.


7 – Tackles by Desmond Purnell, a new career high bettering the five he had last week at Missouri and last year at West Virginia.

4 – Touchdowns on game-opening touchdown drives this year, the first time K-State score a touchdown on its first four game-opening drives since at least 1990.

4 – Rushing touchdowns by **DJ Giddens**... The most by a Wildcat since Adrian Martinez last year at Oklahoma and the most by a K-State running back since Alex Barnes vs. Oklahoma State in 2018.



September 23, 2023 /// Bill Snyder Family Stadium /// Manhattan, Kan. /// Att: 51,912

 **nr/rv UCF** (3-1/0-1 BIG 12) **31**

 **rv/rv K-STATE** (3-1/1-0 BIG 12) **44**

RECORDS

Saturday was the second all-time meeting between K-State and UCF with the Wildcats improving to a 2-0 mark against the Knights... K-State is now 14-14 all-time in Big 12 openers while the Wildcats are 17-11 all-time in their initial Big 12 home game... This was just the sixth time in the 28-year history of the Big 12 that Kansas State opened Big 12 play at home as the Wildcats have won each of their last three contests when their Big 12 opener is at home... Kansas State has won its Big 12 opener for a second-consecutive season (41-34 at No. 6 Oklahoma in 2022), the first time the Wildcats won their Big 12 opener in consecutive seasons since 2011 and 2012... K-State has won its first three home games of a season for the first time since 2017 when the Cats defeated Central Arkansas, Charlotte and Baylor.

ANOTHER SELLOUT

Saturday's attendance was 51,912, which marked the third sellout in as many games this year... It was the 10th-consecutive sellout dating back to the beginning of the 2022 season.

OVER 40 AGAIN

Kansas State scored 44 points on Saturday night, the third-straight Big 12 game (not counting the Big 12 Championship) in which the Wildcats hit the 40-point mark... It is the longest streak by the Wildcats in Big 12 games since 2012 when they had 55 points against both West Virginia and Texas Tech and 44 points vs. Oklahoma State.

TOTAL OFFENSE

K-State registered 536 yards of total offense on Saturday, the second time this season the Wildcats eclipsed the 500-yard mark (588 yards vs. SEMO)... It is the first time K-State had two 500-yard games in the same season since 2019 – **Chris Klieman**'s first year in Manhattan – vs. Nicholls (573 yards) and Bowling Green (521 yards), while it is the first time they had two 500-yard games in a season with at least one being a Big 12 game since 2014 (vs. Texas Tech and Kansas).

GIDDENS HAD A GAME

Sophomore running back **DJ Giddens** set career highs in rushing yards (207), carries (30) and touchdowns (4)... It is the first time a Wildcat had four rushing touchdowns since Adrian Martinez last year at Oklahoma, while it is the most by a K-State running back since Alex Barnes had four against Oklahoma State in 2018... The four rushing scores are tied for the third most in a game in school history... It is the first time in his career with multiple rushing touchdowns in a game... His 207 yards were the most by a K-State running back since Barnes went for 250 at Baylor in 2018... His 30 rushing attempts were the most by a Wildcat since Barnes rushed 32 times against Texas Tech in 2017.

SAME BREATH AS SPROLES

In addition to his 207 rushing yards, **DJ Giddens** also recorded 86 receiving yards on eight catches, giving him 293 yards from scrimmage in the game... It was the third most yards from scrimmage in school history behind a pair of efforts by Darren Sproles... Sproles had 323 yards from scrimmage in the 2003 Big 12 Championship victory over Oklahoma and 298 yards against Louisiana in 2004.

HOWARD WILLS TEAM TO VICTORY

Senior quarterback **Will Howard** started his 19th career game, throwing for 255 yards on 27-of-42 aim, while he rushed seven times for 64 yards and a pair of scores... He set a new career high in completions, while it was the most by a Wildcat since Skylar Thompson had 29 against Oklahoma in 2021... Howard now has 330 completions in his career to rank eighth in school history... It is the third time in his career he had two rushing touchdowns and the second this season (Troy).

ROMAINE WITH THE START

True freshman **Austin Romaine** made the start at middle linebacker on Saturday evening... He is the first Wildcat true freshman to start at linebacker since Tre Walker started at Missouri and at Colorado in 2010... He is the first true freshman linebacker to start at home game since Reggie Blackwell against North Texas in 1989.