

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
I**

**Notre Dame 42 Pitt 21 • Sept. 3, 2005 • Heinz Field (66,451)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Dave Wannstedt's Pitt head coaching debut opened on a sour note as the Panthers could not keep pace with high-powered Notre Dame in a 42-21 loss.

Pitt, which entered the game ranked as high as No. 23, opened up leads of 7-0 and 10-7 in the initial period. Notre Dame, however, exploded for 28 second-quarter points to seize control of the contest.

Led by quarterback Brady Quinn and tailback Darius Walker, the Irish compiled 502 yards in total offense compared to Pitt's 323.

After an early interception, Quinn played virtually flawless for the balance of the game. He hit 18-of-27 passes for 233 yards and two touchdowns. Walker rushed for 100 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries. The sophomore back also scored on a 51-yard reception when he took a short pass and raced through Pitt's secondary.

Walker's receiving TD tied the game at 7-7 in the first period. The Panthers struck first on the game's opening possession when Tyler Palko hit Greg Lee with a 39-yard scoring pass at the 10:58 mark.

After Notre Dame tied the game, the Panthers' reclaimed the lead with a 49-yard field goal by Josh Cummings with 1:40 left in the first period.

It would be Pitt's final advantage. Walker scored again on a two-yard run just 3:33 later to put the Irish up 14-10.

The lead swelled to 28-10 when Notre Dame scored two TDs in a span of 56 seconds. Rashon Powers-Neal scored on a two-yard run to make it 21-10 at the 6:59 mark. Pitt fumbled away the ensuing kickoff at its own 19 and the Irish took advantage with a Quinn scoring strike two plays later.

The Panthers cut the margin to 28-13 on a 23-yard Cummings field goal with 4:20 left in the half. But Notre Dame responded by driving 70 yards in just under three minutes for another touchdown and commanding 22-point lead at intermission.

Palko, who led the Panthers to a stirring victory at Notre Dame in 2004 with five touchdown passes, never had much opportunity to duplicate that magic in this year's encounter.

The junior quarterback was sacked five times and had a rushing game that managed just 103 total yards. Still, Palko completed 20-of-35 passes for 220 yards and a TD. His lone interception came at the end of the half on a lob into the end zone.

Defensively, linebacker H.B. Blades collected a game-high 13 tackles for Pitt.

In addition to Wannstedt, the game also served as the college coaching debut for Notre Dame's Charlie Weis.

It was Pitt's first season-opening loss since 1996.

### Scoring Summary

<b>NOTRE DAME</b>	7	28	7	0	42
<b>PITT</b>	10	3	0	8	21

#### First Quarter

PITT — Lee 39-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 10:58  
 ND — Walker 51-yard pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick) 8:19  
 PITT — Cummings 49-yard field goal 1:40

#### Second Quarter

ND — Walker 2-yard run (Fitzpatrick kick) 13:07  
 ND — Powers-Neal 2-yard run (Fitzpatrick kick) 6:59  
 ND — Samardzija 19-yard pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick) 6:03  
 PITT — Cummings 23-yard field goal 4:20  
 ND — Powers-Neal 9-yard run (Fitzpatrick kick) 1:39

#### Third Quarter

ND — Powers-Neal 4-yard run (Fitzpatrick kick) 7:59

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Palko 4-yard run (Murphy rush) 12:55

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	ND	PITT
First Downs	33	20
Rushes-Yards	50-275	31-103
Att-Comp-Int	27-18-1	35-20-1
Passing Yards	227	220
Total Yards	502	323
Punt Returns-Yards	1-23	0-0
Kick Returns-Yards	2-35	5-80
Interceptions-Yards	1-0	1-3
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-1
Punts-Average	3-45.7	4-48.8
Penalties-Yards	10-94	6-55
Third Down Conv.	10-15	4-14
Fourth Down Conv.	0-0	1-3
Sacks By-Yards	5-38	0-0
Possession Time	32:46	27:14

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**ND** — Walker 20-100, 1 TD; Quinn 5-49; Powers-Neal 8-41, 3 TD; Thomas 8-40; Wolke 1-22; Jenkins 6-17; Schwapp 2-6.  
**PITT** — Kirkley 5-64; Jennings 7-29; Stephens-Howling 2-17; Murphy 5-2; Palko 12-(-9), 1 TD.

#### Passing

**ND** — Quinn 27-18-1, 227 yards, 2 TD.  
**PITT** — Palko 35-20-1, 220 yards, 1 TD.

#### Receiving

**ND** — Fasano 4-42; Walker 3-52, 1 TD; McKnight 3-51; Samardzija 3-34, 1 TD; Stovall 2-27; Carlson 2-3; Powers-Neal 1-18.  
**PITT** — Lee 4-63, 1 TD; DelSardo 4-45; Buches 4-39; Gill 3-26; Kinder 2-29; Murphy 2-19; Jennings 1-(-1).

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME**  
**2**

**Ohio 16 Pitt 10 (OT) • Sept. 9, 2005 • Peden Stadium (24,545)**

**ATHENS, Ohio**—Ohio's Dion Byrum returned two interceptions for touchdowns, the second one in overtime, to give the host Bobcats a stunning 16-10 victory over Pitt.

Byrum returned his first pick 38 yards for a score in the opening period to tie the game at 7-7. In overtime, he bolted in front of a Pitt receiver and went 85 yards untouched to clinch the upset.

The loss dropped Pitt to 0-2 for the first time since 1984.

Pitt fell despite a stifling defensive effort. The Panthers gave up just 208 yards, its lowest total in 21 games. The Bobcats managed just 94 yards on the ground and threw for a mere 114.

Ohio (1-1) had just one sustained drive on the night, a 76-yard march in the second quarter that resulted in a short field goal and 10-7 Bobcat lead.

While the Panthers' defense swarmed Ohio throughout the game, the Pitt offense struggled significantly.

The Panthers' only touchdown came when LaRod Stephens-Howling returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a score. It was the first touchdown — and kick return — of his collegiate career.

Pitt had consecutive drives start near midfield in the first quarter and both failed to generate a scoring threat. After Byrum tied the game on his first interception return, the Panthers mounted a drive that reached the Ohio 18-yard line early in the second quarter. The drive failed to produce any points, however, when the Bobcats' Todd Koenig intercepted a pass in the end zone.

It would be Pitt's final threat until late in the game.

