



2019 Pitt Football Game Notes
Heinz Field • Saturday, August 31, 2019
Game 1 • Virginia 30, Pitt 14



Team

- Pitt dropped its ACC and season opener, 30-14, against Virginia on Saturday night at Heinz Field.
- The Panthers (0-1, 0-1) lost a season opener for the first time since 2013 (41-13 vs. Florida State).
- Pitt saw its four-game winning streak against the Cavaliers (1-0, 1-0 ACC) end, while head coach **Pat Narduzzi** lost to Virginia for the first time.
- Ten players made their first career starts for Pitt in tonight's game (five offense, five defense). On offense: running back **A.J. Davis**, fullback **Rashad Wheeler**, tight end **Will Gragg**, tackles **Carter Warren** and **Nolan Ulizio**. On defense: ends **Patrick Jones II** and **Deslin Alexandre**, linebackers **Cam Bright** and **Kylan Johnson** and safety **Paris Ford**.
- **Kirk Christodoulou** had a punt blocked in the opening quarter, the first time that has occurred during his Pitt career. It was the first blocked punt given up by Pitt since Ryan Winslow had one blocked at Virginia Tech on Nov. 18, 2017.

A.J. Davis

- Davis made his first career start and finished with 25 yards on eight carries.
- The junior scored his second career touchdown on a 2-yard touchdown in the second quarter.
- Davis' previous touchdown came in his first career game against Youngstown State on Sept. 2, 2017.

Tre Tipton

- Tipton caught a 3-yard touchdown in the second quarter, his second career score.
- The senior wide receiver last scored a touchdown against Marshall on Oct. 1, 2016.
- Tipton tied a career high with three receptions in the game and finished with 26 receiving yards.

Kenny Pickett

- Pickett finished with 21 completions on a career-high 41 attempts with 185 passing yards.
- The junior quarterback threw one touchdown but was intercepted twice for the first time in his collegiate career.

Defense

- Two Pitt defenders recorded their first career sacks: defensive ends **Deslin Alexandre** and **Habakkuk Baldonado**.
- Alexandre also set career-best totals with six tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss.
- Safety **Paris Ford** recorded a career-high six tackles with a TFL assist and a forced fumble in his first start.
- Pitt limited Virginia to 310 yards of total offense in the game, the 10th-best defensive performance under Narduzzi.