

# KENTUCKY WILDCATS



VS. IOWA | 1 PM | ABC  
ORLANDO



**J.J. WEAVER**  
 • 2021 MAYO CLINIC COMEBACK  
 PLAYER OF THE YEAR



**JACQUEZ JONES**  
 • LEADS TEAM  
 WITH 86 TACKLES



**DARIAN KINNARD**  
 • CONSENSUS ALL-AMERICAN  
 • SEC JACOBS BLOCKING TROPHY  
 • FIRST-TEAM ALL-SEC



THE KENTUCKY OFFENSIVE LINE, KNOWN AS THE "BIG BLUE WALL," IS A FINALIST FOR THE JOE MOORE AWARD, GIVEN TO THE MOST OUTSTANDING OFFENSIVE LINE UNIT IN THE NATION.



BEAT LOUISVILLE TO WIN THE ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP  
 THIRD STRAIGHT SEASON



# THE BIG 3

**WILL LEVIS**  
 2,593 Passing yards

**WAN'DALE ROBINSON**  
 1,164 Receiving yards

**CHRIS RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
 1,272 Rushing yards



## JOSH PASCHAL

- 15.5 Tackles for Loss, **second in the SEC**
- **Eight straight games** with a tackle for a loss
- Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Finalist

THE MAN IN CHARGE

## MARK STOOPS

- 6 Straight bowl appearances
- 3 Straight bowl wins
- Opportunity for a second **10-win season** in the **last four years**



FOR THE  
**TEAM**





**FOR THE TEAM**  
UK

**2021**  
Allstate | AFCA

**GOOD WORKS TEAM AWARD**  
RECIPIENT

**KENNETH HORSEY**

KENNETH HORSEY WAS THE 17TH PLAYER OVERALL, THE FIFTH PLAYER UNDER HEAD COACH MARK STOOPS AND THE THIRD STRAIGHT OFFENSIVE LINEMAN AT UK TO BE NAMED TO THE ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM. AFTER HAVING OPEN-HEART SURGERY IN 2018, HORSEY HAS BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR HEART HEALTH WITH THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION.

CoSIDA ACADEMIC

**ALL-AMERICANS**

<b>LUKE FORTNER</b> SECOND TEAM	<b>COLIN GOODFELLOW</b> SECOND TEAM	<b>JOSH PASCHAL</b> SECOND TEAM
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**FOR THE TEAM**  
UK

**3** PLAYERS (LUKE FORTNER, COLIN GOODFELLOW, JOSH PASCHAL) WERE NAMED TO THE 2021 ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® FOOTBALL TEAM, SELECTED BY THE COLLEGE SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTORS OF AMERICA (CoSIDA). UK'S THREE HONOREES TIED FOR THE SECOND-MOST NATIONALLY. IT MARKS THE THIRD TIME IN THE PAST FOUR SEASONS KENTUCKY HAS HAD AT LEAST ONE STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN AND FIVE TIMES IN COACH MARK STOOPS' NINE YEARS AT THE HELM.

**ALL-SEC FRESHMAN TEAM**

**TREVIN WALLACE**

**UK ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

**25** KENTUCKY HAS 25 PLAYERS ON ITS ROSTER WHO HAVE ALREADY EARNED THEIR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE:  
**ABULE ABADI-FITZGERALD, TYRELL AJIAN, JOSH ALI, MARQUEZ BEMBRY, ZAC BEREZOWITZ, YUSUF CORKER, CEDRICK DORT JR., AUSTIN DOTSON, ISAIAH EPPS, LUKE FORTNER, COLIN GOODFELLOW, KENNETH HORSEY, ZACH JOHNSON, WILL LEVIS, TYLER MARKRAY, QUANDRE MOSELY, WILL NALTY, JOSH PASCHAL, JUSTIN RIGG, DAVONTE ROBINSON, MATT RUFFOLO, CLEVAN THOMAS JR., NAASIR WATKINS, QUINTIN WILSON, JORDAN WRIGHT**

**7** PLAYERS (ISAIAH EPPS, LUKE FORTNER, WILL LEVIS, TYLER MARKRAY, MATT RUFFOLO, CLEVAN THOMAS JR., QUINTIN WILSON) ARE ALL WORKING ON MASTER'S DEGREES AT UK.



# KENTUCKY

FOOTBALL



## 2021 RESULTS



W, 45 - 10



W, 35 - 28



W, 28 - 23



W, 16 - 10



W, 20 - 13



W, 42 - 21



L, 13 - 30



L, 17 - 31



L, 42 - 45



W, 34 - 17



W, 56 - 16



W, 52 - 21



KENTUCKY MEDIA ITINERARY

(Note that practice times are TBA; all times Eastern; these events are open to the media unless noted otherwise)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Team departs for Orlando

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Time is 1 p.m. ET

Practice at Celebration High School 1809 Celebration Blvd. Kissimmee, FL 34747

First 15 minutes of practice open to media, interviews after practice

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Time is 12:30 p.m. ET

Practice at Celebration High School 1809 Celebration Blvd. Kissimmee, FL 34747

First 15 minutes of practice open to media, interviews after practice

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:30 a.m.

Media Event in the Rosen Plaza Hotel 9700 International Drive – Salons 3 & 4 Two players, OC Liam Coen, DC Brad White

10:30 a.m.

Orlando Citrus Parade Downtown Orlando

Time is 11:45 a.m. ET

Practice at Celebration High School; first 15 minutes open to media, interviews after practice

8-10 p.m. ET

\* Player Outing Top Golf Orlando 9295 Universal Blvd. Orlando, FL 32819

\*This event will be a b-roll opportunity for the media

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

9-11 a.m. ET

\*Day for Kids pairs children from the Bowl's MVP families, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida and the West Lakes neighborhoods near Camping World Stadium for a few hours of roller coasters, go-karts and more at Fun Spot America.

Fun Spot America Theme Park 5700 Fun Spot Way

\*This event will be a b-roll opportunity for the media

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30 a.m. ET

News conference with Coach Mark Stoops and Coach Kirk Ferentz Rosen Plaza Hotel - Salons 9 & 10

4:45 p.m. ET

Kentucky Pep Rally, Pointe Orlando 9109 International Drive

SATURDAY, JAN 1

7 a.m. ET

Stadium parking lots open

9 a.m. ET

Citrus Bowl FanFest, Tinker Field at Camping World Stadium, One Citrus Bowl Place

10 a.m. ET

Media will-call and media entrance opens, Camping World Stadium, near Gates C and D

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. ET hour after kickoff

Media Meal – Media dining area A halftime snack will also be served in the press box and photo workroom

1 p.m. ET

75th Annual Citrus Bowl Kentucky vs. Iowa Camping World Stadium ABC - TV ESPN - Radio UK Sports Network - Radio

MEDIA NOTES

- Media members who have been approved may pick up their credentials at Camping World Stadium during bowl week. No credentials will be mailed.
Credentials will also be available on the day of the game at the credential distribution center at Camping World Stadium.
The media hotel is the Rosen Plaza Hotel. The room rate for media staying at the hotel is \$105 per night plus applicable taxes. Reservation information will be provided during the credential application process.
A limited number of parking passes are available for credentialed media. Parking passes may be requested during the credential application process. Approved passes are typically issued at a ratio of one for every two media members from an outlet.
Media are also encouraged to use the free media shuttle from the media hotel to the stadium on game day. The media shuttle schedule will be posted at the media hotel during bowl week as well as in the daily e-mail updates from the Bowl media relations staff.
A hospitality suite at the Rosen Plaza hotel will be open for credentialed daily beginning Sunday, December 26, and features beverages, snacks and nightly meal service.

