

NOTES | GAME 1



NO. 12 WAKE FOREST 81, NO. 13 NOTRE DAME 69

Wake Forest improved to 17-15, its most victories since 2009-10, when it went 20-11.

Wake snapped a seven-game losing streak in ACC Tournament play, winning for the first time since the 2007 tournament in Tampa, when it beat Georgia Tech 114-112 in double-overtime.

The Demon Deacons advanced to the second round and will play No. 5 seed Pittsburgh at 2 p.m. Thursday. The teams met once during the regular season, with Pitt taking an 80-65 victory at home on Jan. 11. Devin Thomas scored 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for Wake in that game.

The Deacons are now 3-0 all-time against Notre Dame, including a 65-58 victory earlier this season.

Wake is 43-56 all-time in the ACC Tournament and 17-22 in tournament games in Greensboro, where it won consecutive championships in 1995 and 1996.

The Deacons shot a season-high 61 percent, hitting 24 of 41 attempts. Their previous high was 55.3 percent against Clemson.

Coron Williams, a graduate student transfer from Robert Morris, set his Wake Forest high with 25 points, eclipsing the 19 he scored against North Carolina. His all-time career high is 28 against Rider. He hit 7-of-8 shots, including 4-of-5 on 3-pointers. He now has shot 13-of-21 on 3s in his last four games.

Senior Travis McKie has now started 126 straight games – every one in his career. If he starts against Pitt, it will tie him with former Deacon Tim Duncan with 127 career starts.

Devin Thomas, whose 19 points was his most in 12 games (21 vs. Notre Dame in the regular season), tied his career high with five assists. Codi Miller-McIntyre tied his career high with seven rebounds.

Three-point shooting helped the Deacons. They hit 7-of-10, and their 70 percent mark was a team record for an ACC tournament game. Coron Williams hit four, Miles Overton added a pair and Aaron Roundtree hit his third of the season (in nine attempts).

The Deacons' Williams is no stranger to postseason success. As a sophomore at Robert Morris in 2012, Williams was named to the All-NEC Tournament Team after averaging a team-best 16.3 points and going 13-for-21 (61.9 percent) from 3-point range to lead the Colonials to the championship game. He set a new NEC record with 13 3-pointers made. Additionally, Williams averaged 14.3 points and shot 62.5 percent (15-for-24) from the field over three games during the 2011 NEC Tournament.

Garrick Sherman and Pat Connaughton combined for 20 of Notre Dame's 29 first-half points with 10 apiece.

Connaughton, a junior, played in his 101st consecutive game at Notre Dame and made his 82nd consecutive start. He played 39 minutes, falling just shy of playing at least 40 minutes in a game for the ninth time this season.

Connaughton finished with 19 points to lead the Irish in scoring for the ninth time this season and the 16th time in his career. Connaughton's 25 times scoring in double figures this season are a team high.

Notre Dame senior Eric Atkins, who entered the game ranked second among ACC players in assists, led all players with seven on Wednesday. It marked the 19th time this season that Atkins has led the Irish in assists and the 59th time in his career.

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Atkins' 13 points marked his 24th time in double figures this season. The Irish's Zach Auguste (14 points) reached double figures for the ninth time, and Garrick Sherman (12 points) for the 21st time.

This marks the first time in six seasons that the Fighting Irish failed to win at least one conference postseason tournament game. The five straight seasons with at least one tournament win are a program record.

Notre Dame's Mike Brey participated in his first ACC Tournament game as a head coach but in his 20th overall. Brey was an assistant at Duke for eight seasons from 1988 through 1995, when the Blue Devils posted a cumulative 13-6 ACC Tournament record that included two championships (1988 and 1992).

The Fighting Irish slipped to 0-3 all-time in games played in Greensboro following a 95-73 loss to Duke on Dec. 31, 1965, and a 67-63 loss to Xavier in the opening round of the NCAA South Regional on March 16, 2012.