

FINAL SCORE



#12 Pitt

11-3 (8-1)

21



#10 Michigan State

11-2 (7-2)

31

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl

December 30, 2021 • Mercedes Benz Stadium (Atlanta, Georgia)



FINAL STATISTICS

Scoring Summary(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
(12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



Pitt (11-3; 8-1) vs. Michigan State (11-2; 7-2)
 Date: 12/30/2021 • Site: Atlanta, Georgia • Stadium: Mercedes Benz Stdm
 Attendance: 41230

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Pitt	7	7	7	0	21
Michigan State	10	0	0	21	31

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	13:11	MSU - Reed,Jayden 28 yd TD PASS from Thorne,Payton (KICK by Coghlin,Matt), 3-29 0:45	0-7
1st	07:57	PITT - Patti, Nick 16 yd TD RUSH (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 12-75 5:14	7-7
1st	02:39	MSU - Coghlin,Matt 36 yd FG 11-57 5:18	7-10
2nd	01:02	PITT - Wayne, Jared 4 yd TD PASS from Beville, Davis (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 6-87 1:01	14-10
3rd	14:40	PITT - Bright, Cam 26 yd TD FUMB (KICK by Scarton, Sam),	21-10
4th	08:06	MSU - Heyward,Connor 15 yd TD PASS from Thorne,Payton (PAT PASS attempt failed), 13-70 6:47	21-16
4th	02:51	MSU - Reed,Jayden 22 yd TD PASS from Thorne,Payton (PASS by Nailor,Jalen), 11-71 2:46	21-24
4th	00:22	MSU - Haladay,Cal 78 yd TD INT (KICK by Coghlin,Matt),	21-31

Kickoff time: • End of Game: 10:38 • Total elapsed time: 3:28
 Officials: Referee: Steve Marlowe; Umpire: Walt Hill; Linesman: Chad Green;
 Line judge: Chuck Rice; Back judge: Tra Boger; Field judge: Allan Nicholson;
 Side judge: Jesse Dupuy; Center judge: Chris Garner;
 Temperature: 64 deg • Wind: 5mph WSW • Weather: Indoor (Roof Open)

Team Statistics(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
(12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
FIRST DOWNS	14	25
Rushing	8	7
Passing	6	17
Penalty	0	1
NET YARDS RUSHING	104	56
Rushing Attempts	32	36
Average Per Rush	3.3	1.6
Rushing Touchdowns	1	0
Yards Gained Rushing	150	100
Yards Lost Rushing	46	44
NET YARDS PASSING	170	354
Completions-Attempts-Int	16-23-1	29-50-1
Average Per Attempt	7.4	7.1
Average Per Completion	10.6	12.2
Passing Touchdowns	1	3
TOTAL OFFENSIVE YARDS	274	410
Total offensive plays	55	86
Average Gain Per Play	5.0	4.8
Fumbles: Number-Lost	0-0	2-1
Penalties: Number-Yards	4-30	6-35
PUNTS-YARDS	8-344	3-138
Average Yards Per Punt	43.0	46.0
Net Yards Per Punt	39.9	46.0
Inside 20	1	2
50+ Yards	1	1
Touchbacks	0	0
Fair catch	3	2
KICKOFFS-YARDS	4-235	5-281
Average Yards Per Kickoff	58.8	56.2
Net Yards Per Kickoff	49.5	53
Touchbacks	2	1
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	1-0-0	2-25-0
Average Per Return	0	12.5
Kickoff returns: Number-Yards-TD	3-37-0	1-16-0
Average Per Return	12.3	16
Interceptions: Number-Yards-TD	1-0-0	1-78-1
Fumble Returns: Number-Yards	1-26	-
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	24:51	35:09
1st Quarter	08:57	06:03
2nd Quarter	04:48	10:12
3rd Quarter	06:01	08:59
4th Quarter	05:05	09:55
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 12	10 of 21
Fourth-Down Conversions	2 of 2	3 of 4
Red Zone Scores-Chances	2 of 2	2 of 3
Touchdowns	2	1
Field Goals	0 of 0	1 of 2
Sacks By: Number-Yards	3-24	5-39
PAT Kicks	3-3	2-2
Field Goals	of	1 of 2
Points off turnovers	14	7

**Individual Statistics(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
(12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)**



Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Davis, Vincent	12	49	6	43	0	12	3.6
Addison, Jordan	1	28	0	28	0	28	28
Patti, Nick	3	27	0	27	1	16	9
Hammond Jr., Ro	4	20	0	20	0	9	5
Abanikanda, Isr	5	17	1	16	0	7	3.2
Beville, Davis	7	9	39	-30	0	8	-4.3
Totals	32	150	46	104	1	28	3.3

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Patti, Nick	2-5-0	21	0	13	0
Beville, Davis	14-18-1	149	1	52	5
Totals	16-23-1	170	1	52	5

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long	Tgt
Addison, Jordan	7	114	0	52	9
Davis, Vincent	3	16	0	8	4
Stovall, Melqui	2	14	0	7	2
Bartholomew, Ga	1	9	0	9	1
Krull, Lucas	1	8	0	8	3
Jacques-Louis,	1	5	0	5	1
Wayne, Jared	1	4	1	4	1
Totals	16	170	1	52	21

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	8	344	43.0	53	1	0
Totals	8	344	43.0	53	1	0

Returns	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Abanikanda, Isr	0	0	0	2	24	24	0	0	0
Davis, Vincent	0	0	0	1	13	13	0	0	0
Addison, Jordan	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hill, Brandon	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	1	0	0	3	37	24	1	0	0

Field goals	Qtr	Time	Dist	Result

Kickoffs	No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Sauls, Ben	4	235 yards	58.8	2	0

All-purpose	Run	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Addison, Jordan	28	114	0	0	0	142
Davis, Vincent	43	16	13	0	0	72
Abanikanda, Isr	16	0	24	0	0	40
Patti, Nick	27	0	0	0	0	27

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Simmons,Jordon	16	36	13	23	0	10	1.4
Collins,Elijah	6	15	0	15	0	5	2.5
Joiner,Harold	2	8	0	8	0	6	4
Heyward,Connor	1	7	0	7	0	7	7
Thorne,Payton	10	34	30	4	0	12	0.4
TEAM	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-1
Totals	36	100	44	56	0	12	1.6

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Thorne,Payton	29-50-1	354	3	50	3
Totals	29-50-1	354	3	50	3

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long	Tgt
Nailor,Jalen	6	108	0	50	14
Reed,Jayden	6	80	2	28	11
Mosley,Tre	5	58	0	15	7
Heyward,Connor	5	37	1	15	6
Carr,Maliq	2	35	0	25	3
Coleman,Keon	2	20	0	11	2
Joiner,Harold	2	11	0	8	2
Simmons,Jordon	1	5	0	5	1
Totals	29	354	3	50	49

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Baringer,Bryce	3	138	46.0	53	2	0
Totals	3	138	46.0	53	2	0

Returns	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Reed,Jayden	2	25	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nailor,Jalen	0	0	0	1	16	16	0	0	0
Haladay,Cal	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	78	78
Totals	2	25	16	1	16	16	1	78	78

Field goals	Qtr	Time	Dist	Result
Coghlin,Matt	1st	02:39	36 yards	good
Coghlin,Matt	2nd	11:13	33 yards	missed

Kickoffs	No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Rusnak,Stephen	5	281 yards	56.2	1	0

All-purpose	Run	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Nailor,Jalen	0	108	16	0	0	124
Reed,Jayden	0	80	0	25	0	105
Haladay,Cal	0	0	0	0	78	78
Mosley,Tre	0	58	0	0	0	58

FUMBLES: Pitt- . Michigan State- Thorne,Payton 1-1 Simmons,Jordon 1-0 .

**Defensive Statistics(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
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#	Pitt	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
24	Campbell, Phil	7	5	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Hallett, Erick	4	6	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
0	Petrishen, John	2	7	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Dennis, SirVoce	4	2	6	-	0.5-0	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Devonshire, M.J	3	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Hill, Brandon	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-
25	Woods, A.J.	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
26	Tallandier, Jud	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	George, Brandon	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	Bright, Cam	2	2	4	-	-	-	1-26	-	-	-	-
11	Kamara, Bangall	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50	Hayes, Dayon	3	0	3	-	3.0-13	-	-	-	-	-	-
95	Danielson, Devi	1	2	3	1.0-6	1.0-6	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Green, David	0	2	2	-	0.5-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
92	Bentley, Tyler	1	1	2	1.0-8	1.0-8	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Morgan, John	1	0	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
8	Kancey, Calijah	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Williams, Marqu	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	DeShields, Solo	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57	Brima, Bam	1	0	1	1.0-10	1.0-10	-	-	-	-	-	-
83	Vardzel, John	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
87	Baldonado, Haba	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals		43	40	83	3-24	7.0-38	1	1-26	1-0	3	0	0
#	Michigan State	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
27	Haladay,Cal	4	7	11	-	-	-	-	1-78	-	-	-
1G	Grose,Angelo	5	2	7	-	1.0-2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Harvey,Noah	2	5	7	-	1.0-1	-	-	-	1	-	-
8B	Barrow,Simeon	0	6	6	0.5-6	1.0-7	-	-	-	-	-	-
64	Slade,Jacob	2	4	6	1.5-11	2.0-11	-	-	-	-	-	-
96	Panasiuk,Jacub	1	4	5	1.0-10	2.0-13	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Wright,Brandon	3	1	4	1.5-10	1.5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Lowery,Marqui	3	1	4	-	1.0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1M	Gaoteote,Ma'a	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Henderson,Xavie	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	White,Justin	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
47	Pietrowski,Jeff	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
86	Beesley,Drew	0	2	2	0.5-2	0.5-2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1W	Williams,Ronald	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2J	Jordan,Drew	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9H	Hansen,Maverick	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Russo,Anthony	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Snow,Darius	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	Hunt,Jalen	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals		28	38	66	5-39	10.0-47	0	0-0	1-78	1	0	0

**Participation Report(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
(12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)**



Pitt

Pos	##	OFFENSE
QB	1P	Patti, Nick
RB	2A	Abanikanda, Isr
FB	4C	Carter, Daniel
RT	5H	Houy, Gabe
LG	55	Minor, Marcus
C	60	Drexel, Owen
OL	61	Jacoby, Ryan
RG	68	Zubovic, Blake
LT	77	Warren, Carter
TE	84	Carrigan, Grant
TE	86	Bartholomew, Ga

Pos	##	DEFENSE
DE	6	Morgan, John
MIKE	7	Dennis, SirVoce
DT	8	Kancey, Calijah
SS	9	Hill, Brandon
CB	14	Williams, Marqu
MONY	24	Campbell, Phil
CB	25	Woods, A.J.
FS	31	Hallett, Erick
STAR	38	Bright, Cam
DE	87	Baldonado, Haba
DT	92	Bentley, Tyler

Pitt:

Michigan State:

Michigan State

Pos	##	OFFENSE
WR	1	Reed, Jayden
RT	5B	Brown, Spencer
TE	6C	Carr, Maliq
C	6A	Allen, Matt
WR	8	Nailor, Jalen
QB	10	Thorne, Payton
TE	11	Heyward, Connor
RB	22	Simmons, Jordon
LG	67	Duplain, J.D.
RG	69	Bueter, Blake
LT	76	Arcuri, AJ

Pos	##	DEFENSE
CB	1W	Williams, Ronald
S	1G	Grose, Angelo
S	3	Henderson, Xavie
DT	8B	Barrow, Simeon
NB	23	Snow, Darius
LB	27	Haladay, Cal
CB	29	Lowery, Marqui
LB	45	Harvey, Noah
DT	64	Slade, Jacob
DE	86	Beesley, Drew
DE	96	Panasiuk, Jacob

Drive Chart (By Team)(Final)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
(12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Spot	Drive Ended		Consumed	
			Time	Obtained		Time	How lost	PI-Yds	TOP
PITT	1st	PITT02	15:00	KO	PITT02	13:56	PUNT	3 - 0	1:04
PITT	1st	PITT25	13:11	KO	MSU00	07:57	*TD	12 - 75	5:14
PITT	1st	PITT32	02:33	KO	PITT34	14:01	PUNT	7 - 2	3:32
PITT	2nd	PITT20	11:13	FGA	PITT25	09:51	PUNT	3 - 5	1:22
PITT	2nd	PITT11	06:46	PUNT	PITT18	05:20	PUNT	3 - 7	1:26
PITT	2nd	PITT13	02:03	INT	MSU00	01:02	*TD	6 - 87	1:01
PITT	3rd	MSU26	14:40	FUMB	MSU26	14:40	*TD	0 - 0	0:00
PITT	3rd	PITT28	09:37	DOWNS	PITT37	07:29	PUNT	3 - 9	2:08
PITT	3rd	PITT26	06:40	PUNT	PITT23	04:58	PUNT	3 - -3	1:42
PITT	3rd	PITT09	02:11	PUNT	PITT35	14:53	PUNT	4 - 26	2:18
PITT	4th	PITT22	08:00	KO	PITT29	05:37	PUNT	3 - 7	2:23
PITT	4th	PITT25	02:51	KO	MSU26	00:22	INT	8 - 49	2:29

Pitt	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Half	2nd Half	Total
Time of possession	08:57	04:48	06:01	05:05	13:45	11:06	24:51
3rd down conversions	2-3	0-4	0-2	0-3	2-7	0-5	2-12
4th down conversions	0-0	1-1	0-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	2-2

Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Spot	Drive Ended		Consumed	
			Time	Obtained		Time	How lost	PI-Yds	TOP
MSU	1st	PITT29	13:56	PUNT	PITT00	13:11	*TD	3 - 29	0:45
MSU	1st	MSU25	07:57	KO	PITT18	02:39	*FG	11 - 57	5:18
MSU	2nd	MSU32	14:01	PUNT	PITT15	11:13	FGA	8 - 53	2:48
MSU	2nd	MSU22	09:51	PUNT	MSU47	06:46	PUNT	7 - 25	3:05
MSU	2nd	MSU42	05:20	PUNT	PITT29	02:03	INT	7 - 29	3:17
MSU	2nd	MSU16	00:58	KO	MSU18	00:00	HALF	3 - 2	0:58
MSU	3rd	MSU25	15:00	KO	MSU26	14:40	FUMB	3 - 1	0:20
MSU	3rd	MSU25	14:40	KO	PITT28	09:37	DOWNS	11 - 47	5:03
MSU	3rd	MSU16	07:29	PUNT	MSU21	06:40	PUNT	3 - 5	0:49
MSU	3rd	MSU36	04:58	PUNT	MSU48	02:11	PUNT	7 - 12	2:47
MSU	4th	MSU30	14:53	PUNT	PITT00	08:06	*TD	13 - 70	6:47
MSU	4th	MSU29	05:37	PUNT	PITT00	02:51	*TD	11 - 71	2:46
MSU	4th	PITT00	00:22	INT	PITT00	00:22	*TD	0 - 0	0:00
MSU	4th	PITT22	00:22	KO	PITT23	00:00	HALF	1 - -1	0:22

Michigan State	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Half	2nd Half	Total
Time of possession	06:03	10:12	08:59	09:55	16:15	18:54	35:09
3rd down conversions	3-4	3-6	0-6	4-5	6-10	4-11	10-21
4th down conversions	0-0	0-0	2-3	1-1	0-0	3-4	3-4

Drive Chart (By Quarter)(Final)
 #12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State
 (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Spot	Drive Ended		Consumed	
			Time	Obtained		Time	How lost	Pl-Yds	TOP
PITT	1st	PITT02	15:00	KO	PITT02	13:56	PUNT	3 - 0	1:04
MSU	1st	PITT29	13:56	PUNT	PITT00	13:11	*TD	3 - 29	0:45
PITT	1st	PITT25	13:11	KO	MSU00	07:57	*TD	12 - 75	5:14
MSU	1st	MSU25	07:57	KO	PITT18	02:39	*FG	11 - 57	5:18
PITT	1st	PITT32	02:33	KO	PITT34	14:01	PUNT	7 - 2	3:32
MSU	2nd	MSU32	14:01	PUNT	PITT15	11:13	FGA	8 - 53	2:48
PITT	2nd	PITT20	11:13	FGA	PITT25	09:51	PUNT	3 - 5	1:22
MSU	2nd	MSU22	09:51	PUNT	MSU47	06:46	PUNT	7 - 25	3:05
PITT	2nd	PITT11	06:46	PUNT	PITT18	05:20	PUNT	3 - 7	1:26
MSU	2nd	MSU42	05:20	PUNT	PITT29	02:03	INT	7 - 29	3:17
PITT	2nd	PITT13	02:03	INT	MSU00	01:02	*TD	6 - 87	1:01
MSU	2nd	MSU16	00:58	KO	MSU18	00:00	HALF	3 - 2	0:58
MSU	3rd	MSU25	15:00	KO	MSU26	14:40	FUMB	3 - 1	0:20
PITT	3rd	MSU26	14:40	FUMB	MSU26	14:40	*TD	0 - 0	0:00
MSU	3rd	MSU25	14:40	KO	PITT28	09:37	DOWNS	11 - 47	5:03
PITT	3rd	PITT28	09:37	DOWNS	PITT37	07:29	PUNT	3 - 9	2:08
MSU	3rd	MSU16	07:29	PUNT	MSU21	06:40	PUNT	3 - 5	0:49
PITT	3rd	PITT26	06:40	PUNT	PITT23	04:58	PUNT	3 - -3	1:42
MSU	3rd	MSU36	04:58	PUNT	MSU48	02:11	PUNT	7 - 12	2:47
PITT	3rd	PITT09	02:11	PUNT	PITT35	14:53	PUNT	4 - 26	2:18
MSU	4th	MSU30	14:53	PUNT	PITT00	08:06	*TD	13 - 70	6:47
PITT	4th	PITT22	08:00	KO	PITT29	05:37	PUNT	3 - 7	2:23
MSU	4th	MSU29	05:37	PUNT	PITT00	02:51	*TD	11 - 71	2:46
PITT	4th	PITT25	02:51	KO	MSU26	00:22	INT	8 - 49	2:29
MSU	4th	PITT00	00:22	INT	PITT00	00:22	*TD	0 - 0	0:00
MSU	4th	PITT22	00:22	KO	PITT23	00:00	HALF	1 - -1	0:22

Play-by-Play Summary (1st quarter)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



Pitt Captains: #38, #7, #94, #5

MSU wins the toss and will defer. Pitt will receive and attack the W.

MSU ball on MSU35.

1-10 MSU35 Clock 15:00. [15:00]

Rusnak, Stephen kickoff 63 yards to the PITT2, Abanikanda, Isr return 0 yards to the PITT2 (Gaoteote, Ma'a; White, Justin).

PITT drive start at 15:00.

1-10 PITT02 Abanikanda, Isr rush for no gain to the PITT2 (Haladay, Cal).

2-10 PITT02 Patti, Nick pass incomplete to Krull, Lucas.

3-10 PITT02 Patti, Nick pass incomplete to Addison, Jordan.

4-10 PITT02 Christodoulou, punt 43 yards to the PITT45, Reed, Jayden return 16 yards to the PITT29 (Vardzel, John).

Drive Summary: 3 plays, 0 yards, 1:04

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 13:56.

1-10 PITT29 Simmons, Jordon rush for 1 yard to the PITT28 (Campbell, Phil).

2-9 PITT28 Thorne, Payton pass incomplete to Nailor, Jalen.

3-9 PITT28 Thorne, Payton pass complete to Reed, Jayden for 28 yards to the PITT0, 1ST DOWN MSU, TOUCHDOWN, clock 13:11. [13:11]

P

Previous play is under review. Call stands, receiver did score.

1-0 PITT03 Coghlin, Matt kick attempt good.

PITT 0, MICHIGAN STATE 7

Drive Summary: 3 plays, 29 yards, 0:45

Rusnak, Stephen kickoff 65 yards to the PITT0, touchback.

PITT drive start at 13:11.

1-10 PITT25 Abanikanda, Isr rush for 5 yards to the PITT30 (Lowery, Marqui).

2-5 PITT30 Patti, Nick pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 13 yards to the PITT43, 1ST DOWN PITT (Haladay, Cal).

P

1-10 PITT43 Clock 12:21. [12:21]

1-10 PITT43 Abanikanda, Isr rush for 5 yards to the PITT48 (Haladay, Cal; Harvey, Noah).

2-5 PITT48 Patti, Nick rush for 8 yards to the MSU44, 1ST DOWN PITT (Haladay, Cal).

R

1-10 MSU44 Clock 11:27. [11:27]

1-10 MSU44 Abanikanda, Isr rush for 7 yards to the MSU37 (Lowery, Marqui; Pietrowski, Jeff).

2-3 MSU37 Patti, Nick rush for 3 yards to the MSU34, 1ST DOWN PITT (Lowery, Marqui).

R

1-10 MSU34 Clock 10:31. [10:31]

1-10 MSU34 Patti, Nick pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 8 yards to the MSU26 (Pietrowski, Jeff).

2-2 MSU26 Davis, Vincent rush for 1 yard to the MSU25 (Barrow, Simeon; Slade, Jacob).

3-1 MSU25 Davis, Vincent rush for 3 yards to the MSU22, 1ST DOWN PITT (Hansen, Maverick).

R

1-10 MSU22 Clock 08:52. [08:52]

1-10 MSU22 Davis, Vincent rush for 6 yards to the MSU16 (Harvey, Noah; Grose, Angelo).

2-4 MSU16 Patti, Nick pass incomplete to Krull, Lucas (Harvey, Noah).

3-4 MSU16 Patti, Nick rush for 16 yards to the MSU0, 1ST DOWN PITT, TOUCHDOWN, clock 07:57. [07:57]

R

1-0 MSU03 Scarton, Sam kick attempt good.

PITT 7, MICHIGAN STATE 7

Drive Summary: 12 plays, 75 yards, 5:14

Sauls, Ben kickoff 65 yards to the MSU0, touchback.

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 07:57.

1-10 MSU25 Simmons, Jordon rush for loss of 3 yards to the MSU22 (Hayes, Dayon).

2-13 MSU22 Simmons, Jordon rush for no gain to the MSU22 (Woods, A.J.).

3-13 MSU22 Thorne, Payton pass complete to Nailor, Jalen for 17 yards to the MSU39, 1ST DOWN MSU (Williams, Marqu).

P

1-10 MSU39 Clock 06:47. [06:47]

1-10 MSU39 PENALTY PITT offside defense (Baldonado, Haba) 5 yards to the MSU44.

1-5 MSU44 Thorne, Payton pass complete to Carr, Maliq for 25 yards to the PITT31, 1ST DOWN MSU (Petrishen, John; Woods, A.J.).

P

- 1-10 PITT31 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Reed,Jayden.
 2-10 PITT31 Joiner,Harold rush for 6 yards to the PITT25 (Petrishen, John;Hallett, Erick).
 3-4 PITT25 Thorne,Payton rush for 12 yards to the PITT13, 1ST DOWN MSU (Dennis, SirVoce). R
 1-10 PITT13 Clock 05:49. [05:49]
 1-10 PITT13 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Mosley,Tre for 5 yards to the PITT8 (Hallett, Erick).
 2-5 PITT08 PENALTY MSU false start (Allen,Matt) 5 yards to the PITT13.
 2-10 PITT13 Clock 04:40. [04:40]
 2-10 PITT13 Joiner,Harold rush for 2 yards to the PITT11 (Woods, A.J.).
 3-8 PITT11 Timeout Pitt, clock 03:49. [03:49]
 3-8 PITT11 Joiner,Harold rush for 4 yards to the PITT7 (Petrishen, John), PENALTY MSU holding (Brown,Spencer) 10 yards to the PITT21, NO PLAY.
 3-18 PITT21 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Joiner,Harold for 3 yards to the PITT18 (Bright, Cam).
4-15 PITT18 Coghlin,Matt field goal attempt from 36 GOOD, clock 02:39. [02:39]

PITT 7, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Drive Summary: 11 plays, 57 yards, 5:18

Rusnak,Stephen kickoff 57 yards to the PITT8, Abanikanda, Isr return 24 yards to the PITT32 (Wright,Brandon).

PITT drive start at 02:33.

- 1-10 PITT32 PENALTY PITT false start (Bartholomew, Ga) 5 yards to the PITT27.
Beville, Davis at QB for Pitt.
 1-15 PITT27 Abanikanda, Isr rush for loss of 1 yard to the PITT26 (Barrow,Simeon;Slade,Jacob).
 2-16 PITT26 Beville, Davis pass complete to Stovall, Melqui for 7 yards to the PITT33 (Haladay,Cal;Harvey,Noah).
 3-9 PITT33 Beville, Davis pass complete to Davis, Vincent for 8 yards to the PITT41 (Slade,Jacob).
 4-1 PITT41 Beville, Davis rush for 1 yard to the PITT42, 1ST DOWN PITT (Hunt,Jalen;Beesley,Drew). R
 1-10 PITT42 Clock 00:38. [00:38]
 1-10 PITT42 Beville, Davis pass incomplete to Davis, Vincent.
 2-10 PITT42 Beville, Davis pass complete to Davis, Vincent for 1 yard to the PITT43 (Gaoteote,Ma'a).

END OF 1ST QUARTER: PITT 7, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Quarter Summary	Score	Time Poss	1st Downs				Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
			R	P	X	T	3rd	4th			
Pitt	7	08:57	5	1	0	6	2-3	0-0	12-54	5-9-0-37	2-10
Michigan State	10	06:03	1	3	0	4	3-4	0-0	6-18	5-7-0-78	2-15

Quickie Statistics (1st Quarter only)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	7	10
FIRST DOWNS	6	4
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	12-54	6-18
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	37	78
Passes Att-Comp-Int	9-5-0	7-5-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	21-91	13-96
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-16
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-24	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	1-43.0	-0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	2-10	2-15
Possession Time	08:57	06:03
Third-Down Conversions	2-3	3-4
Fourth-Down Conversions	0-0	0-0

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Davis, Vincent	3	10	0	10	0	3.3	6
Patti, Nick	3	27	0	27	1	9	16

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	3-4-0	16	0	8	0
Patti, Nick	2-5-0	21	0	13	0

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	2	21	0	3	13
Davis, Vincent	2	9	0	3	8
Stovall, Melqui	1	7	0	1	7

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	1	43	43.0	43	0	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Abanikanda, Isr	2	24	0	24

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Woods, A.J.	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	0-2	1.0	0.0	0.0
Dennis, SirVoce	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Williams, Marqu	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Campbell, Phil	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Bright, Cam	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Hayes, Dayon	1-0	1.0	0.0	1.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Simmons,Jordon	3	1	-3	-2	0	-0.7	1
Joiner,Harold	2	8	0	8	0	4	6

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne,Payton	5-7-0	78	1	28	0

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed,Jayden	1	28	1	2	28
Nailor,Jalen	1	17	0	2	17
Mosley,Tre	1	5	0	1	5

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Reed,Jayden	1	16	0	16

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Haladay,Cal	3-2	4.0	0.0	0.0
Lowery,Marqui	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Slade,Jacob	1-2	2.0	0.0	1.0
Gaoteote, Ma'a	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Harvey,Noah	0-3	1.5	0.0	0.0
Pietrowski,Jeff	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Barrow,Simeon	0-2	1.0	0.0	1.0
Hansen,Maverick	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	13:11	MSU - Reed,Jayden 28 yd TD PASS from Thorne,Payton (KICK by Coghlin,Matt), 3-29 0:45	0-7
1st	07:57	PITT - Patti, Nick 16 yd TD RUSH (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 12-75 5:14	7-7
1st	02:39	MSU - Coghlin,Matt 36 yd FG 11-57 5:18	7-10

Play-by-Play Summary (2nd quarter)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



3-9 PITT43 Start of 2nd quarter, clock 15:00. [15:00]
3-9 PITT43 Beville, Davis sacked for loss of 9 yards to the PITT34 (Wright,Brandon).
4-18 PITT34 Christodoulou, punt 43 yards to the MSU23, Reed,Jayden return 9 yards to the MSU32 (Dennis, SirVoce).
Drive Summary: 7 plays, 2 yards, 3:32

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 14:01.

