

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF
2025 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

FINAL
GAME BOOK

#8

OHIO STATE

14-2

BUCKEYES

3

4

#7

NOTRE DAME

14-2

FIGHTING IRISH

2

3

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME

#18 WILL

HOWARD

SR. QB

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME

#0 CODY

SIMON

SR. LB

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM | ATLANTA, GEORGIA



Scoring Summary report
#8 Ohio State vs #7 Notre Dame (Jan 20, 2025)
#8 Ohio State (14-2) vs #7 Notre Dame (14-2)

Date: Jan 20, 2025
Site: Atlanta, Georgia
Stadium: Mercedes-Benz Stadium
Attendance: 77660

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
#8 Ohio State	0	21	10	3	34
#7 Notre Dame	7	0	8	8	23

SCORING SUMMARY

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	05:15	UND - #13 R.Leonard 1 yd rush (#98 M.Jeter kick), 18-75, 09:45	0-7
2nd	14:10	OSU - #4 J.Smith 8 yd pass from #18 W.Howard (#38 J.Fielding kick), 11-75, 06:05	7-7
2nd	06:15	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 9 yd rush (#38 J.Fielding kick), 10-76, 06:06	14-7
2nd	00:27	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 6 yd pass from #18 W.Howard (#38 J.Fielding kick), 12-80, 04:26	21-7
3rd	12:46	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 1 yd rush (#38 J.Fielding kick), 5-75, 02:14	28-7
3rd	07:52	OSU - #38 J.Fielding 46 yd FG, 6-5, 03:26	31-7
3rd	03:03	UND - #1 J.Greathouse 34 yd pass from #13 R.Leonard (#4 J.Love pass from #13 R.Leonard), 10-75, 04:49	31-15
4th	04:15	UND - #1 J.Greathouse 30 yd pass from #13 R.Leonard (#5 B.Collins pass from #6 J.Faison), 6-80, 02:10	31-23
4th	00:26	OSU - #38 J.Fielding 33 yd FG, 9-61, 03:44	34-23

TIME DETAILS

Kickoff time: 07:48 PM
End of Game: 11:08 PM
Total elapsed: 03:20

OFFICIALS

Referee: Steve Marlowe
Umpire: Brent Sowell
Linesman: Chad Green
Line judge: Jeremiah Harris
Back judge: Keith Parham
Field judge: Phillip Davenport
Side judge: Justin Larrew
Center judge: Jason McArthur
Replay Official: John Allmond

WEATHER

Indoor



FULL GAME

#8 OHIO STATE

RUSHING		No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Quinshon Judkins	11	100	0	100	2	70	9.1	
Will Howard	16	64	7	57	0	11	3.6	
TreVeyon Henderson	12	49	0	49	0	19	4.1	
Emeka Egbuka	1	13	0	13	0	13	13.0	
Jeremiah Smith	1	0	5	-5	0	0	-5.0	
Totals:	41	226	12	214	2	70	5.2	

PASSING		C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Will Howard	17-21-0	231	2	56	2	
Totals:	17-21-0	231	2	56	2	

RECEIVING		TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long
Emeka Egbuka	6	6	64	42	0	24	
Jeremiah Smith	7	5	88	45	1	56	
Carnell Tate	3	2	35	4	0	20	
Quinshon Judkins	2	2	21	18	1	15	
Brandon Inniss	1	1	19	12	0	19	
Gee Scott Jr.	1	1	4	5	0	4	
TreVeyon Henderson	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals:	21	17	231	126	2	56	

PUNTING		No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Joe McGuire	1	51	51.0	51	0	0	
Totals:	1	51	51.0	51	0	0	

	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Brandon Inniss	1	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TreVeyon Henderson	0	0	0	1	6	6	0	0	0
Totals:	1	-3	0	1	6	6	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS		Qtr	Time	Dist	Result
Jayden Fielding	3rd	07:52	46	GOOD	
Jayden Fielding	4th	00:26	33	GOOD	

KICKOFFS		No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Jayden Fielding	7	455	65.0	7	0	

ALL-PURPOSE		Rush	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Quinshon Judkins	100	21	0	0	0	0	121
Jeremiah Smith	-5	88	0	0	0	0	83
Emeka Egbuka	13	64	0	0	0	0	77
Will Howard	57	0	0	0	0	0	57

FUMBLES

#8 Ohio State - Emeka Egbuka 1-1

#7 Notre Dame - None

#7 NOTRE DAME

RUSHING		No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Riley Leonard	17	54	14	40	1	8	2.4	
Jadarian Price	3	13	0	13	0	9	4.3	
Jeremiah Love	4	4	1	3	0	2	0.8	
Jordan Faison	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0	
TEAM	1	0	4	-4	0	0	-4.0	
Totals:	26	72	19	53	1	9	2.0	

PASSING		C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Riley Leonard	22-31-0	255	2	34	2	
Steve Angeli	0-1-0	0	0	0	0	
Totals:	22-32-0	255	2	34	2	

RECEIVING		TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long
Jaden Greathouse	8	6	128	42	2	34	
Mitchell Evans	5	4	52	27	0	33	
Beaux Collins	5	4	32	18	0	12	
Eli Raridon	2	2	20	9	0	14	
Kris Mitchell	5	2	16	12	0	10	
Jeremiah Love	2	2	5	13	0	7	
Jordan Faison	2	1	6	3	0	6	
Jayden Harrison	1	1	-4	0	0	0	
Jayden Thomas	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals:	31	22	255	124	2	34	

PUNTING		No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
James Rendell	2	97	48.5	51	0	0	
Totals:	2	97	48.5	51	0	0	

	Punt			Kickoff			Intercept		
	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg	No	Yds	Lg
Max Hurleman	1	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	1	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS		Qtr	Time	Dist	Result
Mitch Jeter	4th	09:27	27	MISSED	

KICKOFFS		No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Mitch Jeter	4	233	58.2	1	0	

ALL-PURPOSE		Rush	Rcv	KR	PR	IR	Total
Jaden Greathouse	0	128	0	0	0	0	128
Mitchell Evans	0	52	0	0	0	0	52
Riley Leonard	40	0	0	0	0	0	40
Beaux Collins	0	32	0	0	0	0	32



FULL GAME	OSU	UND
FIRST DOWNS	22	19
Rushing	11	5
Passing	10	11
Penalty	1	3
NET YARDS RUSHING	214	53
Rushing Attempts	41	26
Average Per Rush	5.2	2.0
Rushing Touchdowns	2	1
Yards Gained Rushing	226	72
Yards Lost Rushing	12	19
NET YARDS PASSING	231	255
Completions-Attempts-Int	17-21-0	22-32-0
Average Per Attempt	11.0	8.0
Average Per Completion	13.6	11.6
Passing Touchdowns	2	2
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	445	308
Total offense plays	62	58
Average Gain Per Play	7.2	5.3
Fumbles: Number-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties: Number-Yards	6-58	3-30
PUNTS-YARDS	1-51	2-97
Average Yards Per Punt	51.0	48.5
Net Yards Per Punt	41	50
Inside 20	0	0
50+ Yards	1	1
Touchbacks	0	0
Fair catch	0	1
KICKOFF-YARDS	7-455	4-233
Average Yards Per Kickoff	65.0	58.2
Net Yards Per Kickoff	40	40.2
Touchbacks	7	1
Fair Catch Yards	0	41
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	1--3-0	1-10-0
Average Per Return	-3.0	10.0
Kickoff returns: Number-Yds-TD	1-6-0	0-0-0
Average Per Return	6.0	0.0
Interceptions: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Fumble Returns: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	32:25	27:35
1st Quarter	05:15	09:45
2nd Quarter	11:22	03:38
3rd Quarter	08:43	06:17
4th Quarter	07:05	07:55
Third-Down Conversions	9-12	5-12
Fourth-Down Conversions	0-0	3-4
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	6-6	1-2
Touchdowns	4	1
Field goals	2	0
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-13	2-4
PAT Kicks	4-4	1-1
2Pts Conversions	0-0	2-2
Field Goals	2-2	0-1
Points off Turnover	0	0



FULL GAME
#8 OHIO STATE

#	Name	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
0	Cody Simon	4	4	8	0.0-0	1.0-4	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
6	Sonny Styles	3	3	6	1.0-11	1.0-11	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
44	JT Tuimolou	5	0	5	1.0-2	2.0-3	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2	Caleb Downs	5	0	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
91	Tyleik Williams	3	1	4	0.0-0	1.0-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
1	Davison Igbinosun	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
10	Denzel Burke	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
8	Lathan Ransom	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
33	Jack Sawyer	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
7	Jordan Hancock	0	3	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
97	Kenyatta Jackson Jr.	2	0	2	0.0-0	1.0-1	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
96	Eddrick Houston	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
3	Lorenzo Styles Jr.	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
20	Arvell Reese	1	0	1	0.0-0	1.0-4	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
92	Caden Curry	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
24	Jermaine Matthews Jr.	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
98	Kayden McDonald	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals		36	18	54	2.0-13	7.0-25	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0

#7 NOTRE DAME

#	Name	Solo	Ast	Total	Sacks-Yds	TFL-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	Blks	QBH
34	Drayk Bowen	7	1	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
0	Xavier Watts	6	2	8	0.0-0	1.0-5	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
15	Leonard Moore	5	0	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
24	Jack Kiser	4	1	5	0.0-0	1.0-1	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
40	Joshua Burnham	4	0	4	2.0-4	2.0-4	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
8	Adon Shuler	3	1	4	0.0-0	1.0-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
27	Kyngstonn Viliamu-Asa	1	3	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	1-0	0-0	0	0	0
1	Jordan Clark	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
29	Christian Gray	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
97	Gabriel Rubio	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
4	Jaiden Ausberry	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
56	Howard Cross III	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
3	Jaylen Sneed	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
9	RJ Oben	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
6	Jordan Faison	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2	Rod Heard II	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
10	Lohan Thomas	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
28	Luke Talich	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
30	Bryce Young	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals		46	10	56	2.0-4	5.0-12	1	1-0	0-0	2	0	0



#8 OHIO STATE

Pos	##	OFFENSE
QB	18	Howard, Will
RB	32	Henderson, TreVeyon
WR	4	Smith, Jeremiah
OL	51	Montgomery, Luke
OL	67	Siereveld, Austin
OL	70	Fryar, Josh
OL	74	Jackson, Donovan
OL	75	Hinzman, Carson
OL	77	Tshabola, Tegra
TE	88	Scott Jr., Gee
TE	89	Kacmarek, Will

Pos	##	DEFENSE
LB	0	Simon, Cody
CB	1	Igbinosun, Davison
DB	10	Burke, Denzel
DB	2	Downs, Caleb
DE	33	Sawyer, Jack
DL	44	Tuimoloau, JT
DL	58	Hamilton, Ty
LB	6	Styles, Sonny
CB	7	Hancock, Jordan
S	8	Ransom, Lathan
DL	91	Williams, Tyleik

#8 Ohio State

1-Judkins, Quinshon, 11-Inniss, Brandon, 11-Hicks, C.J., 15-Thurman, Jelani, 17-Tate, Carnell, 17-Melton, Mitchell, 18-McClain, Jaylen, 2-Egbuka, Emeka, 20-Reese, Arvell, 24-Williams-Dixon, Sam, 24-Matthews Jr., Jermaine, 26-Pierce, Payton, 3-Styles Jr., Lorenzo, 32-Jones, Brenton, 38-Fielding, Jayden, 39-Velazquez, Joey, 42-McGuire, Joe, 43-Ferlmann, John, 49-Gurd, Patrick, 52-Mickens, Joshua, 58-VanSickle, Gabe, 62-Prater, Bryce, 62-Padilla, Joshua, 68-Fitzpatrick, George, 82-Adolph, David, 85-Christian, Bennett, 9-Hartford, Malik, 92-Curry, Caden, 93-Kanu, Hero, 95-Malone, Tywone, 96-Houston, Eddrick, 97-Jackson Jr., Kenyatta, 98-McDonald, Kayden

#7 Notre Dame

0-Colzie, Deion, 1-Clark, Jordan, 10-Thomas, Loghan, 13-Minich, Ben, 14-Gilbert, Micah, 16-Rendell, James, 18-Angeli, Steve, 2-Heard II, Rod, 2-Harrison, Jayden, 20-Williams, Aneayas, 21-Young, Kedren, 22-Ford, Devyn, 23-Urlacher, Kennedy, 24-Price, Jadarian, 25-Zinter, Preston, 26-Salerno, Chris, 27-Viliamu-Asa, Kyngstonn, 28-Talich, Luke, 30-Young, Bryce, 35-Rezac, Teddy, 37-Hurleman, Max, 38-Sherwood, Davis, 39-Monteforte, Rino, 4-Ausberry, Jaiden, 41-Hinish, Donovan, 44-Tuihalamaka, Junior, 55-Terek, Chris, 6-Faison, Jordan, 75-Absher, Sullivan, 76-Lambert, Guerby, 79-Baker, Tosh, 82-Scheidler, Leo, 83-Thomas, Jayden, 84-Bauman, Kevin, 88-Mukam, Armel, 9-Raridon, Eli, 96-Vinci, Joseph, 98-Jeter, Mitch

#7 NOTRE DAME

Pos	##	OFFENSE
WR	1	Greathouse, Jaden
WR	10	Mitchell, Kris
QB	13	Leonard, Riley
RB	4	Love, Jeremiyah
WR	5	Collins, Beaux
OL	50	Spindler, Rocco
OL	56	Jagusah, Charles
OL	59	Wagner, Aamil
OL	74	Schrauth, Billy
OL	78	Coogan, Pat
TE	88	Evans, Mitchell

Pos	##	DEFENSE
S	0	Watts, Xavier
CB	15	Moore, Leonard
LB	24	Kiser, Jack
CB	29	Gray, Christian
LB	3	Sneed, Jaylen
LB	34	Bowen, Drayk
LB	40	Burnham, Joshua
DL	56	Cross III, Howard
S	8	Shuler, Adon
DL	9	Oben, RJ
DL	97	Rubio, Gabriel