Kentucky Media Contacts

Susan Lax, 859-608-5019 Matt May, 859-806-7463 Tony Neely, 859-576-9943

Iowa Media Contact

Steve Roe, 319-430-6346

Media Headquarters

Rosen Plaza Hotel 9700 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

Media Credentials/Credential Distribution/ Game Day Parking & Media Shuttle/ Media Guides

Sam Gardner

Work: 407.513.1617

Cell: 407.579.6038

sgardner@fcsports.com

QUICK FACTS

Location: Lexington, Ky. Founded: 1865 Enrollment: 31,800 Nickname: Wildcats Colors: Blue (PMS 286) and White Conference: Southeastern (Eastern Division) Stadium: Kroger Field (61,000) President: Dr. Eli Capilouto Athletics Director: Mitch Barnhart Faculty Representative: Joseph L. Fink III

2021 COACHING STAFF

Frank Buffano, safeties/co-special teams coord.

Liam Coen, offensive coord./quarterbacks

Chris Collins, defensive backs

Anwar Stewart, defensive line

Vince Marrow, associate head coach/tight ends, recruiting coord.

John Settle, running backs/co-special teams coord.

Jon Sumrall, co-defensive coord./inside linebackers

Brad White, defensive coordinator/outside linebackers

Eric Wolford, offensive line

Scott Woodward, wide receivers

Quality Control:

Jovon Bouknight

Josh Estes-Waugh

Greg Manusky

Louie Matsakis

Mark Perry

Joe Scola

Graduate Assistants:

Brayden Berezowitz (defense)

Bryan Berezowitz (student assistant)

C.J. Conrad (special teams)

Ryan Finck (offense)

Connor Langfels (defense)

Cam Garner (offense)

FOLLOW KENTUCKY FOOTBALL ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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@CoachWoody7

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@CoachWhiteFB



Kentucky Football

Kentucky Wildcats



@UKFootball



# KENTUCKY

## FOOTBALL

### KENTUCKY (9-3, 5-3)

9/4	ULM [SECN]	W, 45-10
9/11	MISSOURI* [SECN]	W, 35-28
9/18	CHATTANOOGA [ESPN+]	W, 28-23
9/25	at South Carolina* [ESPN2]	W, 16-10
10/2	#10/9 FLORIDA* [ESPN]	W, 20-13
10/9	LSU* [SECN]	W, 42-21
10/16	at No. 1/1 Georgia* [CBS]	L, 30-13
10/23	Open	
10/30	at Mississippi State* [SECN]	L, 31-17
11/6	TENNESSEE* [ESPN2]	L, 45-42
11/13	at Vanderbilt* [ESPN2]	W, 34-17
11/20	NEW MEXICO ST. [SECN]	W, 56-16
11/27	at Louisville [ESPN2]	W, 52-21

#### Vrbo Citrus Bowl (Orlando)

1/1/22 vs. #15 Iowa [ABC] 1 p.m.

\* SEC game; Home games in bold

### GAME 13



### #22 KENTUCKY VS #15 IOWA

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 2022

1 PM ET • ABC

ORLANDO, FLA.

CAMPING WORLD STADIUM



## VRBO CITRUS BOWL

### KENTUCKY WILDCATS

Record: 9-3 (5-3 SEC)  
 Ranking: AP - 25; Coaches - 20  
 Coach: Mark Stoops (Iowa, '89)  
 Record: 58-53 (9th season)  
 at UK: same  
 vs. Iowa: 0-0  
 Last Game: W, 52-21, at Louisville (11/27)  
 Series: First Meeting

### IOWA HAWKEYES

Record: 10-3 (7-2 Big Ten)  
 Ranking: AP - 17; Coaches - 16  
 Coach: Kirk Ferentz (Connecticut, '78)  
 Record: 190-130 (26th season)  
 at Iowa: 178-109 (23rd season)  
 vs. UK: 0-0  
 Last Game: L, 42-3, vs. Michigan, Big Ten Championship Game (12/4)  
 Last Meeting: First Meeting

### STORYLINES AROUND AS KENTUCKY FACES IOWA IN VRBO CITRUS BOWL

Kentucky is returning to the Vrbo Citrus Bowl and this time it will take on Iowa, the alma mater of head coach Mark Stoops, on New Year's Day in Orlando. Game time is 1 p.m. ET and it will air on ABC and the UK Sports Network. The Wildcats defeated Penn State in the 2019 edition of the game following the 2018 season.

The Cats will be looking to extend their non-conference winning streak to 16 games, which is tied with Iowa for the longest active streak in the country. Both programs have won three straight bowl games, tied for the third-longest active streak in FBS.

Offensively, the Wildcats have been guided by quarterback Will Levis, who is completing 66.5 percent of his passes for 2,593 yards and 23 touchdowns. Levis' top target has been Wan'Dale Robinson, who has 94 catches for 1,164 yards and six TDs. The ground game has been paced by Christopher Rodriguez Jr., who has rushed for 1,272 yards and eight scores. The trio is just the second in school history to reach 2,000 yards passing, 1,000 rushing and 1,000 receiving in the same season.

The Kentucky defense has been exceptional at times in 2021, with linebackers Jacquez Jones and DeAndre Square leading the team in tackles, while safety Yusuf Corker and defensive end Josh Paschal are among the SEC leaders in pass breakups and tackles for loss, respectively.

### ABOUT THE GAME

#### TV • ABC

Play-by-Play: Dave Pasch  
 Analyst: Dusty Dvoracek  
 Sideline: Tom Luginbill

#### RADIO • ESPN RADIO

Play-by-Play: Marc Kestecher  
 Analyst: Ben Hartsock  
 Sideline: Taylor Davis

#### RADIO • UK SPORTS NETWORK

Play-by-Play: Tom Leach  
 Analyst: Jeff Piecoro  
 Sideline: Dick Gabriel

#### SATELLITE RADIO

Sirius - 138; XM - 190; SXM APP - 961

#### INTERNET RADIO • www.UKathletics.com

Live Audio - free; Live Stats

### BY THE NUMBERS

- 3** STRAIGHT BOWL WINS
- 6** STRAIGHT BOWL APPEARANCES
- 15** STRAIGHT WINS OVER NON-CONFERENCE OPPONENTS
- 32** WINS SINCE START OF 2018
- 58** COACH STOOPS CAREER WINS

### QUICK NOTES

- Kentucky is returning to the Vrbo Citrus Bowl for the second time in the past four seasons, having defeated Penn State, 27-24, on Jan. 1, 2019 to cap a 10-win season.
- UK is ranked No. 20 in the USA Today Coaches Poll and No. 25 in the Associated Press Poll. The Wildcats finished No. 22 in the final CFP rankings.
- Coach Mark Stoops is his ninth season in Lexington. He is 58-53 overall, ranking second in school history in victories behind Paul "Bear" Bryant (60).
- He recently inked a contract extension that will keep him in Lexington through June 2028 with amended financial terms.
- Stoops started his tenure 12-26 but has gone an impressive 46-27 (.630) since that time, moving over .500 for the first time in his term as head coach.
- UK is 11-9 all-time in bowl games. The Cats are appearing in a school-record sixth straight bowl.