Brooks Rossman connected on a 21-yard field goal with 2:32 left in the first half to put Ohio up by three. Neither team mustered much offense for the balance of the game.

Rossman had a chance to boost the lead to six points with 2:24 left in regulation but missed wide right on a 37-yard field goal attempt. Pitt took over at its own 20 and skillfully moved to the Ohio 10, where Josh Cummings kicked a 27-yard field goal to tie the game with seven seconds left to force overtime.

With Pitt facing a third-and-four at the Ohio 19 on the initial possession of OT, Byrum sealed the game's outcome with his second interception return.

Pitt finished with just 268 yards in total offense. Through the air, Tyler Palko was just 13 of 25 for 120 yards and three interceptions. Raymond Kirkley had a game-high 66 yards rushing on 15 carries.

It was the Panthers' first loss to Ohio in eight meetings.

Pitt's record versus the Mid-American Conference fell to 23-2 all-time with both losses occurring on the road.

### Scoring Summary

<b>PITT</b>	7	0	0	3	0	10
<b>OHIO</b>	7	3	0	0	6	16

#### First Quarter

**PITT** — Stephens-Howling 95-yard kickoff return (Cummings kick) 14:47  
**OHIO** — Byrum 38-yard interception return (Rossman kick) 1:52

#### Second Quarter

**OHIO** — Rossman 21-yard field goal 2:32

#### Third Quarter

No scoring

#### Fourth Quarter

**PITT** — Cummings 27-yard field goal 0:07

#### Overtime

**OHIO** — Byrum 85-yard interception return

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	PITT	OHIO
First Downs	13	11
Rushes-Yards	41-148	35-94
Att-Comp-Int	26-13-3	24-14-0
Passing Yards	120	114
Total Yards	268	208
Punt Returns-Yards	4-26	6-62
Kick Returns-Yards	2-104	2-43
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	3-123
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Punts-Average	8-43.6	9-36.6
Penalties-Yards	10-80	5-42
Third Down Conv.	6-17	4-15
Fourth Down Conv.	0-1	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	1-4	3-23
Possession Time	29:01	30:59

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**PITT** — Kirkley 15-66; Jennings 13-41; Murphy 5-37; Palko 7-3; Stephens-Howling 1-1  
**OHIO** — McRae 13-50; Owens 8-26; Everson 7-9; Young 4-8; Mayle 2-2  
Team 1-(-1)

#### Passing

**PITT** — Palko 25-13-3, 120 yards; Team 1-0-0  
**OHIO** — Everson 23-13-0, 112 yards; Jefferson 1-1-0, 2 yards

#### Receiving

**PITT** — Lee 4-44; Murphy 3-19; Buches 2-22; Gill 2-13; Jennings 1-14; Kirkley 1-8  
**OHIO** — Peterson 3-18; Owens 2-32; Cody 2-17; Fitzgerald 2-16; Mayle 2-6; McRae 1-13; Sylvan 1-10; Everson 1-2

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
3**

**Nebraska 7 Pitt 6 • Sept. 17, 2005 • Memorial Stadium (77,336)**

LINCOLN, Neb.—A strong defensive effort nearly lifted Pitt past host Nebraska. A potential game-winning field goal in the final seconds, however, was blocked as the Panthers fell just short in Lincoln, 7-6.

The Panthers' final drive started at their 22 with 1:28 left following a missed 38-yard field goal by Nebraska. Tyler Palko completed three passes for 38 yards and rushed for 11 more to move the Panthers into Cornhuskers territory.

A 26-yard reception by Joe DelSardo set up the field goal attempt at the Nebraska 29 with seven seconds to go. On the initial try — attempted on second down — an errant snap was picked up by kicker Josh Cummings and thrown incomplete. Pitt got one more chance following the incompletion with one second remaining.

Cummings' second attempt, however, was blocked by Adam Ickes, allowing the Cornhuskers to escape with the one-point victory.

Pitt outgained Nebraska 304 to 267. The Panthers yielded only 93 passing yards and had four quarterback sacks. H.B. Blades spearheaded Pitt's defensive effort with a game-high 14 tackles.

Nebraska's lone consistent offensive threat was I-back Cory Ross, who rushed for a game-high 153 yards on 32 carries (4.8 avg.).

Husker quarterback Zac Taylor connected on just 10-of-20 passes. But he did produce the game's lone touchdown when he rolled around the right end on fourth-and-goal at the Pitt one to give Nebraska a 7-0 lead midway through the second quarter.

Pitt closed to 7-3 on a 38-yard field goal by Cummings with 12:39 left in the third period. He added a 27-yarder just before the quarter ended to make it 7-6.

The Panthers had a chance to take the lead at the 11:19 mark of the fourth but Cummings' 49-yard field goal went wide right. It would be Pitt's final threat until the final minute of the game.

Pitt received encouraging production from its rushing game. Its two tailbacks — freshman LaRod Stephens-Howling and senior Raymond Kirkley — combined for 138 yards on 26 carries, a 5.3 average. Stephens-Howling paced the Panthers with 98 yards on 17 carries (5.8 avg.), showing an elusive style Pitt had been lacking in recent years.

The Panthers offense, however, failed to find the end zone for the second consecutive game.

Pitt fell to 0-3 for the first time since 1984. Nebraska improved to 3-0.

The game marked Pitt's first visit to Lincoln since the 1958 season.

### Scoring Summary

PITT	0	0	6	0	6
NEBRASKA	0	7	0	0	7

#### First Quarter

No scoring

#### Second Quarter

NU — Taylor 1-yard run (Congdon kick) 7:51

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Cummings 38-yard field goal 12:39

PITT — Cummings 27-yard field goal 1:44

#### Fourth Quarter

No scoring

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	PITT	NU
First Downs	14	14
Rushes-Yards	36-114	48-174
Att-Comp-Int	28-11-0	20-10-0
Passing Yards	190	93
Total Yards	304	267
Punt Returns-Yards	3-7	5-104
Kick Returns-Yards	0-0	2-42
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	0-0
Fumbles-Lost	3-0	1-0
Punts-Average	7-49.1	8-46.0
Penalties-Yards	4-35	11-91
Third Down Conv.	1-14	3-15
Fourth Down Conv.	1-1	2-2
Sacks By-Yards	4-27	4-34
Possession Time	27:17	32:43

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

PITT — Stephens-Howling 17-98; Kirkley 9-40; Campbell 1-3; Murphy 1-0; Team 1-(-1); Palko 7-(-26)

NU — Ross 32-153; Glenn 4-20; Green 1-8; Jackson 2-4; Stuntz 1-4; Lucky 1-(-4); Taylor 7-(-11), 1 TD

#### Passing

PITT — Palko 26-11-0, 190 yards; Team 2-0-0, 0 yards

NU — Taylor 20-10-0, 93 yards

#### Receiving

PITT — Lee 3-101; Kinder 2-12; Stephens-Howling 2-9; DelSardo 1-26; Gill 1-26; Strong 1-19; Kirkley 1-(-3)

NU — Ross 3-23; Hardy 2-15; Phillips 2-8; Nunn 1-36; LeFlore 1-8; Sievers 1-3

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME**  
**4**

**Pitt 41 Youngstown State 0 • Sept. 24, 2005 • Heinz Field (43,135)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Pitt achieved its first win of the season, and of the Dave Wannstedt coaching era, with a 41-0 demolition of Youngstown State at Heinz Field.

