



27

ARKANSAS

vs OLE MISS



42

NOVEMBER 19, 2022

DONALD W. REYNOLDS RAZROBACK STADIUM

GAME NOTES

- » Arkansas has reached the six-win mark for the second year in a row and is bowl eligible for the third straight season under head coach Sam Pittman.
- » Sam Pittman is the fourth Arkansas head coach to earn bowl eligibility in each of their first three seasons, joining Lou Holtz (1977-79), Ken Hatfield (1984-86) and Houston Nutt (1998-00).
- » Arkansas has had a 100-yard rusher in 10 of its last 12 games dating back to the 2021 season. RB Raheim Sanders is responsible for seven of those 10 100-yard rushing performances.
- » Arkansas has rushed for 200 yards in an SEC-leading eight games this season.
- » The Razorbacks ran for a season-high 335 yards against the Rebels.
- » Arkansas' 35 points are the most its scored in the first half against an FBS opponent since it scored 38 against Mississippi State in 2016. Arkansas' 29-point lead is its largest halftime lead against an SEC team since leading Kentucky 42-0 in 2012.
- » Arkansas hasn't allowed a touchdown in four straight quarters and has only allowed one in its last nine quarters played, dating back to against Liberty on Nov. 5.
- » For the fourth time this season, Arkansas has scored on its opening possession of the third quarter. The Hogs last did it against Auburn on Oct. 29.
- » Arkansas has racked up 400+ yards of total offense nine times this season.
- » QB KJ Jefferson threw for three touchdowns in the first half. It's the second time he has done so this season, also throwing for three first-half touchdowns at BYU. Jefferson finished completed completed 17 of 22 passes for 168 yards and three scores. Jefferson also added 47 yards on the ground.
- » After eclipsing the 100-yard mark, RB Raheim Sanders is the fifth rusher in program history to run for 100 yards against Ole Miss twice in his career.
- » RB Raheim Sanders now owns the program record for most rushing yards in a game against Ole Miss, surpassing RB Fred Talley's 214 rushing yards against Ole Miss in 2000.
- » RB Raheim Sanders compiled his first career 200-yard rushing effort after finishing with 232 yards on 24 carries (9.7 yards per touch). Sanders has ran for 100+ yards seven times this season. Sanders has rushed for 100+ yards eight times in his career.
- » RB Raheim Sanders is the second Razorback in the last 25 seasons to tally 200 rushing yards and three rushing scores against a ranked opponent.
- » With tonight's performance, RB Raheim Sanders becomes just the third SEC player since 2000 to rush for 200 yards and record at least five receptions in a game.
- » LB Drew Sanders' 12.5 tackles for loss are the most by an Arkansas defender since LB Alonzo Highsmith totaled 12.5 TFLs in 2011. Sanders has recorded a tackle for loss in three consecutive games.
- » LB Drew Sanders is the third Razorback to intercept a pass and recover a fumble in a game this season, joining Hudson Clark vs. BYU on Oct. 15 and Latavious Brini vs. LSU on Nov. 12.
- » LB Drew Sanders logged his sixth double-digit tackle game of the season. Sanders finished with 10 stops, one interception, one fumble recovery and 0.5 tackle for loss.
- » WR Matt Landers finished with three catches for 38 yards and two touchdowns. Landers has hauled in at least one touchdown pass in two straight games. Landers has a team-leading six touchdown receptions this season.
- » WR Jadon Haselwood has recorded at least one catch in a team-high 27 consecutive games.

WEATHER

34°

4 MPH NORTHWEST WIND

GAME INFO

CAPTAINS

Simeon Blair, KJ Jefferson, Bumper Pool, Dalton Wagner

COIN TOSS

Ole Miss won the toss and elected to receive.

UNIFORMS

ARK - Red Helmet, Red Jersey, White Pants
OM - Navy

ATTENDANCE

71,365

ARK SCORING

TOUCHDOWN | 1Q | 8:28

KJ Jefferson to Matt Landers for 8 yards.

TOUCHDOWN | 1Q | 3:44

KJ Jefferson to Matt Landers for 23 yards.

TOUCHDOWN | 2Q | 14:03

KJ Jefferson to Ketron Jackson Jr. for 20 yards.

TOUCHDOWN | 2Q | 2:20

Raheim Sanders 20-yard rush.

TOUCHDOWN | 2Q | 0:05

Raheim Sanders 8-yard rush.

TOUCHDOWN | 3Q | 14:16

Raheim Sanders 68-yard rush.