1-10 MSU32 Collins,Elijah rush for 1 yard to the MSU33 (George, Brandon).
2-9 MSU33 Collins,Elijah rush for 4 yards to the MSU37 (Campbell, Phil;George, Brandon).
3-5 MSU37 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Coleman,Keon for 9 yards to the MSU46, 1ST DOWN MSU (George, Brandon). P
1-10 MSU46 Clock 12:35. [12:35]
1-10 MSU46 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Nailor,Jalen for 50 yards to the PITT4, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hill, Brandon). P
1-0 PITT04 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Reed,Jayden.
2-0 PITT04 PENALTY MSU false start (Allen,Matt) 5 yards to the PITT9.
2-0 PITT09 Thorne,Payton rush for loss of 6 yards to the PITT15 (Hayes, Dayon).
3-0 PITT15 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen.
4-0 PITT15 Coghlin,Matt field goal attempt from 33 MISSED - wide right, spot at PITT20, clock 11:13. [11:13]
Drive Summary: 8 plays, 53 yards, 2:48

PITT drive start at 11:13.

1-10 PITT20 Hammond Jr., Ro rush for 2 yards to the PITT22 (Haladay,Cal;Barrow,Simeon).
2-8 PITT22 Hammond Jr., Ro rush for 3 yards to the PITT25 (Barrow,Simeon;Haladay,Cal).
3-5 PITT25 Beville, Davis pass incomplete.
4-5 PITT25 Christodoulou, punt 53 yards to the MSU22, fair catch by Reed,Jayden.
Drive Summary: 3 plays, 5 yards, 1:22

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 09:51.

1-10 MSU22 Collins,Elijah rush for 1 yard to the MSU23 (Campbell, Phil;Danielson, Devi).
2-9 MSU23 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Mosley,Tre for 15 yards to the MSU38, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hallett, Erick). P
1-10 MSU38 Clock 09:01. [09:01]
1-10 MSU38 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Collins,Elijah.
2-10 MSU38 Thorne,Payton rush for 11 yards to the MSU49, 1ST DOWN MSU (Campbell, Phil). R
1-10 MSU49 Clock 08:14. [08:14]
1-10 MSU49 Collins,Elijah rush for 3 yards to the PITT48 (Petrishen, John).
2-7 PITT48 Simmons,Jordon rush for loss of 5 yards to the MSU47, fumble by Simmons,Jordon recovered by MSU Thorne,Payton at MSU47.
3-12 MSU47 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Foster,Montorie.
4-12 MSU47 Baringer,Bryce punt 42 yards to the PITT11, fair catch by Addison, Jordan.
Drive Summary: 7 plays, 25 yards, 3:05

PITT drive start at 06:46.

1-10 PITT11 Davis, Vincent rush for loss of 1 yard to the PITT10 (Lowery,Marqui).
2-11 PITT10 Beville, Davis rush for 8 yards to the PITT18 (Grose,Angelo).
3-3 PITT18 Beville, Davis pass incomplete to Addison, Jordan.
4-3 PITT18 Christodoulou, punt 40 yards to the MSU42, downed.
Drive Summary: 3 plays, 7 yards, 1:26

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 05:20.

1-10 MSU42 Simmons,Jordon rush for 7 yards to the MSU49 (Danielson, Devi;Campbell, Phil).
2-3 MSU49 Simmons,Jordon rush for 1 yard to the 50 yardline (Campbell, Phil).
3-2 MSU50 PENALTY MSU false start (Brown,Spencer) 5 yards to the MSU45.
3-7 MSU45 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Mosley,Tre for 15 yards to the PITT40, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hallett, Erick). P
1-10 PITT40 Clock 04:09. [04:09]
1-10 PITT40 Simmons,Jordon rush for 2 yards to the PITT38 (Bright, Cam;Kamara, Bangall).
Pitt #98 injured on the play.
2-8 PITT38 Clock 03:28. [03:28]
2-8 PITT38 Simmons,Jordon rush for 3 yards to the PITT35 (Bright, Cam).
3-5 PITT35 Simmons,Jordon rush for 6 yards to the PITT29, 1ST DOWN MSU (Kamara, Bangall). R
1-10 PITT29 Clock 02:28. [02:28]

1-10 PITT29 Thorne,Payton pass intercepted by Hill, Brandon at the PITT13, Hill, Brandon return 0 yards to the PITT13.
Drive Summary: 7 plays, 29 yards, 3:17

PITT drive start at 02:03.

- 1-10 PITT13 Davis, Vincent rush for 12 yards to the PITT25, 1ST DOWN PITT (Jordan,Drew). R
- 1-10 PITT25 Clock 01:54. [01:54]
- 1-10 PITT25 Beville, Davis pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 10 yards to the PITT35, 1ST DOWN PITT, out-of-bounds. P
- 1-10 PITT35 Clock 01:47. [01:47]
- 1-10 PITT35 Beville, Davis pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 52 yards to the MSU13, 1ST DOWN PITT P
 (Henderson,Xavie).
- 1-10 MSU13 Davis, Vincent rush for 12 yards to the MSU1, 1ST DOWN PITT (Grose,Angelo;Haladay,Cal). R
- 1-0 MSU01 Davis, Vincent rush for loss of 3 yards to the MSU4 (Panasiuk,Jacub).
- 2-0 MSU04 Timeout Pitt, clock 01:03. [01:03]
- 2-0 **MSU04 Beville, Davis pass complete to Wayne, Jared for 4 yards to the MSU0, TOUCHDOWN, clock 01:02.**
[01:02]
Previous play under review. Did receiver maintain control.
Ruling on the field stands.
- 1-0 **MSU03 Scarton, Sam kick attempt good.**

PITT 14, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Drive Summary: 6 plays, 87 yards, 1:01

Sauls, Ben kickoff 65 yards to the MSU0, Nailor,Jalen return 16 yards to the MSU16 (DeShields, Solo).

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 00:58.

- 1-10 MSU16 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Heyward,Connor for 9 yards to the MSU25 (Campbell, Phil).
 - 2-1 MSU25 Thorne,Payton sacked for loss of 8 yards to the MSU17 (Bentley, Tyler).
 - 3-9 MSU17 Collins,Elijah rush for 1 yard to the MSU18 (Petrishen, John;Bentley, Tyler).
 - 4-8 MSU18 End of half, clock 00:00. [00:00]
- Drive Summary: 3 plays, 2 yards, 0:58*

END OF 2ND QUARTER: PITT 14, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Quarter Summary	Score	Time Poss	1st Downs				Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
			R	P	X	T	3rd	4th			
Pitt	7	04:48	2	2	0	4	0-4	1-1	8-24	3-5-0-66	0-0
Michigan State	0	10:12	2	4	0	6	3-6	0-0	14-21	5-10-1-98	2-10

Quickie Statistics (Halftime Cumulative)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	14	10
FIRST DOWNS	10	10
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	20-78	20-39
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	103	176
Passes Att-Comp-Int	14-8-0	17-10-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	34-181	37-215
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	2-25
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-24	1-16
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	1-43.0	1-42.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	2-10	4-25
Possession Time	13:45	16:15
Third-Down Conversions	2-7	6-10
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-1	0-0

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Davis, Vincent	7	34	-4	30	0	12	4.3
Patti, Nick	3	27	0	27	1	16	9
Hammond Jr., Ro	2	5	0	5	0	3	2.5

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	6-9-0	73	1	52	1
Patti, Nick	2-5-0	21	0	13	0

Receiving	No.	Yds	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	4	83	0	6	52
Davis, Vincent	2	9	0	3	8
Stovall, Melqui	1	7	0	1	7
Wayne, Jared	1	4	1	1	4

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	4	179	44.8	53	0	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Abanikanda, Isr	2	24	0	24

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Campbell, Phil	4-3	5.5	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	3-1	3.5	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	1-3	2.5	0.0	0.0
Woods, A.J.	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
George, Brandon	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Bright, Cam	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Dennis, SirVoce	2-0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Hayes, Dayon	2-0	2.0	0.0	2.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Simmons, Jordon	9	20	-8	12	0	7	1.3
Collins, Elijah	5	10	0	10	0	4	2
Joiner, Harold	2	8	0	8	0	6	4

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne, Payton	10-17-1	168	1	50	1

Receiving	No.	Yds	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed, Jayden	1	28	1	3	28
Nailor, Jalen	2	67	0	4	50
Heyward, Connor	1	9	0	1	9
Mosley, Tre	3	35	0	3	15

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	In20	TB
Baringer, Bryce	1	42	42.0	42	1	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Reed, Jayden	2	25	0	16

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Nailor, Jalen	1	16	0	16

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Haladay, Cal	3-5	5.5	0.0	0.0
Lowery, Marqui	3-1	3.5	0.0	1.0
Grose, Angelo	1-2	2.0	0.0	0.0
Barrow, Simeon	0-4	2.0	0.0	1.0
Wright, Brandon	2-0	2.0	1.0	1.0
Slade, Jacob	1-2	2.0	0.0	1.0
Gaoteote, Ma'a	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Harvey, Noah	0-3	1.5	0.0	0.0

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	13:11	MSU - Reed, Jayden 28 yd TD PASS from Thorne, Payton (KICK by Coghlin, Matt), 3-29 0:45	0-7
1st	07:57	PITT - Patti, Nick 16 yd TD RUSH (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 12-75 5:14	7-7
1st	02:39	MSU - Coghlin, Matt 36 yd FG 11-57 5:18	7-10
2nd	01:02	PITT - Wayne, Jared 4 yd TD PASS from Beville, Davis (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 6-87 1:01	14-10

Quickie Statistics (2nd Quarter only)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	7	0
FIRST DOWNS	4	6
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	8-24	14-21
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	66	98
Passes Att-Comp-Int	5-3-0	10-5-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	13-90	24-119
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-9
Kickoff Returns-Yards	0-0	1-16
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	3-45.3	1-42.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	0-0	2-10
Possession Time	04:48	10:12
Third-Down Conversions	0-4	3-6
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-1	0-0

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Davis, Vincent	4	24	-4	20	0	5	12
Hammond Jr., Ro	2	5	0	5	0	2.5	3

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	3-5-0	57	1	52	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	2	62	0	3	52
Wayne, Jared	1	4	1	1	4

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	3	136	45.3	53	0	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Campbell, Phil	3-3	4.5	0.0	0.0
George, Brandon	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	2-0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Kamara, Bangall	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Bright, Cam	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Bentley, Tyler	1-1	1.5	1.0	1.0
Dennis, SirVoce	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Simmons, Jordon	6	19	-5	14	0	2.3	7
Collins, Elijah	5	10	0	10	0	2	4

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne, Payton	5-10-1	90	0	50	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed, Jayden	0	0	0	1	
Nailor, Jalen	1	50	0	2	50
Heyward, Connor	1	9	0	1	9
Mosley, Tre	2	30	0	2	15

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Baringer, Bryce	1	42	42.0	42	1	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Reed, Jayden	1	9	0	9

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Nailor, Jalen	1	16	0	16

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Grose, Angelo	1-1	1.5	0.0	0.0
Haladay, Cal	0-3	1.5	0.0	0.0
Jordan, Drew	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Henderson, Xavie	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Barrow, Simeon	0-2	1.0	0.0	0.0
Wright, Brandon	1-0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Lowery, Marqui	1-0	1.0	0.0	1.0
Panasiuk, Jacob	1-0	1.0	0.0	1.0

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
2nd	01:02	PITT - Wayne, Jared 4 yd TD PASS from Beville, Davis (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 6-87 1:01	14-10

Play-by-Play Summary (3rd quarter)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



4-8 MSU18 Start of 3rd quarter, clock 15:00, PITT ball on PITT35. [15:00]

Sauls, Ben kickoff 65 yards to the MSU0, touchback.

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 15:00.

1-10 MSU25 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen (Woods, A.J.).

2-10 MSU25 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Reed,Jayden.

3-10 MSU25 Thorne,Payton rush for 1 yard to the MSU26, fumble forced by Morgan, John, fumble by Thorne,Payton recovered by PITT Bright, Cam at MSU26, Bright, Cam for 26 yards to the MSU0, TOUCHDOWN, clock 14:40. [14:40]

Drive Summary: 3 plays, 1 yards, 0:20

1-0 MSU03 Scarton, Sam kick attempt good.

PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Drive Summary: 0 plays, 0 yards, 0:00

Sauls, Ben kickoff 65 yards to the MSU0, fair catch by Reed,Jayden.

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 14:40.

1-10 MSU25 Simmons,Jordon rush for 10 yards to the MSU35, 1ST DOWN MSU (Petrishen, John;Hallett, Erick). R

1-10 MSU35 Clock 14:26. [14:26]

1-10 MSU35 Thorne,Payton rush for 3 yards to the MSU38 (Petrishen, John;Campbell, Phil).

2-7 MSU38 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Heyward,Connor for 4 yards to the MSU42 (Petrishen, John;Hallett, Erick).

3-3 MSU42 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen.

4-3 MSU42 Heyward,Connor rush for 7 yards to the MSU49, 1ST DOWN MSU (Devonshire, M.J;Hallett, Erick). R

1-10 MSU49 Clock 12:38. [12:38]

1-10 MSU49 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Mosley,Tre for 8 yards to the PITT43 (Campbell, Phil).