After suffering consecutive losses in narrow fashion the previous two weeks, the Panthers responded by dominating every facet of this game.

The Pitt offense resurrected its productive ways with an effective vertical passing game complemented by a solid running attack. Defensively, the Panthers continued their recent strong play and achieved their first shutout since the 2001 season.

After struggling to find its legs in recent weeks, the Panthers' offense broke out for 528 yards. Quarterback Tyler Palko and receiver Greg Lee were a particularly potent tandem. Palko threw for 290 yards on 14-of-22 passing with three touchdowns and one interception. Lee was on the receiving end of six passes for 143 yards and a TD.

On the ground Pitt (1-3) churned out 221 yards rushing. Raymond Kirkley produced a game-high 83 yards on 17 carries (4.9 avg.). In addition to rushing for a 12-yard touchdown, Kirkley also opened the scoring by taking a screen pass 39 yards for a score just a minute-and-a-half into the contest.

One of the most accomplished teams on the NCAA I-AA level, Youngstown State (3-1) averaged 40 points per game over its first three contests. Against the Panthers, however, YSU did not convert a third down until the final quarter and never seriously mounted a scoring threat.

The Penguins were limited to 152 total yards, including only 43 through the air. YSU's quarterbacks combined to hit only 8-of-25 passes.

H.B. Blades compiled a game-high 10 tackles. Darrelle Revis had a third-quarter interception that Pitt parlayed into a touchdown.

It was Pitt's first shutout since a 42-0 blanking of Rutgers during the 2001 season.

The Panthers led only 16-0 at halftime but could have been up by more. Pitt fumbled at the goal line after a short pass completion and also had an interception in the end zone in the opening two quarters.

Eighteen points in the third period put the game away. In addition to Kirkley's touchdown run, David Abdul kicked a 40-yard field goal and Lee hauled in a 27-yard scoring pass.

Despite being located a mere 70 miles apart, the game marked the first-ever meeting between Pitt and YSU. The Panthers improved to 5-0 all-time versus I-AA schools.

### Scoring Summary

YSU	0	0	0	0	0
PITT	9	7	18	7	41

#### First Quarter

PITT — Kirkley 39-yard pass from Palko (kick failed) 13:23  
PITT — Abdul 22-yard field goal 9:51

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Gill 3-yard pass from Palko (Abdul kick) 7:47

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Kirkley 12-yard run (Palko pass to Lee) 13:40  
PITT — Abdul 40-yard field goal 10:59  
PITT — Lee 27-yard pass from Palko (Abdul kick) 10:39

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Murphy 43-yard run (Abdul kick) 10:02

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	YSU	PITT
First Downs	11	25
Rushes-Yards	31-109	43-221
Att-Comp-Int	25-8-1	24-15-1
Passing Yards	43	307
Total Yards	152	528
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	4-46
Kick Returns-Yards	2-47	1-20
Interceptions-Yards	1-0	1-9
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-1
Punts-Average	8-39.0	2-40.5
Penalties-Yards	9-89	9-80
Third Down Conv.	1-13	6-12
Fourth Down Conv.	1-3	2-2
Sacks By-Yards	2-13	1-7
Possession Time	28:48	31:12

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

YSU — Mason 16-64; Reams 8-37; Gibson 4-11; Zetts 1-9; Gliatta 2-(-12).  
PITT — Kirkley 17-83, 1 TD; Pettiford 7-51; Murphy 2-45, 1 TD; Stephens-Howling 10-42; Furman 2-9; Campbell 1-5; Team 1-(-3); Palko 3-(-11).

#### Passing

YSU — Zetts 19-6-1, 29 yards; Gliatta 6-2-0, 14 yards.  
PITT — Palko 22-14-1, 290 yards, 3 TD; Stull 2-1-0, 17 yards.

#### Receiving

YSU — Edgeron 2-7; Evans 1-21; Peterson 1-14; King 1-10; Wright 1-7; Mason 1-(-2); Zetts 1-(-14).  
PITT — Lee 6-143, 1 TD; Strong 3-62; Kinder 2-43; Gill 2-12, 1 TD; Kirkley 1-39, 1 TD; Buches 1-8.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
5**

**Rutgers 37 Pitt 29 • Sept. 30, 2005 • Rutgers Stadium (37,514)**

**PISCATAWAY**—A valiant second-half rally was not enough to overcome a large halftime deficit as Pitt fell to host Rutgers, 37-29, in the Big East opener for both teams.

Rutgers cruised to a 27-0 halftime lead behind the sharp passing of Ryan Hart and an effective rushing attack. It was three key plays in the first quarter, however, that put Pitt back on its heels and had it playing from behind the entire evening.

Rutgers (3-1, 1-0) opened up a 17-0 lead less than 11 minutes into the game courtesy of two special teams gems and a quick-hitting 80-yard drive.

Brian Leonard took a screen pass 33 yards for a touchdown to open the scoring at the 9:25 mark. On the ensuing kickoff, Pitt returner Marcel Pestano was leveled by Rutgers coverman Glen Lee resulting in a fumble and, ultimately, a Scarlet Knight field goal. Willie Foster then broke open the game with a 71-yard punt return for a touchdown, giving Rutgers a commanding 17-point bulge at the 4:10 mark of the initial period.

Rutgers added 10 more points in the second quarter, including another TD catch by Leonard (11 yards) before Pitt (1-4, 0-1) regrouped at halftime.