#8 OHIO STATE

Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Drive Ended			Consumed	
			Time	Obtained	Spot	Time	How lost	PI - Yds	TOP
OSU	1st	OSU25	05:15	Kickoff	UND00	14:10	*TOUCHDOWN	11 - 75	06:05
OSU	2nd	OSU24	12:21	Punt	UND00	06:15	*TOUCHDOWN	10 - 76	06:06
OSU		OSU20	04:53	Punt	UND00	00:27	*TOUCHDOWN	12 - 80	04:26
OSU	3rd	OSU25	15:00	Kickoff	UND00	12:46	*TOUCHDOWN	5 - 75	02:14
OSU		UND33	11:18	Downs	UND28	07:52	*FIELD GOAL	6 - 5	03:26
OSU		OSU25	03:03	Kickoff	UND21	14:46	Fumble	6 - 54	03:17
OSU	4th	OSU20	09:27	FieldGoalMissed	OSU39	06:25	Punt	5 - 19	03:02
OSU		OSU24	04:10	Kickoff	UND15	00:26	*FIELD GOAL	9 - 61	03:44

#8 Ohio State	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	Total
Time of possession	05:15	11:22	08:43	07:05	16:37	15:48	32:25
3rd down conversions	2-2	4-4	2-3	1-3	6-6	3-6	9-12
Average field position	OSU25	OSU22	OSU39	OSU22	OSU23	OSU32	OSU29
4th down conversions	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

#7 NOTRE DAME

Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Drive Ended			Consumed	
			Time	Obtained	Spot	Time	How lost	PI - Yds	TOP
UND	1st	UND25	15:00	Kickoff	OSU00	05:15	*TOUCHDOWN	18 - 75	09:45
UND	2nd	UND25	14:10	Kickoff	UND20	12:21	Punt	3 - -5	01:49
UND		UND25	06:15	Kickoff	UND26	04:53	Punt	3 - 1	01:22
UND		UND25	00:27	Kickoff	UND32	00:00	End of half	1 - 7	00:27
UND	3rd	UND25	12:46	Kickoff	UND33	11:18	Downs	4 - 8	01:28
UND		UND25	07:52	Kickoff	OSU00	03:03	*TOUCHDOWN	10 - 75	04:49
UND	4th	UND21	14:46	Fumble	OSU09	09:27	Missed FG	12 - 70	05:19
UND		UND20	06:25	Punt	OSU00	04:15	*TOUCHDOWN	6 - 80	02:10
UND		UND25	00:26	Kickoff	UND40	00:00	End of half	2 - 15	00:26

#7 Notre Dame	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	Total
Time of possession	09:45	03:38	06:17	07:55	13:23	14:12	27:35
3rd down conversions	2-4	0-2	1-2	2-4	2-6	3-6	5-12
Average field position	UND25	UND25	UND25	UND22	UND25	UND23	UND24
4th down conversions	2-2	0-0	0-1	1-1	2-2	1-2	3-4



Drive Chart By Quarter report
 #8 Ohio State vs #7 Notre Dame (Jan 20, 2025)

Date: Jan 20, 2025
 Site: Atlanta, Georgia
 Stadium: Mercedes-Benz Stadium
 Attendance: 77660

Team	Qtr	Spot	Drive Started		Spot	Drive Ended		Consumed	
			Time	Obtained		Time	How lost	PI - Yds	TOP
UND	1st	UND25	15:00	Kickoff	OSU00	05:15	*TOUCHDOWN	18 - 75	09:45
OSU		OSU25	05:15	Kickoff	UND00	14:10	*TOUCHDOWN	11 - 75	06:05
UND	2nd	UND25	14:10	Kickoff	UND20	12:21	Punt	3 - -5	01:49
OSU		OSU24	12:21	Punt	UND00	06:15	*TOUCHDOWN	10 - 76	06:06
UND		UND25	06:15	Kickoff	UND26	04:53	Punt	3 - 1	01:22
OSU		OSU20	04:53	Punt	UND00	00:27	*TOUCHDOWN	12 - 80	04:26
UND		UND25	00:27	Kickoff	UND32	00:00	End of half	1 - 7	00:27
OSU	3rd	OSU25	15:00	Kickoff	UND00	12:46	*TOUCHDOWN	5 - 75	02:14
UND		UND25	12:46	Kickoff	UND33	11:18	Downs	4 - 8	01:28
OSU		UND33	11:18	Downs	UND28	07:52	*FIELD GOAL	6 - 5	03:26
UND		UND25	07:52	Kickoff	OSU00	03:03	*TOUCHDOWN	10 - 75	04:49
OSU		OSU25	03:03	Kickoff	UND21	14:46	Fumble	6 - 54	03:17
UND	4th	UND21	14:46	Fumble	OSU09	09:27	Missed FG	12 - 70	05:19
OSU		OSU20	09:27	FieldGoalMissed	OSU39	06:25	Punt	5 - 19	03:02
UND		UND20	06:25	Punt	OSU00	04:15	*TOUCHDOWN	6 - 80	02:10
OSU		OSU24	04:10	Kickoff	UND15	00:26	*FIELD GOAL	9 - 61	03:44
UND		UND25	00:26	Kickoff	UND40	00:00	End of half	2 - 15	00:26



#8 OHIO STATE

	Left	Middle	Right
20+ YDS	0-1, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%	1-1, 20 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 100%	1-1, 56 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 100%
10-19 YDS	1-2, 12 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 50%	0-0, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%	1-1, 15 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 100%
0-9 YDS	2-3, 26 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 66.7%	2-2, 13 YDS 1 TD - 0 INT 100%	4-5, 36 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 80%

BEHIND LOS: 5-5, 53 YDS, 1 TD, 0 INT

#7 NOTRE DAME

	Left	Middle	Right
20+ YDS	2-2, 60 YDS 1 TD - 0 INT 100%	0-0, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%	0-0, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%
10-19 YDS	0-0, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%	3-4, 62 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 75%	0-2, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%
0-9 YDS	5-7, 63 YDS 1 TD - 0 INT 71.4%	0-1, 0 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 0%	7-11, 59 YDS 0 TD - 0 INT 63.6%

BEHIND LOS: 5-5, 11 YDS, 0 TD, 0 INT



1st Quarter

#8 Ohio State wins toss and defers; UND will receive; OSU will defend West end-zone.
(15:00) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 15:00

- 1-10 UND25 (15:00) Shotgun #4 J.Love rush middle for 1 yard loss to the UND24 (#44 J.Tuimoloau).
- 2-11 UND24 (14:25) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 8 yards gain to the UND32 (#6 S.Styles; #7 J.Hancock).
- 3-3 UND32 (13:51) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 4 yards gain to the UND36 (#91 T.Williams), 1ST DOWN. R1
- 1-10 UND36 (13:17) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short middle to #10 K.Mitchell thrown to OSU50.
- 2-10 UND36 (13:13) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #10 K.Mitchell caught at UND40, for 10 yards to the UND46 (#10 D.Burke), 1ST DOWN. P2
- 1-10 UND46 (12:41) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #4 J.Love caught at UND40, for 7 yards to the OSU47 (#0 C.Simon; #7 J.Hancock).
- 2-3 OSU47 (12:00) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 2 yards gain to the OSU45 (#91 T.Williams).
- 3-1 OSU45 (11:18) No Huddle-Shotgun #4 J.Love rush right for 0 yards to the OSU45 (#97 K.Jackson Jr.).
- 4-1 OSU45 (10:39) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 3 yards gain to the OSU42 (#0 C.Simon), 1ST DOWN. R3
- 1-10 OSU42 (10:06) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #9 E.Raridon caught at OSU33, for 14 yards to the OSU28 (#33 J.Sawyer), 1ST DOWN. P4
- 1-10 OSU28 (09:27) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short left to #10 K.Mitchell thrown to OSU21.
- 2-10 OSU28 (09:23) No Huddle-Shotgun #24 J.Price rush left for 9 yards gain to the OSU19 (#2 C.Downs).
- 3-1 OSU19 (08:37) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 5 yards gain to the OSU14 (#33 J.Sawyer; #98 K.McDonald), 1ST DOWN. R5
- 1-10 OSU14 (07:58) No Huddle-Shotgun #4 J.Love rush left for 2 yards gain to the OSU12 (#96 E.Houston).
- 2-8 OSU12 (07:23) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush right for 5 yards gain to the OSU07 (#2 C.Downs), out of bounds.
- 3-3 OSU07 (06:42) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush left for 2 yards gain to the OSU05 (#2 C.Downs).
- 4-1 OSU05 (06:00) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 4 yards gain to the OSU01 (#0 C.Simon; #33 J.Sawyer), 1ST DOWN. R6
- 1-G OSU01 (05:18) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 1 yard gain to the OSU00 TOUCHDOWN, clock 05:15.
- OSU03 #98 M.Jeter kick attempt good (H: #26 C.Salerno, LS: #39 R.Monteforte).

#8 Ohio State 0, #7 Notre Dame 7.

18 plays, 75 yards, 09:45

(05:15) #98 M.Jeter kickoff 65 yards to the OSU00, Touchback.

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 05:15

- 1-10 OSU25 (05:15) #32 T.Henderson rush left for 5 yards gain to the OSU30 (#24 J.Kiser).
- 2-5 OSU30 (04:37) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush left for 0 yards to the OSU30 (#24 J.Kiser).
- 3-5 OSU30 (03:59) No Huddle-Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short left to #4 J.Smith caught at OSU34, for 7 yards to the OSU37 (#15 L.Moore), 1ST DOWN. P1
- 1-10 OSU37 (03:15) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short left to #88 G.Scott Jr. caught at OSU36, for 4 yards to the OSU41 (#56 H.Cross III).
- 2-6 OSU41 (02:38) No Huddle-Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush middle for 19 yards gain to the UND40 (#0 X.Watts), out of bounds, 1ST DOWN. R2
- 1-10 UND40 (02:06) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #1 Q.Judkins caught at UND43, for 15 yards to the UND25 (#0 X.Watts), 1ST DOWN. P3
- 1-10 UND25 (01:21) Shotgun #4 J.Smith rush left for 5 yards loss to the UND30 (#0 X.Watts).
- 2-15 UND30 (00:45) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short left to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND19, for 12 yards to the UND18, out of bounds at UND18.
- 3-3 UND18 (00:08) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush middle for 5 yards gain to the UND13, End Of Play, 1ST DOWN. R4

Summary	Score	Time Poss	R	1st Downs			Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
				P	X	T	3rd	4td			
#8 Ohio State	0	05:15	2	2	0	4	2-2	0-0	5-24	4-4-0-38	0-0
#7 Notre Dame	7	09:45	4	2	0	6	2-4	2-2	13-44	3-5-0-31	0-0



FIRST QUARTER	OSU	UND
Score	0	7
FIRST DOWNS	4	6
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	5-24	13-44
PASSING YDS (NET)	38	31
Passes Cmp-Att-Int	4-4-0	3-5-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	9-62	18-75
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	0-0.0	0-0.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	0-0	0-0
Possession Time	05:15	09:45
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 2	2 of 4
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	2 of 2
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	1-1	1-1

#8 OHIO STATE

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
TreVeyon Henderson	3	24	0	24	0	19	8.0
Will Howard	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Jeremiah Smith	1	0	5	-5	0	0	-5.0
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Will Howard	4-4-0	38	0	15	0		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Quinshon Judkins	1	1	15	18	0	15	
Emeka Egbuka	1	1	12	1	0	12	
Jeremiah Smith	1	1	7	3	0	7	
Gee Scott Jr.	1	1	4	5	0	4	
Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB	
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL			
Caleb Downs	3-0	3	0.0	0.0			
Cody Simon	1-2	3	0.0	0.0			
Jack Sawyer	1-2	3	0.0	0.0			
Jordan Hancock	0-2	2	0.0	0.0			

#7 NOTRE DAME

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Riley Leonard	9	34	0	34	1	8	3.8
Jadarian Price	1	9	0	9	0	9	9.0
Jeremiah Love	3	2	1	1	0	2	0.3
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Riley Leonard	3-5-0	31	0	14	0		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Eli Raridon	1	1	14	5	0	14	
Kris Mitchell	3	1	10	6	0	10	
Jeremiah Love	1	1	7	13	0	7	
Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB	
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL			
Xavier Watts	3-0	3	0.0	1.0			
Jack Kiser	2-0	2	0.0	0.0			
Howard Cross III	1-0	1	0.0	0.0			
Leonard Moore	1-0	1	0.0	0.0			

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
1st	05:15	UND - #13 R.Leonard 1 yd rush (#98 M.Jeter kick), 18-75, 09:45	0-7



2nd Quarter

- 1-10 UND13 (15:00) #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 5 yards gain to the UND08 (#3 J.Sneed).
- 2-5 UND08 (14:16) #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #4 J.Smith caught at UND15, for 8 yards to the UND00 TOUCHDOWN, P5
clock 14:10, 1ST DOWN.
- UND03 #38 J.Fielding kick attempt good (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann).

#8 Ohio State 7, #7 Notre Dame 7.

11 plays, 75 yards, 06:05

(14:10) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 14:10

- 1-10 UND25 (14:10) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short right to #5 B.Collins thrown to UND30.
- 2-10 UND25 (14:06) PENALTY UND False Start (#5 B.Collins) 5 yards from UND25 to UND20. NO PLAY.
- 2-15 UND20 (14:03) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #5 B.Collins caught at UND33, for 13 yards to the UND33, out of bounds at UND33 PENALTY UND Holding (#56 C.Jagusah) 10 yards from UND20 to UND10. NO PLAY.
- 2-25 UND10 (13:49) No Huddle-Shotgun #24 J.Price rush middle for 2 yards gain to the UND12 (#6 S.Styles).
- 3-23 UND12 (13:10) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #88 M.Evans caught at UND17, for 8 yards to the UND20 (#1 D.Igbinosun).
- 4-15 UND20 (12:25) #16 J.Rendell punt 46 yards to the OSU34 fair catch by #2 C.Downs at OSU34 PENALTY OSU Holding (#88 G.Scott Jr.) 10 yards from OSU34 to OSU24.

