

Virginia Postgame Notes – Pitt (11/9/24)

Virginia Team Notes

- The Cavaliers improved to 5-10 all-time against Pitt and 3-7 against the Panthers as members of the ACC.
- Virginia is now 2-5 all-time at Acrisure Stadium with its only other victory coming in 2019 (30-14).
- Virginia has won two of its last four games against AP top-25 opponents. Under head coach Tony Elliott, UVA improved to 2-4 against ranked foes.
- UVA is 4-0 under Tony Elliott coming off a bye week, including last year's victory over then-No. 10 North Carolina in Chapel Hill.
- UVA is 3-1 on the road this season. The three road wins are the most by Virginia since 2011.
- UVA is 3-1 in night games this season and has won four of its last six night contests dating back to 2023. UVA is 4-2 all-time against the Panthers in night games.
- The Cavaliers improved to 5-4 overall and 3-3 in ACC play. It marks the first five-win season since 2020 and most league wins since earning four in 2021.
- Virginia recorded its first win in an NFL stadium since 2021, when it won at Hard Rock Stadium over Miami. UVA is 4-7 in NFL stadiums since 2018.
- Pitt entered Saturday's contest 10th in scoring offense (38.9) among FBS teams, and UVA held the Panthers to only 19 points. Pitt's 19 points are its second-lowest scoring output this season, and fewest in a loss since its 2023 season finale against Duke, when the Panthers also scored 19 points.
- Virginia improved to 3-2 this season when trailing at the half. The last time the Cavaliers trailed at the half and won was against Boston College (Oct. 5) after trailing 14-6.
- With UVA trailing by six in the third quarter, Jonas Sanker blocked a Pitt field goal attempt. It was the first blocked field goal by the Cavaliers since 2021 against William & Mary.
- UVA did not allow the Panthers' defense, which entered Saturday's game second nationally in defensive touchdowns (four) and pick sixes (four), to score.
- For the second time this season, the Cavalier secondary came up with two interceptions. This year, UVA also recorded a pair against BC. The last time the Hoos recorded two interceptions on the road was against Miami in 2023.
- UVA tied its season high of seven QB hurries. The Cavaliers also recorded seven QB hurries in its 31-30 win on the road at night against Wake Forest.

Virginia Individual Player Notes

- Pittsburgh native Corey Thomas Jr. came up with an interception with 1:42 left in the game on Pitt's final drive. It is Thomas Jr.'s first interception of the season and first interception since his freshman year (2019) at Akron.
- With two receptions for 11 yards, Malachi Fields extended his streak with at least one reception to 23 games. Fields now has 119 career receptions, only one shy from cracking UVA's top-15 career receptions list.
- Fields passed Heath Miller (2002-04) on UVA's all-time receiving yards list. Fields now has 1,706 career receiving yards, good for 11th all-time in school history.
- Kempton Shine made his 34th consecutive career start dating back to his tenure at Eastern Michigan. Entering Saturday's contest against the Panthers, Shine was one of only seven FBS defensive backs with at least 30 consecutive starts.
- Terrell Jones made his first career start at defensive end. Jones finished with a career-high six tackles, including four solo and 1.5 for-loss.

- Chico Bennett Jr.'s 18-game start streak came to a close, which began with the Cavaliers' 2023 home opener against James Madison. Bennett Jr. finished with two tackles, including 0.5 for-loss, and one QB hurry.
- With a 24-yard catch in the first quarter, Andre Greene Jr. recorded the longest reception of his career. Greene also finished with a career-high 30 receiving yards on three catches.
- On the first play of the second quarter, quarterback Anthony Colandrea hauled in a 27-yard reception on a pass from wide receiver Suderian Harrison. It was the first reception by a UVA QB since Brennan Armstrong's 18-yard reception against Illinois on Sept. 11, 2021.
- Immediately following the Colandrea reception, Xavier Brown scored his first rushing touchdown of the season and second of his career from Pitt's 1-yard line. His other rushing TD came on Nov. 5, 2022, against North Carolina.
- With a 66-yard boot in the third quarter, Daniel Sparks now has 15 career punts (13 at UVA) of 60 yards or more. He eclipsed the 11 career 60-yard punts by Russ Henderson (1975-78) for the most ever by a Cavalier. It's also Sparks' furthest since his career-long 70-yard punt against BC in 2023.
- Chris Tyree recorded season highs in both receiving (42) and rushing (13) yards.
- Jam Jackson was credited with a half-sack in the second quarter, his first career takedown of a quarterback behind the line of scrimmage.
- With one made field goal and three successful PATs, placekicker Will Bettridge (2022-pres.) cracked UVA's top-15 career points list. Bettridge now has 190 career points and passed Bill Dudley (1939-41) on the all-time list.

Offensive Starters: QB #10 Anthony Colandrea; RB #5 Kobe Pace, WR #2 Andre Greene Jr., WR #8 Malachi Fields, WR #4 Chris Tyree, TE #16 Tyler Neville, LT #52 McKale Boley, LG #77 Noah Josey, C #55 Brian Stevens, RG #51 Ty Furnish, RT #54 Blake Steen

Defensive Starters: Bandit #82 Kam Robinson, DT #90 Jahmeer Carter, DT #55 Anthony Britton, DE #25 Terrell Jones, LB #5 Kam Robinson, LB #8 Trey McDonald, CB #9 Jam Jackson, CB #29 Kempton Shine, Spur #4 Kendren Smith, S #20 Jonas Sanker, S #3 Corey Thomas Jr.

Game Captains: #3 Corey Thomas Jr., #8 Malachi Fields, #77 Noah Josey, #38 Daniel Sparks