STARTERS

ARKANSAS

QB KJ JEFFERSON
 RB RAHEIM SANDERS
 WR KETRON JACKSON JR.
 WR MATT LANDERS
 WR JADON HASELWOOD
 TE TREY KNOX
 LT LUKE JONES
 LG BRADY LATHAM
 C RICKY STROMBERG
 RG BEAUX LIMMER
 RT DALTON WAGNER

OLE MISS

DE JASHAUD STEWART
 DT ISAIAH NICHOLS
 DE ERIC GREGORY
 LB BUMPER POOL
 LB DREW SANDERS
 CB DWIGHT MCGLOTHERN
 CB QUINCEY MCADOO
 S HUDSON CLARK
 S LATAVIOUS BRINI
 S SIMEON BLAIR
 NB MYLES SLUSHER

QB JAXSON DART
 RB QUINSHON JUDKINS
 WR MALIK HEATH
 WR DAYTON WADE
 WR JORDAN WATKINS
 WR JONATHAN MINGO
 LT JAYDEN WILLIAMS
 LG NICK BROEKER
 C CALEB WARREN
 RG JEREMY JAMES
 RT MICAH PETTUS

DE CEDRIC JOHNSON
 DT KD HILL
 DE TAVIOUS ROBINSON
 LB TROY BROWN
 LB KHARI COLEMAN
 CB DEATRE PRINCE
 CB MILES BATTLE
 S TYSHEEM JOHNSON
 S OTIS REESE
 S ISHEEM YOUNG
 S AJ FINLEY



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Sam Pittman, Arkansas Head Coach

Opening statement:

"First of all, I thought our coaching staff did a really good job of preparing our kids. We had a lot to play for, you know we had our seniors. We had a dedication game; we talked all week about dedicating the game to somebody else and bringing them into our family. They had a shirt on underneath that they wrote on with a marker who they wanted to bring into our family, our football family. Obviously, it was a top-15 team in the country and it would put us bowl eligible for our first three years here. There was a lot of motivation for us, a lot to play for and certainly we were fortunate to have our home crowd. Ole Miss is a really good football team; they turned it over three times and we didn't. I'm really proud of our kids and really proud to be bowl eligible. Obviously, we've got another game next week against a fine Missouri team.

"Man, it's nice to have KJ [Jefferson] back. We weren't real clean on the first two scoring drives but he made us clean because of his athleticism. You could say a lot of different things about a lot of different guys, Rocket [Sanders] obviously. Our defense bent a lot, they [Ole Miss] had a lot of yards after we were up 42-6 but they didn't break and the defense has played really well. I'm just really happy and so I'll be quiet and let y'all ask me some questions."

On Raheim "Rocket" Sanders' play:

"I just think any running back who carries the ball 100-150 yards, they've got to have a break. They've got to have one or two [runs] that will be a 30- or 40-yard pop and certainly that's what he got tonight. It's like anything confidence wise, if you break one or two it can help break a tackle, it might help your vision, you're excited. I thought our line did a nice job blocking for him up there until they knew we weren't going to throw the football in the fourth quarter and we had a hard time because they [Ole Miss] had more in the box."

On Larry the Bowling Ball:

"We did [bring him out]. We got a new carrying case for him, I think it's an '80s vintage. Pat Doherty brought him in in the carrying case, we put him out and shined him up a little bit. By the way, we've had him available for a couple weeks. He looked hungry when he got out of there. But he was shined up, looked good, we brought him out."

On being bowl eligible before Missouri:

"I think it's big. You know, I've got caught some heck because one of our goals was to go bowling, but one of our goals is to go to a bowl. You can go to the Fiesta, the Liberty, the Cotton, I mean, there's a lot of bowls. I didn't say what bowl, just want to go to a bowl. Obviously want to go to the best possible bowl we can go to, and the more wins, the better the possibility of bowls you get. Obviously, Missouri is a rival for us, and they're playing really good ball, but so are we. So, I'm sure it'll be a great game."

On the first half:

"It was great. What'd we score, 14, right there at the four-minute mark of the second quarter, left in the second quarter? And Drew [Sanders] picked a pass and then we went down and scored with five seconds to put it up 35-6, and then we go out and have two plays and go up 42-6, and that was pretty much ballgame at that point."

"To come in here 35-6, the only time we've ever done that since I've been here, I think we were up 42 or 45 to nothing over in Little Rock against Pine Bluff, but we haven't done anything like that against an SEC opponent."

"Give them credit too, they came back and all that stuff, but yeah, it felt great. As a coach, you worry about everything. You worry about, 'Well are we gonna come out and play in the next half,' ... but those two right before half."

KJ Jefferson, Arkansas QB

On how it feels to be back on the field and his health:

"Right now, I am close to being back a hundred percent. I mean, nobody's one hundred percent. I mean we are playing SEC ball. I don't feel like anyone will be 100%, but it felt good just being back out there with my teammates and just being able to actually encourage them and actually see what's going on. So, it's being around those guys and being able to just be out there."

"Oh, it was, I mean I took it as a challenge. Just knowing that I didn't play last week, so I mean I had to come in and make a statement tonight. Also, just it being Ole Miss, I mean I'm from Mississippi. So last year, they kind of got me last year, so this year was just a huge challenge for me, just being able to go out there and play for my teammates and myself as well. Just being able to be back, I mean it was extremely fun to just play for the seniors, just knowing that it was the last game in that stadium when they've been through a whole lot, ups and downs and just to send those guys out the right way. So, that was the main thing on my part."