- UK has won 15 straight non-conference games, dating back to the 2017 Music City Bowl loss to Northwestern. It is tied for the longest such streak in FBS with Vrbo Citrus Bowl opponent Iowa (see page 12).
- UK's 32 victories since the start of the 2018 season rank sixth-most in the SEC.
- Those 32 wins rank 16th among Power Five programs.
- Kentucky is 9-3 for the first time since 2018 and just the third time in the past 44 seasons (1984, 2018, 2021).
- It's the first time since 1949-52 the Cats have had at least eight total victories three times in a four-year span.
- Kentucky finished 5-3 in the SEC for second place in the SEC Eastern Division. It marks the first time since the league split into divisions in 1992 that UK ends the season in sole possession of second place of the East. UK also has finished in a tie for second in the division on two other occasions, 2016 and 2018.
- All three second-place East finishes have been in the last six seasons under Mark Stoops.
- This is the second time since 1977 that UK has posted a winning record in league play, 5-3 this season and also in 2018.
- For just the second time in school history, UK has a 2,000-yard passer (Will Levis), 1,000-yard rusher (Chris Rodriguez Jr.) and 1,000-yard receiver (Wan'Dale Robinson) in a season - 2007 was the only other season (Andre' Woodson, Rafael Little, Steve Johnson).
- In the regular season finale, Kentucky routed rival Louisville, 52-21, on the road. The Cats scored 31 unanswered points before the Cardinals scored a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter against the reserves ... It was the fourth straight win for UK in the regular season finale, the first time it has done that since 1898-1901.
- The UK offense has scored a touchdown on its opening possession seven times in 12 games.
- Before falling at No. 1 Georgia on Oct. 16, Kentucky had won its previous eight games, marking the fifth-longest win streak in school history.
- Kentucky opened the season 6-0. UK's previous 6-0 starts include 1950 (10-0), 1910 (7-0), 1903 (7-0) and 1898 (7-0).
- Kentucky started 4-0 in the SEC for the fourth time in school history (also 1949, 1950, 1977).
- The win over Florida was Kentucky's first win over a AP top-10 team since a 31-28 win over South Carolina in 2010.
- The Wildcats have the third-most wins among SEC East schools from 2016-21 (46). Only Georgia (64) and Florida (48) have more.
- Kentucky has 11 players in school history who have rushed for at least 1,900 career yards. Four of those have come during Stoops' tenure: Benny Snell Jr. (3,873), Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2,633), Stanley "Boom" Williams (2,511) and A.J. Rose (1,971).
- RB Chris Rodriguez Jr. is second in the SEC and 12th nationally with 106.0 rushing yards per game.
- WR Wan'Dale Robinson is second in the SEC and sixth nationally in receptions per game (7.8) and second in the conference, 15th nationally in receiving yards per game (97.0).
- Guided by defensive coordinator Brad White, UK is 10th in the FBS in fourth down defense (38.7%), 36th in tackles for loss (6.4 per game) and 25th in total defense (336.4).
- Kentucky is 17th nationally in rushing defense (117.2 per game).
- Senior defensive end Josh Paschal ranks second in the SEC and 16th nationally with 1.3 tackles for loss per game. He has 15.5 total TFL this season. His 37.0 tackles for loss in his career, ranks third in UK history. He has charted a TFL in 10 of 12 games, and eight in a row, tied for the second-longest such streak in school history.
- UK has allowed 30 or fewer points in 43 of the past 50 games.
- After entering the lineup in the third game of the season, senior Colin Goodfellow has emerged as one of the nation's best punters, averaging 46.0 yards per kick.
- Jon Sumrall, UK co-defensive coordinator and inside linebackers coach, was named head coach at Troy on Dec. 2. Sumrall will rejoin the Wildcats to coach the Vrbo Citrus Bowl.
- During Stoops' tenure, the Wildcats have had nine different starting quarterbacks win a game in Jalen Whitlow, Maxwell Smith, Patrick Towles, Drew Barker, Stephen Johnson, Luke Wright, Lynn Bowden Jr., Terry Wilson and now Will Levis.
- Since 2016, UK is 19-8 (.704) in games decided by seven points or less.
- The Wildcats signed their highest-rated recruiting class in school history in 2022.

## ALL-TIME BOWL RESULTS

<b>Great Lakes Bowl (Dec. 6, 1947)</b> UK 24, Villanova 14
<b>Orange Bowl (Jan. 2, 1950)</b> Santa Clara 21, UK 13
<b>Sugar Bowl (Jan. 1, 1951)</b> UK 13, Oklahoma 7
<b>Cotton Bowl (Jan. 1, 1952)</b> UK 20, TCU 7
<b>Peach Bowl (Dec. 31, 1976)</b> UK 21, North Carolina 0
<b>Hall of Fame Bowl (Dec. 22, 1983)</b> West Virginia 20, UK 16
<b>Hall of Fame Bowl (Dec. 29, 1984)</b> UK 20, Wisconsin 19
<b>Peach Bowl (Dec. 31, 1993)</b> Clemson 14, UK 13
<b>Outback Bowl (Jan. 1, 1999)</b> Penn State 26, UK 14
<b>HomePoint.com Music City Bowl (Dec. 29, 1999)</b> Syracuse 20, UK 13
<b>Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl (Dec. 29, 2006)</b> UK 28, Clemson 20
<b>Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl (Dec. 31, 2007)</b> UK 35, Florida State 28
<b>AutoZone Liberty Bowl (Jan. 2, 2009)</b> UK 25, East Carolina 19
<b>Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl (Dec. 27, 2009)</b> Clemson 21, UK 13
<b>BBVA Compass Bowl (Jan. 8, 2011)</b> Pittsburgh 27, UK 10
<b>TaxSlayer Bowl (Dec. 31, 2016)</b> Georgia Tech 33, UK 18
<b>Franklin Mortgage Music City Bowl (Dec. 29, 2017)</b> Northwestern 24, UK 23
<b>VRBO Citrus Bowl (Jan. 1, 2019)</b> UK 27, Penn State 24
<b>Belk Bowl (Dec. 31, 2019)</b> UK 37, Virginia Tech 30
<b>TaxSlayer Gator Bowl (Jan. 2, 2021)</b> UK 23, NC State 21

## CATS CONTINUE TO CLIMB THE SEC LADDER

- Kentucky is 9-3 for the first time since 2018 and has clinched a winning record for the 2021 season.
- Kentucky is 5-3 in the SEC and finished in second place in the SEC Eastern Division.
- It is the first time since the league split into divisions in 1992 that UK ended the season in sole possession of second place of the East.
- UK also has finished in a tie for second in the division on two other occasions, 2016 and 2018.