3 plays, -5 yards, 01:49

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 12:21

- 1-10 OSU24 (12:21) #2 E.Egbuka rush right for 13 yards gain to the OSU37 (#34 D.Bowen), 1ST DOWN. R6
- 1-10 OSU37 (11:45) #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #17 C.Tate caught at OSU48, for 15 yards to the UND48, out of bounds P7
at UND48, 1ST DOWN.
- 1-10 UND48 (11:06) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush middle for 2 yards gain to the UND46 (#9 R.Oben).
- 2-8 UND46 (10:27) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND43, for 3 yards to the UND43 (#1 J.Clark).
- 3-5 UND43 (09:45) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush left for 11 yards gain to the UND32 (#29 C.Gray), 1ST DOWN. R8
- 1-10 UND32 (09:02) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND31, for 12 yards to the UND20 (#34 D.Bowen), 1ST DOWN. P9
- (08:20) Timeout by OSU.
- 1-10 UND20 (08:20) Shotgun #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 2 yards gain to the UND18 (#27 K.Viliamu-Asa; #30 B.Young).
- 2-8 UND18 (07:41) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND13, for 6 yards to the UND12 (#1 J.Clark).
- 3-2 UND12 (07:01) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush left for 3 yards gain to the UND09 (#0 X.Watts; #4 J.Ausberry), 1ST DOWN. R10
- 1-G UND09 (06:21) Shotgun #1 Q.Judkins rush left for 9 yards gain to the UND00 TOUCHDOWN, clock 06:15.
- UND03 #38 J.Fielding kick attempt good (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann).

#8 Ohio State 14, #7 Notre Dame 7.

10 plays, 76 yards, 06:06

(06:15) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 06:15

- 1-10 UND25 (06:15) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 5 yards gain to the UND30 (#44 J.Tuimolou).
- 2-5 UND30 (05:41) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short left to #10 K.Mitchell thrown to UND35.
- 3-5 UND30 (05:37) No Huddle-Shotgun #7 Notre Dame rush left for 4 yards loss to the UND26 (#20 A.Reese).
- 4-9 UND26 (05:00) #16 J.Rendell punt 51 yards to the OSU23 #11 B.Inniss return for loss of 3 yards to the OSU20 (#6 J.Faison).

3 plays, 1 yards, 01:22

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 04:53

- 1-10 OSU20 (04:53) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #4 J.Smith caught at OSU19, for 2 yards to the OSU22 (#1 J.Clark).
- 2-8 OSU22 (04:12) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush right for 1 yard gain to the OSU23 (#34 D.Bowen), out of bounds.
- 3-7 OSU23 (03:31) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short left to #11 B.Inniss caught at OSU30, for 19 yards to the OSU42 (#2 R.Heard II), out of bounds, 1ST DOWN. P11
- 1-10 OSU42 (02:48) Shotgun #18 W.Howard sacked for loss of 1 yard to the OSU41 (#40 J.Burnham).
- 2-11 OSU41 (02:06) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush right for 4 yards gain to the OSU45 (#0 X.Watts).
- (02:00) Timeout.
- 3-7 OSU45 (01:58) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete deep middle to #17 C.Tate caught at UND35, for 20 yards to the UND35, End P12
Of Play, 1ST DOWN.
- 1-10 UND35 (01:31) Shotgun #18 W.Howard sacked for loss of 3 yards to the UND38 (#40 J.Burnham).
- (01:25) Timeout by UND.
- 2-13 UND38 (01:24) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short right to #4 J.Smith caught at UND29, for 15 yards to the UND23 (#29 C.Gray), out of bounds, 1ST DOWN. P13
- 1-10 UND23 (01:19) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass incomplete short left to #32 T.Henderson thrown to UND05 broken up by #0 X.Watts.
- 2-10 UND23 (01:12) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush right for 11 yards gain to the UND12 (#27 K.Viliamu-Asa; #0 X.Watts), 1ST DOWN. R14
- 1-10 UND12 (00:58) No Huddle-Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush right for 6 yards gain to the UND06 (#34 D.Bowen).
- (00:33) Timeout by OSU.
- 2-4 UND06 (00:33) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short middle to #1 Q.Judkins caught at UND00, for 6 yards to the UND00 P15
TOUCHDOWN, clock 00:27, 1ST DOWN.
- UND03 #38 J.Fielding kick attempt good (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann).

#8 Ohio State 21, #7 Notre Dame 7.

12 plays, 80 yards, 04:26

(00:27) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 00:27

- 1-10 UND25 (00:26) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #5 B.Collins caught at UND24, for 7 yards to the UND32 (#44 J.Tuimolou).

1 plays, 7 yards, 00:27



Play By Play report
#8 Ohio State vs #7 Notre Dame (Jan 20, 2025)

Date: Jan 20, 2025
Site: Atlanta, Georgia
Stadium: Mercedes-Benz Stadium
Attendance: 77660

Summary	Score	Poss	R	P	X	T	3rd	4td	Rushing	Passing	Penalties
#8 Ohio State	21	11:22	4	7	0	11	4-4	0-0	13-63	10-11-0-106	1-10
#7 Notre Dame	0	03:38	0	0	0	0	0-2	0-0	3-3	2-4-0-15	2-15



SECOND QUARTER	OSU	UND
Score	21	0
FIRST DOWNS	11	0
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	13-63	3-3
PASSING YDS (NET)	106	15
Passes Cmp-Att-Int	10-11-0	2-4-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	24-169	7-18
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	1--3	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	0-0.0	2-48.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	1-10	2-15
Possession Time	11:22	03:38
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 4	0 of 2
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-2	0-0

#8 OHIO STATE

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Will Howard	5	25	4	21	0	11	4.2
Quinshon Judkins	3	16	0	16	1	9	5.3
TreVeyon Henderson	4	13	0	13	0	6	3.2
Emeka Egbuka	1	13	0	13	0	13	13.0
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Will Howard	10-11-0	106	2	20	2		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Jeremiah Smith	3	3	25	24	1	15	
Emeka Egbuka	3	3	21	12	0	12	
Carnell Tate	2	2	35	4	0	20	
Brandon Inniss	1	1	19	12	0	19	
Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB	
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Brandon Inniss	1	-3	0	0			
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL			
JT Tuimoloau	2-0	2	0.0	0.0			
Arvell Reese	1-0	1	0.0	1.0			
Davison Igbinosun	1-0	1	0.0	0.0			
Sonny Styles	1-0	1	0.0	0.0			

#7 NOTRE DAME

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Riley Leonard	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Jadarian Price	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
TEAM	1	0	4	-4	0	0	-4.0
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Riley Leonard	2-4-0	15	0	8	0		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Mitchell Evans	1	1	8	3	0	8	
Beaux Collins	2	1	7	8	0	7	
Kris Mitchell	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB	
James Rendell	2	97	48.5	51	0	0	
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long			
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL			
Drayk Bowen	4-0	4	0.0	0.0			
Jordan Clark	3-0	3	0.0	0.0			
Xavier Watts	1-2	3	0.0	0.0			
Christian Gray	2-0	2	0.0	0.0			

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
2nd	14:10	OSU - #4 J.Smith 8 yd pass from #18 W.Howard (#38 J.Fielding kick), 11-75, 06:05	7-0
2nd	06:15	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 9 yd rush (#38 J.Fielding kick), 10-76, 06:06	14-0
2nd	00:27	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 6 yd pass from #18 W.Howard (#38 J.Fielding kick), 12-80, 04:26	21-0



3rd Quarter

(15:00) #98 M.Jeter kickoff 60 yards to the OSU05 fair catch by #2 E.Egbuka at OSU05.

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 15:00

- 1-10 OSU25 (15:00) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass incomplete short left to #4 J.Smith thrown to OSU31 broken up by #15 L.Moore.
- 2-10 OSU25 (14:56) #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 70 yards gain to the UND05 (#15 L.Moore), 1ST DOWN. R16
- (14:03) Timeout by OSU.
- 1-G UND05 (14:02) #1 Q.Judkins rush right for 1 yard gain to the UND04 (#10 L.Thomas).
- 2-G UND04 (13:21) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush middle for 3 yards gain to the UND01 (#0 X.Watts).
- 3-G UND01 (12:48) #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 1 yard gain to the UND00 TOUCHDOWN, clock 12:46.
- UND03 #38 J.Fielding kick attempt good (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann).

#8 Ohio State 28, #7 Notre Dame 7.

5 plays, 75 yards, 02:14

(12:46) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 12:46

- 1-10 UND25 (12:46) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short right to #1 J.Greathouse thrown to UND33.
- 2-10 UND25 (12:41) No Huddle-Shotgun #4 J.Love rush left for 2 yards gain to the UND27 (#0 C.Simon; #91 T.Williams).
- 3-8 UND27 (12:04) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #6 J.Faison caught at UND30, for 6 yards to the UND33 (#10 D.Burke).
- 4-2 UND33 (11:22) No Huddle #18 S.Angeli pass incomplete short right to #6 J.Faison thrown to UND37, TURNOVER ON DOWNS.

4 plays, 8 yards, 01:28

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 11:18

- 1-10 UND33 (11:18) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush middle for 4 yards gain to the UND29 (#8 A.Shuler; #24 J.Kiser).
- 2-6 UND29 (10:38) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush right for 7 yards gain to the UND22 (#4 J.Ausberry), 1ST DOWN. R17
- 1-10 UND22 (09:54) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush right for 3 yards gain to the UND19 (#15 L.Moore), out of bounds.
- 2-7 UND19 (09:19) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short left to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND16, for 5 yards to the UND14 (#3 J.Sneed; #29 C.Gray) PENALTY OSU Holding (#70 J.Fryar) 10 yards from UND19 to UND29. NO PLAY.
- 2-17 UND29 (08:44) #32 T.Henderson rush right for 1 yard gain to the UND28 (#97 G.Rubio).
- 3-16 UND28 (08:03) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass incomplete deep left to #17 C.Tate thrown to UND00.
- 4-16 UND28 (07:58) #38 J.Fielding field goal attempt from 46 yards GOOD (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann), clock 07:52.

#8 Ohio State 31, #7 Notre Dame 7.

6 plays, 5 yards, 03:26

(07:52) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 07:52

- 1-10 UND25 (07:51) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 5 yards gain to the UND30 (#96 E.Houston).
- 2-5 UND30 (07:19) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #10 K.Mitchell caught at UND30, for 6 yards to the UND36 (#92 C.Curry), 1ST DOWN. P7
- 1-10 UND36 (06:46) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #5 B.Collins caught at UND40, for 10 yards to the UND46 (#1 D.Igbinosun; #6 S.Styles), 1ST DOWN. P8
- 1-10 UND46 (06:13) No Huddle-Shotgun #24 J.Price rush middle for 2 yards gain to the UND48 (#0 C.Simon; #6 S.Styles).
- 2-8 UND48 (05:35) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard sacked for loss of 11 yards to the UND37 (#6 S.Styles).
- 3-19 UND37 (04:54) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete deep left to #88 M.Evans thrown to OSU40 broken up by #1 D.Igbinosun PENALTY OSU Pass Interference (#1 D.Igbinosun) 15 yards from UND37 to OSU48, 1ST DOWN. NO PLAY. X9
- 1-10 OSU48 (04:48) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #9 E.Raridon caught at OSU46, for 6 yards to the OSU42 (#2 C.Downs), out of bounds.
- 2-4 OSU42 (04:16) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 3 yards gain to the OSU39 (#44 J.Tuimolou).
- 3-1 OSU39 (03:42) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush right for 5 yards gain to the OSU34 (#8 L.Ransom), 1ST DOWN. R10
- 1-10 OSU34 (03:17) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short right to #83 J.Thomas thrown to OSU15.
- 2-10 OSU34 (03:13) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #1 J.Greathouse caught at OSU29, for 34 yards to the OSU00 TOUCHDOWN, clock 03:03, 1ST DOWN. P11
- OSU03 #4 J.Love pass attempt Successful.

#8 Ohio State 31, #7 Notre Dame 15.

10 plays, 75 yards, 04:49

(03:03) #98 M.Jeter kickoff 61 yards to the OSU04 fair catch by #2 E.Egbuka at OSU04.

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 03:03

- 1-10 OSU25 (03:03) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short middle to #2 E.Egbuka caught at OSU31, for 7 yards to the OSU32 (#15 L.Moore).
- 2-3 OSU32 (02:28) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush left for 2 yards gain to the OSU34 (#27 K.Viliamu-Asa).
- 3-1 OSU34 (01:56) #18 W.Howard rush middle for 2 yards gain to the OSU36 (#97 G.Rubio), 1ST DOWN. R18
- 1-10 OSU36 (01:12) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush middle for 2 yards gain to the OSU38, End Of Play.
- 2-8 OSU38 (00:35) #18 W.Howard pass incomplete short left thrown to OSU41 PENALTY UND Roughing The Passer (#9 R.Oben) 15 yards from OSU38 to UND47, 1ST DOWN. NO PLAY. X19
- 1-10 UND47 (00:31) Shotgun #32 T.Henderson rush left for 2 yards gain to the UND45 (#34 D.Bowen; #27 K.Viliamu-Asa).