2-2 PITT43 Simmons,Jordon rush for 3 yards to the PITT40, 1ST DOWN MSU (Petrishen, John;Kamara, Bangall). R

1-10 PITT40 Clock 11:43. [11:43]

1-10 PITT40 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete, PENALTY PITT roughing passer (Petrishen, John) 15 yards to the PITT25, 1ST DOWN MSU, NO PLAY. E

1st and 10.

Pitt #92 injured on the play.

1-10 PITT25 Simmons,Jordon rush for loss of 4 yards to the PITT29 (Hayes, Dayon).

2-14 PITT29 Thorne,Payton rush for 1 yard to the PITT28 (Dennis, SirVoce;Green, David).

3-13 PITT28 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Reed,Jayden.

4-13 PITT28 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen (Woods, A.J.).

Drive Summary: 11 plays, 47 yards, 5:03

PITT drive start at 09:37.

Pitt #25 injured on the play.

1-10 PITT28 Beville, Davis sacked for loss of 8 yards to the PITT20 (Slade,Jacob).

2-18 PITT20 Davis, Vincent rush for 12 yards to the PITT32 (Panasiuk,Jacob;Snow,Darius).

3-6 PITT32 Beville, Davis pass complete to Jacques-Louis, for 5 yards to the PITT37 (Russo,Anthony;Harvey,Noah).

Previous play under review. Runner down before the fumble recvd by MSU

Ruling on the field stands. Runner down before fumble.

4-1 PITT37 Christodoulou, punt 47 yards to the MSU16, downed.

Drive Summary: 3 plays, 9 yards, 2:08

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 07:29.

1-10 MSU16 Collins,Elijah rush for 5 yards to the MSU21 (Bright, Cam;Campbell, Phil).

2-5 MSU21 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Collins,Elijah.

3-5 MSU21 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Reed,Jayden.

4-5 MSU21 Baringer,Bryce punt 53 yards to the PITT26, Addison, Jordan return 0 yards to the PITT26 (White,Justin).

Drive Summary: 3 plays, 5 yards, 0:49

PITT drive start at 06:40.

- 1-10 PITT26 Beville, Davis pass complete to Addison, Jordan for loss of 1 yard to the PITT25 (Harvey,Noah).
 2-11 PITT25 Davis, Vincent rush for 1 yard to the PITT26 (Barrow,Simeon;Harvey,Noah).
 3-10 PITT26 Beville, Davis sacked for loss of 3 yards to the PITT23 (Beesley,Drew;Wright,Brandon).
 4-13 PITT23 Christodoulou, punt 41 yards to the MSU36, fair catch by Reed,Jayden.
Drive Summary: 3 plays, -3 yards, 1:42

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 04:58.

- 1-10 MSU36 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Nailor,Jalen for 5 yards to the MSU41 (Dennis, SirVoce).
 2-5 MSU41 Simmons,Jordon rush for no gain to the MSU41 (Dennis, SirVoce).
 3-5 MSU41 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Carr,Maliq, dropped pass.
 4-5 MSU41 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Nailor,Jalen for 9 yards to the 50 yardline, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hill, Brandon). P
 1-10 MSU50 Clock 03:35. [03:35]
 1-10 MSU50 Thorne,Payton sacked for loss of 10 yards to the MSU40 (Brima, Bam).
 2-20 MSU40 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Heyward,Connor.
 3-20 MSU40 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Joiner,Harold for 8 yards to the MSU48 (Hill, Brandon).
Pitt #9 injured on the play.
 4-12 MSU48 Baringer,Bryce punt 43 yards to the PITT9, fair catch by Addison, Jordan.
Drive Summary: 7 plays, 12 yards, 2:47

PITT drive start at 02:11.

- 1-10 PITT09 Addison, Jordan rush for 28 yards to the PITT37, 1ST DOWN PITT (Grose,Angelo). R
 1-10 PITT37 Clock 01:43. [01:43]
 1-10 PITT37 PENALTY PITT false start (Warren, Carter) 5 yards to the PITT32.
 1-15 PITT32 Hammond Jr., Ro rush for 6 yards to the PITT38 (Harvey,Noah).
 2-9 PITT38 Beville, Davis sacked for loss of 12 yards to the PITT26 (Barrow,Simeon;Panasiuk,Jacob).
 3-21 PITT26 Hammond Jr., Ro rush for 9 yards to the PITT35 (Haladay,Cal).

END OF 3RD QUARTER: PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 10

Quarter Summary	Score	Time Poss	1st Downs				Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
			R	P	X	T	3rd	4th			
Pitt	7	06:01	1	0	0	1	0-2	0-0	8-33	2-2-0-4	2-20
Michigan State	0	08:59	3	1	1	5	0-6	2-3	10-16	5-14-0-34	0-0

Quickie Statistics (3rd Quarter Cumulative)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	21	10
FIRST DOWNS	11	15
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	28-111	30-55
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	107	210
Passes Att-Comp-Int	16-10-0	31-15-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	44-218	61-265
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-26	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	1-0	2-25
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-24	1-16
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	1-43.0	1-42.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	4-2
Penalties-Yards	4-30	4-25
Possession Time	19:46	25:14
Third-Down Conversions	2-9	6-16
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-1	2-3

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Davis, Vincent	9	47	-4	43	0	12	4.8
Addison, Jordan	1	28	0	28	0	28	28
Patti, Nick	3	27	0	27	1	16	9
Hammond Jr., Ro	4	20	0	20	0	9	5

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	8-11-0	54	1	52	4
Patti, Nick	2-5-0	21	0	13	0

Receiving	No.	Yds	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	5	82	0	7	52
Davis, Vincent	2	9	0	3	8
Stovall, Melqui	1	7	0	1	7
Wayne, Jared	1	4	1	1	4

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	6	267	44.5	53	1	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Addison, Jordan	1	0	0	0

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Abanikanda, Isr	2	24	0	24

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Campbell, Phil	5-5	7.5	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	3-4	5.0	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	1-7	4.5	0.0	0.0
Dennis, SirVoce	4-1	4.5	0.0	0.0
Hill, Brandon	3-0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Bright, Cam	2-2	3.0	0.0	0.0
Hayes, Dayon	3-0	3.0	0.0	3.0
Woods, A.J.	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Simmons, Jordon	13	33	-12	21	0	10	1.6
Collins, Elijah	6	15	0	15	0	5	2.5
Joiner, Harold	2	8	0	8	0	6	4
Heyward, Connor	1	7	0	7	0	7	7

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne, Payton	15-29-1	192	1	50	2

Receiving	No.	Yds	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed, Jayden	1	28	1	6	28
Nailor, Jalen	4	81	0	9	50
Heyward, Connor	2	13	0	3	9
Mosley, Tre	4	43	0	4	15

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	In20	TB
Baringer, Bryce	3	138	46.0	53	2	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Reed, Jayden	2	25	0	16

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Nailor, Jalen	1	16	0	16

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Haladay, Cal	4-5	6.5	0.0	0.0
Harvey, Noah	2-5	4.5	0.0	1.0
Lowery, Marqui	3-1	3.5	0.0	1.0
Grose, Angelo	2-2	3.0	0.0	0.0
Barrow, Simeon	0-6	3.0	0.5	1.5
Slade, Jacob	2-2	3.0	1.0	2.0
Wright, Brandon	2-1	2.5	1.5	1.5
Panasjuk, Jacob	1-2	2.0	0.5	1.5

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	13:11	MSU - Reed, Jayden 28 yd TD PASS from Thorne, Payton (KICK by Coghlin, Matt), 3-29 0:45	0-7
1st	07:57	PITT - Patti, Nick 16 yd TD RUSH (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 12-75 5:14	7-7
1st	02:39	MSU - Coghlin, Matt 36 yd FG 11-57 5:18	7-10
2nd	01:02	PITT - Wayne, Jared 4 yd TD PASS from Beville, Davis (KICK by Scarton, Sam), 6-87 1:01	14-10
3rd	14:40	PITT - Bright, Cam 26 yd TD FUMB (KICK by Scarton, Sam),	21-10

Quickie Statistics (3rd Quarter only)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	7	0
FIRST DOWNS	1	5
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	8-33	10-16
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	4	34
Passes Att-Comp-Int	2-2-0	14-5-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	10-37	24-50
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-26	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	2-44.0	2-48.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	2-20	0-0
Possession Time	06:01	08:59
Third-Down Conversions	0-2	0-6
Fourth-Down Conversions	0-0	2-3

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Davis, Vincent	2	13	0	13	0	6.5	12
Addison, Jordan	1	28	0	28	0	28	28
Hammond Jr., Ro	2	15	0	15	0	7.5	9

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	2-2-0	-19	0	5	3

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	1	-1	0	1	-1

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	2	88	44.0	47	1	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Addison, Jordan	1	0	0	0

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
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Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Dennis, SirVoce	2-1	2.5	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	0-4	2.0	0.0	0.0
Hill, Brandon	2-0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Campbell, Phil	1-2	2.0	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	0-3	1.5	0.0	0.0
Morgan, John	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Hayes, Dayon	1-0	1.0	0.0	1.0
Brima, Bam	1-0	1.0	1.0	1.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Simmons, Jordon	4	13	-4	9	0	2.3	10
Collins, Elijah	1	5	0	5	0	5	5
Heyward, Connor	1	7	0	7	0	7	7

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne, Payton	5-12-0	24	0	9	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed, Jayden	0	0	0	3	
Nailor, Jalen	2	14	0	5	9
Heyward, Connor	1	4	0	2	4
Mosley, Tre	1	8	0	1	8

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Baringer, Bryce	2	96	48.0	53	1	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
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Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
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Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Harvey, Noah	2-2	3.0	0.0	1.0
Grose, Angelo	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Barrow, Simeon	0-2	1.0	0.5	0.5
Haladay, Cal	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
White, Justin	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Slade, Jacob	1-0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Panasuik, Jacob	0-2	1.0	0.5	0.5
Russo, Anthony	0-1	0.5	0.0	0.0

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
3rd	14:40	PITT - Bright, Cam 26 yd TD FUMB (KICK by Scarton, Sam),	21-10

Play-by-Play Summary (4th quarter)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



4-12 PITT35 Start of 4th quarter, clock 15:00. [15:00]
4-12 PITT35 Christodoulou, punt 35 yards to the MSU30, out-of-bounds.
Drive Summary: 4 plays, 26 yards, 2:18

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 14:53.

1-10 MSU30 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Mosley,Tre for 15 yards to the MSU45, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hallett, Erick;Tallandier, Jud). P
1-10 MSU45 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Reed,Jayden for 2 yards to the MSU47 (Campbell, Phil).
2-8 MSU47 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Reed,Jayden for 11 yards to the PITT42, 1ST DOWN MSU (Woods, A.J.). P
1-10 PITT42 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Nailor,Jalen for 13 yards to the PITT29, 1ST DOWN MSU (Tallandier, Jud). P
1-10 PITT29 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Simmons,Jordon for 5 yards to the PITT24 (George, Brandon;Hallett, Erick).
2-5 PITT24 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen.
3-5 PITT24 Simmons,Jordon rush for loss of 1 yard to the PITT25 (Green, David;Dennis, SirVoce).
4-6 PITT25 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Heyward,Connor for 8 yards to the PITT17, 1ST DOWN MSU (Devonshire, M.J). P
1-10 PITT17 Clock 11:20. [11:20]
1-10 PITT17 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Reed,Jayden for 6 yards to the PITT11 (Devonshire, M.J).
2-4 PITT11 Thorne,Payton rush for 6 yards to the PITT5, 1ST DOWN MSU (Baldonado, Haba). R
Pitt #8 injured on the play.
1-0 PITT05 Clock 10:08. [10:08]
1-0 PITT05 PENALTY MSU false start (Carr,Maliq) 5 yards to the PITT10.
1-0 PITT10 Simmons,Jordon rush for 1 yard to the PITT9 (Hill, Brandon;Kancey, Calijah).
2-0 PITT09 Thorne,Payton sacked for loss of 6 yards to the PITT15 (Danielson, Devi).
3-0 PITT15 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Heyward,Connor for 15 yards to the PITT0, TOUCHDOWN, clock 08:06. [08:06]
Pitt #9 injured on the play
1-0 PITT03 PENALTY MSU false start 5 yards to the PITT8.
1-0 PITT08 Thorne,Payton pass attempt failed.

PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 16

Drive Summary: 13 plays, 70 yards, 6:47

Rusnak,Stephen kickoff 56 yards to the PITT9, Davis, Vincent return 13 yards to the PITT22 (Wright,Brandon).

PITT drive start at 08:00.

1-10 PITT22 Davis, Vincent rush for no gain to the PITT22 (Grose,Angelo).
2-10 PITT22 Beville, Davis pass complete to Bartholomew, Ga for 9 yards to the PITT31 (Williams,Ronald).
3-1 PITT31 Davis, Vincent rush for loss of 2 yards to the PITT29 (Grose,Angelo).
4-3 PITT29 Christodoulou, punt 42 yards to the MSU29, fair catch by Reed,Jayden.
Drive Summary: 3 plays, 7 yards, 2:23

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 05:37.

1-10 MSU29 Simmons,Jordon rush for 2 yards to the MSU31 (Petrishen, John).
2-8 MSU31 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Heyward,Connor for 1 yard to the MSU32 (Devonshire, M.J).
3-7 MSU32 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Reed,Jayden for 11 yards to the MSU43, 1ST DOWN MSU (Devonshire, M.J;Tallandier, Jud). P
MSU #1 injured on the play
1-10 MSU43 Clock 04:26. [04:26]
1-10 MSU43 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Coleman,Keon for 11 yards to the PITT46, 1ST DOWN MSU (Devonshire, M.J;Tallandier, Jud). P
1-10 PITT46 Clock 04:09. [04:09]
1-10 PITT46 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Mosley,Tre (Hallett, Erick).
2-10 PITT46 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen.
3-10 PITT46 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Carr,Maliq for 10 yards to the PITT36, 1ST DOWN MSU (Hallett, Erick). P
1-10 PITT36 Clock 03:39. [03:39]
1-10 PITT36 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Mosley,Tre.
2-10 PITT36 Thorne,Payton pass incomplete to Nailor,Jalen.
3-10 PITT36 Timeout Pitt, clock 03:05. [03:05]
3-10 PITT36 Thorne,Payton pass complete to Nailor,Jalen for 14 yards to the PITT22, 1ST DOWN MSU (Campbell, Phil). P
1-10 PITT22 Clock 03:00. [03:00]
1-10 PITT22 P

Thorne,Payton pass complete to Reed,Jayden for 22 yards to the PITT0, 1ST DOWN MSU, TOUCHDOWN, clock 02:51, PENALTY PITT pass interference declined. [02:51]

- 1-0 PITT03 Thorne,Payton pass attempt to Nailor,Jalen good.
Pitt #87 injured on the play.

PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 24

Drive Summary: 11 plays, 71 yards, 2:46

Rusnak,Stephen kickoff 64 yards to the PITT1, fair catch by Davis, Vincent.

PITT drive start at 02:51.

- 1-10 PITT25 Davis, Vincent rush for 2 yards to the PITT27 (Haladay,Cal;Panasiuk,Jacob).
Pitt #57 injured on the play.
- 2-8 PITT27 Beville, Davis sacked for loss of 7 yards to the PITT20 (Panasiuk,Jacob;Slade,Jacob).
- 3-15 PITT20 Timeout Pitt, clock 02:24. [02:24]
- 3-15 PITT20 Beville, Davis pass complete to Davis, Vincent for 7 yards to the PITT27 (Haladay,Cal;Slade,Jacob).
- 4-8 PITT27 Beville, Davis pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 8 yards to the PITT35, 1ST DOWN PITT (Grose,Angelo). P
- 1-10 PITT35 Clock 01:47. [01:47]
- 1-10 PITT35 Beville, Davis pass complete to Addison, Jordan for 24 yards to the MSU41, 1ST DOWN PITT (Henderson,Xavie). P
- 1-10 MSU41 Clock 01:32. [01:32]
- 1-10 MSU41 Beville, Davis pass complete to Stovall, Melqui for 7 yards to the MSU34.
- 2-3 MSU34 Beville, Davis pass complete to Krull, Lucas for 8 yards to the MSU26, 1ST DOWN PITT. P
- 1-10 MSU26 Clock 00:36. [00:36]
- 1-10 MSU26 Beville, Davis pass intercepted by Haladay,Cal at the MSU22, Haladay,Cal return 78 yards to the PITT0, TOUCHDOWN, clock 00:22. [00:22]

Drive Summary: 8 plays, 49 yards, 2:29

- 1-0 PITT03 Coghlin,Matt kick attempt good.

PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 31

Drive Summary: 0 plays, 0 yards, 0:00

Rusnak,Stephen kickoff 43 yards to the PITT22, on-side kick, recovered by MSU White,Justin on PITT22.

MICHIGAN STATE drive start at 00:22.

- 1-10 PITT22 TEAM rush for loss of 1 yard to the PITT23.
- 2-11 PITT23 End of game, clock 00:00. [00:00]

Drive Summary: 1 plays, -1 yards, 0:22

FINAL SCORE - : PITT 21, MICHIGAN STATE 31

Quarter Summary	Score	Time Poss	1st Downs				Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
			R	P	X	T	3rd	4th			
Pitt	0	05:05	0	3	0	3	0-3	1-1	4--7	6-7-1-63	0-0
Michigan State	21	09:55	1	9	0	10	4-5	1-1	6-1	14-19-0-144	2-10

Quickie Statistics (4th Quarter only)
#12 Pitt vs. #10 Michigan State (12/30/2021 at Atlanta, Georgia)



	PITT	MSU
Score	0	21
FIRST DOWNS	3	10
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	4--7	6-1
PASSING-YARDS (NET)	63	144
Passes Att-Comp-Int	7-6-1	19-14-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	11-56	25-145
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	1-13	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	1-78
Punts (Number-Avg)	2-38.5	-0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	0-0	2-10
Possession Time	05:05	09:55
Third-Down Conversions	0-3	4-5
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-1	1-1

Pitt

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Davis, Vincent	3	2	-2	0	0	0	2

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Beville, Davis	6-7-1	56	1	24	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Addison, Jordan	2	32	0	2	24
Davis, Vincent	1	7	0	1	7
Stovall, Melqui	1	7	0	1	7

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB
Christodoulou,	2	77	38.5	42	0	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg
Davis, Vincent	1	13	0	13

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Devonshire, M.J	3-2	4.0	0.0	0.0
Tallandier, Jud	1-3	2.5	0.0	0.0
Campbell, Phil	2-0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Hallett, Erick	1-2	2.0	0.0	0.0
Petrishen, John	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Woods, A.J.	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Baldonado, Haba	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Danielson, Devi	1-0	1.0	1.0	1.0

Michigan State

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Avg	Lg
Simmons, Jordan	3	3	-1	2	0	0.7	2

Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Lg	Sack
Thorne, Payton	14-19-0	138	2	22	1

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Tgt	Lg
Reed, Jayden	5	52	1	5	22
Nailor, Jalen	2	27	0	5	14
Heyward, Connor	3	24	1	3	15
Mosley, Tre	1	15	0	3	15

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Lng	In20	TB

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Lg

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Grose, Angelo	3-0	3.0	0.0	1.0
Williams, Ronald	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Henderson, Xavie	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Wright, Brandon	1-0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Haladay, Cal	0-2	1.0	0.0	0.0
Slade, Jacob	0-2	1.0	0.5	0.5
Panasiuk, Jacob	0-2	1.0	0.5	0.5

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
4th	08:06	MSU - Heyward, Connor 15 yd TD PASS from Thorne, Payton 13-70 6:47	21-16
4th	02:51	MSU - Reed, Jayden 22 yd TD PASS from Thorne, Payton (PASS by Nailor, Jalen), 11-71 2:46	21-24
4th	00:22	MSU - Haladay, Cal 78 yd TD INT (KICK by Coghlin, Matt),	21-31

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl: Pitt vs Michigan State

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Mercedes-Benz Stadium

Pitt Panthers

Coach Pat Narduzzi

Press Conference



Michigan State 31, Pittsburgh 21

THE MODERATOR: We are joined by head coach Pat Narduzzi.

PAT NARDUZZI: Obviously not the way we wanted to finish up the season. It's never easy. Kids played their tails off. Didn't give up at all. I think when most people thought with a third string quarterback we weren't going to be able to take it down the field, we did. It comes down to the details.

You throw a pick in the red zone when you got a chance to at least tie it up, go overtime, you just got to protect the ball, make better decisions.

It hurt obviously when Nick Patti went down. Had a nice touchdown scramble for a touchdown. Not the way you wanted your seniors to go out.

I'll open it up for questions.

Q. Can you talk about what all went into the preparation for Davis. You talk about how Nick was making a lot of things seamless. I imagine there had to be a lot of preparation into Nick, not as much time into Davis. How do you think he responded to that challenge?

PAT NARDUZZI: He did about as good as he could. Obviously he got the two reps. He got I would say 80% of the two reps. You got to prepare for the next guy two. Joey Yellen got reps, too.

It's hard. It's hard when you're preparing, have a backup that didn't have a start in someone said 840 days since he started a game, played a bunch of reps.

Obviously it hurt when he went down. But our kids hung in

there. We got a chance to win the ballgame with a minute to go in the game, at least tie the ballgame. We were on the field too long offensively, lost 10 minutes. A 16-play drive. 16-play and a 13-play drive to get those last two touchdowns, which hurt. You hope your defense is going to stop them.

We just weren't fresh enough. Didn't make enough plays on defense to get off the field. It's what it is.

Q. What can you say about Davis Beville, what he was able to do. Looking at a third string quarterback leading you to get into field goal range, completed all his passes until the interception. What he did in this game to showcase what he can be.

PAT NARDUZZI: Yeah, we didn't do a great job protecting in the third quarter I don't think. We'll go back and look what happened there. Wasn't happy obviously with the protection, what our O-line did. Until you watch the tape, you really don't know.

But Davis did a great job. As good as you expect a third team quarterback to do. Wasn't good enough to win the football game.

All our guys hung in there and played their tails off for him. We just didn't make enough plays in all phases. Doesn't ever lie with one guy or one quarterback. You need guys around you playing better. We didn't get that done today.

Q. How big of a loss was it losing Izzy as well in the running game when you have a backup in Nick, a third stringer in Davis, to be able to lean on the running game?

PAT NARDUZZI: Yeah, we got definitely banged up. Izzy was obviously a big part of the game plan. He's big, fast, physical. He's a starter. That didn't help us either.

But again, Vincent has had a ton of reps. So has Rodney. That's why you work 'em all year round. You never know when you're going to be down to one guy or two guys.

That wasn't a factor. But obviously you'd like to see Izzy



be able to finish the game.

Q. What did you see in the fourth quarter from Payton Thorne and Jayden Reed in particular?

PAT NARDUZZI: They made plays. They converted I think 50% of third down, which usually is not us. We'll go back and look at the coverage. Maybe an exhausted secondary, I don't know. We'll look at it.

But we didn't make enough plays back there. Not having Damarri Mathis is a factor. Starting corner, best corner. That was a factor. Some other young guys were out there. We'll look at it.

You look at whatever we held them to, 24 points. It was a solid day, but not good enough to win against a good team.

Q. At the end of a game like that, after a season like this, historic for the program, what is the message to your team?

PAT NARDUZZI: It's never easy. I mean, at the end it won't be easy for two teams tomorrow that are playing in a Playoff game. Someone is going to lose. You have a great season like that, get to the Playoffs. It's never easy.

We got a lot coming back. We'll start the work tomorrow towards an ACC championship for next year. That's the goal. That's the standard that we have.

It's not easy. But that's the ballgame. We haven't lost for a while. Our kids have a lot of confidence. So it hurts. They're hurting there. They're frustrated. A lot of tears in that locker room. They care and they fought.

Q. Just wanted to talk about the defense. They put on an inspired performance early on. You saw late in there it looked like they were able to connect on some, but it seemed like a lot of theirs were tight throws into tight coverages. Did you feel like it was more they were making great plays, or were there communication breakdowns that you thought were happening?

PAT NARDUZZI: There was one communication when Heyward caught a ball in the flats where we were playing man free. That's the only one miscommunication. Safety gave him the wrong call. That was the one miscommunication.

But again, you give them credit. Heyward had a heck of a catch in the end zone. It was a heck of a throw and catch on the end. You got a guy in coverage, you got to make a play. That's what it comes down to, you got to make a play.

M.J. is hurt in there, as well. But he'll only get better for 2022.

Q. You had two shots at the ACC championship in the last few seasons, got your first for Pittsburgh this year. What can you say about where this team is, where the state of the program is?

PAT NARDUZZI: Yeah, like I said to the team afterwards, I love every one of those guys in there. They fought their tails off. I'd go to war with them any day. There's never been any quit. It takes years to get what we got. We got a championship now. Now we got to try for a repeat.

We got a good football team. We got a lot of guys coming back. We'll just work on the next.

Q. Could you share with us the nature of Nick's injury?

PAT NARDUZZI: Yeah, I guess the season's over. Broke a collarbone, which is our third one this year. Just freak accident, I guess. I mean, that's what happens when you hit the ground a little bit odd. He'll get that fixed tomorrow.

He wanted to go back and play. Our doctors weren't going to let that happen.

Q. He's going to have surgery, then?

PAT NARDUZZI: Yes, Jerry. I'll give that to you at the end, Mr. Injury.

Q. You talked about some of the younger players. Dayon Hayes had three tackles for loss in this game. What did you think of what you saw out of him?

PAT NARDUZZI: Dayon did a nice job. Deslin didn't play, obviously. You guys saw that. He got injured during the week in bowl practice down here. He's okay. Just was risky to put him out there.

Just being safe. I know he was disappointed. But when you look -- that's why Dayon got more plays. Dayon is going to be an outstanding player for us. He's only going to keep getting better. He's smart, athletic. There's a lot of good football for Dayon Hayes in the future.

Q. When you have an injury like the one Nick suffered early in the game, how does that change the environment on the sideline? Does it change the mood that early in the game, or still plugging away?

PAT NARDUZZI: Yeah, I think our kids plugged away. I

don't think they bat an eye. We just didn't get things going.

That's not me, so...

Again, it's tough. It's not easy. But our kids battled. You look at play with a third string quarterback, we took them to the end. You would have loved to see what would have happened if Nick played the whole game, but it's not easy.

Q. What can you say about Jordan Addison, what you saw from him going into the season and then all the way through this season? Has he somehow exceeded your expectations?

PAT NARDUZZI: I would say so. Jordan Addison is an outstanding player. I don't know what hasn't been said about him. Winning a Biletnikoff. Wish he'd had more than seven catches. Probably should have got him the ball more, just couldn't get it to him enough. In the second half, the play was just to have Davis look to find No. 3 and throw it to him, let him go make a play.

We started with a couple drops. Weren't easy catches. Jordan had a nice game. Nice reverse. Didn't get our return game going with him. But Jordan Addison is a spectacular football player, is going to have a big '22 season as well.

Q. With the offensive line, that group is coming back next year, what do you say to a group like that that had a great year, end on a downer?

PAT NARDUZZI: You know what, probably every one of those guys, they're disappointed. I don't think they played as good as they needed to. We'll look at the tape and find out what happened, where it was. There was just a lot of four-man pressure. There wasn't a lot of blitzing going on, I don't think. A lot of those were four-man pressures and we didn't execute well enough.

They know that. When you're playing with a second and a third string quarterback, that O-line has got to step up and play better than they did.

Q. Towards the end of the game you had an opportunity to put the game away on the second to last possession on offense. On third down you ran the pitch play. How involved were you in that play call? Would you change your mind if you could?

PAT NARDUZZI: We can all second-guess. It was a check based on what they were giving us. We could have checked and ran a power play, what we call flip it out there.