**BY THE NUMBERS**

	2021	Stoops
Record.....	9-3	58-53
SEC.....	5-3	29-45
West.....	1-1	5-15
East.....	4-2	24-30
Non-Conference.....	4-0	29-8
Home.....	6-1	41-22
Road.....	3-2	14-28
Neutral site.....	0-0	3-3
Night.....	6-2	28-24
Day.....	3-1	30-29
TV Games.....	8-3	54-53
ABC.....	0-0	1-0
CBS.....	0-1	0-5
ESPN.....	1-0	4-11
ESPN2.....	0-0	3-5
ESPN2.....	3-1	5-3
ESPNNews.....	0-0	0-1
SEC Network.....	4-1	42-27
Fox Sports South.....	0-0	1-1
CBS Sports Network.....	0-0	1-0
August/September.....	4-0	24-12
October.....	2-2	16-16
November.....	3-1	14-22
December/January.....	0-0	4-2
Coming off an open date.....	0-1	5-7
UK scores on 1st possession.....	6-1	27-15
Opp scores on 1st possession.....	3-1	16-23
UK scores first.....	6-1	37-18
Opponent scores first.....	3-2	21-35
UK leads after 1st quarter.....	7-1	35-9
Opponent leads after 1stQ.....	0-1	11-34
Teams are tied after 1stQ.....	2-1	12-10
UK leads at halftime.....	8-0	42-7
Opponent leads at halftime.....	1-3	9-42
Teams are tied at halftime.....	0-0	7-4
UK leads after 3rd quarter.....	9-0	49-4
Opponent leads after 3rdQ.....	0-3	5-46
Teams are tied after 3rdQ.....	0-0	5-3
Game goes to overtime.....	0-0	1-3
Scoring less than 20 pts.....	1-2	5-34
Scoring 20+ points.....	8-1	48-19
Scoring 30+ points.....	6-1	34-9
Allowing less than 20 pts.....	5-0	33-4
Allowing 20+ points.....	4-2	19-40
Allowing 30+ points.....	0-3	7-32
UK has more total yards.....	8-1	46-8
Opp. has more total yds.....	1-2	12-45
UK has more rushing yards.....	7-1	48-12
Opp. has more rushing yards.....	2-2	10-41
UK has more passing yards.....	4-1	25-15
Opp. has more passing yards.....	5-2	33-36
Rushing for < 100 yds.....	0-2	5-19
Rushing for over 100 yards.....	9-1	50-33
Rushing for 200+ yards.....	7-1	41-10
Passing for 200+ yards.....	3-1	21-15
Passing for 300+ yards.....	2-1	8-5
UK has 100-yard rusher.....	7-1	40-15
Opp. has 100-yard rusher.....	2-0	17-32
No turnovers.....	2-1	15-9
One or two turnovers.....	3-1	35-33
3 or more turnovers.....	4-1	8-10
No takeaways.....	2-2	13-14
3 or more takeaways.....	0-0	14-4
UK has more penalties.....	4-1	21-21
Opp. has more penalties.....	5-2	31-28
Teams have equal penalties.....	0-0	6-4
UK has more TOP.....	6-2	39-20
Opp. has more TOP.....	3-1	18-33
UK defense scores.....	3-0	14-5
Opponent defense scores.....	1-1	7-10
UK returns KO/Punt for TD.....	0-1	3-1
Opp. returns KO/Punt for TD.....	0-0	0-5
Playing on natural grass.....	1-2	15-32
Playing on artificial surface.....	8-1	43-20
In blue uniforms.....	3-1	15-5
In white uniforms.....	3-1	9-11
In white jerseys/blue pants.....	0-1	5-18
In blue jerseys/white pants.....	2-0	17-5
In black uniforms.....	0-0	1-3
In blue jerseys/grey pants.....	0-0	2-3
In grey uniforms.....	1-0	6-3
In grey jerseys/blue pants.....	0-0	3-5

**MILESTONES TO LOOK FOR...**

- Head coach **Mark Stoops** has 58 career victories at Kentucky, No. 2 on the school's all-time list. Paul "Bear" Bryant is first with 60.
- Coach Stoops now holds the record for most total home wins in school history (41).
- Junior **RB Chris Rodriguez Jr.** has 2,633 career rushing yards for seventh place on the school's all-time list and is the 10th player in school history to reach 2,000. He needs 15 more yards to tie George Adams (2,648 from 1981-84) at No. 6.
- Rodriguez has 25 career rushing touchdowns and needs one to tie for second in UK history with Moe Williams and Sonny Collins.
- Rodriguez has 14 career 100-yard rushing games, third-most in school history.
- Rodriguez has 1,272 rushing yards this season, seventh-most in school history. He is the 10th Wildcat to reach 1,000 in a season and the 14th time it has been accomplished.
- Junior **WR Wan'Dale Robinson** has 94 receptions, setting a new school single-season record James Whalen (90, 1999).
- Robinson has 1,164 receiving yards this season, giving him the sixth 1,000-yard receiving season in school history and second-most yards in school history. He needs 147 to tie the record of 1,311 set by Craig Yeast in 1998.
- Robinson (1,164 receiving) and Rodriguez (1,272 rushing) are only the second duo in school history to give UK a 1,000-yard rusher and receiver in same season. Steve Johnson (1,041 receiving) and Rafael Little (1,013 rushing) did it in 2007.
- Senior **WR Josh Ali** is No. 12 on the all-time receiving yards list with 1,447. He needs 36 more to move up to No. 11 with Tom Hutchinson (1,483 from 1960-62). He also has 131 career receptions, the 18th Wildcat to reach the century mark in catches.
- Junior **RB Kavosiey Smoke** has 1,306 career rushing yards. He currently sits at No. 30 and needs seven more to move up to No. 29.
- Senior **DE Josh Paschal** has 37.0 tackles for loss in his career, tied for third with Bud Dupree, Vincent Burns and Marlon McCree.
- Senior **TE Justin Rigg** has played in 62 career games and with an appearance in the bowl game will set a new school record for most career games played.

- All three second-place East finishes have been in the last six seasons under Mark Stoops.
- This is the second time since 1977 that UK has posted a winning record in league play, 5-3 this season and also in 2018.

**KENTUCKY IN BOWL GAMES**

- The Wildcats own an 11-9 all-time record in bowl games, including a 4-1 record under head coach Mark Stoops.
- UK is appearing in its school-record sixth straight bowl game.
- Kentucky has won three straight bowl games which is tied with Iowa for the third-longest active streak in FBS. The Cats defeated Penn State, Virginia Tech and N.C. State.
- This is UK's second appearance in the Citrus Bowl during the six-year bowl run. The Cats ended their 10-win 2018 season in the VRBO Citrus Bowl in Orlando on Jan. 1, 2019, defeating Penn State, 27-24.

**KENTUCKY VS. IOWA/BIG TEN**

- This marks UK's first meeting in school history against Big Ten member Iowa.
- Kentucky is 29-37-4 all-time against current Big Ten members.
- UK last faced a Big Ten opponent in 2018 in the Citrus Bowl, defeating Penn State, 27-24.

**A UK WIN WOULD...**

- Be Kentucky's fourth consecutive bowl victory.
- Be Kentucky's 16th consecutive non-conference victory, extending the nation's longest active streak in FBS, dating to the beginning of the 2018 season.
- Boost UK to 21-3 in last 24 non-conference games dating to 2016.







- Give Coach Mark Stoops 59 career victories at UK, putting him just one win shy of tying Paul “Bear” Bryant for the school’s all-time winning coach.
- Give UK 10 wins for the second time in Stoops’ tenure as head coach (2018, 2021).
- Be just the fourth time in school history the Cats have won 10 games (1950, 1977, 2018, 2021).
- Give Kentucky six wins in 2021 vs. opponents who played in a bowl game.
- Improve UK to 30-35-5 all-time vs. current members of the Big Ten.