Summary	Score	Time Poss	R	1st Downs				Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
				P	X	T	3rd	4td				
#8 Ohio State	10	08:43	3	0	1	4	2-3	0-0	12-98	1-3-0-7	2-25	
#7 Notre Dame	8	06:17	1	3	1	5	1-2	0-1	6-6	5-8-0-62	1-15	



THIRD QUARTER	OSU	UND
Score	10	8
FIRST DOWNS	4	5
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	12-98	6-6
PASSING YDS (NET)	7	62
Passes Cmp-Att-Int	1-3-0	5-8-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	15-105	14-68
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	0-0.0	0-0.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	2-25	1-15
Possession Time	08:43	06:17
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 3	1 of 2
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-2	0-0

#8 OHIO STATE

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Quinshon Judkins	3	72	0	72	1	70	24.0
Will Howard	4	14	0	14	0	7	3.5
TreVeyon Henderson	5	12	0	12	0	4	2.4
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Will Howard	1-3-0	7	0	7	0		

Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long
Emeka Egbuka	1	1	7	1	0	7
Jeremiah Smith	1	0	0	0	0	0
Carnell Tate	1	0	0	0	0	0

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long		
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long		
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL		
Sonny Styles	1-2	3	1.0	1.0		
Cody Simon	0-2	2	0.0	0.0		
Caden Curry	1-0	1	0.0	0.0		
Caleb Downs	1-0	1	0.0	0.0		

#7 NOTRE DAME

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Riley Leonard	4	13	11	2	0	5	0.5
Jeremiyah Love	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
Jadarian Price	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Riley Leonard	5-7-0	62	1	34	1		
Steve Angeli	0-1-0	0	0	0	0		

Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long
Jaden Greathouse	2	1	34	29	1	34
Beaux Collins	1	1	10	6	0	10
Jordan Faison	2	1	6	3	0	6
Kris Mitchell	1	1	6	6	0	6

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long		
Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long		
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL		
Leonard Moore	3-0	3	0.0	0.0		
Gabriel Rubio	2-0	2	0.0	0.0		
Kyngstonn Viliamu-Asa	1-1	2	0.0	0.0		
Adon Shuler	0-1	1	0.0	0.0		

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
3rd	12:46	OSU - #1 Q.Judkins 1 yd rush (#38 J.Fielding kick), 5-75, 02:14	7-0
3rd	07:52	OSU - #38 J.Fielding 46 yd FG, 6-5, 03:26	10-0
3rd	03:03	UND - #1 J.Greathouse 34 yd pass from #13 R.Leonard (#4 J.Love pass from #13 R.Leonard), 10-75, 04:49	10-8



4th Quarter

2-8 UND45 (14:59) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete short middle to #2 E.Egbuka caught at UND49, for 24 yards to the UND21 fumbled by #2 E.Egbuka at UND21 forced by #34 D.Bowen recovered by UND #27 K.Viliamu-Asa at UND21, End Of Play. The previous play is under automatic review - "Fumble". PLAY STANDS.

6 plays, 54 yards, 03:17

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 14:46

1-10 UND21 (14:46) Shotgun #6 J.Faison rush left for 1 yard gain to the UND22 (#2 C.Downs).
 2-9 UND22 (14:16) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short right thrown to UND32.
 3-9 UND22 (14:07) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete deep left to #1 J.Greathouse caught at UND48, for 30 yards to the OSU48 (#0 C.Simon), 1ST DOWN. P12
 1-10 OSU48 (13:38) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short left thrown to OSU46 PENALTY OSU Holding (#1 D.Igbinosun) 10 yards from OSU48 to OSU38, 1ST DOWN. NO PLAY. X13
 1-10 OSU38 (13:34) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #2 J.Harrison caught at OSU42, for 4 yards loss to the OSU42 (#0 C.Simon).
 2-14 OSU42 (12:50) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 2 yards gain to the OSU40 (#0 C.Simon).
 3-12 OSU40 (12:08) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #88 M.Evans caught at OSU35, for 7 yards to the OSU33 (#6 S.Styles), out of bounds.
 4-5 OSU33 (11:32) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #1 J.Greathouse caught at OSU27, for 11 yards to the OSU22 (#3 L.Styles Jr.), 1ST DOWN. P14
 1-10 OSU22 (11:02) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #1 J.Greathouse caught at OSU17, for 6 yards to the OSU16 (#1 D.Igbinosun), out of bounds.
 2-4 OSU16 (10:27) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short left to #2 J.Harrison thrown to OSU00 broken up by #10 D.Burke PENALTY OSU Holding (#2 C.Downs) 8 yards from OSU16 to OSU08, 1ST DOWN. NO PLAY. X15
 1-G OSU08 (10:21) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard rush middle for 1 yard loss to the OSU09 (#97 K.Jackson Jr.).
 2-G OSU09 (09:42) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short right to #88 M.Evans thrown to OSU00.
 3-G OSU09 (09:38) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass incomplete short middle to #1 J.Greathouse thrown to OSU05 broken up by #7 J.Hancock.
 4-G OSU09 (09:31) #98 M.Jeter field goal attempt from 27 yards NO GOOD (H: #26 C.Salerno, LS: #39 R.Monteforte), clock 09:27.

12 plays, 70 yards, 05:19

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 09:27

1-10 OSU20 (09:27) Shotgun #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 1 yard gain to the OSU21 (#40 J.Burnham).
 2-9 OSU21 (08:46) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush middle for 11 yards gain to the OSU32 (#8 A.Shuler), 1ST DOWN. R20
 1-10 OSU32 (08:05) Shotgun #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 3 yards gain to the OSU35 (#40 J.Burnham).
 2-7 OSU35 (07:21) Shotgun #1 Q.Judkins rush left for 4 yards gain to the OSU39 (#34 D.Bowen).
 3-3 OSU39 (06:36) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass incomplete short right to #4 J.Smith thrown to OSU41.
 4-3 OSU39 (06:34) #42 J.McGuire punt 51 yards to the UND10 #37 M.Hurleman return 10 yards to the UND20 (#3 L.Styles Jr.; #8 L.Ransom).

5 plays, 19 yards, 03:02

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 06:25

1-10 UND20 (06:25) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short middle to #5 B.Collins caught at UND32, for 12 yards to the UND32, End Of Play, 1ST DOWN. P16
 1-10 UND32 (06:03) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #88 M.Evans caught at UND35, for 4 yards to the UND36 (#24 J.Matthews Jr.), out of bounds.
 2-6 UND36 (05:34) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short middle to #88 M.Evans caught at UND48, for 33 yards to the OSU31 (#8 L.Ransom), 1ST DOWN. P17
 1-10 OSU31 (05:02) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard sacked for loss of 2 yards to the OSU33 (#44 J.Tuimoloau).
 #44 J.Tuimoloau injured on the play.
 2-12 OSU33 (04:41) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short right to #5 B.Collins caught at OSU34, for 3 yards to the OSU30 (#10 D.Burke).
 3-9 OSU30 (04:21) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete deep left to #1 J.Greathouse caught at OSU00, for 30 yards to the OSU00 TOUCHDOWN, clock 04:15, 1ST DOWN, PENALTY OSU Pass Interference declined. P18
 OSU03 #5 B.Collins pass attempt Successful.

#8 Ohio State 31, #7 Notre Dame 23.

6 plays, 80 yards, 02:10

(04:15) #98 M.Jeter kickoff 47 yards to the OSU18 #32 T.Henderson return 6 yards to the OSU24 (#28 L.Talich).

#8 Ohio State drive starts at 04:10

1-10 OSU24 (04:10) #1 Q.Judkins rush right for 3 yards gain to the OSU27 (#24 J.Kiser).
 2-7 OSU27 (03:31) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush left for 8 yards gain to the OSU35 (#0 X.Watts), 1ST DOWN. R21
 #1 J.Clark injured on the play.
 1-10 OSU35 (02:50) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush right for 0 yards to the OSU35 (#8 A.Shuler).
 (02:49) Timeout by UND.
 2-10 OSU35 (02:49) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush left for 1 yard loss to the OSU34 (#24 J.Kiser).
 (02:45) Timeout by UND.
 3-11 OSU34 (02:45) Shotgun #18 W.Howard pass complete deep right to #4 J.Smith caught at UND28, for 56 yards to the UND10 (#29 C.Gray), 1ST DOWN. P22
 (02:00) Timeout.
 1-G UND10 (02:00) PENALTY OSU False Start (#85 B.Christian) 5 yards from UND10 to UND15. NO PLAY.
 1-G UND15 (02:00) #1 Q.Judkins rush middle for 1 yard gain to the UND14 (#15 L.Moore).
 (01:56) Timeout by UND.
 2-G UND14 (01:55) #18 W.Howard rush middle for 1 yard gain to the UND13 (#34 D.Bowen).
 (01:13) Timeout by OSU.
 3-G UND13 (01:13) Shotgun #18 W.Howard rush right for 2 yards loss to the UND15 (#8 A.Shuler).
 (00:29) Timeout by OSU.
 4-G UND15 (00:28) #38 J.Fielding field goal attempt from 33 yards GOOD (H: #42 J.McGuire, LS: #43 J.Ferlmann), clock 00:26.

#8 Ohio State 34, #7 Notre Dame 23.

9 plays, 61 yards, 03:44



(00:26) #38 J.Fielding kickoff 65 yards to the UND00, Touchback.

#7 Notre Dame drive starts at 00:26

1-10 UND25 (00:26) Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short left to #4 J.Love caught at UND23, for 2 yards loss to the UND23 (#91 T.Williams).

2-12 UND23 (00:00) No Huddle-Shotgun #13 R.Leonard pass complete short middle to #1 J.Greathouse caught at UND37, for 17 yards to P19 the UND40 (#1 D.Igbinosun; #7 J.Hancock), 1ST DOWN.

2 plays, 15 yards, 00:26

Summary	Score	Time Poss	R	1st Downs			Conversions		Rushing	Passing	Penalties
				P	X	T	3rd	4td			
#8 Ohio State	3	07:05	2	1	0	3	1-3	0-0	11-29	2-3-0-80	3-23
#7 Notre Dame	8	07:55	0	6	2	8	2-4	1-1	4-0	12-15-0-147	0-0



FOURTH QUARTER	OSU	UND
Score	3	8
FIRST DOWNS	3	8
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	11-29	4-0
PASSING YDS (NET)	80	147
Passes Cmp-Att-Int	2-3-0	12-15-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	14-109	19-147
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-10
Kickoff Returns-Yards	1-6	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	1-51.0	0-0.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	3-23	0-0
Possession Time	07:05	07:55
Third-Down Conversions	1 of 3	2 of 4
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	1-1	0-1

#8 OHIO STATE

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Will Howard	6	20	3	17	0	11	2.8
Quinshon Judkins	5	12	0	12	0	4	2.4
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Will Howard	2-3-0	80	0	56	0		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Jeremiah Smith	2	1	56	18	0	56	
Emeka Egbuka	1	1	24	28	0	24	

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB
Joe McGuire	1	51	51.0	51	0	0

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long
TreVeyon Henderson	1	6	0	6

Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Cody Simon	3-0	3	0.0	1.0
Davison Igbinosun	1-1	2	0.0	0.0
Lathan Ransom	1-1	2	0.0	0.0
Lorenzo Styles Jr.	1-1	2	0.0	0.0

#7 NOTRE DAME

Rushing	No.	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Jordan Faison	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0
Riley Leonard	3	2	3	-1	0	2	-0.3
Passing	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Long	Sack		
Riley Leonard	12-15-0	147	1	33	1		
Receiving	TAR	No.	Yards	YAC	TD	Long	
Jaden Greathouse	6	5	94	13	1	30	
Mitchell Evans	4	3	44	24	0	33	
Beaux Collins	2	2	15	4	0	12	
Jeremiyah Love	1	1	-2	0	0	0	

Punting	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	In20	TB

Punt Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Max Hurleman	1	10	0	10

Kick Returns	No.	Yards	TD	Long

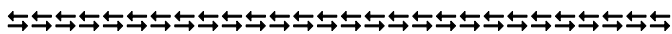
Tackles	UA-A	Total	Sacks	TFL
Adon Shuler	3-0	3	0.0	1.0
Drayk Bowen	3-0	3	0.0	0.0
Jack Kiser	2-0	2	0.0	1.0
Joshua Burnham	2-0	2	0.0	0.0

Qtr	Time	Scoring Play	V-H
4th	04:15	UND - #1 J.Greathouse 30 yd pass from #13 R.Leonard (#5 B.Collins pass from #6 J.Faison), 6-80, 02:10	0-8
4th	00:26	OSU - #38 J.Fielding 33 yd FG, 9-61, 03:44	3-8

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS



	OHIO STATE	NOTRE DAME
FINAL SCORE.....	34	23
Time Spent in the Lead (Tied 17:40).....	36:15	6:05
Total Plays-Yards.....	62-445	58-308
20-Plus/10-Plus.....	4/15	4/10
Plus Territory: Plays-Yards.....	37-240	29-147
First Half.....	19-123	12-47
Second Half.....	18-117	17-100
Drives With Plays in Plus Territory.....	7 of 8	4 of 9
First Down Plays/Yards.....	28/108	24/72
Average on First Down.....	3.9	3.0
First Half.....	5.1 (16-81)	3.5 (10-35)
Second Half.....	2.3 (12-27)	2.6 (14-37)
Rushes/Average.....	18/3.2	8/1.8
Passes/Average (includes sacks).....	10/5.1	16/3.6
Times Gained: 20+/10+/5+.....	0/4/9	0/3/9
Times Gained: 2-/0/Neg.....	14/3/3	14/5/5
Second Down Efficiency.....	9-22	5-18
First Half.....	5-11	1-7
Second Half.....	4-11	4-11
Yards Gained.....	214	125
Third Down Efficiency.....	9-12	5-12
Rushing.....	5-6	3-6
Passing.....	4-6	2-6
Average Yards To Go (All).....	6.2	7.0
Average Yards To Go (Conversions).....	4.7	4.6
Yards Gained.....	123	93
3rd & 5 or less.....	6-7	3-6
3rd & 6 or more.....	3-5	2-7
Fourth Down Efficiency (Yards).....	0-0 (0)	3-4 (18)
Total Possessions/Average FP.....	8/OS28	9/ND24
First Half.....	3/OS23	4/ND25
Second Half.....	5/OS34	5/ND23
Drives Started Inside/At Own 20.....	2 (0/2)	1 (0/1)
Drives Started In Plus Territory.....	1 (3 pts)	0 (0 pts)
Three Plays & Out (or worse).....	0	3
Opponent Turnovers (Pts).....	0 (0)	1 (0)
Scores-Times Penetrated The 20 (pts).....	5-5 (31)	1-2 (7)
Plays-Yards.....	16-57	10-18
Third Down Efficiency.....	3-4	1-3
Fourth Down Efficiency.....	0-0	1-1
Scores Outside The 20 (#/TD, FG).....	1 (0/1)	2 (2/0)
Yards by Quarter:		
1st.....	62	75
2nd.....	169	18
3rd.....	105	68
4th.....	109	147



CFP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYERS OF THE GAME

Offensive: #18 Will Howard, Gr., QB, Ohio State
 21-17-0, 231, 2 TD, 10 FDE, 204.8 rating; 16-57 rushing, 8 FDE
 288 total offense; earned 18 of OSU's 21 offensive first downs

Defensive: #0 Cody Simon, Gr., LB, Ohio State
 (4,4—8 TT; 1 TFL)

ATTENDANCE Tonight's attendance of **77,660** brought the final count to **1,905,635** for the 2024-25 bowl season, an average of **41,427** for 46 postseason FBS games (41 bowl, five CFP). Tonight's crowd was the second largest in CFP championship game history, topped only by the inaugural game in 2015 (85,689: Ohio State-Oregon at AT&T Stadium in Arlington)

ONE-LINER QUICKIES

● The winner of the coin toss is now 7-4, only Oregon won (in 2015) and chose to go on offense first; all others went on defense including Ohio State tonight.