On Raheim "Rocket" Sanders' performance:

"I was proud of him. Just early on, I just told him to trust yourself. It's going to happen. And so, it just happened. I mean he trusted himself. The offensive line created holes for him, and he just hit the hole and he played ball from that point. So just extremely proud of his patience. Just running the ball, also just believing in himself, and just keep building his confidence throughout the whole game."

Raheim Sanders, Arkansas RB

On his performance:

"Last two? I'll definitely say, I'll say with the bowl eligible deal, and I just feel like we had a great week this week. And just the main thing, I feel like just that made it us go and just made me



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go was that we had to put a shirt on and write on it who we dedicated it to. And I feel like that was a big part of it."

On who he dedicated the game to:

"Dedicated the game? Family, my family."

On his 68-yard touchdown run:

"I feel like that play was pretty big just to get us back with just scoring just helping me with my yards as well and just with the offensive line, trusted me and KJ helped me out with just him being back. I feel like that helped me a lot."

Drew Sanders, Arkansas LB

On what was working for the defense in the first half:

"Yeah, I mean our defense throughout the year has been getting better and better. I think its been what, nine quarters since we've had to touchdown score on use and just, we've really been playing as a unit and you know, coming together, and every game would just keep getting better and better."

On his interception:

"A big part of that play was reading the quarterback's eyes and feeling who was behind me, then he threw it right to me."



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Lane Kiffin, Ole Miss Head Coach

Opening Statement:

"It's very discouraging, to come up here with a lot on the line, potentially nine wins trying to get to ten. I know it'll probably sound crazy because of the score, but I didn't think we came out flat. We didn't play well, but we were moving the ball we just played poorly in the redzone."

"Two touchdown passes were called back, and we didn't tackle very well. It's an unusual stat line, but it just shows you the value of turnovers. You can have 700 yards of offense and rush for 460 yards in a game and lose by two scores. It just reminds you the value of the turnover (3-0) margin."

"Got to give those guys credit. It was senior night and those guys played real hard, ran the ball really well. Whatever it was, we were eight and seven a carry and they were seven and eight a carry. Unusual SEC numbers. I give them a lot of credit, we kind of reverted back on defense, unfortunately, after playing decent last week doing some good things against Alabama. I don't like the penalties, very critical penalties. Obviously, a fourth and nine touchdown and another touchdown. You get those two touchdowns, and the game is very different. Extra penalty on a defense third and ten stop, very discouraging this late in the year to have discipline issues like that, bad decision-making issues like that."

On team being distracted this week:

"A lot of analytics of an Alabama hangover, ask LSU that came in here last week and scored thirteen points against these guys. Maybe there was some of that. I really don't think we played well on defense, and we didn't play well on offense in a lot of areas. We didn't finish drives and turnovers. It takes a lot of getting good things done to get 700 yards of offense in a SEC Game. It sounds weird to say rushing for 460 yards and losing the game. That shows the value of turnovers, and not stopping them on the other side."

On defense this week:

"I was kind of worried because these guys are a top ten rushing team and I think they're right behind us in the SEC in rushing after today outside of Navy and Army. We might be one and two in the country in rushing. They do a great job because the quarterback is difficult to bring down. Saunders had a great game with 232 rushing. How many SEC games have you covered where there were three running backs that had over 200 yards in game? In analytics I bet that isn't very high, maybe never. It's very unusual."

How important it was to be opportunistic tonight:

"Huge, in a game like this. You knew with our quarterbacks being out and Dae Dae going down, I really thought we were hammering on some of their run game. They were starting to bring people we couldn't really handle in the run game. It was big to be opportunistic for sure."

Jaxson Dart, Ole Miss QB

On Ole Miss' penalties:

"Anytime you have something like that happen, they're tough calls, especially because they are big momentum shifters and can play a huge role in the end result. I think that because of some of those things that we allowed it to get into our heads a little bit and we just made some mistakes on drives after that, that kind of cost us. We just got to find a way, when things like that happen, times where we face a little adversity, just try to be able to bounce back on the next drive or the next play."

On Ole Miss' energy:

"Sometimes it's a little hard to gauge that just because of things that set you back and you just make mistakes, and a lot of times when you make mistakes the energy is not very high. I don't really feel like we had a three and out all day, I felt like we were moving the ball up and down the field and we just couldn't capitalize in the redzone and on drives. We moved the ball fine and we just weren't able to put it in the endzone."

AJ Finley, Ole Miss S

On the first half:

"Honestly, I couldn't even tell you. I need to watch the film to see exactly what was going on. I just know they were running the ball at will, and I just need to go back and see what they did and correct it for next week."

"I just feel like the energy at the start of the game wasn't where it needed to be, I feel like that is the biggest thing in how we played the first half."