They played it well. We didn't execute it good enough. What are you going to do? I'm not involved in play calls. I don't go second-guess. I don't second-guess a play-caller.

Q. There's a report out that Texas is set to hire Brennan Marion. I don't know if as a coach, have you been informed of any decision on his part?

PAT NARDUZZI: No, I haven't. No, I haven't. I was focused on this football team, the guys that want to be with us. When you have good coach, people are going to come after them. Guys have decisions to make. Whatever he wants to do, I'm good. We'll be fine.

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Pitt Panthers

Davis Beville

Press Conference

Michigan State 31, Pitt 21

THE MODERATOR: We are joined by quarterback Davis Beville. Questions.

Q. Talk us through when Nick goes down and you're told that you're going into the game.

DAVIS BEVILLE: It's been on my mindset all year to be ready when my number is called. Obviously with Kenny not playing, I was a little bit more prepared to. When he went down, I was 100% ready to go.

Q. It seemed like Michigan State was throwing a lot of pre-snap movement to throw you off. Did any of that confuse you, kept you hidden where the pressure was coming from?

DAVIS BEVILLE: Yeah, they did a couple different things up front, moving around in the secondary. Using my hands was a big thing tonight, trying to get them to show their hand. But, yeah, they got me a couple times.

Q. Coach said the third-and-one toss play on the last possession was a check at the line of scrimmage. Walk us through what happened there. Did you make a check, or was that the original play call?

DAVIS BEVILLE: That was the call before the check. We got the look we wanted. They just beat us on that play.

Q. Davis, what did you see on the final pass that resulted in the pick-six? Was there a guy open there and the defender happened to jump in?

DAVIS BEVILLE: Yeah, in our empty looks, they mugged up, put those two backs in the box. Took a step forward, I thought he was coming, tried to put it right behind him, he stepped back and made a great play. Give all the credit to



him.

Q. At that point I think you completed five passes in a row, you were moving down the field, at the 26. How did that swing of emotions -- you went from feeling like you're going to win the game, then it goes to the complete opposite. Tell us about that experience.

DAVIS BEVILLE: We talked about it a lot, never get too high, never get too low. Coach Junko always says saw that wood, stay in the middle.

That's kind of how it was. Obviously it's not the outcome we wanted or expected. Just got to keep my head high and my chin up.

Q. Davis, what kind of support did you get from your teammates throughout the week? Pat told us you took 80% of the second team snaps. After the interception, seemed like you had a lot of guys coming up to you. What can you say about the teammates, what they've done?

DAVIS BEVILLE: Yeah, this team means everything to me. Definitely disappointed to let those guys down. I mean, we missed some plays here and there. I'm obviously guilty of it.

My team's great. I couldn't ask for anyone better. Those guys are just awesome to be around, whether it's the locker room or it's out and about. Yeah, they showed me love the whole time. I've got their back and they've got mine. That's it.

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Pitt Panthers

Phil Campbell III

Press Conference

Michigan State 31, Pittsburgh 21

THE MODERATOR: We're joined by Phil Campbell. Questions, please.

Q. You had an incredible season, but not the way you wanted it to finish. Is it tough to feel that right now? What are the emotions?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: Yeah, I mean, it's tough. But, you know, we had a great season. We won the ACC championship. Really our goal. We would have liked to have finished it obviously much better.

I give them credit. They were a good team. We had some guys go down. It is what it is. Things like this happen. I wish we had another game to capitalize on it.

You got to look at the positive. This was my last game at Pitt. It's pretty emotional for me also. But, yeah, you just got to look at the positive. We had a great season.

Q. You've seen this defense go through so many changes. This was a game where you held them without a score for over 40 minutes of game time. Is there any thought for you as a senior that this is still something you can take honor of, not hanging your head after this game?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: You know, actually, when you put it that way, yeah, I mean, it is like impressive what we did. I feel like the defense stepped up in a lot of ways today.

We can't point fingers and we can't say they should have done this better, they could have ran this play. But all I can do is just look at what my responsibility was leading the defense.

I think the defense, we showed up. We made mistakes.



We had adversity. But I'm proud of everybody. I'm proud of all of our performance out there.

Q. Michigan State ran 25 plays in the fourth quarter. Did you feel yourselves getting tired a little bit, or is that something you don't even notice in the heat of the game?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: I don't think it was tired. I think it was probably just lack of focus in certain areas. We weren't more tired than they were. It's rough, you know. Things like that happen. Sometimes coverages get blown. Sometimes they attack our scheme really good.

I'm proud of everybody, even guys that had touchdowns scored on them. You can't look at that one play. You got to look at the body of work they did throughout the game and throughout the season.

I'm proud of all of them, honestly.

Q. Is that mental fatigue, then?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: Yeah, it's probably mental fatigue. Focus, a lot goes into it. It can be distractions. Like on the field, like you can not get the call right away, you can be trying to look for your assignment, your alignment. Things happen really fast during the game.

I don't think it was physical fatigue. I'm not sure if it was mental fatigue. I think it was just a lack of focus in certain areas. It could be just having bad eyes on the coverage or not playing through the hands. Little things like that, it all adds up. Little details add up a lot in a game.

Q. As a senior, what is your message to the younger guys coming back?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: I told all the younger guys just keep it going. This was my sixth season. It took a long time for us to get here, to get that ACC championship. I really just want it to keep going. That's my biggest thing, is I really want Pitt to keep going up.

I want them to be even better than we were.



Q. To see how the program went from when you came on campus to now, what are your emotions?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: Yeah, it's very emotional. I was emotional before the game even happened, just putting on my uniform, just taking it all in, just being around the guys.

It was really emotional. Once I started playing, I was just trying to have fun, taking it all in, enjoying every single play.

Even when I was tired I didn't want to come out because it's my last time playing for Pitt. Definitely hard. I wish we won the game, but I'm proud of my career, I'm proud of this team. I think I can walk away with my head high.

Q. You mentioned guys going down, Nick Patti being the big one there. When you realize he's not coming back in, what is the defensive mentality? As a unit, do you feel you have to step up and carry the team?

PHIL CAMPBELL III: Yeah, we said right after that happened, Yeah, we're going to have to score on defense, we're going to have to score on defense, we're going to have to stop them, we're going to have to win the game on defensive.

We said, If they don't score, we win the game.

Cam, he got the fumble and scored for a touchdown. Yeah, I mean, things turn around quickly in good ways and bad ways. It's just the game of football. It's a reflection on life also.

I'm just thankful right now at this point. I'm proud of Patti, I'm proud of Beville. I think they both stepped up. Beville, he was on scout team just a couple weeks ago. He hasn't really had any experience. For him to come in there and do certain things is pretty impressive also.

Patti, he was doing very well. As a defense, the last couple years, we've always had to be the unit to step up. We embraced it again today.

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Pitt Panthers

Marcus Minor

Press Conference



I'm proud of him, his standpoint, and I am happy we were able to have him.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

Michigan State 31, Pittsburgh 21

THE MODERATOR: We are joined by Marcus Minor.

Questions.

Q. When Nick went down after the touchdown, the offensive line going into the next drive with Davis, you said before it doesn't matter who is back there, but what was the mentality?

MARCUS MINOR: When it came down to it, we knew we had to hold up a little bit more. We just had to be better. To have the time to read faster, get things he needed to get done.

We just knew it was still going to be on our shoulders.

Q. You allowed five sacks in this game. It seemed uncharacteristic. What did Michigan State do to confuse you or to get after you that might have caught you a bit off guard?

MARCUS MINOR: They're a good team. They're just as good. They're a top-10 team in the country. Everybody is going to have their good days and their bad days. They just happened to have a good situation for today.

We'll be better next year.

Q. What can you say about Davis Beville stepping up? What can you say about his leadership stepping in as a third string quarterback, giving you every opportunity to win the game?

MARCUS MINOR: He put it on his shoulders. He was a leader throughout the whole time. We needed to be better for him. But he was able to work with us. We communicated on and off the sidelines.



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John Petrishen

Press Conference



Michigan State 31, Pittsburgh 21

THE MODERATOR: We are joined by linebacker John Petrishen.

Q. Johnny, the last couple drives defensively, did you feel like it was just kind of building for them? Both of them were long drives.

JOHN PETRISHEN: They definitely had momentum. We had confidence in our defense that we could man up and make a stop to hopefully win the game.

We knew we had to step up for our offense. They were struggling for a little bit, but we got some momentum towards the end of the game.

It's a shame that the game ended like that defensively. I felt like we played a really good game up until the second half of the fourth quarter. It's disappointing to finish the season that way.

But I think we left it all out there.

Q. You as a defense have closed out so many games this year. What was Michigan State doing that they got past you guys? Some passes were right through tight coverage that allowed them to get some scores.

JOHN PETRISHEN: Yeah, you know what, that's ironic you asked that. There were several times throughout the game, at least three times, when I would tell Voc or somebody else that they ran the perfect play call versus the play call we had on defense.

Especially I think there was twice in the first half, then once in the fourth quarter where I came off the field saying, Dang, that's exactly what we didn't want them to run in that situation, and they ran that.

Credit to them and their preparation and that. Sometimes that's just the luck of the draw, the way things work out.

Yeah, to answer your question, they played a complete game. We weren't sure exactly what to expect with their running back not being able to play. They came out and they threw it. Their quarterback had some really good passes. Sometimes we had really tight coverage and they were able to complete passes off of a great pass and a great catch.

I talked to M.J. after the game, told him to keep his head up. It was a great throw and a great catch. Sometimes there's nothing you can do about that.

You live and you learn. We'll move on.

Q. Especially in the late stages of a game when Michigan State keeps converting on third, fourth down, when those things happen over and over, what effect or cumulative effect does that have on a defense, its psyche, mindset, its fatigue level?

JOHN PETRISHEN: That's a great challenge, not trying to let it affect you as a defense. There were a couple times on the last few drives where we had them in third-and-long. We'd say to each other on the field, Okay, this is our stop, we got to get off the field here. They complete a third and 11 or 12. They weren't huge plays, but chunk plays they would get way past the sticks.

Sometimes it's a sigh after that, like, Ah, geez, that was our opportunity. It'll be a challenge to snap and clear and move on to the next play, especially when we know our team needs a stop. That can be pretty daunting and challenging as a defense.

As an older player and as a leader, I feel like that's my job, some of my teammates' jobs, to kind of rally the troops, look forward to the next snap.

Q. You just wrapped up your Pitt career. Take me through the emotions you're feeling, even after the loss.

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JOHN PETRISHEN: Someday I'll write a book on all this. People keep telling me to do that. Within the next few weeks here, I'd love to sit down with one of you guys and do an in-depth interview about everything, the whole journey, the whole process.

I know we've talked about it here and there, but I haven't gotten into anything, any details about the extent of just my journey, process, the roller coaster ride I've been through personally.

When I came to Pitt, it was really a blind leap of faith. I felt like that was my calling at the time. To come home and to help put this team back on the map, it's really been everything I've ever dreamed for.

But to me, I felt like it was meant to happen. Sometimes with everything I was going through, I wasn't sure exactly how it was going to happen, but I had faith and I knew in my heart it was going to happen.

When I had the season like I did, I fully expected that. The people who believe in me and support me, my small support circle, they expected it. I'm so thankful and grateful for all those people that supported me along the way.

Everybody here at Pitt welcomed me with open arms. I know it's said in the past, but I'll forever be hailing to Pitt. I'll forever be grateful and loyal to Pitt. I can't thank Coach Narduzzi enough, because he didn't have to take me. He's a man of his word. I'll forever be loyal to him and a fan of him.

I could go on for a long time about this, everything I've been through. But it's amazing. Obviously I'll wish more than anything we could have won that game tonight, to finish off my Pitt career with a win. I wanted to win that game so bad for the city, the university, the program.

This program is on the right track. I'm so excited for what's in store in the future. But like I said, I can't be more grateful or appreciative of the opportunity and the season we had this year. I'm really proud to say that I helped put this team back on the map.

Q. You pretty much said it all, but I was wondering how difficult it's going to be for you in the coming weeks to put this game behind you.

JOHN PETRISHEN: It's really difficult. Like I said, I wish more than anything we could have finished off with a W.

If there's anything I learned throughout this process is that

adversity is always going to come. Being positive, positive energy, just defeats everything.

We can go back and forth about certain games and things that happened in the past, but for me, when football was taken away from me for three years due to uncontrollable events, I looked at myself in the mirror and learned more about myself.

Adversity is always going to come. My saying, my favorite book, is "Chop Wood Carry Water." I learned to just keep going. The punches are going to come. You've got to roll with the punches.

Being positive, the sun's going to rise again tomorrow. The sun doesn't stop for anybody. It's heartbreaking that we lost tonight. I feel bad for my teammates and coaches who put so much into this.

Like I said, I wish more than anything we could have pulled this out for everyone because I feel like we deserved it. We played a heck of a game tonight. Everybody played so hard, I'm so proud of everybody.

This is a great program. It's definitely on the rise. It's going to stay there. I'm excited for the future for me and for Pitt, everything is going to work out for everybody. I'm excited.

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Pitt Panthers

SirVocea Dennis

Press Conference



Michigan State 31, Pittsburgh 21

THE MODERATOR: We're joined by SirVocea Dennis. Questions, please.

Q. What can you say about being at this level, ACC championship, playing in this game? What does it say about where Pitt is, reflecting back of your time in central New York and your come-up to where you are today?

SIRVOCEA DENNIS: Well, for Pitt it's big, it's huge. Obviously we didn't like the outcome, but just being here is something that's, like I said, big for the program.

Like Johnny said earlier, we're here to stay. We're in a good place. We're ACC champions. That was just huge for the year.

But for me, being a small town kid, that's amazing. This is, to be honest, something that I never thought I'd be, a place I never thought I'd be.

Just being here and taking in the moment, enjoying it, it's amazing. I appreciate everyone around me, the program, the university, that helped me get here, that we climbed here together.

Q. When Michigan State is running all these plays in the fourth quarter, do you feel as a defense you're getting tired mentally or physically, or something you don't even notice?

