



## 2018 BIG TEN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME



Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018  
Lucas Oil Stadium • Indianapolis, Ind.  
FINAL SCORE: Ohio State 45, Northwestern 24  
Attendance: 66,375

### NORTHWESTERN NOTES

- Northwestern's 10 tackles for loss were a season-high, surpassing the previous best mark of nine set against Duke on Sept. 8.
- Northwestern's offense finished the game averaging 6.1 yards per play, its most in a game this season and highest mark since averaging 6.6 yards per play at Illinois on Nov. 25, 2017. The Wildcats finished with 418 yards of total offense, their third most in a game this season (491 vs. Akron, 487 vs. Nebraska).
- Junior running back John Moten IV had a 77-yard touchdown run, his third touchdown of the season and fifth of his career. The rush tied the longest play for the Wildcats this year.
- Moten's run is also the second-longest touchdown run in Big Ten Championship history and is tied for the second-longest rush in the title game (Ohio State's Ezekiel Elliott ran for an 81-yard score in the 2014 Big Ten Football Championship Game).
- Senior quarterback Clayton Thorson started his 52nd consecutive game, extending his record for the most starts by a quarterback in Big Ten history. The Wheaton, Ill. native went 27-for-44 for 267 yards and two total touchdowns.
- Thorson ended the opening drive of the second half with an 18-yard touchdown run, his ninth rushing touchdown of the season.
- Junior superback Cameron Green caught a two-yard touchdown pass from Thorson, marking the fourth receiving touchdown of the season for Green and the sixth of his career. This is the 16th time in Thorson's career he has thrown for a touchdown and rushed for a touchdown in a game.
- Senior Montre Hartage picked off Haskins in the second quarter for the 10th interception of his career, tying him for fifth most in program history.
- Senior linebacker Nate Hall finished with five total tackles and one tackle for loss, he leads all active Wildcats with 30.5 career tackles for loss.
- Sophomore linebacker Blake Gallagher finished with eight total tackles, bringing his season total to a team-high 120 tackles this season. With one game to play, that is tied for the most total tackles by a Wildcat player since Anthony Walker had 120 tackles in 2015.
- With a nine-yard reception on the Wildcats' opening drive, senior wide receiver Flynn Nagel passed Lee Gissendaner for 10th in program history with 157 career receptions.
- Late in the third quarter, the Wildcats recovered their 10<sup>th</sup> fumble of the season. Forcing the fumble was Jordan Thompson, his second of the season, and Travis Whillock was there for his second career recovery.
- Senior defensive lineman Fred Wyatt blocked a field goal attempt early in the fourth quarter. It was the first block on a FG attempt since Nick VanHoose did so against Michigan on Nov. 8, 2014.
- Sophomore linebacker Paddy Fisher recorded a team-high 11 tackles, his fourth game this season and eighth of his career finishing with 10+ tackles.
- Junior defensive end Joe Gaziano recorded half a sack, bringing his total to 6.5 sacks this season. With the sack, Gaziano moved into sole possession of fourth place in program history with 20 career sacks, passing Corey Wootton (2006-09).
- Sophomore kicker Charlie Kuhbender converted on a 21-yard field goal, his fourth field goal of the season and 17th of his career.

### OHIO STATE NOTES

- Ohio State improved its record to 3-1 in Big Ten Championship games with its victory today. It marks the Buckeyes' 37<sup>th</sup> Big Ten title. Michigan leads the way with 42 all-time conference championships.
- With Saturday's victory over Northwestern, Ohio State improved its season record to 12-1. It's the eighth time in its history that the Buckeyes have won at least 12 games during a single season.
- Ohio State's win against the Wildcats was its seventh in a row, extending its lead in the series to 62-14-1.

