

**NO. 21 LIBERTY FLAMES 14 (8-1)**

AT

NC STATE WOLFPACK 15 (6-3)

CARTER-FINLEY STADIUM | SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 2020

Team Notes

- In a game that featured two teams who averaged a combined 74 points coming in, NC State won a defensive battle, 15-14. The Wolfpack capitalized on a late interception and also blocked a go-ahead field goal attempt with 1:18 remaining to preserve the win.
- The Flames brought the nation's second-longest active winning streak into the game, having won their last 10 games since a loss at Virginia on Nov. 23, 2019. It was tied for the second-longest winning streak in program history.
- Liberty was attempting to become the second team in as many years (Florida in 2019) to go 3-0 against ACC opponents. The Flames came into the season 0-8 in program history against ACC teams and are 2-1 this season.
- NC State is 2-0 against Liberty, with the other meeting coming on Sept. 3, 2011, a 43-21 Wolfpack win.
- The Wolfpack was playing against its fifth ranked opponent this season, improving to 2-3 versus Top 25 teams this year.
- Both teams posted season lows in both points and yards.
- NC State outgained Liberty 320-279 for the game.
- Liberty came into the game ranked 12th in the nation with 254.5 rushing yards per game, but the Wolfpack outgained the Flames on the ground, 166-107. Prior to tonight, Liberty's season-low rushing yardage was 180 against ULM on Oct. 10.
- Liberty is now 41-44-2 all-time against North Carolina opponents. The Flames have faced teams from North Carolina more than any other state.
- Liberty's 279 total yards come a week after putting up a season-high 633 yards and season-high 58 points against Western Carolina.
- This was the second time this season that Liberty has been tied at half with its opponent, also playing FIU to a 14-14 tie through 30 minutes on Sept. 26.
- Liberty's streak of consecutive games scoring 21 or more points was snapped at 15 games. The last time Liberty failed to reach 21 points was Sept. 28, 2019, a 17-10 win over New Mexico.
- This was Liberty's first game decided by one point since Sept. 16, 2017 against Indiana State, a 42-41 Liberty win.
- Liberty lost the turnover battle 3-1. The Flames are 4-4 under Coach Freeze when losing the turnover battle.
- Today was just the second time this season that Liberty has been outrushed in a game (also vs. Southern Miss). Liberty is 4-6 all-time under Coach Freeze when being outrushed by an opponent.
- Coming into today's game, Liberty was 2-0 this season in games decided by three points or fewer and 3-0 in one-possession games. Liberty is now 2-1 under Coach Freeze in games decided by three points or fewer and 6-2 in one-possession games.
- Liberty now has eight players with an interception this season, matching last year's total of intercepting players.
- Liberty now has eight players with multiple touchdown catches this season.

Player Notes**QB Malik Willis**

- Passed 13-for-32 for 172 yards, two passing touchdowns and three interceptions. Also rushed 15 times for 44 yards.
- Had gone 128 straight passes without throwing an interception prior to a second-quarter pick tonight. Came into the game with 15 touchdown passes and one interception on the season.
- Has been responsible for 26 touchdowns this season (17 passing, nine rushing).

WR Noah Frith

- Caught his fifth career touchdown, and second this season, with 19 seconds left in the first half to tie the game at 7-7. It was his first TD since Sept. 26 against FIU.
- Caught four passes for 73 yards and a touchdown.

Liberty Player Notes

TE Jerome Jackson

- Caught one pass for six yards, a go-ahead touchdown in the second half. It was his fourth career touchdown and second this season. Liberty tight ends have combined for seven TD's this season, matching tight end TD production from 2019.

RB Josh Mack

- Rushed for 49 yards on 12 carries.

DB Javon Scruggs

- Led Liberty with 10 tackles (five solo, five assisted).

P Aidan Alves

- One week after not having to punt at all against Western Carolina, punted a season-high five times for an average of 45.8 yards with two 50+-yard punts including a 54-yarder.

S Cedric Stone

- The eighth Flame this season with an interception. Last season, eight players had at least one interception.
- Made his first interception as a Flame after transferring from Georgia State prior to this season. It was his second collegiate interception, and first since Oct. 26, 2017 when he picked off South Alabama's Dallas Davis.