Facing such a sizable deficit, the Panthers went to the air in the second half. Pitt pulled within 27-14 late in the third period after Tyler Palko threw a pair of touchdown passes. Greg Lee got the Panthers on the board with a 13-yard scoring reception and Justin Acierno took a two-yard pass in for a score to give the Panthers life.

Pitt's momentum, though, was halted after the Scarlet Knights forced a fumble at the Pitt 27 and cashed in with a 25-yard Hart TD pass to boost the lead to 34-14.

Pitt came right back with an 18-yard touchdown catch by Steve Buches to make it 34-21 with 13:38 left in the contest. As it seemed to do all evening, though, Rutgers responded to the challenge. Jeremy Ito kicked his third field goal of the game, this one a 42-yarder to make it 37-21 with just over 10 minutes left.

The Panthers rallied to within striking distance again when Derek Kinder scored on a three-yard reception and Darrell Strong caught an ensuing two-point conversion pass to make it an eight-point game with 7:26 left.

Pitt would reach the Rutgers 15 on its next possession, but a false start penalty and a quarterback sack ultimately killed the chance. Facing fourth-and-18 at the 29, Pitt tried a fake punt that resulted in an incomplete pass.

Pitt was outgained 453 to 360. Ray Rice rushed for 114 yards, while Hart threw for 207 yards and three TDs. Palko threw for 371 yards and four TDs on 35-of-58 passing.

It was Rutgers' first victory over Pitt since 1998. The Panthers had won six consecutive games versus the Scarlet Knights headed into this year's encounter.

### Scoring Summary

<b>PITT</b>	0	0	14	15	29
<b>RUTGERS</b>	17	10	7	3	37

#### First Quarter

RU — Leonard 33-yard pass from Hart (Ito kick) 9:25

RU — Ito 22-yard field goal 5:59

RU — Foster 71-yard punt return (Ito kick) 4:10

#### Second Quarter

RU — Ito 26-yard field goal 14:01

RU — Leonard 11-yard pass from Hart (Ito kick) 0:44

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Lee 13-yard pass from Palko (Abdul kick) 10:39

PITT — Acierno 2-yard pass from Palko (Abdul kick) 4:42

RU — Moses 25-yard pass from Hart (Ito kick) 0:15

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Buches 18-yard pass from Palko (Abdul kick) 13:38

RU — Ito 42-yard field goal 10:03

PITT — Kinder 3-yard pass from Palko (Palko pass to Strong) 7:26

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	PITT	RU
First Downs	24	19
Rushes-Yards	25-(-11)	43-203
Att-Comp-Int	59-35-1	28-14-2
Passing Yards	371	250
Total Yards	360	453
Punt Returns-Yards	4-116	1-71
Kick Returns-Yards	7-167	4-89
Interceptions-Yards	2-4	1-13
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	1-0
Punts-Average	6-40.3	6-37.8
Penalties-Yards	7-45	13-102
Third Down Conv.	9-19	6-15
Fourth Down Conv.	1-3	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	1-8	5-45
Possession Time	27:50	32:10

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**PITT** — Kirkley 8-15; Murphy 7-8; Palko 10-(-34).

**RU** — Rice 15-114; Leonard 18-68; Underwood 8-28; Teel 1-1; Hart 1-(-8).

#### Passing

**PITT** — Palko 58-35-1, 371 yards, 4 TD; Graessle 1-0-0, 0 yards.

**RU** — Hart 25-12-2, 207 yards, 3 TD; Teel 3-2-0, 43 yards.

#### Receiving

**PITT** — Kinder 10-78, 1 TD; Lee 9-130, 1 TD; DelSardo 5-41; Strong 4-59; Buches 2-39, 1 TD; Kirkley 2-9; Acierno 2-7, 1 TD; Gill 1-8.

**RU** — Tucker 4-74; Moses 4-73, 1 TD; Leonard 4-62, 2 TD; Harris 2-41.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME**  
**6**

**Pitt 38 Cincinnati 20 • Oct. 8, 2005 • Heinz Field (30,343)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Pitt earned its second victory of the season with a convincing 38-20 decision over Cincinnati at Heinz Field. The game, dubbed the “River City Rivalry,” marked the first between the two schools since 1981 and the Bearcats’ first as Big East members.

The Panthers’ special teams played a major role in the game’s outcome.

Placekicker Josh Cummings, who underwent knee surgery on his right (kicking) leg just two weeks prior, returned to action and accounted for a career-high 12 points. Cummings connected on all six of his placements, including three field goals and three extra-point attempts.

Pitt got its first blocked kick of the season when reserve linebacker Adam Gunn came off the edge to get his hands on Chet Ervin’s punt early in the second quarter. The Panthers recovered it at the Cincinnati six and cashed in two plays later with a Tyler Palko touchdown run to seize a 10-0 lead at the 11:13 mark.

Pitt’s resurgent punt return game also provided one of the key plays in the victory. Darrelle Revis scored his first career touchdown on a dazzling 79-yard return – the Panthers’ first punt return for a score in three seasons – to give Pitt a 30-7 lead late in the third period.

The strong special teams play, coupled with a solid defensive effort, resulted in Pitt holding a significant advantage in field position all day. The Panthers’ average starting field position was at their own 42, while Cincinnati’s was at its 26.

The game was played in a light rainfall for most of the afternoon. While the increasingly sloppy conditions were not conducive for an effective passing game, Pitt’s rushing attack did produce 146 yards, 111 of which was gained after halftime. Freshman tailback Rashad Jennings, who had missed three consecutive games due to a shoulder injury, rushed for 102 yards on 11 carries, an average of 9.3 yards per attempt. The bullish Jennings notched his first career touchdown with a 13-yard jaunt in the third quarter. He had runs of 24 and 31 yards during the period to become the first true freshman to rush for 100 yards at Pitt in seven seasons.

Pitt (2-4, 1-1) staked a 16-0 halftime lead behind three Cummings field goals and Palko’s second-quarter touchdown run. Cummings displayed his All-Big East form of a year prior by connecting from 27, 39 and 45 yards.

Cincinnati (2-3, 0-1) sliced the lead to 16-7 at the 13:36 mark of the third period with a 73-yard touchdown drive. The Bearcats, however, could draw no closer. Pitt quickly responded with a 52-yard TD drive of its own, climaxed by Jennings’ run. Revis’ punt return later in the period essentially iced the result as the Panthers notched their first Big East win of the season.

