



2018 Pitt Football Game Notes
Hard Rock Stadium • Saturday, November 24, 2018
Game No. 12: Miami 24, No. 24 Pitt 3



Team

- Pitt saw its four-game winning streak end with a 24-3 defeat at Miami on Saturday evening.
- Miami (7-5, 4-4 ACC) defeated the Panthers (7-5, 6-2 ACC) by capitalizing on explosive plays and taking advantage of Pitt penalties to improve to 26-11-1 all-time in the series between the two teams.
- Pitt was penalized 10 times for 100 yards. Miami was penalized three times for 30 yards.
- Pitt limited Miami to just 52 yards through the air, its best defensive performance against the pass this season.
- Hurricanes quarterback N’Kosi Perry was 6-of-24 passing for 52 yards as Pitt shut down Miami’s aerial attack.
- However, Miami’s defense, which entered the game ranked fourth nationally in yards per game allowed, used 14 tackles for loss and six sacks to stifle the Panthers, limiting the visitors to 200 yards of total offense.
- The Panthers forced two Miami turnovers—both via fumbles Damar Hamlin and Shane Roy recovered fumbles that were forced by Rashad Weaver and Elijah Zeise, respectively.
- Miami forced one Pitt turnover—a fumble by Darrin Hall. It was Pitt’s first fumble this season by a running back.
- Sophomore offensive lineman Bryce Hargrove made the first start of his collegiate career for Pitt. Hargrove started at left guard in place of Connor Dintino, who made his starting debut at center. Dintino was moved to center to replace the injury Jimmy Morrissey, who started the initial 11 contests of the 2018 season at center.
- Junior linebacker Saleem Brightwell made his first start of the season at Money linebacker.
- Pitt will face No. 2 Clemson in the Dr Pepper ACC Championship Game next Saturday night in Charlotte.

Kirk Christodoulou

- Pitt redshirt freshman punter Kirk Christodoulou posted career-high marks in several categories.
- Christodoulou tallied personal records for total punts (12), punts downed inside the 20 (5) and long punt (73).
- After booting 71-yard and 61-yard punts in the win at Wake Forest last Saturday, Christodoulou topped that with his 73-yarder, which was just seven yards off the Pitt school record of 80 held by Nate Cochran in 1996.
- Christodoulou booted three punts over 50 yards on the day.
- However, Miami’s DeeJay Dallas returned a punt 65 yards for the only touchdown of the first half.

Alex Kessman

- Sophomore kicker Alex Kessman converted a 40-yard field goal for Pitt’s only points of the game.
- Kessman is now 8-of-9 kicking from 40 yards and beyond this season.