● Ohio State dominated in its four CFP games: the Buckeyes led for **193:59** out of **240** minutes (**154:31** by two scores or more) were tied for **39:56** and trailed for only **6:05**.

● Both **Ohio State** and **Notre Dame** finish **14-2**, the third time the Buckeyes have won **14** games in a season (14-0 in 2002, 14-1 in 2014), the first time for the Irish. Ten different schools have now won **14** games a combined total of 17 times.

● **Champion Rallies.** The eventual champion has had to come from behind in eight of the 11 CFP title games; below is the largest margin they were behind (*—indicates also trailed in the fourth quarter, but by a lesser margin):

14	2017 *Clemson vs. Alabama	0-14 (10:42, 2Q)	W, 35-31
13	2018 *Alabama vs. Georgia (OT)	7-20 (6:52, 3Q)	W, 26-23
10	2020 LSU vs. Clemson	7-17 (10:38, 2Q)	W, 45-28
7	2025 Ohio State vs. Notre Dame	0- 7 (5:15, 1Q)	W, 34-23
7	2015 Ohio State vs. Oregon	0- 7 (12:21, 1Q)	W, 42-20
7	2016 *Alabama vs. Clemson	7-14 (0:00, 1Q)	W, 45-40
6	2022 *Georgia vs. Alabama	3- 9 (7:07, 2Q)	W, 33-18
2	2019 Clemson vs. Alabama	14-16 (14:18, 2Q)	W, 44-16

● Ohio State's win improved the Big Ten's final 2024-25 record in bowl games to **11-6** record, the best of the Power-4 conferences (the SEC, Big 12 and ACC combined to go **14-23**)

● **Possession Breakdown.** How they broke down this evening:

	OHIO STATE			NOTRE DAME		
	Plays	Yards	Avg.	Plays	Yards	Avg.
Touchdown Drives.....	38	306	8.1	34	215	6.3
Field Goal Drives.....	5	15	3.0	0	0	0.0
Non-Scoring Drives.....	19	124	6.5	24	93	3.9
Total.....	62	445	7.2	58	308	5.3

● **Big Play Breakdown.** How they broke down this evening:

	OHIO STATE			NOTRE DAME		
	Plays	Yards	Avg.	Plays	Yards	Avg.
Plays of 10+ Yards.....	15	324	21.6	10	201	20.1
Plays of 20+ Yards (included).....	4	171	42.8	4	127	31.8
(Remaining Plays).....	47	121	2.6	48	107	2.2

● **Notre Dame's** opening drive (18 plays, 75 yards, 9:45) marked the second-most plays and the second-most time of possession on a touchdown drive this bowl season (46 games).

● **Notre Dame** did not allow its opponent to score in the first quarter for the last seven games this season.

● Ohio State did not punt until its seventh possession; it ran plays in Notre Dame territory in its first six possessions (30 total).

● The teams combined for the fewest punts in a CFP championship game with three (Notre Dame 2, Ohio State 1); the previous low was six in 2018 (Clemson 4, Alabama 2) and in 2023 (TCU 5, Georgia 1).

● Tonight was the 36th game historically deemed for a national championship; some trends by the winning team:

First Downs (4).....	19-13
Rushing Yards.....	25-11
Total Plays.....	18-18
Total Offense.....	23-13
Quarterback Sacks (7).....	19-10
Fewest Turnovers (3).....	27- 6
Third Down Efficiency (2).....	22-12
Leading After One Quarter (10).....	16-10
Leading At Halftime (5).....	26- 5
Leading After Three Quarters (1).....	28- 7

(#)—times team had same number

CONTINUED ...

PUNCH vs. COUNTER PUNCH

Before Tonight: Notre Dame averaged **5.83** yards per rushing attempt (fourth in the NCAA); Ohio State allowed **2.68** yards per rushing attempt (second nationally).

WINNER: Ohio State: Notre Dame rushed **26** times for **53** yards (**2.04** per). The Irish had **83** rushes of 10-plus yards, 19th nationally (and eighth with **29** of 20 yards or more), coming into tonight; their longest rush was **9** yards with just seven of 5-plus yards. whereas the Buckeyes allowed the sixth-fewest (**37**, and just **12** of 20 yards or longer).

ONE-LINER QUICKIES (continued)

- The Big Ten last won back-to-back national championships in 1965 and 1966 when Michigan State we co-champs both years; the last outright were in 1940-42 (Minnesota, Minnesota, Ohio State)..

- Ohio State improved to **6-0** when the opponent scored first, yet trailed on the season only **81:55** out of **960** minutes.

- The **46**-yard field goal by Ohio State's Jayden Fielding was the fourth-longest in CFP title game history.

- Ohio State's Will Howard set a championship game record for most consecutive completions, opening with **13** in a row (*old mark was 12*); including the end of the Texas semifinal, it extended his streak to **16**. It was his season-best and also the fourth time this season he started a game completing his first 10 passes (also vs. Western Michigan, Iowa and Nebraska).

- Ohio State's Will Howard accounted for **18** first downs out of 21 the offense earned from scrimmage (the 22nd was by penalty); he thre for 10 and rushed for eight – four of which came on third downs.

- Ohio State's Ryan Day becomes the fourth active head coach to win a national title in playoff era; he joins Sherrone Moore (Michigan 2024); Kirby Smart (Georgia, 2022 & 2023); and Dabo Swinney (Clemson, 2016 & 2018).

- Ohio State's 214 rushing yards is the fourth-highest total in CFP NCG history.

- Ohio State's 21-point second quarter was the 12th 21-point quarter this bowl season: by 11 different teams but the Buckeyes were the only ones who did it twice (also vs. Tennessee). It was the eighth time the Buckeyes scored 21 in a quarter this season.

- Seven different players touched the ball on Ohio State's first 15 plays; only two others would the remainder of the game.

- Ohio State's 214 rushing yards is the fourth-highest total in CFP NCG history. Seven of its first 16 plays went for 10-plus yards; just eight of its final 46 did the same.

- Trailing 31-7, the 24-point margin was Notre Dame's biggest deficit of the season. It's previous-high deficit was 10-0 vs. Penn State in the CFP Semifinal at the Orange Bowl.

- Notre Dame's opening drive (18 plays, 75 yards, 9:45) marked the second-most plays and the second-most time of possession on a touchdown drive this bowl season (46 games).

- Notre Dame did not allow its opponent to score in the first quarter for the last seven games this season.

- Notre Dame opened the game with an 18-play, 75-yard drive that ate up 9:45 off the clock; but on its next four possessions, the OSU defense held them to 26 yards on 11 plays, with two three-and-outs and a fourth down stop.

- Ohio State is now **32-29** in bowl/postseason games, while Notre Dame fell to **24-22**; in CFP games, OSU is **7-4**, UND **3-3**. The Buckeyes become the fourth multiple champion in the CFP Era with two titles; Alabama has won three, Clemson and Georgia two and LSU and Michigan 1.

- The 11 CFP Championship games have now drawn **771,428** in attendance; that's an average of **70,130**. Minus the COVID-19 year, the 10 other games have had 756,502 in attendance (75,650 avg.).

- Notre Dame's 308 total yards is the third-lowest total in CFP NCG history, all in the last three games: in 2023, Georgia held TCU to 188 yards, and last year, Michigan limited Washington to 301.

- Under Pressure What kind of pressure each defense was able to put on the opposing quarterback:

	HOWARD, OSU	LEONARD, UND
Sacked/Yards	2/4	2/13
Hurried Throws	1	3
Times Knocked Down	3	5
Passes Broken Up	2	1

CFP CHAMP TEAMS FOUR GAME STAT LEADERS

RUSHING LEADERS

Player, Team	G	Att	Yds	Avg.	Long	TD
TreVeyon Henderson, Ohio State	4	36	265	7.4	66t	4
Quinshon Judkins, Ohio State	4	47	255	5.4	70	6
Will Howard, Ohio State	4	33	92	2.8	18	0
Riley Leonard, Notre Dame	4	60	185	3.1	32	3
Jeremiah Love, Notre Dame	4	29	175	6.0	98t	2
Jadarian Price, Notre Dame	4	31	95	3.0	20	0
Aneyas Williams, Notre Dame	4	8	45	5.6	15	0
Jayden Thomas, Notre Dame	4	2	25	12.5	18	0

PASSING LEADERS

Rk Player, Team	G	Att-Com-Int	Pct.	Yards	TD
Will Howard, Ohio State	4	109-82-2	75.2	1,150	8
Riley Leonard, Notre Dame	4	110-75-3	68.2	769	5
Steve Angeli, Notre Dame	2	8- 6-0	75.0	44	0

RECEIVING LEADERS

Player, Team	G	Att	Yds	Avg.	Long	TD
Jeremiah Smith, Ohio State	4	19	281	14.8	56	3
Emeka Egbuka, Ohio State	4	21	268	12.8	42t	1
TreVeyon Henderson, Ohio State	4	8	149	18.6	75t	1
Gee Scott Jr., Ohio State	4	11	103	9.4	30	4
Jayden Greathouse, Notre Dame	4	16	247	15.4	54t	3
Jordan Faison, Notre Dame	4	14	166	11.9	44	0
Mitchell Evans, Notre Dame	4	11	127	11.5	33	0
Aneyas Williams, Notre Dame	4	9	81	9.0	36	0

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Player, Team	G	UT,AT-TOT	OBS	TFL	PBU
Cody Simon, Ohio State	4	15,11- 26	2-13	4-18	1
Sonny Styles, Ohio State	4	15, 9- 24	2-21	4-24	2
JT Tuimoloua, Ohio State	4	15, 8- 23	6½-44	10-54	2
Caleb Downs, Ohio State	4	15, 5- 20	0-0	1-2	3
Xavier Watts, Notre Dame	4	22,11- 33	½-0	2-10	1
Jack Kiser, Notre Dame	4	18,8- 26	1-12	2-13	0
Drayk Bowen, Notre Dame	4	13,11- 24	½-3	1½-2	0
Adon Schuler, Notre Dame	4	12, 8- 20	0-0	1-2	2

CONTINUED ...

CFP CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECORDS

INDIVIDUAL

MOST CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS

13, Will Howard, Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25 (*first 13 in game*)
Previous: 12, Mac Jones, Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami, 1/11/2021.

HIGHEST PASSER RATING

204.8, Will Howard, Ohio St. vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25 (*21-17-0, 231, 2 TD*)
Previous: 203.3, Mac Jones, Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami Gardens, 1/11/2021
(45-36-0, 464, 5 TD)

TEAM

MOST PLAYS (TD DRIVE)

18, Notre Dame vs. Ohio State at Atlanta, 1/20/25 (74 yards)
Previous: 12, Ohio State vs. Oregon at Arlington, 1/12/2015 (75 yards);
 Clemson vs. Alabama at Santa Clara, 1/07/2019 (89 yards); Alabama vs. Ohio State at
 Miami Gardens, 1/11/2021 (78 yards)

MOST TIME CONSUMED (TD DRIVE)

9:45, Notre Dame vs. Ohio State at Atlanta, 1/20/25 (18 plays, 75 yards)
Previous: 6:39, Ohio State vs. Oregon at Arlington, 1/12/2015
(12 plays, 75 yards)

HIGHEST COMPLETION PERCENTAGE

81.0 (17 of 21), Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25
Previous: 80.0 (36 of 45), Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami Gardens, 1/11/2021

MOST CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS

13, Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25 (*first 13 in game*)
Previous: 12, Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami, 1/11/2021.