### Scoring Summary

CINCINNATI	0	0	14	6	20
PITT	3	13	14	8	38

#### First Quarter

PITT — Cummings 27-yard field goal 11:20

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Palko 5-yard run (Cummings kick) 11:13

PITT — Cummings 39-yard field goal 2:56

PITT — Cummings 45-yard field goal 1:21

#### Third Quarter

UC — Glatthaar 4-yard run (Lovell kick) 13:36

PITT — Jennings 13-yard run (Cummings kick) 11:41

PITT — Revis 79-yard punt return (Cummings kick) 4:04

UC — Celek 47-yard pass from Grutza (Lovell kick) 1:06

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Lee 10-yard pass from Palko (Palko pass to Strong) 14:54

UC — Jackson 22-yard pass from Grutza (pass failed) 2:07

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	UC	PITT
First Downs	18	16
Rushes-Yards	41-113	41-146
Att-Comp-Int	32-13-1	32-14-0
Passing Yards	199	175
Total Yards	312	321
Punt Returns-Yards	2-32	6-96
Kick Returns-Yards	8-149	2-96
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	1-0
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-2
Punts-Average	9-35.2	7-35.4
Penalties-Yards	7-65	6-53
Third Down Conv.	5-17	5-17
Fourth Down Conv.	0-1	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	1-7	4-24
Possession Time	30:51	29:09

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

UC — Glatthaar 16-63, 1 TD; Benton 11-35; Grutza 11-7; Goodman 2-5; Davila 1-3.

PITT — Jennings 11-102, 1 TD; Kirkley 12-30; Pettiford 3-20; Collins 7-15; Team 1-(-1); Murphy 3-(-5); Palko 4-(-15), 1 TD.

#### Passing

UC — Grutza 19-9-0, 180 yards, 2 TD; Davila 13-4-1, 19 yards.

PITT — Palko 32-14-0, 175 yards, 1 TD.

#### Receiving

UC — Jackson 3-85, 1 TD; Jones 3-4; Ross 2-27; Glatthaar 2-19; Celek 1-47, 1 TD; Benton 1-12; Giddens, 1-5.

PITT — Lee 3-77, 1 TD; Strong 3-37; Kinder 3-27; Murphy 2-24; Buches 2-5; Pestano 1-5.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
7**

**Pitt 31 South Florida 17 • Oct. 15, 2005 • Heinz Field (33,497)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Pitt overcame two early mistakes and a 10-0 first-quarter deficit to defeat South Florida, 31-17, in a Big East game at Heinz Field. The Panthers utilized their most efficient passing effort of the season and three USF turnovers to earn their second consecutive victory.

Tyler Palko accounted for all four Pitt touchdowns, throwing for three and running for another, as the Panthers improved to 3-4 overall and 2-1 in the Big East.

The game's turning point was a 21-point outburst by Pitt in less than a six-minute span in the second quarter. The three touchdowns came in the wake of an inauspicious start for Pitt, which sputtered early.

South Florida's initial points came off of short drives due to a pair of miscues in the first quarter by the Panthers. The Bulls blocked a punt and recovered it at the Pitt four. Two plays later quarterback Pat Julmiste plunged in from the one, giving USF a 7-0 lead at the 8:49 mark.

On the Panthers' next possession Palko fumbled while under pressure and South Florida recovered at the Pitt 27. Pitt's defense held, forcing the Bulls to settle on a 36-yard field goal and 10-0 lead.

The Panthers seized control at the beginning of the second period. On the opening play of the quarter, Palko zipped a screen pass to Greg Lee, who weaved through the USF secondary en route to a 69-yard touchdown. The pair then hooked up again on a 41-yard pass to the Bulls' three following a Darrelle Revis fumble recovery. Tim Murphy hauled in a three-yard scoring pass to make it 14-10.

Another South Florida fumble was recovered by J.J. Horne and returned eight yards to the USF 12. Palko again took advantage, plunging in from a yard out to put the Panthers up 21-10 with just under nine minutes left in the second quarter.

South Florida (3-3, 1-1) quickly cut the deficit to 21-17 when Andre Hall scored on a 76-yard touchdown pass barely a minute later. USF, however, would draw no closer.

Two third-quarter scores put the game away. Josh Cummings kicked a 27-yard field goal to make it 24-17 with 2:53 left in the period. Three plays later, Bernard "Josh" Lay returned an interception 11 yards to the South Florida eight. Palko again obliged by throwing his third touchdown pass of the game, an eight-yard catch by Darrell Strong, to make it 31-17.

Freshman tailback LaRod Stephens-Howling made his return to the lineup versus South Florida after missing two games due to an ankle injury. He proved an effective complement to the passing game, rushing for a game-high 91 yards on 14 attempts, an average of 6.5 yards per carry.

USF's Hall entered the game as the Big East's leading rusher with 519 yards in five contests. The Panthers, however, bottled him up for just 79 yards on 19 carries. Hall did finish with 131 receiving yards on seven catches, but it was not enough to help USF overcome Pitt's second-quarter onslaught.

The Bulls, two games removed from their surprising 45-14 rout of nationally ranked Louisville, lost to Pitt for the second consecutive season. South Florida's visit to Heinz Field marked their first Big East road game.

### Scoring Summary

<b>SOUTH FLORIDA</b>	10	7	0	0	17
<b>PITT</b>	0	21	10	0	31

#### First Quarter

USF — Julmiste 1-yard run (Bronson kick) 8:49

USF — Bronson 36-yard field goal 6:06

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Lee 69-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 14:47

PITT — Murphy 3-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 11:05

PITT — Palko 1-yard run (Cummings kick) 8:50

USF — Hall 76-yard pass from Julmiste (Bronson kick) 8:03

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Cummings 27-yard field goal 2:53

PITT — Strong 8-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 1:48

#### Fourth Quarter

No scoring

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	USF	PITT
First Downs	19	15
Rushes-Yards	47-142	42-127
Att-Comp-Int	37-18-1	21-15-0
Passing Yards	222	203
Total Yards	364	330
Punt Returns-Yards	3-19	2-(-1)
Kick Returns-Yards	4-68	3-31
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	1-11
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-2
Punts-Average	6-34.7	9-42.6
Penalties-Yards	7-54	5-51
Third Down Conv.	4-16	5-14
Fourth Down Conv.	1-3	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	4-35	5-20
Possession Time	30:29	29:31

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**USF** — Hall 19-79; Julmiste 20-58, 1 TD; Ponton 3-15; Jackson 2-1; Chambers 1-0; Hester 2-(-11).

