



## NOTRE DAME POSTGAME NOTES

*USC \* Notre Dame Stadium \* Notre Dame, Indiana \* October 21, 2017*

### TEAM NOTES

- Notre Dame's 49 points scored were the most for the Irish in the series with USC since a 49-19 Notre Dame victory in 1977.
- Notre Dame has now forced an opposing turnover or punt on the first defensive series in all seven games this season after USC fumbled on its first play from scrimmage. Of the 17 turnovers caused in 2017, the Irish have converted 13 takeaways into touchdowns and one into a field goal.
- The Irish held USC to -4 yards rushing on 12 attempts during the opening half. Notre Dame limited the Trojans to 76 yards on 31 rushes (2.5 yards per attempt) for the game.
- Notre Dame's 28-0 halftime lead was the second-largest in series history with USC. The Irish led the Trojans 31-0 at the break in 1966 (51-0 Notre Dame win).
- Notre Dame had a pair of players, **Josh Adams** (191) and **Brandon Wimbush** (106), gain 100 or more yards rushing in the same game for the fourth time this season. From 2002-16, the Irish had five total games with two 100-yard rushers.
- Notre Dame's 377 yards rushing are believed to be the most for the Irish in a game against USC since 1950. Notre Dame gained 373 yards on the ground in a 23-17 win over the Trojans in 1954.
- Notre Dame captains were OL **Mike McGlinchey** and LB **Nyles Morgan**. Notre Dame won the toss and elected to receive the opening kickoff. The Irish are 5-2 on the coin toss this season.

### INDIVIDUAL NOTES

- QB **Brandon Wimbush** threw his seventh touchdown pass of the season during the second Notre Dame drive of the first quarter. Wimbush hit WR **Equanimeous St. Brown** for a 26-yard touchdown toss. It was the third touchdown reception of the season (12th career) for St. Brown.
- Wimbush hit WR **Kevin Stepherson** later in the first quarter with a 23-yard touchdown for his eighth TD throw of the year. It was Stepherson's first TD catch of this season and the sixth of his career.
- Wimbush scored his first rushing touchdown of the night from four yards in the second quarter. He added a seven-yard scamper in the third quarter for his second rushing TD of the night and 10th of the season. It was the 11th career rushing TD for Wimbush.
- Wimbush equaled the Notre Dame quarterback rushing touchdown mark for a single season (10) set by **DeShone Kizer** in 2015.
- RB **Josh Adams** ran the final three yards to paydirt in the second quarter for his first rushing touchdown of the night.
- Adams covered 59 or more yards on a rushing attempt for the seventh time this season, scoring from 84 yards near the end of the third quarter.
- On the first Notre Dame drive of the fourth quarter, Adams ran 14 yards for his third touchdown of the night and the 19th of his career.
- Adams became the first Irish running back to run for three touchdowns in a game since **C.J. Prosise** against Navy in 2015. Adams is the first Notre Dame player with three rushing touchdowns in a game against USC since **Reggie Brooks** in a 31-23 Notre Dame win in 1992.
- Adams now ranks sixth all-time in rushing yards at Notre Dame. He passed **Jerome Heavens** in the third quarter and now has 2,735 career yards.
- LB **Tevon Coney** sacked USC QB Sam Darnold on the first play from scrimmage for a loss of six yards. Coney notched his first career forced fumble and fumble recovery on the play.
- LB **Drue Tranquill** recovered his third fumble this season (fourth of his career), gathering in a muffed USC punt in the second quarter.
- CB **Nick Watkins** logged the first interception of his Notre Dame career during the second quarter, picking off Darnold and returning the ball 14 yards on the play.



- DL **Khalid Kareem** picked up his second sack of the season, dropping Darnold for a loss of nine yards in the second quarter. Kareem added his second sack of the night (third of the season) by taking down Matt Fink for a loss of eight in the fourth quarter.