## KENTUCKY-IOWA CONNECTIONS

- Kentucky coach Mark Stoops lettered at Iowa from 1987-89, playing for legendary coach Hayden Fry.
- Stoops also served as a graduate assistant at his alma mater in 1990 and 1991. In 1990, the Hawkeyes won the Big Ten title and played in the Rose Bowl.
- Stoops’ brothers, Bob (1979-82), and Mike (1981-84) each played at Iowa as well.
- Stoops said his late father, Ron, was buried in 1988 with one of his Iowa game jerseys in his casket.
- Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz was on the Iowa staff when Stoops was recruited to play for the Hawkeyes and knows the family well.

## SUNSHINE STATE CATS

- Kentucky has 11 players on its roster who will be returning to their home state for the Citrus Bowl: DT Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald (Lakeland), OLB Sam Anaele, WR Josh Ali (Hollywood), DB Cedrick Dort Jr. (Palm Beach Gardens), WR DeMarcus Harris (Vero Beach), OL Kenneth Horsey (Sanford), WR Rahsaan Lewis (Orlando), OT Jake Pope (Fort Lauderdale), QB Nik Scalzo (Fort Lauderdale), WR Clevan Thomas Jr. (Miami) and LB Jordan Wright (Fort Lauderdale).

## “SUPER SENIOR” SALUTE

- Due to COVID-19, every student-athlete was granted an extra year of eligibility and nine seniors took advantage of the extra year and are listed as “super seniors.” These nine seniors will play their final game as a Wildcat in the Citrus Bowl:

Wide receiver **Josh Ali**  
 Offensive lineman **Luke Fortner**  
 Defensive back **Zach Johnson**  
 Defensive back **Quandre Mosely**  
 Defensive back **Davonte Robinson**  
 Tight end **Justin Rigg**  
 Kicker **Matt Ruffolo**  
 Punter **Colin Goodfellow**  
 Inside linebacker **William Nalty**

## CATS IN THE NATIONAL POLLS

- Kentucky enters bowl season ranked No. 20 in the USA Today Coaches poll and No. 25 in the Associated Press poll.
- UK is No. 22 in the final CFP rankings.
- The Cats have spent eight weeks in the Coaches Poll and six in the AP Poll this season.
- Kentucky entered the AP Top 25 on Oct. 3, coming in at No. 16, advancing to No. 11 after the win over LSU ... It marked the highest AP ranking for UK since Oct. 28, 2018, when the Cats were No. 11 after a 7-1 start. The Cats also have been as high as No. 11 in the USA Today Coaches Poll, their highest ranking since ending the 2018 season at No. 11.

## CATS BOAST 25 GRADUATES ON THE FIELD IN CITRUS BOWL

- When UK takes the field in the Citrus Bowl, 25 Wildcats will be graduates and don the SEC Graduate patch on their uniforms. They are:

Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald  
 Tyrell Ajian  
 Josh Ali

## 100-YARD RUSHERS

Player	2021	Career	'21 Opponent
Chris Rodriguez Jr.	8	14	ULM Missouri South Carolina LSU Tennessee Vanderbilt New Mexico St. Louisville
Will Levis	1	1	Louisville
Kavosiey Smoke	1	1	LSU

## 100-YARD RECEIVERS

Player	2021	Career	'21 Opponent
Wan'Dale Robinson	5	7	ULM Missouri Chattanooga Tennessee New Mexico St.
Josh Ali	2	2	ULM New Mexico St.

## 300-YARD PASSERS

Player	2021	Career	'21 Opponent
Will Levis	3	3	ULM Tennessee New Mexico St.

## INTERCEPTIONS

Player	2021	Career
J.J. Weaver	2	2
Tyrell Ajian	1	4
Quandre Mosley	1	2
Jacquez Jones	1	1
Jalen Geiger	1	1
Yusuf Corker	0	3
D'Eryk Jackson	0	1
Josh Paschal	0	1
Jordan Wright	0	1
DeAndre Square	0	1

## TRACKING SACK LEADERS

Player	2021	Career
J.J. Weaver	6.0	6.5
Josh Paschal	5.5	13.5
DeAndre Square	3.0	5.5
A. Abadi-Fitzgerald	2.5	2.5
Octavious Oxendine	2.0	2.0
Trevin Wallace	2.0	2.0
Justin Rogers	1.5	2.5
Jordan Wright	1.0	7.5
Yusuf Corker	1.0	1.0
Josaih Hayes	1.0	1.0
Davonte Robinson	1.0	1.0
Vito Tisdale	1.0	1.0
Carrington Valentine	1.0	1.0
Jacquez Jones	0.5	3.0
Marquan McCall	0	1.5
Quandre Mosely	0	1.0



## STAT SUPERLATIVES

**Most Games Played (min. 30):** Justin Rigg (62), Zach Johnson (56), Josh Ali (55), Luke Fortner (54), Josh Paschal (52), Yusuf Corker (49), Davonte Robinson (49), DeAndre Square (48), Tyrell Ajian (47), Jacquez Jones (45), Darian Kinnard (45), Cedrick Dort Jr. (43), Isaiah Epps (43), Jordan Wright (41), Marquan McCall (39), Austin Dotson (39), Chris Rodriguez Jr. (37), Quandre Mosely (35), Chance Poore (35), Kavosiey Smoke (34), Brendan Bates (33)

**Most Games Started (min. 20):** Darian Kinnard (38), Josh Paschal (37), Yusuf Corker (36), Luke Fortner (35), Josh Ali (34), Justin Rigg (34), DeAndre Square (34), Jacquez Jones (31), Cedrick Dort (25), Tyrell Ajian (22)

**Consecutive Games Started (min. 12):** Darian Kinnard (38), Yusuf Corker (36), Josh Ali (34), Jacquez Jones (25), Josh Paschal (17), Justin Rigg (16), DeAndre Square (16), Kenneth Horsey (13), Will Levis (12), Wan'Dale Robinson (12), Dare Rosenthal (12)

**Consecutive Games with a Tackle (min. 12):** Yusuf Corker (38), Jacquez Jones (26), Josh Paschal (23), J.J. Weaver (20), Carrington Valentine (17)

**Consecutive Games with a Reception (min. 5):** Josh Ali (22), Wan'Dale Robinson (20), Keaton Upshaw (9), Justin Rigg (7)

## #LAFAMILIA

Kentucky football has several set of sons playing for former Wildcats or who are currently working for UK Football:

- Sophomore Beau Allen is the son of former Wildcat Bill Allen (1985-88).
- Junior TE Brendan Bates is the grandson of former UK basketball player Gene Neff (1951-52)
- Senior DB Zac Berezowitz is the younger brother of identical twins Brayden and Bryan who serve as a graduate assistant and student assistant in the football office, respectively.
- Sophomore DB Moses Douglass is the son of former Wildcat Maurice Douglass (1984-85).
- Senior WR Darren Edmond is the son of UK Football's director of performance Corey Edmond.
- Redshirt freshman Dru Phillips is the son of former Wildcat Carlos Phillips (1986-90).
- Freshman WR Trey Dennis is the son of former Wildcat Harold Dennis (1994-96).
- Freshman offensive lineman Lucas Padgett is the son of Scott Padgett who played basketball at Kentucky (1995-99), helping the Wildcats advance to two Final Fours, including a national title in 1998 ... Went on to play eight years in the pros ... Mom, Cynthia (Dozier), was a four-year letter winner on UK's volleyball team (1994-97).
- We have brothers, too. Junior OLB Justice Dingle is the older brother of freshman TE Jordan Dingle. They are from Bowling Green, Ky. Walk-on defensive ends Richard and Alex Brascom of Louisville, Ky., are fraternal twins.