**PITT** — Stephens-Howling 14-91; Kirkley 8-27; Jennings 11-22; Pestano 1-15; Murphy 1-4; Team 1-(-1); Palko 6-(-31), 1 TD.

#### Passing

**USF** — Julmiste 35-18-0, 222 yards, 1 TD; Denson 2-0-1, 0 yards.

**PITT** — Palko 21-15-0, 203 yards, 3 TD.

#### Receiving

**USF** — Hall 7-131, 1 TD; Green 4-37; Jackson 3-24; Johnson 2-15; Chambers 1-8; Peyton 1-7.

**PITT** — Lee 3-106, 1 TD; Gill 2-30; DelSardo 2-11; Murphy 2-7, 1 TD; Kirkley 2-3; Kinder 1-18; Buches 1-16; Strong 1-8, 1 TD; Jennings 1-4.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
8**

**Pitt 34 Syracuse 17 • Oct. 22, 2005 • Heinz Field (33,059)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Pitt overcame an early deficit for the second consecutive game and defeated Syracuse, 34-17, at Heinz Field. It was Pitt's third consecutive victory on the season and fourth in the last five games.

Tyler Palko ran for two touchdowns and threw for another for the Panthers, who improved to 4-4 overall and 3-1 in Big East play. The combination of Palko and freshman tailback LaRod Stephens-Howling, who rushed for 101 yards, fueled a Pitt surge that resulted in 27 unanswered points.

Pitt's offense took advantage of an exceptional defensive effort that produced five Syracuse turnovers, including four interceptions. The Panthers yielded just 202 total yards and did not allow Syracuse to convert any of its 12 third-down situations.

Syracuse opened up leads of 10-0 and 17-7 thanks to some early Pitt mistakes. The Panthers suffered three turnovers in the first half and had a punt blocked.

With the offense struggling through its second consecutive slow start, the Pitt defense took charge. H.B. Blades returned an interception 38 yards for a touchdown, slicing Pitt's deficit to 10-7 early in the second quarter.

Syracuse (1-6, 0-4) went back up by 10 when it scored a touchdown off a blocked punt. The Panthers responded, though, by scoring 10 points in the final 1:42 of the half to tie the score.

Derek Kinder caught an 11-yard scoring pass to make it 17-14 after a J.J. Horne interception. Josh Cummings kicked a 39-yard field goal on the final play of the half to tie it.

Pitt claimed the lead for good with a skillful drive to open the second half. The Panthers drove 60 yards in seven plays, capped by a two-yard plunge by Palko. Following a missed Syracuse field goal, Palko hit Greg Lee with a 37-yard pass to the Orange 7. Palko then snuck in from a yard out, making it 31-17 with 14:24 left in the game.

Cummings completed the scoring with a 30-yard field goal at the 3:34 mark. Despite a miss from 27 yards, the senior placekicker accounted for 10 points in the victory, converting two field goals and all four of his extra-point attempts.

Palko overcame an early interception in the end zone to finish 18 of 28 for 201 yards. Kinder caught eight passes for a career-best 81 yards and his TD.

In addition to his touchdown, Blades collected 11 tackles and had a fumble recovery. Horne had eight tackles to go with his pick. Darrelle Revis and Sam Bryant also had interceptions.

### Scoring Summary

<b>SYRACUSE</b>	10	7	0	0	17
<b>PITT</b>	0	17	7	10	34

#### First Quarter

SU — Lane 4-yard pass from Patterson (Krautman kick) 5:37  
 SU — Barker 32-yard field goal 3:09

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Blades 38-yard interception return (Cummings kick) 14:09  
 SU — McCoy 21-yard blocked punt return (Krautman kick) 10:59  
 PITT — Kinder 11-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 1:42  
 PITT — Cummings 39-yard field goal 0:00

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Palko 2-yard run (Cummings kick) 9:56

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Palko 1-yard run (Cummings kick) 14:24  
 PITT — Cummings 30-yard field goal 3:34

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	SU	PITT
First Downs	11	22
Rushes-Yards	34-113	50-177
Att-Comp-Int	26-9-4	28-18-1
Passing Yards	89	201
Total Yards	202	378
Punt Returns-Yards	3-43	5-36
Kick Returns-Yards	4-46	3-54
Interceptions-Yards	1-73	4-38
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Punts-Average	6-43.5	6-30.3
Penalties-Yards	9-61	4-34
Third Down Conv.	0-12	9-18
Fourth Down Conv.	1-2	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	1-10	1-5
Possession Time	24:30	35:30

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**SU** — Rhodes 23-74; Patterson 5-16; Fields 3-12; Washington 2-8; Jones 1-3.

**PITT** — Stephens-Howling 23-101; Jennings 12-52; Murphy 4-22; Collins 1-10; Palko 7-2, 2 TD; Team 2-(-3); Strong 1-(-7).

#### Passing

**SU** — Patterson 25-9-3, 89 yards, 1 TD; Fields 1-0-1, 0 yards.

**PITT** — Palko 28-18-1, 201 yards, 1 TD.

#### Receiving

**SU** — Moss 2-29; Lane 2-18, 1 TD; Shor 1-11; Ferron 1-11; Bedle 1-11; Rhodes 1-6; Chiara 1-3.

**PITT** — Kinder 8-81, 1 TD; Lee 2-46; Gill 2-20; Buches 2-12; DelSardo 1-14; Murphy 1-13; Strong 1-11; Stephens-Howling 1-4.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME**  
9

**Louisville 42 Pitt 20 • Nov. 3, 2005 • Papa John's Cardinal Stadium (42,692)**

**LOUISVILLE**—Pitt's three-game winning streak was snapped in Louisville as the host Cardinals blew open a close game in the second half and cruised to a 42-20 win.

Pitt trailed just 22-20 at halftime but could not muster any points over the final two quarters. Louisville, ranked as high as 24<sup>th</sup> in the national polls, used the running of Michael Bush (115 yards and two touchdowns) and the kicking of Art Carmody (a school-record four field goals) to turn back the Panthers.

Pitt (4-5, 3-2 Big East) seized its first and only lead with 58 seconds to go in the first half when Tyler Palko hit Derek Kinder on a 12-yard scoring pass. The strike put Pitt up 20-19 but the advantage would be short lived. The Cardinals (6-2, 2-2) claimed the lead for good when Carmody connected on a 47-yard field goal just 53 seconds later.