BEST THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY

75.0 (9 of 12), Ohio State vs. Notre Dame at Atlanta, 1/20/25
Previous: 69.2 (9 of 13), Georgia vs. TCU at Inglewood, 1/09/2023

MOST TWO-POINT CONVERSIONS MADE

2, Notre Dame vs. Ohio State at Atlanta, 1/20/2025
Previous: 1, Clemson vs. LSU at New Orleans, 1/13/2020

LONGEST RUSHING PLAYS

70, Quinshon Judkins, Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/2025
 67, James Cook, Georgia vs. Alabama at Indianapolis, 1/10/2022
 59, Blake Corum, Michigan vs. Washington at Houston, 1/08/2024
 50, Derrick Henry, Alabama vs. Clemson at Glendale, 1/11/2016 (TD)
 46, Donovan Edwards, Michigan vs. Washington at Houston, 1/08/2024 (TD)

LONGEST PASSING PLAYS

80, Jake Fromm to Mecole Hardman, Georgia vs. Alabama at Atlanta, 1/08/2018 (TD)
 74, Trevor Lawrence to Justyn Ross, Clemson vs. Alabama, 1/07/19 (TD)
 70, Marcus Mariota to Byron Marshall, Oregon vs. Ohio State 1/12/2015 (TD)
10th longest:
 57, Will Howard to Jeremiah Smith, Ohio St. vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/2025

TOP 10 POSTSEASON PERFORMANCES (2024)

No one in tonight's game cracked the top 10 in the below categories, thus the final leaders for the 2024-25 bowl season:

RUSHING LEADERS

(28 100-yard games)

Player, School	Att	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long
Rahjai Harris, East Carolina	17	220	12.9	1	86t
Dylan Edwards, Kansas State	18	196	10.9	2	65t
Damien Martinez, Miami-Fla.	14	179	12.8	1	75t
Desmond Reid, Pittsburgh	32	165	5.2	1	22
Blake Horvath, Navy (QB)	18	155	8.6	2	95t
Kevin Davis, Miami-Ohio	9	148	16.4	2	97t
Jayden Blue, Texas (<i>vs. Clemson</i>)	14	146	10.4	2	77t
Lincoln Pare, Texas State	21	143	6.8	2	73t
Cam Skattebo, Arizona State	30	143	4.8	2	33
Hollywood Smothers, North Carolina St.	15	142	9.3	0	44

PASSING LEADERS

(20 300-yard games)

Player, School	Att-Com-Int	Yards	Pct.	Avg.	TD	Rating
Kyle McCord, Syracuse	34-24-0	453	70.6	13.3	5	231.0
Sawyer Robertson, Baylor	51-30-1	445	58.8	8.7	2	141.1
Jaxson Dart, Mississippi	35-27-0	404	77.1	11.5	4	211.8
Drew Mestemaker, North Texas	41-26-2	393	63.4	9.6	2	150.3
Connor Bazelak, Bowling Green	49-32-0	390	65.3	7.9	3	152.4
Demond Williams, Jr., Washington	32-26-1	374	81.3	11.7	4	214.4
Tyler Huff, Jacksonville State	32-21-1	366	65.6	11.4	1	165.8
Zevi Eckhaus, Washington State	43-31-2	363	72.1	8.4	2	156.7
Taylen Green, Arkansas	21-11-0	341	52.4	16.3	2	220.2
Cade Klubnik, Clemson	43-26-1	336	60.5	7.8	3	144.5

RECEIVING LEADERS

(38 100-yard games)

Player, School	No.	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long
Harold Fannin, Jr., Bowling Green	17	213	12.5	1	35
Junior Vanderross III, Toledo	12	194	16.2	1	67t
Jeremiah Smith, Ohio State (<i>vs. Oregon</i>)	7	187	26.7	2	45t
Cam Vaughn, Jacksonville State	10	184	18.4	1	75t
Jordan Watkins, Mississippi	7	180	25.7	2	69t
Kyle Williams, Washington State	10	172	17.2	1	66t
Hudson Clement, West Virginia	11	166	15.1	2	37
Jeremiah Webb, South Alabama	6	162	27.0	2	52t
Giles Jackson, Washington	11	161	14.6	4	49t
Jaden Williams, Texas State	8	155	19.4	1	70

TACKLE LEADERS

Player, School	UT,AT-TOT	TFL	QBS3DS	FF	FR	PD	INT
Chandler Martin, Memphis	7,10-17	1	1	0	0	0	1
Zakee Wheatley, Penn State (<i>vs ND</i>)	9,7-16	2	1	2	0	0	0
Daveon Crouch, Boston College	9,5-14	2	1	3	0	0	0
Marcel McDuffie, UNLV	11,2-13	2	0	0	0	0	0
Devyn Bobby, Baylor	7,6-13	0	0	1	0	0	0
Matthew Bailey, Illinois	5,8-13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuasivi Nomura, Fresno State	11,1-12	1	0	3	0	0	0
Six others (with single digit UT's)							12

Most Unassisted Tackles—14, Jay Higgins, Iowa vs. Tennessee (16TT; Citrus)
Most Tackles For Loss—5, Chandler Martin, Memphis vs. Iowa State (Liberty)
Most Quarterback Sacks—3, Amir Washington, Texas Tech vs. Cal (Indep.)
Most Pass Deflections—3, on five occasions
Most Interceptions—2, Jaheem Joseph, Northwestern vs. Utah (Las Vegas);
 Brian Holloway, Texas State vs. Rice (First Responder; 2 TD); Gunner
 Maldonado, Arizona vs. Oklahoma (1 TD; Alamo)

FINAL CONFERENCE RECORDS

League (24 bowl teams)	W	L	Pct.	Pts	Opp	vs. P4
Independents (2)	4	1	.800	127	99	4-1
American Athletic (8)	6	2	.750	237	201	3-1
Mid-American (7)	5	2	.714	229	185	1-0
Big Ten (12)	11	6	.647	494	386	10-6
Sun Belt (7)	4	3	.571	169	208	0-1
SEC (13)	8	7	.533	429	380	7-6
Big 12 (9)	4	5	.444	295	299	3-4
Conference USA (5)	1	4	.200	88	136	0-0
Mountain West (5)	1	4	.200	114	156	1-1
Atlantic Coast (13)	2	11	.154	328	443	1-8
Pac-12 (1)	0	1	.000	35	52	0-1
Totals (92)	46	46	.500	2545	2545

LOOKING AHEAD

For the 2025 season, barring any changes, the first round games are on campus sites (No. 12 at No. 5; No. 11 at No. 6; No. 10 at No. 7; No. 9 at No. 8). The **Cotton, Orange, Rose** and **Sugar** bowls are the quarterfinals (Dec. 19-20), the **Fiesta** and **Peach** the semifinals (Jan. 8-9). The championship is set for Monday, Jan. 19 in **Miami** (Hard Rock Stadium).

● **Notre Dame** will open the 2024 season on Saturday, Aug. 30 at Miami-Fla., **Ohio State** will open the 2025 season at home against Texas in a CFP semifinal rematch, also on Saturday, Aug. 30.





ATHLETICS

FINAL SCORE

(7) No. 3/3 Notre Dame (14-2) 23, (13-3) No. 6/7 Ohio State (13-2) 34

TEAM NOTES

- Ohio State won the toss and deferred its choice to the second half. Notre Dame received the kickoff and defended the end zone to the east.
- Attendance: 77,660
- Notre Dame's 14 victories are the most in a single season in the history of the program. The Irish and Buckeyes are also the first college football teams to play 16 games in a season.
- Notre Dame falls to 2-7 all-time against Ohio State and 0-3 against the Buckeyes in postseason play (2005, 2016 Fiesta Bowl).
- Notre Dame finishes 4-1 against the Big Ten Conference this season and 316-170-22 all-time against the Big Ten. Notre Dame has not played five Big Ten teams in a season since 1968 (3-2).
- Notre Dame's 18-play, 9:45 scoring drive to begin the game was the longest of the season for the Irish for plays and time of possession. It also marked the longest in the history of the College Football Playoff by any competing team.

NOTABLE

- Riley Leonard rushed nine times for 31 yards on Notre Dame's game-opening drive, accounting for all five first downs (four rushing, one by passing) while also converting two fourth downs, one third down and posting his 17th rushing touchdown of the season.
- Those 17 rushing touchdowns extend his single-season record for a quarterback at Notre Dame and just one behind Audric Estimé's program overall single-season rushing touchdown record of 18 from last season.
- Those 17 touchdowns also rank third (tied with Ian Book and Rick Mirer) on the Notre Dame career list for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback, behind DeShone Kizer (18, 2015-16) and Tony Rice (23, 1987-89).
- Leonard's 17 carries for 40 yards gives him a total of 906 rushing yards this season, surpassing Tony Rice's school-record for a single-season quarterback rushing yards of 884 from 1989.
- Jeremiyah Love's two-point conversion in the third quarter pushes his season points scored total to 116, which is four points off Jerome Bettis' single-season school record of 120. Bettis was the honorary captain for the Fighting Irish before today's game.
- Riley Leonard finished with 226 points in 2024, tied for third on the all-time single season at Notre Dame with Everett Golson in 2014. Book 228 in 2019 Quinn 234 in 2006
- Jack Kiser extended his Notre Dame program record for games played in a career appearing in his 70th game this evening. Howard Cross III ranks second all-time in games played at Notre Dame and appeared in his 66th career contest tonight.



ATHLETICS

- Appearing in their home state this evening from the Irish roster - senior WR Deion Colzie, freshman DL Cole Mullins, freshman OT Anthonie Knapp and senior WR Jayden Thomas.
- Xavier Watts started his 33rd consecutive game today, the second-most for an Irish safety in program history (Jalen Elliott, 39 from 2017-19) and the 11th-most for any defensive player in Notre Dame history.
- Riley Leonard, Jeremiyah Love, Beaux Collins, Aamil Wagner, Jack Kiser, Drayk Bowen, Adon Shuler and Xavier Watts made their Notre Dame-record-extending 16th start of the season tonight.

FIRSTS

- Start of the season and second of his career for freshman LT Charles Jagusah. His other career start was in the 2023 Sun Bowl victory to cap last season.

CAREER HIGHS

- Six catches, 128 receiving yards and two touchdowns (ties career high) - Jaden Greathouse
- Two sacks - junior DE Joshua Burnham

CFP National Championship: Ohio State vs Notre Dame

Monday, January 20, 2025

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Mercedes-Benz Stadium

Ohio State Buckeyes

Coach Ryan Day

Will Howard

Cody Simon

Postgame Press Conference

Ohio State 34, Notre Dame 23

RYAN DAY: Yeah, I just can't say enough about our guys and what they've overcome to get to this point. They now have something to show for it.

I thought Notre Dame had a great season, and I think Marcus does a great job and they have a very, very good team and had a really good game plan.

That first drive went right down the field. I thought we responded in a big way, never flinched. And I think, again, if you think about the run we've gone on here in the playoffs, a big part of the way we've responded coming off the end of the season, but then even the way the Texas game went and the way we responded early in that first quarter, and then even in the second half, just continued fighting the momentum because Notre Dame was fighting to get it back.

We just kept swinging and got a huge stop there on 4th down on defense, got the missed field goal, kept swinging, kept playing.

And I give this guy a lot of credit right here, Will Howard. I think he ran the ball 16 times in the game. We knew it was going to be that way. It was the last game we had so we were going to let out all the bullets, and he really put the team on his back and really delivered a huge 3rd down conversion which sealed the game.

We just felt like in this game the No. 1 goal was to win. That's where it started on offense, defense and special teams, find a way to win the game, and that's what we did here in the playoffs.



**NATIONAL
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Now the stories of these guys will be told because they've cemented themselves in Ohio State history, the ninth national champ and the third really in the last 50 years. There's been some great, great teams in the last 50 some-odd years at Ohio State. Great teams, great players. Only three of them have been national champs, and these guys are one of them.

Q. Will, Coach Day talked about your rushing performance, but 13 of your first 13 in the game, can you talk about the rhythm of those first 13 throws and your rhythm throughout the game, including that big one at the end to seal the deal to Smith?

WILL HOWARD: Yeah, coming into the season, I think something that Coach Day and Coach Kelly and Billy really emphasized to me was completions. Get completions, take completions.

There was a couple times early where maybe I had to check it down or it wasn't perfectly how it's drawn up, but you want to just keep the ball moving and stay on schedule. It may not always be pretty, and you may have to go pick it up with your legs.

But I've got to give all the credit to my guys, my O-line giving me time, and those guys, my receivers. We've got the best receiving room in the country, it's not even close. The running backs did a hell of a job, and everybody stepped up when we needed it.

Q. Ryan, you've talked all year about the idea of leaving no doubt, and obviously the last four years haven't always been pretty for you. As you're realizing in real time that you're about to win a National Championship and join some of the legends at Ohio State, what's going through your head as you kind of look back on the journey to get here?

RYAN DAY: That God made it hard for a reason. You just never know what's in your path along the way. But this game can give you the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. It can take you to your knees some days as a player and as a coach. I've been there before.

For all those coaches or people who are on a journey to

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what they're looking to accomplish, if you're trying to achieve greatness, you're trying to become national champs in the most competitive environment there is in the entire world. There's nothing more competitive than college football, in my opinion.

It's going to be hard and there's going to be things you learn along the way, but if you surround yourself with great people, you're resilient, and you believe in the guys around you, and you just keep fighting and keep putting one foot in front of the other, you give yourself another chance.

And that's really what it was. You think back when we were in the stadium last time, I couldn't quite come to grips for a while with why we just didn't quite finish that game against Georgia.

But I understand now. It all makes sense. And here we are. I couldn't feel better.

Q. Will, you played lights out down the stretch. How do you stay mentally steady as a quarterback through that, that's so important to the position? And, Ryan, what have you seen from his development at Ohio State since he came over from Kansas State?

WILL HOWARD: Speaking to that, I feel like it can be a lot. The lights are bright. It's a spectacle, and the TV time-outs are like four minutes long. It feels like everything is kind of a show a little bit.

You have to block all that out, and we talked about that all week. Eliminate all the distractions. Don't listen to any of the outside noise. Just finish the job.

When you get into big games like this, whoever is able to have the poise in the noise and be able to overcome adversity because it wasn't always pretty today. It wasn't always perfect. It's never going to be. But I think the team that we have and the leadership that we have with Coach Day, just the resilience this team has shown all year, it's just unbelievable.

RYAN DAY: Yeah, it started with me when I first met Will. I saw something in him, a football IQ intelligence. I saw him play on film at Kansas State and win championships and win big games and be able to make an impact with his feet but also throw with accuracy and anticipate throws. And those are things that are hard to find. Then you see a guy, you meet him, and his football IQ and maturity is what kind of captured me.

I had a feeling that we would be in a situation like this where we needed his feet to go win a game, and that's exactly what happened in this game.

But what I didn't know was how special his leadership is and his resilience and his positive mindset. It's something I learned a lot about -- I learn from these guys all the time. I've learned a lot from Cody Simon since he's been here, and I've learned a lot from this guy in one year. I've told stories about some different times in practice when he has such a positive mindset around the players.

And we decided to go in the huddle this year for the first time since I've Ohio State because we knew the season was going to be long, and we wanted to be fresh. And I felt like we were fresh in the playoffs, and I think that had a big part to do with it.

But what we didn't understand along the way was the impact that he was going to have and the offensive line was going to come together and the offense was going to come together because there's 11 guys in a huddle, breaking the huddle together. Even in walkthroughs, when we break the huddle together, it was just a crispness to it that they were together on that I think made the difference to these guys on offense.

