

PITT POSTGAME NOTES

Pitt 42, Miami 16

Nov. 26, 2022

TEAM

- With tonight's 42-16 win at Miami, the Panthers conclude the regular season 8-4 overall and 5-3 in the ACC. Pitt achieved at least eight wins in a season for the fifth time in the past eight years.
- This is Pitt's first win over Miami since 2017, a 24-14 decision in Pittsburgh. The Panthers' last road win against the Hurricanes occurred in 2014, a 35-23 decision.
- The 26-point margin of victory is Pitt's largest in the series, eclipsing a 17-point win (36-19) in 1976,
- Pitt finished an undefeated November for the second consecutive year, going 4-0 in 2021 and 2022. The Panthers' last November loss was a 52-17 defeat at Clemson on Nov. 28, 2020.

PAT NARDUZZI

- Since 2015, **Pat Narduzzi** has directed Pitt to 41 victories in ACC play, the second-most wins during that span. The Panthers trail only Clemson (60).
- In his eighth season as head coach, Narduzzi has fashioned a 61-41 overall record. His 61 wins rank second all-time at Pitt as he surpassed **Glenn "Pop" Warner** (60-12-4 from 1915-23). Jock Sutherland is Pitt's all-time coaching wins leader (111-20-12 from 1924-38).

OFFENSE

- Pitt finished with a season-high 504 total yards (248 rushing, 256 passing).
- **Israel Abanikanda** rushed for 111 yards and two touchdowns on 15 carries (7.4 avg.). He achieved his ninth 100-yard rushing game this season, the most by a Pitt player since Dion Lewis had 10 in 2009
- Abanikanda finished the regular season with ACC highs of 1,431 rushing yards, 21 total touchdowns (leads FBS) and 20 rushing TDs (leads FBS).
- Per ESPN's David Hale, Abanikanda joined former Pitt great James Conner as the only ACC running backs since 2010 to compile 1,400 rush yards and 20 touchdowns in the regular season. (Conner did it in 2014 and was named the ACC Player of the Year.)
- **Jared Wayne** achieved career highs of 11 catches for 199 yards (18.1 avg.) and three touchdowns
- His initial TD was a career-long 66 yards, followed by scores of 26 and 7 yards.
- Wayne's production against the Hurricanes gave him a personal-best 1,006 receiving yards for the year. Wayne became only the eighth player in Pitt history to achieve a 1,000-yard receiving season. (There have been 11 1,000-yard receiving seasons at Pitt overall.)
- Pitt boasts a 1,000-yard rusher (Abanikanda) and 1,000-yard receiver (Wayne) in a season for the first time since 2014, when James Conner (1,765 rushing yards) and Tyler Boyd (1,261 receiving yards) accomplished the feat.

DEFENSE

- Defensive end **Dayon Hayes** collected five solo tackles, four tackles for loss and three quarterback sacks. His tackle, TFL and sack totals were each career highs.
- Hayes led a Pitt pass rush that collected six total sacks. The Panthers improved to 25-1 under Narduzzi (3-0 this year) when it has at least five sacks in a game.
- Linebacker **SirVocea Dennis** halted Miami's initial drive with an interception at the Panthers' 3-yard line, returning it 67 yards to the Hurricanes' 30. Pitt parlayed the turnover into a touchdown and 7-0 lead. It was Dennis' first INT of the season and second of his career.
- Safety **Javon McIntyre** came off the bench to make an impact, intercepting a pass on Miami's second possession of the game, his first career pick. In addition to his INT, he had a three-yard TFL and two additional pass breakups
- Safety **Erick Hallett II** compiled seven stops, two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery. He recovered his own forced fumble at the Miami 19; Pitt's offense obliged with a two-play touchdown drive, giving the Panthers a commanding 21-0 lead early in the second quarter.
- Hallett's three fumble recoveries are the most by a Pitt player since DE **Rashad Weaver** also had three in 2018.