SIRVOCEA DENNIS: Yeah, if you prepare well, whether that's game planning, knowing what they're going to run, condition-wise, you don't notice it.

Not a lot of guys noticed it tonight. We just kept our head down and tried to fight hard today.

Q. You had such a great season, especially with John and Phil. They knew it was their last ride. What was it like talking with them after this loss?

SIRVOCEA DENNIS: I love those guys, man. It breaks my heart that they have to leave. But whether we won or lost, it was going to be emotional with those guys because we formed a family. We've been around each other for so long, enjoying each other's times fought because we're brothers.

Basically bought into each other and showed love to each other. It was very emotional. It was a great talk. They're my brothers for life. I wish down the line someday we still talk, we still go out for drinks, look back on the things that we did together as a team and as a unit, just enjoy each other.

At the end of the day you create bonds, and those bonds, we hope they're forever.

Q. Your alma mater CBA won a state championship. What does that mean to you, and what can you say about Coach Casey Brown and Pat Narduzzi, these two coaches?

SIRVOCEA DENNIS: Yeah, first off, I want to say congratulations to CBA. That's something I've never done. That's something that hasn't been done at that school for a long time. I'm very happy for them.

Yeah, Coach Brown, amazing guy, amazing coach. He helped me a lot with the development not only as a player but as a man. That goes a long way. At the end of the day that's what these coaches are here to do.

Coach Narduzzi is doing the same thing. He's making sure that I reach my potential of being that man that I want to be, the best I can be.

Those guys, you know, they're unbelievable because being a coach, it's so many kids you have to be in their lives, try to make sure they reach that potential. They're just amazing guys and they do it so well.

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Michigan State Spartans

Coach Mel Tucker

Press Conference

Michigan State - 31, Pitt - 21

THE MODERATOR: We're joined by Michigan State coach Mel Tucker.

COACH TUCKER: It was a great victory for us. I want to thank the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl for just an incredible experience for our football team, our entire organization.

We're forever grateful for the opportunity. Our guys played extremely hard, like they always do. They never flinched. They continued to just keep chopping wood and keep believing.

And we were able to hit our stride there in the second half and play complementary football -- offense, defense, special teams working together. And we were able to take it deep down into the fourth quarter and we got stronger and stronger as the game went. And we went down into the deep water and were able to find a way to get it done.

And really proud of our guys and our seniors. Our fans were incredible. They traveled. They were deep. And they really helped pull us through. And so I know there's going to be a lot of partying in Spartan Nation tonight and it was just a great experience.

And to get to 11 wins in a New Year's Six bowl is quite an accomplishment for this group.

Q. Wanted to talk about that fourth quarter in particular, the job that Payton did. It didn't seem like a lot of panic or impatience there on those final two drives. What did you see from him and really what was the difference maybe between those middle couple quarters where he was missing some targets and when he started to find that rhythm?

COACH TUCKER: He showed tremendous poise. He



showed a level of maturity. We talked throughout the entire game, and we just talked about what do we need to do to get better; what do we need to do to get on track?

We kept communicating. And he said that he was missing some throws and he wasn't accurate. And I asked him why. I said, why is that? And he told me it was his footwork and that he was really just not delivering the ball the way he normally does.

I told him, well, get your feet right. Fix your footwork and cut it loose. Just start slinging it. And he said okay. And he went out and he did that.

And he's got good players around him, a good offensive line, receivers, backs. And the defense stood up for us there and got stops. We kept getting them the ball back. We were solid on special teams. We were able to play field-position football. And we were able to get it done.

But Payton showed a level of maturity and just resiliency that -- and I told him after the game, I said, you know, what you did was really hard to do. And I told him I was proud of him and it was a great experience and the best is ahead for him.

Q. I wanted to ask you about the defense. Obviously they lost a quarterback so they're down to the third guy, also a running back at some point. It's a unit that's caught a lot of grief this year, hasn't played its best at times. But tonight seemed to really kind of step up, forced a lot of punts there, a lot of three-and-outs. Talk about that unit's performance overall tonight.

COACH TUCKER: I'll tell you what, the preparation leading up to this game was outstanding. Scottie and the entire defensive staff put together a great plan. Never wasted a minute in preparation. And our guys were fresh and they were ready to go and they understood what we needed to do.

And so it was all about execution. Guys played extremely hard. They believe in what we're doing. And we had rush and coverage working together. And so it was just a



relentless effort for the defense.

And we were able to get some three-and-outs. And we were able to affect the quarterback and get the ball back to our offense, make some big plays. And that's what defenses do.

And you know, the past is not necessarily predictive of the future unless you don't change the behavior. And we played better. We executed better, played with better fundamentals.

We got better from the end of the Penn State game until tonight. And so it showed on the field. And because of that we got better results.

Q. I was just curious, you talked all season about how this was such a fun group to coach. After the final game, what is your assessment of the team overall and your relationship with them?

COACH TUCKER: Well, I told them in the locker room that -- first I told them before the game that we have a tremendous amount of gratitude for this group, our coaching staff. And we appreciate them and everything that they've done this season, all the hard work that they put in.

And after the game, again, just proud of their performance. Really happy for our seniors that have given us so much, given this university so much. And I told them that this performance was very indicative of how we played all season and our culture.

And we're relentless. We don't flinch. We believe in the process. We keep chopping. We're in great condition. We know that we can go deep into the fourth quarter and wear teams down, take them to the deep water. And that's where we want to be. And we were able to get them to that point and were able to finish.

And so it was a tremendous victory to get to 11 wins. It was quite an accomplishment. And doing it as a team, playing complementary football, it was just tremendous. The best is ahead for us.

Q. I know, Coach, you just said that the best is yet to come. Just kind of -- like you just won your first bowl game. Let's start there. And now that you're moving forward with the team, you're locked in with a great contract and everything to move forward. Talk about what you're looking forward to doing in the next season.

COACH TUCKER: Well, it's going to be a 24-hour rule for

me. And we're going to enjoy this victory and then we're going to get back to work.

Recruiting is extremely important. And the contact period is going to open up here pretty soon. We're going to hit the ground running. And then we're going to have great out-of-season conditioning program leading up to spring ball. And we're going to train like crazy and work to improve our football team. And our goal is to win every game on our schedule.

So there's a lot of hard work that needs to be done between now and when we kick off again next season. But we're going to remain focused and determined to get where we need to go.

And we play in a tough conference. It's very rugged. It's very competitive. But we're in it. We're in it to win it. And, so, I do believe that our best is ahead. But it's going to be about our actions. It's going to be about our behavior as to what's going to create the outcome. So we're going to get back to work. We're going to chop hard to get this football team better so we can go after our goals next season.

Q. Question about the fans. I know it was so exciting to see so many Spartan fans there in Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Just express your gratitude, I guess, in the sense of support of the fans, the alumni, the students that traveled to the city of Atlanta in the midst of COVID and everything, just kind of share your thoughts on that, please.

COACH TUCKER: Well, our fans have been great all season. And Spartan nation is strong, has always been strong. Football is extremely important here at Michigan State.

And we have a tremendous fan base across the country and throughout the world. 500,000 living alumni. And they traveled well all season, and the watch parties and all the different cities and all the alumni clubs. And it's just -- everyone's very excited about the direction of our program and they support us in many, many ways.

So I want to thank our fans for believing in us and supporting our program. And they will continue to do that. And our fans deserve a winning football team. Our fans deserve a championship football team. Our fans deserve to see a brand of football that they can be proud of.

And that's what we're here to do. It means something to us to make our fans proud, and that's something that we talk about all the time and we're going to continue to do that. We're going to do it as a team. Our team on the field and our fans, together we're going to accomplish some great

 . . . when all is said, we're done.®

things here.

Q. You talk about the future and everything, but you've talked also this season about maximizing your potential, reaching your potential. Do you feel like this team did that? Is that one of the things, in terms of foundation, in terms of culture and moving forward on things to build off as a program, what this team did is that?

COACH TUCKER: I felt like our team gave us everything that they had every game and emptied the bucket with extreme effort, played with toughness, was resilient, played to win. And that's all you can ask. And when the fourth quarter starts, most teams put up a 4. We put up a 1. And that 1 basically signifies one minute after the game, what will we be able to say to each other -- coaches, players? Will we be able to say -- win, lose or draw -- that we gave everything that we had on the field for each other? If we can say that, then we can live with that.

And I felt like this football team just really laid it on the line and gave us everything that they had. And so we really have laid the foundation for how we need to play football here and our culture has really shifted. And we're cementing it and we're building upon it every single day.

And the brand of football that we play here at Michigan State is very important. And everyone should be able to look on that field when they see us play and say those guys play hard. Those guys are tough, they're physical. They won't quit. They don't flinch. And that's what Michigan State football has always been about and that's what we see on the field.

Q. With Jalen coming back, seemed to make a big difference in your passing attack. And Jayden Reed in what could have been his final performance. What did you see from those two guys together and how them being on the field at the same time changes your passing attack?

COACH TUCKER: They're both tremendous players, as we all know. They compete. They can win one-on-one. They're dynamic players. And they're team guys. They block hard in the run game. And in the pass game those guys are hard to cover.

And it's not just deep balls but it could be short game, intermediate and also in the deep passing game. They're very, very productive. They're dangerous and they're absolute difference makers.

Q. You guys have won many games sort of like this this year where you've had some late things -- Miami,

Nebraska, you know what I'm talking about, I'm sure. How many times does that have to happen, do you think, until it just becomes part of that identity and part of that culture? And can that carry over into next year when you guys have done it as many times as you have? Or does it just always have to sort of be a constantly renewed things? How do you sustain that and make that long term, you know?

COACH TUCKER: It's part of our mental conditioning. It's part of our culture. It's the way we train. It's the way we practice. It's our mindset.

And that's the way you have to play the game of football. It's a four-quarter game. You have to continue to always play the next play. Just keep chopping, just keep going. Every play has a history and a life of its own.

So you don't look at a scoreboard. You just keep playing the next play with extreme effort and extreme toughness.

And coaching 10 years in the National Football League, I mean, almost all those games go down -- a lot of those games go down to the last drive, two minutes to win the game.

And when you're competing at a very high level, against very good competition, you have to be prepared to win games late in the fourth quarter with conditioning; mental and physical toughness; and a never-stop, never-flinch attitude.

That's how we train and that's how we need to play, because at the top, where the best compete, success is measured in inches. And you have to be at your best when your best is needed.

And oftentimes that's down the stretch late in the fourth. You've got to make plays and you've got to find a way to get it done and find a way to get in the left-hand column, because this is a binary situation. You get a 1 or you get a 0. And our guys understand that. And we're playing to win.

Q. With the struggles this year and past events, what does it mean to you as a career-long secondary coach that you've won or saved five games with late interceptions, key interceptions? And what does it say that you're the only team in the country that's beaten two Power Five champions in 2021?

COACH TUCKER: It's something to build upon. It means that our guys, our coaches and our players believe in what we're doing. And that when we execute, when we have our rush and our coverage working together, and we play



our techniques, we play with great technique and fundamentals, everyone does their job, that we can be efficient in pass defense and we can be stout in the run game.

And when we have success, we need to continue to understand why we have success and build on those things. We're going to keep adding players to our roster, keep adding depth and build on the positives and own the negatives and figure out how we can get better.

But the effort was there tonight and there was an element of competitive greatness and that's being at your best when your best is needed. And that's what we've seen this season, just like you talked about, the several games guys have made plays down the stretch to ice games, because there's something to be said for that. We do have pride in our program. We do have pride in our defense. We're not where we need to be. But we're going to get there.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl: Pitt vs Michigan State

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Mercedes-Benz Stadium

Michigan State Spartans

Cal Haladay

Press Conference

Michigan State - 31, Pitt - 21

THE MODERATOR: We're joined by Cal Haladay.

Q. On that last interception, it looked a lot like the one at Indiana. Did it feel the same? Was it similar at all to that play? What's going through your mind when you're running down the sideline there with that?

CAL HALADAY: In my mind I was just thinking I'm probably going to get yelled at a little bit because I'm supposed to go down in that situation. But I couldn't do it. I couldn't pass up the opportunity in my head.

But it was really similar to Indiana. Now I just -- there was nothing in front of me and I just had to keep going. And I was nervous someone was going to catch me from behind.

Q. The defensive approach you guys had in the second half, how much of that was trying to maybe adjust to a new quarterback in the first half and then kind of settled in, and how much adjustment did you guys have to make?

CAL HALADAY: I didn't think we had to make any adjustments. We just had to clean up how we were playing. Our adjustments just were tackle better, drive on the ball better, break, just doing the little things better. That's what we did at the end of the day. We just needed to go out, get the ball back to our offense as quick as we could and give ourselves an opportunity to win the game.

Q. This is a lot like other games you guys had this year, maybe not the Indiana game, but Nebraska and Miami, you guys have had late plays to seal or win a game. I know that obviously speaks to the keep chopping, relentless sort of mantra thing. When did you notice or feel that was taking root in the program and it wasn't just a saying; it was actually a thing? It



wasn't just a hashtag or sign on the wall, but it was something that this team actually had?

CAL HALADAY: I think it started in fall camp. I think we believed it from day one. Coach Tucker's culture is keep chopping, keep grinding, be relentless. That's the way we've been since fall camp. It got us through these tight games, to be honest.

When they talk about 15 rounds and taking it to the deep water, that's what we did. Coach Tuck believes in this conditioned and physical, technical, fundamentals, things like that. And I think that's what this game came down to.

Q. You're a guy who either was limited to special teams last year; no one anticipated you being a starter this season. What's it like to end the year not only with the team's success, but winning the MVP of the New Year's Six bowl game?

CAL HALADAY: I just am thankful for the opportunity I got. I've got to thank my parents, the team around me -- those guys worked their butts off every single day -- the coaches always pushing me to get better never letting me settle. And always constantly grinding every single day. I just need to thank everyone around me because without them I wouldn't be able to be where I am today.