But I also just want to make sure that we recognize how hard the defense played in this game and how great they've been throughout the season. This guy is one of the great leaders that I've been around, Cody Simon. And I think Jim Knowles and our defensive staff deserve a tremendous amount of credit not only for the game plan they put together but also just throughout the season, how they've taught technique, how they've built confidence in our defense because they've been lights out the entire playoffs.

Q. For Ryan and the players, ever since Denzel Burke said in March "Natty or bust" and you guys embraced that, the pressure on you guys has been immense, especially after the Michigan loss. How did you get through it? Did that galvanize you? Ryan, what does it mean to win a National Championship, and why did you make the call for Jeremiah on the last one?

RYAN DAY: You guys can talk about what that's been like this season, and I'll follow up.

CODY SIMON: When we went into the season, we knew that we had a lot of chips in the pot and we had the expectations were really high. But I think the biggest thing that came out of the season was just every day just stacking each day one on top of the other.

You guys heard about the foundation and how we're building bricks every single practice. I think that was one of the biggest things that brought this team together to get



to this level because you go through camp and you go through the season, and each day kind of molds together, but each day you look back and see the foundation you've been building. We knew the end goal was to win this game, and we knew that our foundation was meant to survive for this game.

I just appreciate that all the guys were up for the challenge, and we all stuck together because there was times we really could have frayed apart. But I'm so proud of all the guys on the team.

RYAN DAY: I think this playoff system allowed our team to grow and learn and build. You can say whatever you want about people talked a lot about how much money guys were making in NIL and different things like that. That was just because NIL was available. The majority of our team came back. These guys have been here for a long time.

Certainly Will was a huge addition, Caleb was a huge addition, don't get me wrong. But when you hear that number, that doesn't mean a whole lot other than the fact that the market value for our guys in Columbus at Ohio State is pretty high. That's what it means. When that got tagged on us early, there was a lot of pressure put on our players.

But that's nothing new at Ohio State. I think the difference is that we finished the season the right way, and we grew. We built, and we responded to tough times. Man, isn't that what life is all about.

These guys learned a bunch of life lessons, but they're going to go down in Ohio State history as one of the greatest teams to ever play at Ohio State. After all the things that have been said throughout the year, these guys are going to be cemented as one of the best stories in Ohio State history and one of the best football teams ever. Only nine teams have ever done it, and three in over 50 years. These guys right here. There was a point where not a lot of people had that vision, but these guys did, and they saw it through.

Ohio State may not be for everybody, but it's for these guys, and I'm really proud of them.

Q. The Jeremiah play?

RYAN DAY: Yeah, I wanted to call it sooner, but the guys were talking to me about running the clock down, which I was good with because it was the right thing to do. I think there was a point we mismanaged it a little bit and we snapped it a little bit too soon --

WILL HOWARD: That was on me.

RYAN DAY: No, it wasn't. We could have communicated it better to Will. We should have snapped that at like two seconds, but we did not communicate that well to Will coming out of the huddle. So that's on us. That's on the coaches. I was upset about that.

But I thought overall the game was called tremendously. I thought the game plan was excellent, and I thought the guys handled it really well. We felt like we had an advantage with Jeremiah on that shot, and we talked about it all week. We really hadn't thrown one all game, and it was like, you know what, game on the line, let's just go. Let's you know aggressive.

I just thought to myself, only one National Championship, you only get one opportunity a year to do this, let's just lay it on the line and put it out there and be aggressive. And that's what we did.

I talked to the defensive guys and I talked to the offensive guys that we were going to continue to be aggressive throughout the game. I told the team that leading up to the game. And I had to make sure I followed through that.

But ultimately we have to make the plays. The protection was excellent by the offensive line, and then the throw and catch by Jeremiah and Will was special and, again, a huge play in Ohio State history.

Q. You guys are the first team ever to go through a system like this, win four games at the FBS level to get to a National Championship. Can you describe how that's similar or different to how you had it two years ago, making the semifinals, and in some ways did it give you guys a chance to hit reset and figure out some things about your team that maybe you hadn't during the regular season?

RYAN DAY: Yeah, but I wouldn't say that it was a reset. It wasn't like at the end of the year we were broken. It wasn't that way. We had an awful day. I don't know how else to describe it. We had an awful day, and we just said we could never do that again.

And I think it's the job of the head coach to take the responsibility when something goes bad like that, but then on days like this, make sure that everyone understands it's the warriors and guys on the field that deserve all the credit, not the coach. The coach gets too much attention sometimes. I want to make sure these guys are the ones getting the attention.

In terms of the playoffs, yeah, it's very, very different. It is extremely different than what we've gone through in the

past. This is much more like the NFL. Guys are not in class. But our team has come together so well over the last month and a half. There really isn't any school, and all we do is spend time together. It's like being around a family. This is the tightest group of guys I've ever been around before.

To think we're not going to be together again I'm not looking forward to. I'm going to miss these guys. They're great people.

Q. Will, talking with Coach Milano at Downingtown West this week, he said you're no stronger to adversity, and he highlighted to me a meeting he had with you and your mom ahead of your junior season at Kansas State where you said you just wanted to be given a chance to compete. When you think about your career since then, what's the overarching emotion of the crazy path your career has taken?

WILL HOWARD: Yeah, it's crazy to look back at all the things that have happened in my career, going from really playing as a freshman at Kansas State, not really knowing what I'm doing out there, and going into my junior year kind of lost, not really thinking I'd be playing, and then ended up winning a Big 12 Championship.

All that, I just had to trust in the Lord, man, and trust that He had a plan for me and that all the adversity that we were going through, all the tough times that I went through. Coach Milano is a great man.

Between all the people back home in Downingtown and my family and then my family at Kansas State, my family here at Ohio State, I leaned on a lot of people. I wouldn't have been able to get through some of the stuff I had to go through myself. I've got to give all the credit to the Lord and to my brothers, man, because I wouldn't be here without them.

I'm just so thankful that I got the chance to come here and to be a Buckeye and that Coach Day believed in me and that these guys believed in me. I'm blessed, and I'm just so unbelievably thankful that I got a chance to be a Buckeye, even if it was for just one year.

Q. Ryan and Will, first three drives, three touchdowns, excellent play design on that first touchdown pass to Jeremiah. With Chip Kelly, there was a lot written about him and the hire. What had you guys clicking, and what does it mean to win a National Championship given his career and how long he's been at it?

RYAN DAY: Yeah, very excited to see a big smile on his face after the game. For him to come and leave a head

coaching position to come work with me meant a lot because he's obviously someone who's a mentor to me and certainly would not be where I am without him.

He has just a great feel for the game, and he really helped me this year spend more time outside of the quarterback room. Certainly wasn't involved very much with the offense, but allowed me to spread out a little bit and spend more time with the guys on defense. Not as much as I'd like to, but still enough to just bounce in and out. I think it brought us all together. I think the guys would agree. Wouldn't have gotten that done without Chip.

I also want to make sure I recognize the guys on offense, the offensive staff. I think Will will tell you between Brian Hartline, Justin Frye, Keenan Bailey, Billy Fessler, Carlos Locklyn, you go through all the different guys in that room, we've got a great staff in there. And I thought they came up with a great game plan. But they work at it, I mean work their tails off at this thing.

It really showed itself I think in this playoffs because it's about ball. When you get into the playoffs, it's about ball. It becomes almost -- this is what I feel, almost more like the NFL. You've got to wipe the slate clean and put a whole new game plan together in about ten days and go put it on the field. Hats off to our coaches.

WILL HOWARD: I think Coach Kelly, speaking to what he's meant to me, he's been amazing, and he's really been a great mentor for me on the field and off the field.

I think he's been through so much and he's seen so much at the college level and at the NFL level. He just knows how to deal with situations.

Even more than coaching me on football things, going into this game, he talked to me about how his quarterback the last time maybe got a little worked up going into the game, and he said, man, just be yourself, just be chill. He was great for me in calming me down and making sure I took things one play at a time, let the game come to me.

And like Coach Day said, everyone in that offensive staff room, I go in there and those guys are grinding every single day on the game plan, Coach Day included.

They've made some unbelievable game plans in these playoffs, and I've been so confident going into every single game because I know our game plan is so sound and so thought out and thorough. We really had an answer for everything they could have given us. That's just a hats off to them.

Q. Cody, the question I had, after the first drive with



Notre Dame, it seemed like they never were able to get settled on offense again until probably midway through the third quarter into the fourth. I was curious what adjustments did the defense make or what did you make to help with that?

CODY SIMON: Yeah, I would say that first drive was kind of uncharacteristic of us. We expected to go out there and kind of dominate that first drive, and they had a good first 15 plays, and they were really getting into 2nd and 3rd and shorts.

When you have a running quarterback especially like our offense, it makes it tough to get those stops. Really we focused on winning that 1st down. And when we win 1st down, a lot of stuff opens up, and a lot of the work from our front seven, the senior D-linemen, they put in so much work.

I think we really settled in and were able to get the stops we needed to get the offense to a lead that we wanted, and we still had to get more stops at the end. Me as a ball player, I wish we could have done better down the stretch. But just got to do what we got to do to get the win. I'm just proud of all the guys.

Q. For Cody and Will, what you can say, Coach talked about Ohio State isn't for everybody but it's for these guys. Why was Ohio State for you? Coach, you were celebratory throughout the game, having fun with the guys. What can you say about being with this specific group this season?

WILL HOWARD: I think when you come to Ohio State, you guys talked about it earlier, but the expectations are high. You can say that the pressure is high and all that stuff.

But I think C.J. said it a couple years ago, pressure is a privilege, man. If you don't have pressure on you, then are you really doing anything meaningful?

I feel like we've just embraced that all year, and we've kind of blocked out all the noise and just said, man, we just love each other too much, and we've embraced it.

I wanted to be a Buckeye. When I came -- when I talked to Coach Day, when I first had the opportunity to have some interest in this place, man, it was pretty soon after that first conversation, I was like, man, I want to be a Buckeye.

There's something different about these guys and this place.

I'm just so blessed that I made the decision to come here, man.

CODY SIMON: I would second that. What drew me to Ohio State was the culture. You don't really know about it before you get here, but when you learn that it's all about fighting and it's all about being the best version of yourself and that's what you fight every day to do, that's our whole team in a nutshell right there.

Every day was a grind for us, and especially down the stretch when not everyone was on our side and not everyone believed in us, all our guys just kept fighting. You never want to give up.

Even some of those times we were on the goal line on defense and you never know what can happen, you've got to keep fighting. I think that's a perfect example of our team.

RYAN DAY: I just enjoy being around these guys, and I wanted -- I did bed check last night and talked to these guys about how much I wanted it for these guys.

Once you got into the game and you got a feel for how it was going, you could just feel it. We had confidence coming into the game. We felt like we had momentum going into the game. Man, isn't that life? I shared that with these guys. There's times in life where things aren't going well, you've got to keep hanging in there, but when things are going good, get all you can get. That was the message going into the game, and I took that same mentality with me.

Q. I can't imagine how much pressure you might have been under in late November and a lot was made of a lot of the things you and your family had to go through as a result of that. I was wondering if it's occurred to you now, having won the national title, that you are probably going to be standing on the field in Ohio Stadium in 30 years and you're going to have 105,000 people cheering for you and you're a person now that's indoctrinated into Ohio State history? I know it just happened, but it's been kind of a crazy six weeks in your personal arc and I'm wondering if that has landed for you and what that means to you.

RYAN DAY: Well, I feel like from the start of this thing, we've been knocking on the door, and I think about the '19 team and the '20 team and the '21 team, the '22 team, you keep going through these seasons, and we weren't that far off.

But you've got to find a way to break through and make it to where we are right now. I think in today's day and age, there's just so much that goes with wins and losses and social media and people have to write articles and there's a

lot of things that are said that, yeah, certainly have an effect on you and your family.

But when you sign up for this job, that's what you sign up for. You've got to be strong enough to withstand those storms, to come out the back end.

Now it's an even better story. Nothing is guaranteed, but I always in the back of my mind felt that the people of Ohio and all of Buckeye Nation, after going through difficult times and seeing a team and a bunch of coaches go through difficult times, to achieve their goal, it would mean even more, and I hope they're all proud of what we've done.

Q. Will, you mentioned you've gone through some tough times and you had to lean on the Ohio State family, Kansas State family, Downington people back home. Can you take us through the hardest times that you've gone through?

WILL HOWARD: Yeah, man, there's been a lot. It's Downingtoun, by the way, sorry. A lot of people back at home get pissed about that. (Laughter). The W isn't silent.

Man, my freshman year at K-State was tough. I'm not going to lie. That was one of the tougher years because it was COVID. I'm living alone. I'm starting -- I think I ended the season with like eight touchdowns and 11 picks. I was playing bad football, and I didn't feel like myself.

Really my junior year they recruited Adrian Martinez to be the starting quarterback and I felt like that was kind of my time to step in and be the guy, and going into that year, I think it was week 2 of the season -- I didn't play until week 6, and I think week 2 of that season I lost my grandmother and that was one of the tougher times in my life. We were really, really tight.

But again, I had to lean on my faith and my family, people around me. It hasn't been easy here either, man. We've gone through some hard times. That Oregon loss, that team up north loss, they were tough. We had to lean on each other.

I'm just so thankful that I have a group of guys in this locker room and group of coaches and my family that I can lean on and they can get me through all those tough times, and here we are, man. It's kind of surreal to feel like personally and as a team, all the things that we've been through this year, to come out on top feels pretty damned good.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports



CFP National Championship: Ohio State vs Notre Dame

Monday, January 20, 2025

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Mercedes-Benz Stadium

Notre Dame Fighting Irish Coach Marcus Freeman

Jack Kiser

Riley Leonard

Postgame Press Conference



**NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP**
ATLANTA 2025

Ohio State 34, Notre Dame 23

MARCUS FREEMAN: Obviously tough moment, tough outcome. There's reasons why we didn't get the outcome we wanted. Credit to Ohio State and their ability to execute on both sides of the ball. Obviously in the special teams they made a field goal that mattered at the end of the game.