Despite appearing ready to stick with the high-powered Cardinals, Pitt faltered over the final 30 minutes. Louisville scored on its first three possessions of the second half, with Bush rushing in from three yards and Carmody connecting on field goals of 32 and 36 yards, to take a 35-20 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Panthers drove to the Louisville 22 early in the final period before a succession of penalties killed the drive. After a punt, the Cardinals put the finishing touches on the game with a nine-minute drive that was capped by a four-yard touchdown run by Kolby Smith.

Pitt was outgained 467 yards to 260. The Panthers mustered just 101 yards in the second half. Perhaps most telling was the fact that Pitt failed to force a single Louisville punt on the night.

The game began with the teams trading touchdowns in the first 25 seconds. Terrell Allen fumbled away the opening kickoff and Louisville's Deon Palmer recovered in the end zone just 11 seconds into the contest. Allen quickly atoned for the miscue by returning the ensuing kick 97 yards for a touchdown.

Louisville went up 14-7 on a five-yard run by Bush. The lead expanded to 16-7 late in the opening period when Pitt sent a long snap over the head of punter Adam Graessle, resulting in a safety.

Pitt pulled within 16-13 after Josh Cummings connected on field goals of 40 and 25 yards. Carmody bumped the lead to 19-13 with a 46-yard field goal, but Pitt responded with a skillful four-play, 63-yard drive capped by Palko's scoring pass to Kinder for a 20-19 lead.

It would be the final points for Pitt. The Cardinals quickly reclaimed the lead with a field goal before intermission and then methodically pulled away in the second half.

Palko finished 17 of 30 for 198 yards and passed for the Panthers' lone offensive touchdown. H.B. Blades compiled 20 tackles and a fumble recovery.

### Scoring Summary

<b>PITT</b>	7	13	0	0	20
<b>LOUISVILLE</b>	16	6	13	7	42

#### First Quarter

UL — Palmer fumble recovery in end zone (Carmody kick) 14:49  
 PITT — Allen 97-yard kickoff return (Cummings kick) 14:35  
 UL — Bush 5-yard run (Carmody kick) 11:43  
 UL — Safety (Pitt punt snap goes out of end zone) 4:55

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Cummings 40-yard field goal 13:37  
 PITT — Cummings 25-yard field goal 10:05  
 UL — Carmody 46-yard field goal 6:50  
 PITT — Kinder 12-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 0:58  
 UL — Carmody 47-yard field goal 0:05

#### Third Quarter

UL — Bush 3-yard run (Carmody kick) 12:41  
 UL — Carmody 32-yard field goal 4:02  
 UL — Carmody 36-yard field goal 0:24

#### Fourth Quarter

UL — Smith 4-yard run (Carmody kick) 0:40

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	PITT	UL
First Downs	17	26
Rushes-Yards	28-62	49-220
Att-Comp-Int	30-17-0	31-21-0
Passing Yards	198	247
Total Yards	260	467
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-40
Kick Returns-Yards	7-169	4-70
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	0-0
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	4-2
Punts-Average	4-33.2	0-0.0
Penalties-Yards	6-50	6-50
Third Down Conv.	2-10	8-15
Fourth Down Conv.	0-2	1-3
Sacks By-Yards	1-10	2-8
Possession Time	22:50	37:10

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**PITT** — Jennings 12-70; Stephens-Howling 9-17; Murphy 1-1; Palko 4-(-5); Team 2-(-21).  
**UL** — Bush 16-115, 2 TD; Smith 15-58, 1 TD; Stripling 10-46; Brohm 6-14; Team 1-(-1); Douglas 1-(-12).

#### Passing

**PITT** — Palko 30-17-0, 198 yards, 1 TD.  
**UL** — Brohm 31-21-0, 247 yards.

#### Receiving

**PITT** — Lee 7-95; Strong 2-23; Kinder 2-22, 1 TD; Stephens-Howling 2-8; Gill 2-4; Murphy 1-33; DelSardo 1-13.  
**UL** — Tinch 7-72; Bush 4-59; Douglas 3-54; Jones 3-27; Barnidge 2-19; Smith 2-16.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
10**

**Pitt 24 Connecticut 0 • Nov. 12, 2005 • Heinz Field (35,145)**

**PITTSBURGH**—Pitt closed out the home portion of its schedule with a 24-0 victory over Connecticut at Heinz Field. The win evened the Panthers' record at 5-5 (4-2 Big East) and kept their postseason hopes alive heading into the regular-season finale at West Virginia.

Pitt produced just 192 yards in total offense compared to Connecticut's 299, and managed just 11 first downs to the Huskies' 20. The game turned in the Panthers' favor, though, with two key plays in the second quarter.

Trailing 7-0, Connecticut (4-5, 1-4) threatened to cut into the deficit when it moved inside the Pitt 10 with under six minutes to go in the half. The drive stalled and the Huskies had to settle on a 26-yard field goal attempt. Darrelle Revis, however, kept Connecticut off the scoreboard when he came off the edge and blocked the kick. Bernard "Josh" Lay scooped up the ball and raced 71 yards for a touchdown and 14-0 lead.

It was Pitt's first touchdown off a blocked field goal since 1994 and the third career score for Lay, who previously had TDs on fumble and interception returns.

Connecticut had one more chance to put some points on the board before intermission. Working a short field, the Huskies moved to the Pitt two, where Matt Nuzie kicked a 20-yard field goal. But Pitt's Darrell Strong was flagged for leaping on a teammate's back in an attempt to block the kick.

The penalty advanced the ball to the one-yard line and Connecticut elected to go for it. On the final play of the half Cornell Brockington went up the middle but was stopped short of the goal line by freshman tackle Rashaad Duncan, who made the initial contact, and linebacker H.B. Blades.

With Pitt's defense stiffening in its own territory, the offense posted just enough production for the victory.

Tyler Palko accounted for Pitt's two other touchdowns. He capped the Panthers' opening possession of the game with a two-yard scoring pass to Steve Buches. In the third quarter Palko finished off a 28-yard drive with a one-yard plunge. The short drive was set up by a deflected punt by Adam Gunn.

Josh Cummings completed the scoring with a 42-yard field goal in the fourth quarter. The Panthers clinched their second shutout of the year with three interceptions in the final period. Lay, who had his pick in the end zone, Sam Bryant and Tez Morris all intercepted UConn quarterback Matt Bonislawski, who was a surprise starter after missing three games due to a shoulder injury.

