



POST-GAME NOTES
Houston Cougars at East Carolina Pirates
Sept. 27, 2008 • Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium • 3:30 P.M.



INDIVIDUAL NOTES

- Team captains: Pierre Bell, Patrick Pinkney and Zack Slate.
- Consecutive starting streaks: Zack Slate (22), Jamar Bryant (18), Doug Palmer (18), Jay Ross (15), C.J. Wilson (14), Van Eskridge (12), Pierre Bell (11) and Davon Drew (9).
- First starts: Matt Pick (LB).
- Patrick Pinkney was 10-for-20 passing for 100 yards with one TD and one INT. He has thrown at least one TD in his last six games.
- Nick Johnson collected a career-high 11 total tackles (two solo, nine assists). He forced his first fumble of the season (second career) on the Cougars first dive of the game. Later in the first he recovered his first fumble of the season and third of his career.
- Van Eskridge recovered his first fumble of the season on the Cougars first possession of the game, which was the fourth of his career. He tied his career-high with 13 stops (five solo, eight assists).
- Emmanuel Davis picked off his first career pass in the first quarter returning it 11 yards for a TD, also the first of his career. He finished the game with two total tackles (both solo).
- Ben Hartman connected on all three PATs to extend his school record for consecutive PATs made to 65. He was 1-for-1 on FGAs (made-26).
- Zack Slate had two sacks on the afternoon (9 and 7 yards) and now has 2.5 on the season and 8.5 for his career. Forced his first fumble of the season in the first quarter and third of his career. He tied his career-high with eight stops (four solo, four assists).
- C.J. Wilson dropped Case Keenum for a six-yard loss in the second quarter and now has 4.5 sacks on the season and 15.5 for his career. On the following play he teamed up with Linval Joseph on a three-yard loss when Houston tried a fake FGA. He finished the game with six tackles (four solo, two assists), 1.5 TFLs, one sack and a forced fumble.
- Matt Pick recorded his first collegiate tackle in the second quarter and finished with a career-high three tackles.
- Rob Kass saw his first action since the WVU game opening the second half under center. He completed 5-of-8 passes for 49 yards including a 41-yard strike to Dwayne Harris in the third quarter.
- Pierre Bell recovered a Houston fumble in the third quarter (opening possession) which was his second recovery of the season and third of his career. He finished with eight tackles (two solo, six assists) and a TFL (-3 yards).
- Brandon Simmons carried the ball 19 times for a 86 yards, both career-highs. His four-yard TD run in the third quarter was his second of the season and seventh of his career. Simmons also had a career-high five receptions for 20 yards.
- Dwayne Harris caught five passes on the day for 2 yards to lead the Pirates. His 41-yard reception in the third quarter was the second-longest of the season and of his career (Tulane/Sept. 13, 2008). Harris finished with 164 total yards (8/receiving, 52/rush and 104 KOR).
- Alex Taylor's 47-yard reception in the fourth quarter was a career-long and finished the game with three catches for 58 yards to lead the Pirates.
- Jamar Bryant extended his current streak to 19 games (dating back to 2006 PapaJohns.com Bowl) with at least one catch on his 12-yard TD reception in the fourth quarter. It was his first catch of the afternoon, third TD reception of the season and ninth TD of his career.

TEAM NOTES

- Attendance: 43,641 (fourth-largest in school history at Dowdy-Ficklen and largest in the Skip Holtz era).
- ECU extended its active streak without being shutout to 131 games on Emmanuel Davis' interception for a TD (11 yards). The last time ECU was blanked was on Oct. 4, 1997 against Syracuse at the Carrier Dome (56-0).
- ECU forced at least two TOs (four on the afternoon) for the seventh straight game, 13th of the last 14 and 16 of the last 18.
- ECU had two receivers on the afternoon with a reception of 10 or more yards (Harris-41; Taylor-47)
- Houston's TD in the first quarter snapped an ECU streak of nine straight games of not allowing an offensive TD. The last opponent to score a TD in the first quarter was N.C. State (Oct. 20, 2007). It was also the first points scored against ECU in the first quarter this season.
- Davis' interception for a TD in the first quarter was the fourth non-offensive score of the season (VT/blocked punt; Tulane/blocked FGA and N.C. State/interception). Since 1999 the Pirates have scored 40 non-offensive TDs which is tied for 13th nationally since that time period.
- Houston's Bryce Beall became the first opponent to rush for 100-yards against the Pirates with his 135 yards on the afternoon.
- For the first time this season, the Pirates did not score on its opening possession in the first or second half. On the season, ECU has scored on 5-of-10 opening possessions (2nd half vs. VT, both halves vs. WVU, 2nd half vs. Tulane and 2nd half vs. N.C. State).
- Houston's 621 yards of total offense is tied for the seventh most yards by an ECU opponent and is the fourth-most at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. Case Keenum's 399 yards in the air is the fourth-most passing yards by an opponent at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.