Marquez Bembyr

Zac Berezowitz

Yusuf Corker

Cedrick Dort Jr.

Austin Dotson

Isaiah Epps

Luke Fortner (graduated with master's in mechanical engineering)

Colin Goodfellow

Kenneth Horsey

Zach Johnson (graduated with master's in sport leadership)

Will Levis

Tyler Markray

Quandre Mosely

Will Nalty

Josh Paschal

Justin Rigg

Davonte Robinson

Matt Ruffolo

Clevan Thomas Jr. (graduated with master's in sport leadership)

Naasir Watkins

Quintin Wilson

Jordan Wright

- Six Wildcats are currently working on master's degrees, including four in Kentucky's school of business:

Isaiah Epps - master's in sport leadership

Luke Fortner - MBA (second master's degree)

Will Levis - master's in finance

Tyler Markray - master's in sport leadership

Matt Ruffolo - MBA

Quintin Wilson - MBA

## OFFENSE REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

- Kentucky's offensive philosophy under new coordinator Liam Coen has been on full display this season as the Wildcats morphed from a heavy run attack to a more balanced, aggressive style.
- The shift has led to remarkable success in year one with Coen, who came to Lexington after spending time with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams.
- UK is averaging 225.0 passing yards and 206.1 rushing yards per game, which is on pace to be the first season in school history to average at least 200 yards in both facets of the offense.



## 2021 STATISTICAL LEADERS

<b>RUSHING:</b>	<b>ATT.</b>	<b>YARDS</b>	<b>AVG.</b>	<b>TDS</b>		
Chris Rodriguez Jr.	205	1,272	6.2	8		
Kavosiey Smoke	81	416	5.1	4		
Will Levis	92	387	4.2	9		
<b>PASSING:</b>	<b>ATT.</b>	<b>COMP</b>	<b>INT.</b>	<b>TDS</b>	<b>YARDS</b>	<b>PCT.</b>
Will Levis	325	216	12	23	2593	66.5
Beau Allen	12	8	0	0	92	66.7
<b>RECEIVING:</b>	<b>REC.</b>	<b>YARDS</b>	<b>AVG.</b>	<b>AVG/GAME</b>	<b>TDS</b>	
Wan'Dale Robinson	94	1,164	12.4	97.0	7	
Josh Ali	41	601	14.7	60.1	3	
Justin Rigg	18	178	9.9	14.8	4	
Izayah Cummings	13	182	14.0	18.2	3	
<b>TACKLES:</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>SOLO</b>	<b>AST.</b>	<b>INT.</b>	<b>SACKS</b>	<b>TFL (YDS)</b>
Jacquez Jones	86	40	46	1	0.5	3.5 (9)
DeAndre Square	74	39	35	-	3.0	9.0 (30)
Yusuf Corker	73	41	32	-	1.0	3.5 (13)
Josh Paschal	53	24	29	-	5.5	15.5 (64)
J.J. Weaver	34	19	15	2	6.0	10.0 (46)

- UK is one of only 11 teams in the nation (one of only eight among Power 5 teams) that is averaging at least 200 rushing yards and 225 passing yards per game.
- The impressive balance hasn't been smoke and mirrors either, as the unit is averaging 6.57 yards per play (5,173 in 787 plays) for the season. The number would represent the highest yards per play average for a single-season in school history, besting the 6.45 in 1998 with Tim Couch at the helm of Hal Mumme's "Air Raid".
- UK's offense steadily improved throughout the season before exploding in the month of November, averaging 560.8 total yards per game in those four contests. The total was the highest of any Power Five team and second nationally only to Kent State (564.0).
- The offense had the highest 4+ yard rushing percentage of any team in nation, a hat tip to OL coach Eric Wolford's group up front (source: SportSource Analytics). The Wildcats also lead the SEC in rushing yards per attempt with a 5.51 average.
- The 33.3 points per game this season currently ranks fourth in school history for a single-season.
- 707 total yards vs. New Mexico State is the second-highest total in school history.
- QB Will Levis (2,593 passing yards), RB Chris Rodriguez Jr. (1,272 rushing yards) and WR Wan'Dale Robinson (1,164 receiving yards) became just the second trio in school history to go 2000/1000/1000 in the same season. Andre' Woodson (3,709 passing), Rafael Little (1,013 rushing) and Stevie Johnson (1,041 receiving) was the other in 2007.
- The explosiveness of the passing game has been breathtaking with 35 pass plays of at least 20 yards this season, seven of which are at least 40 yards. The combined totals from the 2019 and 2020 seasons were 36 pass plays of 20+ yards (four of them 40+ yards).
- Other individual records and accomplishments of note on offense include:
  - >> RB Chris Rodriguez Jr. tying the school record with eight 100-yard rushing games.
  - >> WR Wan'Dale Robinson setting the single-season school record with 94 receptions.
  - >> Robinson has the second-most receiving yards in a season and joins Randall Cobb as the only two players in school history with two games in their career of 12 or more catches.
  - >> K Matt Ruffolo setting the single-season school record for PATs with 52.

## KINNARD NAMED CONSENSUS ALL-AMERICAN

- Kentucky senior offensive tackle Darian Kinnard was named a 2021 Consensus All-American, becoming the first offensive lineman to receive the honor since All-American Sam Ball in 1965. The Wildcats now have 12 consensus All-Americans in school history a total of 14 times.
- It also marks the third time in the last four years a Wildcat has been named a consensus All-American.
- Kinnard joins Bob Gain (1950), Babe Parilli (1950 and 1951), Lou Michaels (1956 and 1957), Sam Ball (1965), Art Still (1977), Tim Couch (1998), James Whalen (1999), Derek Abney (2002), Josh Allen (2018), Lynn Bowden (2019) and Max Duffy (2019) on the prestigious list.

## 2021 CAT SCRATCHES

### SENIOR • DT • ABULE ABADI-FITZGERALD

- Born in Yenagoa, Nigeria
- Moved to United States at age 12

### REDSHIRT FRESHMAN • OG • R.J. ADAMS

- Dad, Reuben, played football at Howard and is a member of Howard's Athletics Hall of Fame

### SENIOR • WR • JOSH ALI

- Dad, Faheem, was a WR at La Tech

### SOPHOMORE • QB • BEAU ALLEN

- Dad, Bill, also played QB at UK from 1984-88

### REDSHIRT FRESHMAN • DE • SAM ANAELE

- Born in Lagos, Nigeria
- Moved to Miami in 2017, originally to play basketball at McDougale Technical Institute
- Has only been playing football for four years

### JUNIOR • TE • BRENDEN BATES

- Parents, Doug and Kelly, and brother, Doug, all played/play Division I sports
- Grandfather is former UK Basketball player Gene Neff

### FRESHMAN • P • WILSON BERRY

- Played three years of Australian rules football for Essendon's team in the Victorian Football League
- While playing footy, held down a part-time job at Grill'd, a restaurant known for preparing healthy hamburgers ... Started as a waiter before being promoted into the kitchen as a cook and then as an assistant manager
- Currently 23 years old, birthday is in June
- UK's third straight Australian punter, following in the footsteps of Matt Panton (2017) and Max Duffy (2018-20)
- Older brother, Jordan, played football at Eastern Kentucky and is currently the starting punter for the Pittsburgh Steelers