- Buckeye quarterback Dwayne Haskins added to his single-season Big Ten passing records with 499 yards and five touchdown passes vs. Northwestern. Through 13 games this season, he has 4,580 passing yards and 47 touchdown passes. The 499-yard effort is Haskins' ninth 300-yards-plus passing game, a Buckeye record. He has five 400-yards-plus performances, also an OSU mark.
- Haskins became the Big Ten's single-season leader in total offensive yards (4,702 yards), breaking Denard Robinson's (Michigan) record of 4,272 total yards in 2010.
- Haskins passed JT Barrett's OSU mark for most total touchdowns in a single-season. With his five TDs tonight, Haskins now has 51 (47 for Barrett).
- Sophomore J.K. Dobbins is the first player in Buckeye history to rush for 1,000+ yards in each of his first two seasons. Including his 68 yards vs. Northwestern, he has accumulated 1,029 rushing yards in 2018. Last season, he ran for 1,403 yards.
- Johnnie Dixon eclipsed the 1,000-yard mark for career receiving yardage. His seven catches for 129 yards against Northwestern gives him 1,119 receiving yards from 2014-18. Including their yardage tonight, the Buckeyes have three other 1,000-yard receivers on their team: K.J. Hill (1,642 yards), Parris Campbell (1,505 yards) and Terry McLaurin (1,219 yards).
- Parris Campbell had seven receptions on the night, giving him 79 for the season. That is just six shy of David Boston's single-season record of 85, set in 1998.
- Terry McLaurin's two touchdown receptions in the game gives him 19 in his career and moves him into a tie for sixth in Buckeye history. He passed Michael Thomas (2012-15), who had 18 career TD receptions and is now tied with Joey Galloway (1991-94) and Dane Sanzenbacher (2007-10).
- In career games that Buckeye sophomore Drue Chrisman has had more than one punt, tonight was the first time he's averaged more than 50 yards per kick in a single game (4 punts for 54.8 average).
- From the line of scrimmage, Ohio State's offensive unit had 28 total plays of 10 yards or more (25 passing, 3 rushing).
- Other than John Moten IV's 77-yard touchdown run, Ohio State defenders limited Northwestern's offense to just 83 total yards on 26 other plays in the first half.
- Ohio State accumulated 607 yards and 45 points. It entered tonight averaging 543.9 yards and 43.3 points per game. Through 13 games, the Buckeyes are averaging 548.8 yards, better than the 512.7 averaged by the 1994 Penn State team.
- Today was Urban Meyer's 82<sup>nd</sup> victory as Ohio State's coach (82-9, .901). He's now ranks fourth among Buckeye mentors in terms of victories, trailing only Woody Hayes (205), John Cooper (111) and Jim Tressel (94).

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- CHAMPIONSHIP GAME TEAM RECORDS:
  - 44 passing attempts (old mark 43 by Wisconsin vs. Ohio State, 2014)
  - 30 passing completions (old mark 24 by Michigan State vs. Ohio State, 2013)
  - 499 passing yards (old mark 384 by Penn State vs. Wisconsin, 2016)
  - .829 pass completion percentage (old mark .733 by Michigan State vs. Wisconsin, 2011)
  - 5 passing touchdowns (ties 5 by Penn State vs. Wisconsin, 2016)
  - 87 total plays (old mark 80 by Wisconsin vs. Ohio State, 2014)
  - 25 passing first downs (old mark 16 by Penn State vs. Wisconsin, 2016)
  - 31 total first downs (old mark 24 by Wisconsin vs. Nebraska, 2012)
  - 54.8 punting average (old mark 53.0 by Ohio State vs. Wisconsin, 2014)
- CHAMPIONSHIP GAME INDIVIDUAL RECORDS:
  - 3 coaching victories by OSU's Urban Meyer (old mark 2 by Bret Bielema and Mark Dantonio)
  - 494 total yards by OSU's Dwayne Haskins (old mark 324 by Taylor Martinez, Nebraska, 2012)
  - 44 passing attempts by NU's Clayton Thorson (old mark 43 by Joel Stave, Wisconsin, 2014)
  - 34 passing completions by Haskins (old mark 24 by Connor Cook, Michigan State, 2013)
  - 499 passing yards by Haskins (old mark 384 by Trace McSorley, Penn State, 2016)
  - .829 passing percentage by Haskins, 34-41 (old mark .733 by Kirk Cousins, Michigan State, 2011)
  - 5 passing touchdowns by Haskins (old mark 4 by McSorley, 2016)
  - 54.8 punting average by OSU's Drue Chrisman (old mark 53.0 by Cameron Johnston, Ohio State, 2014)
  - 3 QB sacks by OSU's Chase Young (ties 3.0 by Denicos Allen, Michigan State, 2011)
  - 17-yard fumble recovery by NU's Travis Whillock (old mark 12 by Ryan Connelly, Wisconsin, 2016)
- Tonight's attendance of 66,375 ranks second best in the eight-year history of the Big Ten Championship Game (the 2015 contest drew 66,985 fans).