We obviously didn't play the way we needed to to get the outcome we want, but as I said to the guys in the locker room, there's not many words to say when everybody is hurting.

I'm just proud of them and proud of what they've done. I'm proud of who they are, the way they represent themselves, and it's just an honor to be on this journey with them.

There's going to be a lot of guys, seniors, that this was their final game with Notre Dame football, but they've left this place a better place, and very grateful to be on the journey with them.

Q. Their ability to slow the Riley Leonard-led running game after that first drive, were there adjustments they made? Was there something you could do to counter that?

MARCUS FREEMAN: No, we couldn't run Riley every play. It's not right for Riley, and it's not going to sustain the success we needed offensively.

We ran him a whole bunch that first series, and you look at the second series, we had two penalties which ended up forcing us to punt, and in the third series we had the miscommunication with the muffed snap, and that's the end

of the half.

I think more than anything, it was two series after the first one we didn't execute and we had some self-inflicted wounds that we had to clean up. Second half we drove the ball. I thought we did a good job with some tough situations.

But we can't run Riley every single play. That's not what the formula for success is.

Q. Jaden Greathouse's last two games, he's shown great growth. What did Riley find in him in the second half?

MARCUS FREEMAN: I think there was a confidence and a connection between Riley and him, but as I said this before, production doesn't always reflect performance. It doesn't. Production is something that is a result of doing your job and the quarterback making the decision to throw you the ball and the offensive play that calls for it.

But JG has been playing great all season long, it's just now he's had some production to go along with the way he's been playing.

Q. You have an opportunity at the end in 3rd down to maybe get the ball back and try to go score. What was the look there? I know you guys brought some pressure. Obviously it was a difficult assignment there for Christian to cover Jeremiah. What did you see there?

MARCUS FREEMAN: Yeah, it was do or die. It was that type of down. If they run it and they get a 1st down -- we've got to get them stopped, and we thought at that moment the best way to get them stopped is to run zero pressure. We have to have faith at some point that we can make a play.

There was times in the second half that we did in man coverage, but he's a heck of a player. He's difficult to cover. You want to play zone, and they'll find ways to pick you apart. You want to play man, they'll find ways to get him the ball. It's a talented offense, with that situation right there.

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Q. On 4th and goal, how tough was the decision to go for it there or kick the field goal, and what was the thought process?

MARCUS FREEMAN: Yeah, I think it was 4th and 9 or 10, and I just thought instead of being down 16, let's try to go down 13. I know it's still a two-score game, but you have a better probability of getting 14 points than you do 16 points.

If it was a shorter 4th and goal situation, I probably would have gone for it, but I just felt fourth and nine was not a great chance for us to make that and decided to kick it, and we didn't make it.

Q. Marcus and Riley, what did you both learn about the program this season, both looking back from where you came to get here and also looking forward about what you might be in position to do?

RILEY LEONARD: Before I answer your question, I want to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for giving me the opportunity to play in this game. I wrote on my hand Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so shall one man sharpen another."

I think, as I said throughout the week, us and Ohio State were the two teams who praised Jesus Christ the most, and I think that we strengthened each other in our faiths through coming to this game and competing against each other.

I'm happy to see godly men come out on top no matter what the circumstance is. I'm very happy to praise Jesus in the lowest of lows, as well.

I think as far as this program goes, we've learned a lot. We've been through ups and downs. I've been through ups and downs. I don't even recognize the person I was before I got to Notre Dame, and it's all credit to these guys beside me and everybody else in the locker room.

MARCUS FREEMAN: Yeah, I'm tremendously grateful for what Riley and these guys have done for our program. Week 2, it was a rough outlook. You go from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows. The reality is we all had a little bit of doubt, but we all chose to work, and we all chose to trust each other and choose to love each other and be selfless and put the team in front of ourselves.

And we did it every week, and every week, and you still had to trust beyond knowing if your work was going to get you the result that you wanted, and they continued to do it. They put this program in a position to play for a National Championship.

We didn't get it done, and it hurts. My job is to figure out why, and I will, but I told these guys, they've left this program better -- I don't care if you were here for one year or you've been here for six years; our program is in a better place because of the examples these two have set, and many other leaders in that locker room.

The outlook of Notre Dame football is extremely high. As long as the people in that locker room that come back understand what it takes, the work these guys have put in, there's a lot of success in our future.

Q. Riley, there was a point you were puking after the first drive. What were you feeling after that first drive? Was that just exhaustion, or have you been sick?

RILEY LEONARD: No, I just landed on the ball funny a couple of times. I wasn't feeling sick. I felt fine. Just landed on the ball, felt a little awkward. No problem at all for me.

Q. Jack, after 70 games at Notre Dame, could you speak to how you feel like you're leaving the program better than how you found it and what this place has meant to you over the six seasons?

JACK KISER: I think when you look at the six years I've been here, what I remember is the people. From when I was a small underclassman just trying to learn the ways, looking at a Drew White, Bo Bauer, to being a guy running with my boys in JD and Marist, and then this year coming back and feeling like I had a chip on my shoulder and getting to meet amazing guys like Riley coming in and just kind of going on the journey we went on.

To have Coach Freeman -- yeah, it's about the people. It's the people that's made this place different.

It just shows where this program is heading. The people in this building are the best, absolute best.

Q. Riley, in addition to falling on the ball that first drive, could you take us through from your perspective starting out to getting into the end zone?

RILEY LEONARD: Yeah, I think the best thing we did on that drive was just play by the -- or stay by the chains. You see the next three drives after that, penalties and miscommunications. And all that stuff is on me.

That first drive we just came out and played Notre Dame football, took advantage of our match-ups when we had to. We just drove the ball down the field. We had to run the ball a little bit. Everything was just clicking.

Then the next couple drives maybe I got relaxed a little bit, and I can't let that happen. And I apologize to everybody for the way that I played after that drive in the second quarter because it's unacceptable.

These are things that aren't necessarily physical but just like the mental side of things that I can't make certain mistakes. I've just got to live with that and respond.

And that's kind of what the message was at halftime: We've got nothing else to lose. It's the last game no matter what. Might as well go out there and sling the rock and trust your guys.

Q. Riley, you've grown so much since you were a dark horse at Duke. How do you feel like you flipped your narrative and improved as an overall passer?

RILEY LEONARD: Yeah, I'll start with just the guys around me. It's very easy to be a successful quarterback when, first and foremost, your coaches are just setting you up for success. I've never been so prepared in my life. I've just learned so much within this past year.

Then the guys up front, I'll start with the offensive line. These guys, the day I got here I understood how special they were. Yeah, the O-line, and then the wideouts, as well, every single one of those guys, you look at our offense, and a lot of people want to describe us as a rushing offense, and I'm probably labeled as a rushing quarterback sometimes, but these guys don't budge. They do their job. They smile.

They're all about team glory, and when their time comes, they always make plays for me, in the backfield with J-Love and all those guys. How could I not become a better player on the field?

Then off the field, you can walk into that locker room and every single one of those people, you're going to leave impressed by, if you just had a simple conversation with them. The character of this place, it's kind of hard to describe. I think I've grown so much just because of the people around me.

Q. Marcus, I was curious from the end of the first touchdown drive to maybe the strip of Egbuka, do you feel like you guys got out of character in any way? Or is it something Ohio State did to put you on your heels or make you play outside your comfort zone?

MARCUS FREEMAN: Yeah, I mean, there was some things on both sides of the ball that we don't normally do and some communication mistakes, self-inflicted wounds

that we haven't been doing the past few weeks. You're always making mistakes, but those type of detrimental mistakes when you play a really, really good football team cost you points.

I think that's probably the biggest thing that has stuck out to me even in between series, the communication. Hey, we're good, we got it. Well, we can't make mistakes.

It falls on my shoulders. And as the head coach, we have to prepare and be better prepared for this moment. These guys gave everything they got.

You sit up here and you listen to these two guys speak and the passion they have for Notre Dame and each other in that locker room, I'm just sitting here listening like this is one of the greatest gifts in life is to be able to be the leader of this program because you have great young people like this that share the blame -- share the success when you win and own the blame when you lose.

But I'm better because of them. But we just have to be better. I've got to make sure we prepare better for this next opportunity that we have in the future.

Q. Riley, one more about that opening drive if I could. You just referenced you ran the ball a little bit, but you had nine carries on that drive, and that's half of your top total for a full game this season. Did that take something out of you, or did a long drive by Ohio State give you a chance to recoup and recover?

RILEY LEONARD: Yeah, Coach Free is always about reload and worry about the next play. So I didn't know it was nine. If you would have asked me, I would have said it was three or four.

If Coach wants to call my number and have me run the ball every singling play, I've got no problem with it. You've seen me put my body on the line for this team over and over again. Whether I'm running the ball or passing the ball, it doesn't matter. I'm going to do everything I can to help the team win. Hit a little lull there in the first half, but like I say, I've got to live with it.

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MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

	OHIO STATE	NOTRE DAME
HALFTIME SCORE	21	7
Time Spent in the Lead (<i>Tied 17:40</i>).....	6:15	6:05
Total Plays-Yards.....	33-231	25-93
20-Plus/10-Plus.....	1/11	0/2
Plus Territory: Plays-Yards.....	19-123	12-47
Drives With Plays in Plus Territory.....	3 of 3	1 of 4
First Down Plays/Yards.....	16/81	10/35
Average on First Down.....	5.1	3.5
First Half	5.1 (16-81)	3.5 (10-35)
Rushes/Average	8/4.7	4/1.8
Passes/Average (<i>includes sacks</i>).....	8/5.5	6/4.7
Times Gained: 20+/10+/5+	0/4/8	0/1/4
Times Gained: 2-/0/Neg.....	7/1/3	6/3/1
Second Down Efficiency	5-11	1-7
First Half	5-11	1-7
Yards Gained	85	36
Third Down Efficiency	6-6	2-6
Rushing.....	3-3	2-5
Passing.....	3-3	0-1
Average Yards To Go (All).....	4.8	6.0
Average Yards To Go (Conversions)	4.8	2.0
Yards Gained.....	65	15
3rd & 5 or less	4-4	2-5
3rd & 6 or more	2-2	0-1
Fourth Down Efficiency (Yards)	0-0 (0)	2-2 (7)
Total Possessions/Average FP	3/OS23	4/ND25
Drives Started Inside/At Own 20.....	0 (0/0)	0 (0/0)
Drives Started In Plus Territory.....	0 (0 pts)	0 (0 pts)
Three Plays & Out (or worse)	0	2
Opponent Turnovers (Pts)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Scores-Times Penetrated The 20 (pts)..	3-3 (21)	1-1 (7)
Plays-Yards.....	10-52	6-19
Third Down Efficiency.....	2-2	1-2
Fourth Down Efficiency.....	0-0	1-1
Scores Outside The 20 (#/TD, FG).....	0 (0/0)	0 (0/0)
Yards by Quarter: 1st.....	62	75
2nd.....	169	18

FIRST HALF LINER NOTES

- **Coin Toss.** Ohio State won the toss and elected to defer.
- **First Play of the Game.** Notre Dame called just the fourth running play to open a CFP title game; the 1-loss was the third negative play. All opening plays in the 11 CFP championship games:

2015	Oregon	O25	Mariota 8 pass to Marshall
2016	Alabama	A21	Coker 0 pass to Ridley
2017	Alabama	A24	Hurts passes incomplete
2018	Georgia	G25	Fromm (-1) pass to Chubb
2019	Clemson	C25	Lawrence passes incomplete
2020	Clemson	C25	Lawrence (-6) pass to Ross
2021	Ohio State	O25	Sermon 2 rush
2022	Alabama	A25	Robinson 4 rush
2023	TCU	T25	Penalty: illegal procedure (TCU)
2024	Michigan	M16	Corum 4 rush
2025	Notre Dame	N25	Love -1 rush

- **Notre Dame's** opening drive (18 plays, 75 yards, 9:45) marked the second-most plays and the second-most time of possession on a touchdown drive this bowl season (46 games).
- **Notre Dame** did not allow its opponent to score in the first quarter for the last seven games this season.

- **Possession Breakdown.** How they broke down in the first half:

	OHIO STATE			NOTRE DAME		
	Plays	Yards	Avg.	Plays	Yards	Avg.
Touchdown Drives.....	33	231	7.0	18	75	4.2
Field Goal Drives.....	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Non-Scoring Drives.....	0	0	0.0	7	18	2.6
Total	33	231	7.0	25	93	3.7

- **Big Play Breakdown.** How they broke down in the first half:

	OHIO STATE			NOTRE DAME		
	Plays	Yards	Avg.	Plays	Yards	Avg.
Plays of 10+ Yards.....	11	162	14.7	2	24	12.0
Plays of 20+ Yards (<i>included</i>)	1	20	0.0	0	0	0.0
(Remaining Plays).....	22	69	3.1	23	69	3.0

CFP CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECORDS

(set in the first half)

INDIVIDUAL

MOST CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS

13, Will Howard, Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25 (*first 13 in game*)
Previous: 12, Mac Jones, Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami, 1/11/2021.

TEAM

MOST PLAYS (TD DRIVE)

18, Notre Dame vs. Ohio State at Atlanta, 1/20/25 (74 yards)
Previous: 12, Ohio State vs. Oregon at Arlington, 1/12/2015 (75 yards);
 Clemson vs. Alabama at Santa Clara, 1/07/2019 (89 yards); Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami Gardens, 1/11/2021 (78 yards)

MOST TIME CONSUMED (TD DRIVE)

9:45, Notre Dame vs. Ohio State at Atlanta, 1/20/25 (18 plays, 75 yards)
Previous: 6:39, Ohio State vs. Oregon at Arlington, 1/12/2015
 (12 plays, 75 yards)

MOST CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS

13, Ohio State vs. Notre Dame, 1/20/25 (*first 13 in game*)
Previous: 12, Alabama vs. Ohio State at Miami, 1/11/2021.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The **Empire State Building** for the 11th straight year illuminated this evening to acknowledge the CFP Championship Game. This time around, the building is highlighted by scarlet (red) for Ohio State and the upper portion in green (Notre Dame). Postgame, the colors will shift to those of the winner on all four sides.