### FRESHMAN • OL • JAGER BURTON

- Dad, Jeff, played football at Morehead State

### SENIOR • S • YUSUF CORKER

- Married long-time girlfriend, Tarryn Todd-Long, in February of 2021 and the couple has one daughter, Amirah

### SOPHOMORE • DB • MOSES DOUGLASS

- Father, Maurice, was a defensive back at Kentucky from 1984-85 and went on to an 11-year career with the Chicago Bears and New York Giants

### SOPHOMORE • ILB • LUKE FULTON

- Father, Jeff, played baseball at Pitt

### SOPHOMORE • WR • DEMARCUS HARRIS

- Father, Marc, played minor-league baseball for the Chicago White Sox from 1991-93; Served as DeMarcus' wide receivers coach in high school

### JUNIOR • OL • KENNETH HORSEY

- Had open-heart surgery in April of 2018
- Competed in martial arts for 14 years

### SENIOR • S • ZACH JOHNSON

- Married long-time girlfriend, Sydney Fannin, on March 27, 2021

### JUNIOR • QB • WILL LEVIS

- Comes from a family of athletes as his great-grandfather, Alva Kelley, was an All-America football player at Cornell University and won a National Championship in 1939 ... Went on to be the head football coach at Colgate University, Hobart College and Brown University



## 2021 CAT SCRATCHES

- Father, Mike, was a tight end at Denison University
- Mother, Beth Kelley Levis, was two-time All-America soccer player at Yale and has been inducted into the Connecticut Girls' Soccer Association Hall of Fame
- Uncle, David Kelley, also was an Academic All-America football player at Yale

### JUNIOR • WR • RAHSAAN LEWIS

- Father, Ray, played 17 seasons in the NFL and was a 13-time Pro Bowler, 10-time All-Pro, two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year, a member of the NFL 2000s All-Decade Team, two-time Super Bowl champion and Super Bowl XXXV MVP, as well as a two-time All-American at the University of Miami

### FRESHMAN • ILB • CONNER LONG

- Dad, Octavis, was a wide receiver at Michigan State from 1995-97
- Mother, Lynette, ran track for the Spartans

### JUNIOR • RB • TYLER MARKRAY

- Dad, Triando, was a wide receiver at Michigan from 1983-84

### JUNIOR • LS • JORDAN MORROW

- Dad, Jeff, played football at Kent State and is the current director of player personnel for the Carolina Panthers

### SOPHOMORE • WR • TRE'VON MORGAN

- Cousin, Brandon Jackson, was an offensive lineman at UK from 1994-95

### SENIOR • ILB • WILL NALTY

- Dad, Donald, played football at Tulane from 1982-86

### SOPHOMORE • DT • OCTAVIOUS OXENDINE

- Dad, Kirk, is a retired U.S. Army Sergeant First Class

### FRESHMAN • OL • LUCAS PADGETT

- Father, Scott, played basketball at Kentucky from 1995-99, helping the Wildcats advance to two Final Fours, including a national title in 1998 ... Went on to play eight years in the pros ... Mom, Cynthia, was a four-year letter winner on UK's volleyball team from 1994-97 ... Older brother, Logan, currently plays basketball at Shelton State Community College

### SENIOR • DE • JOSH PASCHAL

- Completed a year-long immunotherapy treatment plan for melanoma found on the bottom of his right foot on Aug. 7, 2019

### SOPHOMORE • LS • CLAY PERRY

- Father, Matthew, played football at Western Kentucky; uncle, Mark Perry, played football at Northwestern; uncle, Todd Perry, is a former Wildcat who played from 1988-92 and went on to an 11-year career in the NFL with the Chicago Bears (eight years) and the Miami Dolphins (three years) as a guard

### R-FRESHMAN • DB • ANDRU PHILLIPS

- Father, Carlos, played linebacker at Kentucky under Jerry Claiborne; mom, LaTonya, was a standout athlete at Danville High School; brother, C.J., played football at Morehead State in 2015

### SENIOR • TE • JUSTIN RIGG

- Grandfather, Joe Miko, played football at Ohio; brother, Jordan, played football at Miami (Ohio) and brother, Jake, played at Walsh University

### JUNIOR • WR • WAN'DALE ROBINSON



- To be named to the Consensus team, players have to be listed on the first team for more than half the All-America teams used in the compilation. If no player meets this criterion at a position, a player can be selected if named first team on at least two of the All-America teams. Second and third teams are used to break ties. In the case of a true tie, all players are listed. Five organizations are used to compile the consensus team — American Football Coaches Association, Associated Press, Football Writers Association of America, The Sporting News and Walter Camp Foundation.
- Kinnard earned first-team All-America honors from four of the five - FWAA, Walter Camp and the AP. He was a second-team All-American by The Sporting News.

## WILL LEVIS-TATING AS THE STARTING QB

- Quarterback Will Levis earned the starting spot early in fall camp after transferring from Penn State and he has taken his role and run with it.
- His pass efficiency rating of 149.4 rating points is the highest for a UK starting quarterback since Andre' Woodson in the 2006 season (154.5) and third-highest ever for a single season.
- Ranks seventh in the SEC in passing yards per game (216.1) and sixth in passing TDs (23).
- Ranks seventh in the SEC in total offense (248.3 yards per game).
- He has 23 touchdown passes this season, most since Mike Hartline had 23 in 2010.
- He is the first UK quarterback with three 350-yard passing games in one season since Patrick Towles in 2014.
- He is the first Wildcat to have at least 15 rushing touchdowns and five rushing TDs in one season since Jared Lorenzen in 2003.
- His 66.5 completion percentage is the fourth-highest in a season at UK (min. 100 completions).
- Against LSU, named National Offensive Player of the Week by the Walter Camp Football Foundation after accounting for the first five touchdowns (three passing, two rushing) in the win over the Tigers.
- Against Tennessee, he accounted for 419 yards total offense and five touchdowns. He completed 31 of 49 passes for a career-high 372 yards and three touchdowns and, despite being sacked three times, rushed 15 times for a net 47 yards and two TDs.
- His 419 passing yards vs. New Mexico State marked the 12th-highest single-game total in school history. He is the first 400-yard passer since Andre' Woodson threw for 430 vs. Tennessee in 2007.
- Against Louisville, he had four rushing touchdowns, tying the school record and earning national honors from both College Football Performance and Manning Award. He became the **ONLY** quarterback in the nation to be named The Manning Award Quarterback of the Week twice.
- In his UK debut, he passed for 367 yards and four scores. List of QBs since 2000 to have at least 350 passing yards with at least 4 passing TDs and at least a 65% completion percentage in a victory in his first career start at an SEC school: J.T. Daniels, Georgia vs. Miss. St. (2020) and **Will Levis, vs. ULM (2021)**.



**IT'S A WAN'DERFUL LIFE**

- The Cats scored big in the offseason when Nebraska transfer **Wan'Dale Robinson**, a Frankfort, Kentucky native, transferred back to the Commonwealth.
- He has 94 catches this season, setting a new Kentucky single-season record. He surpassed James Whalen's 90 (1999).
- He has 1,164 receiving yards, the second-most in a season in school history.
- He was named First-Team All-SEC by Pro Football Focus and Phil Steele and Second-Team All-SEC by both the coaches and Associated Press.
- Through 12 games, Robinson ranks sixth nationally and second in the SEC with 7.8 rpg.
- He is 17th nationally and second in the SEC in receiving yards per game (97.0), and seventh in the SEC in all-purpose yards per game (107.9). He currently has 11 plays of 30+ yards.
- He has five 100-yard games this season, tied with James Whalen (1999) for second place on the UK single-season list.
- Robinson has two games with at least 12 receptions. He joins Randall Cobb as the only two players in school history to have multiple games in their career with at least 12 receptions.