Q. How does it feel to go out on a high note in dramatic fashion like this for the seniors? I know you're a younger guy, but to send them off like that, and to see guys like Connor Heyward making big plays, and it's perhaps their final game as a Spartan?

CAL HALADAY: That was the goal at the end of the day. We wanted to send our seniors out on a good note. We came down here for the 11th win and that's what our goal was after Penn State. I'm glad it all worked out. I'm proud of the guys. They have great careers here. And I'm just proud of what we did this year.

Q. The fans are starting to call you Pick-6 Haladay. Do you and Quavaris Crouch have to change numbers?

CAL HALADAY: Maybe. I don't know about that. But I



think I'm going to stick with 27 for now. But that's funny.
I'm glad everyone's enjoying it.



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Michigan State Spartans

Payton Thorne

Press Conference

Michigan State - 31, Pitt - 21

Q. Coach talked about the conversation you guys had on the sideline, that you felt like you were missing some things and your footwork was off. First, how do you correct that in game? And, secondly, what started to go right particularly on that long drive you finished with the Connor touchdown?

PAYTON THORNE: Coach Tuck was talking to me on the sidelines. Kind of asked me what I needed or what I wanted to run or anything like that. And I just told him, I like the plays that were being called. They're my favorite plays that we had in.

And I just wasn't being accurate. He asked why. I said probably my feet are messed up because it always starts with your feet.

But, like you say, you can't really focus on that during the game because you're looking at the defense the whole time. So you can't really be thinking about your feet the whole time.

For me, we talked about it on the sideline, just treat it like it's practice. And treat it like you're just playing one play at a time. Coach Johnson talks about that a lot. I feel like in the fourth quarter I was just playing one play at a time, just reading the defense and taking what they give us.

Q. You play for a head coach who often says he wants his team to be at its best when its best is needed. What's the mindset of the team in the fourth quarter to ultimately get the job done there?

PAYTON THORNE: Going into the fourth quarter, I think we were down 11, and the whole game my teammates just kept telling me to stay up and really just keep chopping. That's what we talk about. And we really say that on the



sideline.

And coaches, same thing. I even heard fans saying that from the sideline. And I was telling the guys on the radio that sometimes when you're playing like I was playing, fans are going to start to boo you. And that's warranted. I'm not saying that fans shouldn't do that.

But they didn't. They really didn't. And they kept saying we believe in you, stuff like that, I heard that from the crowd.

But going into the fourth quarter, like I said before, it was just play one play at a time, try to put a good drive together. And our guys made great plays, great catches all around. And the offensive line played well, picking up all the blitzes.

Q. Having Jalen Nailor back and not having thrown to him other than in practice for a couple of months, how difficult was it to try to get back in a rhythm with somebody you used to have as one of your go-to targets?

PAYTON THORNE: I look back to our bowl preparation. I feel I was in great rhythm with him. Hitting him on the deep balls. The timing was right. And tonight he played well and I wasn't putting it on him for second, third quarter. I can't really remember everything that happened the first, but I felt we were playing decent.

But he did his thing and I was telling him on the sideline I'd figure it out here at some point. In fourth quarter, he made a couple of key catches and he's a guy that you can rely on and it was great for him.

Q. Obviously no Kenneth tonight, one of the best in the nation. Going in did you feel there would be, I don't know if "pressure" is the right word, but more emphasis on throwing the ball and the need to step up for your team?

PAYTON THORNE: Yeah, I did. I trust our running backs. And we have good running backs. So that's not why. But we knew they were a good run defense. We knew that



they were second in the country in sacks. And a lot of different reasons for that. But they were a good defense.

And, obviously, like you said, we were missing Ken, but we felt we could get some stuff in the pass game. And we weren't really hitting them for a lot of the game. But in the fourth quarter we were able to string some stuff together and take advantage of the areas that we thought we were going to be able to.

Q. What was it like tonight when you had a defense that had its struggles this year but even when you guys were having trouble moving the ball they kept getting it back for you, getting it back for you, giving you guys a chance to kind of come back like they did? What did it mean to have the defense playing that way for you guys tonight?

PAYTON THORNE: It was amazing. Our defense played their tails off. 21 was on the scoreboard, but they had a scoop and score that I fumbled. So that's seven. And then they went down on the field and scored a touchdown after my interception. That's seven off of turnovers.

So they played great. And they did the same thing. They just kept chopping. They came out today and played their tails off. Coach Haze had a great plan going into this one, and they did a great job.

Q. I was just curious about Connor's performance tonight, what you thought of it. And how important it was to have him as a reliable guy on that first touchdown drive in the fourth quarter.

PAYTON THORNE: Connor's been a guy that has been around here for a long time. He's a guy you can rely on. He does the right stuff. He works his butt off. And he makes plays. And (indiscernible) was on that play to get a little width, because we ran that play earlier in the day to get width from the backside safety, because that's what I was reading.

And he did that. Went up, made the catch, really nice catch. Got smoked in the back. And came down with it. So it was a clutch catch, and it was awesome.

Q. What does it mean if this is the last time you're throwing to Jayden that the game-winning touchdown was to him after all the times you two have done that?

PAYTON THORNE: He was excellent tonight all night. And he was keeping me up the whole game. And he was open all night. And he did a great job. Obviously two great contested catches in the end zone. And he had a pretty amazing game. Obviously he won offensive MVP, as he

should. And it was special. It was cool. It was a cool moment. But I'm hoping I can throw him a few more next year.

Q. Can you tell me, Pittsburgh called time out. There's three minutes to go, third and ten, came out of the timeout. You threw it and completed a comeback, I think, to Jalen Nailor. Could you talk about what you guys were saying on the sidelines and what your approach was to that particular play? And then right after that going to Reed for that touchdown, that key third and 10, what was the process going into that?

PAYTON THORNE: They called timeout. We had a play called. We switched up. And we went with a different play. And O line did their job. I'm not sure if they brought pressure or not, but they picked it up. So I had plenty of time to throw.

And Speedy ran a great route. He stopped, went, threw the guy by. And he was open. I kind of threw the ball to a spot, because I think I might have let go of it before he was out of his break. And sure enough there he was right where he was supposed to be.

And it was a pretty great route and a great catch. And it was great awareness to get the first round. And he set up the touchdown, and it was pretty good.

Q. The first touchdown drive of the quarter, you're down 21-10, cut it to 16, in that drive it looked like you were starting to hit some comebacks along the sideline against bailing coverage, press, bail. Was that a thought in your mindset to take some of those underneath? Was that part of it also or is that just what came open at that time?

PAYTON THORNE: No, I was just kind of reading what they were doing. We ran that play earlier in the game in the flat defender really buzzed hard against the stop route, is what we called it. And so I just kind of kept my eyes down the pipe in the second, or the fourth quarter to kind of use my peripheral to feel which flat defender was kind of inside the box or just tucked in. And just kind of went to that side. And it was the boundary I think every time.

So, again, guys were running the right routes. They secured the catch and they went and got first downs, and it was great.

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Michigan State Spartans

Jayden Reed

Press Conference

Michigan State - 31, Pitt - 21

THE MODERATOR: We're joined by Jayden Reed.

Q. Could you walk us through that last touchdown drive you guys had? What did you see from Payton, and going into that final play, the touchdown catch, was the call, kind of your mindset going after that ball (indiscernible)?

JAYDEN REED: I love 50/50 balls because I believe they're 100 percent balls coming towards my way. And Payton Thorne threw a great ball. He gave me opportunity to put it somewhere where I could make a play. And that's how it happened.

Q. The other day you said you wouldn't talk about whether you would come back next year until after the game. It's after the game. I wanted to ask you if you had made up your mind yet?

JAYDEN REED: I still don't have an answer at this moment.

Q. For you overall, how is the season, what is it like to cap this year with the performance you had tonight. You (indiscernible) injury late, and just the overall effort you put in this year offensively?

JAYDEN REED: It's been a great season. It's always a great season to get 11 wins. I feel like I've heard that we made history or something, the sixth team or something like that to get 11 wins in the season at Michigan State. So that's a huge accomplishment to make as a program.

Q. Payton was in here saying you were in his ear in the sideline all throughout the night, especially early on when he may not have been playing as well. What were you saying to him and what were you seeing from



him when he wasn't playing as well early?

JAYDEN REED: Something I do as always. I want to be a big brother to him as I always do when things aren't going his way. Because I know he's a really good player. I was trying my best to make sure he wasn't getting discouraged or anything like that. I was picking his head up when it was down.

Obviously things changed. He got his head straight. And he made plays when we needed him.

Q. Is tonight the kind of night that you had kind of envisioned when you transferred from Western? And what does it feel for you to be named offensive MVP of a New Year's Six bowl?

JAYDEN REED: It's a blessing. Who would have thought I would be in this position today? I give all glory to God, my family that supported everything. And I trusted all my decisions I made coming up to this point.

I want to thank the coaches, everybody, the whole program, support staff, the university for allowing me to go to school there and earn my degree. I'm just accomplishing all my dreams. And I can only thank God for that.

Q. When you're making this decision, because it's obviously a big one, how much do you put a factor into what you've done on the field, what more you can accomplish, and as well having maybe one more year with Payton with the connection you guys have shown this year?

JAYDEN REED: No doubt. What I do, what I always do when I make decisions, I make a pros and cons list. Everything that is going to come down to, you know what I'm saying? And I really go with my gut for the most part.

I look at the facts, what's really out there for me, you know what I'm saying? And I just go with the flow. To be honest, I haven't missed yet. So trusting God and everything like that, I know I'll make the right decision.



Q. How fitting do you think it is, the performance you guys had tonight, down by 11 in the fourth quarter, given the season overall when most people weren't expecting you guys to accomplish much, and you go on to win 11 games and a New Year's Six?

JAYDEN REED: Yeah, that's what always happens when odds are against you. We had a chip on our shoulder since last season, the last game, when we played Penn State, with the COVID year and everything like that. That was a tough year.

So new coaching staff and everything. We never really had a full year to get under our belt to actually develop as a whole unit.

So we had a chip on our shoulder from winter conditioning. Everybody worked their tails off. I knew from that point that we were going to have a really good team because everybody was bought into the coaches that Coach Tuck was bringing in.

I felt the family more on the team, you know what I'm saying? I looked at them more as family. I was closer to many more teammates than I've ever been on any team. So from that standpoint that's when I knew that this team was going to be really good.

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Connor Heyward

Press Conference

Michigan State - 31, Pitt - 21

Q. I'm wondering if you can kind of walk us through that touchdown, and particularly you come down with the ball and you're kind of looking up into the stands, pointing into the stands. How special was that moment for you, particularly against your dad's old team?

CONNOR HEYWARD: Yeah, it was real special. This game meant a lot to me not just because it was a New Year's Six bowl but playing my dad and mom's alma mater. My mom grew up in Pittsburgh.

My brother, playing for the Steelers, has a big impact on Pittsburgh community. And the whole family being born in Pittsburgh except for me. I was born and raised in Atlanta. Live in the same house my whole life, about 25 minutes outside of Atlanta.

So this game just meant a lot to me. And I just wanted to come out victorious.

Q. Kind of going off that, what did it mean to you to be able to finish your career on such a high note with that touchdown, that drive in the fourth quarter, in front of your friends and family in your hometown?

CONNOR HEYWARD: It meant a lot. I had like 50 people here at least, 50, 60 people, friends and family, coaches from high school, coaches from little league. My friends I grew up with and old teammates.

It was just amazing to finish, and to it with a group of guys in the locker room and all the coaches that have pushed us to extreme limits, but they know how to love on us as well.

So just being able to get this dub means so much and more. Words don't describe it. And to be at home, that's



just icing on the cake.

Q. What do you think that this team -- do you think this team's legacy is or will be in time being Coach Tucker's second team? And what do you think this season can do for maybe the next few seasons, and how quickly maybe things can turn around here based on what happened this year?

CONNOR HEYWARD: This win is going to do a lot. I think it's going to attract even more recruits. Obviously you guys see Coach Tucker and the whole staff recruiting very well at a high level, nonstop and getting the best guys up to East Lansing and letting them see the campus for the first time. And they're always blown away.

I think it will attract more recruits and just more attraction to Michigan State football. I think a lot of people knows that it's a gritty, physical team and by-any-means team, but once they get up there they'll like it even more.

Once you're around the coaches and the whole culture, it just kind of rubs off on everybody. So I think this win can do a lot. But obviously for the team, for next year, they need to put the work in as well. I know Coach Tuck isn't going to take a back seat to that and continue to push guys, and I think the team will also be remembered as a team that never quit; a legendary team, where only six times this has happened now where teams at Michigan State history have 11 wins or more.

And so to do that in Coach Tuck's second year just shows how much work the players and coaches have put into it.

Q. Do you think it will take you a while for your career and what you did here to really sink in, from coming here as an athlete, starting at running back, entering the portal, to returning and then switching to tight end and to have it happen against Pitt, do you think that will be something that might take you a while to really adjust to?

CONNOR HEYWARD: It kind of hit me after the game, honestly. Just like everything that I've been through, the good and the bad. And sometimes you just have to go



through the bad to -- sometimes it has to rain to see the sunny days, as I kind of see it.

And I think everything just came full circle. It's a blessing to play the game of football and to finish it off this way against all the connections I have with Pitt. It just all came full circle.

Q. From where you were two years ago, I don't know if anyone has chopped more than you have for Mel Tucker, if the final chapter of this story is a 21-0 fourth quarter, what does that mean?

CONNOR HEYWARD: Keep chopping. Back's against the wall. You've got to be able to make a play. As an offensive skill player, you want to either have the big block or the big catch when the game's on the line.

You saw a number of guys step up, not just me. Tre Mosley had a lot of tough catches in traffic. Obviously Jayden, the one to start the game and the one to win the game. And then Speedy catching the one-handed one behind him. And just Payton putting the ball in the air and believing in everybody, not a lot of quarterbacks are like him and spread the wealth.

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