It was the fifth consecutive victory for Pitt at Heinz Field following its season-opening loss to Notre Dame.

### Scoring Summary

CONNECTICUT	0	0	0	0	0
PITT	7	7	7	3	24

#### First Quarter

PITT — Buches 2-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 8:17

#### Second Quarter

PITT — Lay 71-yard blocked field goal return (Cummings kick) 5:07

#### Third Quarter

PITT — Palko 1-yard run (Cummings kick) 2:02

#### Fourth Quarter

PITT — Cummings 42-yard field goal 2:24

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	UConn	PITT
First Downs	20	11
Rushes-Yards	37-143	34-76
Att-Comp-Int	35-18-3	21-12-0
Passing Yards	156	116
Total Yards	299	192
Punt Returns-Yards	2-13	1-7
Kick Returns-Yards	5-136	1-30
Interceptions-Yards	0-0	3-67
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Punts-Average	7-37.7	7-42.7
Penalties-Yards	6-53	6-55
Third Down Conv.	6-18	4-13
Fourth Down Conv.	0-0	0-0
Sacks By-Yards	2-22	4-27
Possession Time	32:59	27:01

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

UConn — Brockington 19-73; Caulley 6-45; Bonislawski 12-25.

PITT — Kirkley 8-26; Jennings 7-26; Stephens-Howling 10-22; Pestano 1-19; Murphy 1-3; Furman 3-1; Palko 4-(-21), 1 TD.

#### Passing

UConn — Bonislawski 35-18-3, 156 yards.

PITT — Palko 21-12-0, 116 yards, 1 TD.

#### Receiving

UConn — Young 6-65; Caulley 6-37; Williams 2-24; McLean 2-12; Murray 1-12; Fogarty 1-6.

PITT — Gill 2-47; Buches 2-20, 1 TD; Kinder 2-20; Lee 2-15; Stephens-Howling 2-4; Strong 1-7; Collins 1-3.

## 2005 Game-by-Game Review

**GAME  
II**

**West Virginia 45 Pitt 13 • Nov. 24, 2005 • Mountaineer Field (52,997)**

**MORGANTOWN, W.Va.**—Pitt closed the 2005 season with a 45-13 loss to rival West Virginia at Mountaineer Field in front of a Thanksgiving night ESPN television audience.

The defeat left the Panthers with a 5-6 record (4-3 Big East) and out of the bowl picture for the first time since 1999.

West Virginia, ranked as high as No. 12, used an impressive rushing attack and swarming defensive effort to overwhelm the Panthers. The Mountaineers racked up 451 yards on the ground and threw just 10 passes the entire game.

Pitt produced 430 total yards but only managed a pair of first half touchdowns. The Panthers turned the ball over a season-high five times.

West Virginia (9-1, 6-0 Big East) was fueled by the potent rushing tandem of quarterback Pat White and running back Steve Slaton. The pair combined for an astounding 399 rushing yards and five touchdowns.

White rushed 23 times for 220 yards and two touchdowns, averaging 9.6 yards per carry. Slaton scored three TDs (two rushing and one receiving) while bulldozing for 179 yards on 34 carries (5.3 avg.).

Pitt hung tough for a half and trailed only 21-13 at intermission. Tyler Palko hooked up with Greg Lee on scoring passes of 63 and 31 yards to account for the Panthers' two scores. The second TD drew Pitt within 14-13 early in the second quarter but the extra point was missed.

The Panthers would draw no closer. White ran in from six yards out with 1:43 left in half to go up by eight. Although it reached midfield, Pitt could not parlay its last possession of the half into points.

West Virginia posted just a field goal in the third period before exploding for 21 points in the final quarter. Fourteen of those points were the result of Pitt turnovers.

Palko threw for 308 yards on 24-of-43 passing. He threw two interceptions, one of which was returned 40 yards for a score late in the game by Jahmile Addae. Lee had six catches for 142 yards (23.7 avg.) and the two TDs.

Compounding Pitt's problems with stopping the Mountaineers was the fact that defensive leader H.B. Blades left the game early due to an ankle injury. The junior middle line-backer and leading tackler made just a pair of early stops before leaving the game in the opening quarter.

### Scoring Summary

<b>PITT</b>	7	6	0	0	13
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>	14	7	3	21	45

#### First Quarter

WVU—Slaton 16-yard pass from White (McAfee kick) 8:01  
 PITT—Lee 63-yard pass from Palko (Cummings kick) 6:36  
 WVU—White 4-yard run (McAfee Kick) 1:30

#### Second Quarter

PITT—Lee 31-yard pass from Palko (kick failed) 12:08  
 WVU—White 6-yard run (McAfee kick) 1:43

#### Third Quarter

WVU—McAfee 29-yard field goal 8:42

#### Fourth Quarter

WVU—Slaton 3-yard run (McAfee kick) 12:23  
 WVU—Slaton 6-yard run (McAfee kick) 5:52  
 WVU—Addae 40-yard interception return (McAfee kick) 2:03

### Game Statistics

Team Stats	PITT	WVU
First Downs	20	22
Rushes-Yards	31-122	62-451
Att-Comp-Int	43-24-2	10-4-1
Passing Yards	308	41
Total Yards	430	492
Punt Returns-Yards	1-5	1-21
Kick Returns-Yards	6-70	3-61
Interceptions-Yards	1-6	2-40
Fumbles-Lost	6-3	0-0
Punts-Average	3-37.3	3-37.3
Penalties-Yards	6-55	6-70
Third Down Conv.	7-15	4-10
Fourth Down Conv.	0-2	0-1
Sacks By-Yards	0-0	1-9
Possession Time	26:11	33:49

### Individual Statistics

#### Rushing

**PITT**—Jennings 13-69; Stephens-Howling 10-45; Palko 6-8; Murphy 1-1; Team 1-(-1).  
**WVU**—White 23-220, 2 TD; Slaton 34-179, 2 TD; Schmitt 4-54; Team 1-(-2).

#### Passing

**PITT**—Palko 43-24-2, 308 yards, 2 TD  
**WVU**—White 10-4-1, 41 yards, 1 TD

#### Receiving

**PITT**—Lee 6-142, 2 TD; Kinder 5-44; Gill 4-58; Murphy 3-17; Jennings 2-18; Stephens-Howling 2-16; Buches 1-7; DelSardo 1-6.  
**WVU**—Reynaud 2-26; Slaton 1-16, 1 TD; Myles 1-(-1)