Games w/ 12+ Receptions (career)

- Wan'Dale Robinson - 2
- Randall Cobb - 2

Games w/ 9+ Receptions (career)

- James Whalen - 6
- Craig Yeast - 5
- Wan'Dale Robinson - 4**
- Keenan Burton - 4
- Anthony White - 4

- Against Tennessee, he set career highs with 13 receptions for 166 yards. The 13 catches ties for second-most in a game in UK history, most since Lynn Bowden Jr. at Missouri in 2018.
- He became the first UK player with at least nine catches in three straight games since Anthony White in 1998.
- Robinson showed he was worth all the hype in the opener vs. ULM, hauling in a pair of touchdown receptions as he roasted the coverage on his way to 125 yards on five catches.
- With an 111-yard performance in week three, he became the first Wildcat to have three-straight 100-yard receiving games since Derek Abney in 2001 and the first ever to have three-straight 100-yard receiving games to begin a season.
- Against New Mexico State he caught eight passes for a career-best 181 yards. The 181 yards is the fourth-highest single-game total in school history and most since Craig Yeast's school-record 269 vs. Vanderbilt in 1998.

**HOT C-ROD**

- Junior RB **Chris Rodriguez Jr.** has 1,272 rushing yards this season and is one of the nation's top running backs. The total ranks seventh on UK's single-season rushing list.
- By surpassing 1,000 rushing yards in 2021 he becomes the 10th Wildcat to have a 1,000-

**2021 CAT SCRATCHES**

- Father, Dale, played football at WKU

**FRESHMAN • OL • PAUL RODRIGUEZ**

- Mother, Wendy, played softball and basketball at Davis & Elkins College from 1985-89

**R-FRESHMAN • WR • EARNEST SANDERS**

- Father, Earnest, was a strong safety at Michigan from 1993-95

**SOPHOMORE • S • VITO TISDALE**

- Son of "Big V" the co-founder and former member of the Southern rap quartet from Louisville, Kentucky, Nappy Roots

**SOPHOMORE • DB • CARRINGTON VALENTINE**

- Sister, Shala, played basketball at UMass Lowell and brother, Jerrick, played soccer at Bellermine
- Spent most of his football career as a WR before switching to DB as a junior in HS

**JUNIOR • FB • JACK VARGA**

- Comes from a tennis family as dad, John, uncle Andrew Varga, uncle Paul Varga and aunt, Julie Hale, all played tennis at UK

**SOPHOMORE • OLB • J.J. WEAVER**

- Has six functioning fingers on his right hand
- Played high school football in Louisville but grew up in Broward County, Florida

**FRESHMAN • TE • JAI WILLIAMS**

- Father, James, also known as "Big Cat," played 12 seasons (1991-2003), mostly as an offensive tackle, with the Chicago Bears and is known as one of the "100 Greatest Bears of All-Time"

**SOPHOMORE • DB • JOEL WILLIAMS**

- Father, Joseph, was a tight end at Grambling State from 1983-86 and went on to play with the Pittsburgh Steelers for two seasons

**JUNIOR • C • QUINTIN WILSON**

- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in management ... Completed his bachelor's degree in two and one-half years with the help of advanced placement credits earned in high school
- Didn't start playing football until his freshman year of high school

**FRESHMAN • ILB • MARTEZ THROWER**

- Sister, Tionne Wallace, is a Private First Class in the U.S. Army

**FRESHMAN • OL • DAVID WOHLABAUGH JR.**

- Father, Dave, played at Syracuse and went on to a nine-year NFL career with New England (1995-98), Cleveland (1999-2002) and St. Louis (2003) ... Also a member of the 1995 All-Rookie Team, played in the 1997 Super Bowl, and started all 128 games of his NFL career ... Teammate with former Kentucky quarterback Tim Couch with the Cleveland Browns
- Brother, Jack, is currently a center at Duke
- Played hockey (defense) as a young child until his sophomore year of high school

**SENIOR • OLB • JORDAN WRIGHT**

- Older sister, Kayla, played basketball at Nova Southeastern, while cousin, RaiQuan Gray, currently plays basketball at Florida State, and another cousin, Kenneth Ruff, was a defensive lineman at Syracuse



yard season. It has only been accomplished 14 times in total in the history of UK Football.

- He is second in the SEC and is 12th nationally with 106.0 yards per game and fifth in the SEC in all-purpose yards (110.7).
- His eight 100-yard rushing games in 2021 are tied for the single-season school record with Artose Pinner’s eight in 2002.
- He currently has rushed for 100 yards or more in four consecutive games, tying for the third-longest streak in school history.
- Named to First-Team All-SEC by the Associated Press and Second-Team Coaches All-SEC.
- He has 2,633 career rushing yards, seventh place in school history and is the 10th player in school history to reach 2,000 career yards.
- Rodriguez rushed for a touchdown in five consecutive games, second-longest streak in school history, before seeing it end vs. Chattanooga.
- He has 25 career rushing touchdowns, tied for fourth-most in school history and just one behind Moe Williams and Sonny Collins (26) for second-most.
- He ranks third in yards per carry for his career (min. 200) at 6.63.
- He has 14 career 100-yard rushing games, third-most in school history.
- He has had only 12 of his 397 career carries go for negative yardage, a staggering testament to his ability to hit the hole and grind out yards.
- He set new career highs with 27 carries for 207 yards vs. Missouri, breaking the UK record for most rushing yards in an SEC opener. He earned Co-SEC Offensive Player of the Week honors.

**SIMPLY STOOPS-ENDOUS**

UK head coach Mark Stoops has proven to be an excellent hire, turning around a struggling program and making him the first UK coach to lead the program to a sixth consecutive bowl appearance. He also has erased a number of the long-standing hurdles and streaks in the program’s history. The accomplishments include, but aren’t limited to:

- First New Year’s Day bowl win since 1951 (2018)
- First 10-win season since 1977 (2018)
- First winning SEC record since 1977 (2018)
- First SEC Coach of the Year since 1983 (2018)
- First ranking in the final AP Poll since 1984 (2018)
- First bowl win since 2008 season (2018)
- First win at Florida since 1979 (2018)
- Ended 31-game losing streak to Florida (2018) and followed up by ending a 35-year home drought against the Gators on Oct. 2, 2021.
- First win at Tennessee since 1984 (2020)
- Stoops is the first UK coach to defeat Florida and Tennessee both home and away since Fran Curci (1976, 1977).
- Eight-game winning streak (2020-21), fifth-longest in school history and longest in 44 years, since a 10-game streak in the 1977 season.
- Stoops currently holds school records for most games coached (111), most home wins (41), total SEC wins (29).
- Stoops was named one of 16 head coaches named to the Dodd Trophy Midseason Watch List by the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Foundation and Peach Bowl, Inc. He also was on the American Heart Association’s 2021 Paul “Bear” Bryant Coach of the Year Award watch list.
- After two games of the 2016 season, his record was 12-26 but he has gone 46-27 (.630) since. Overall, Stoops is now 58-53 at Kentucky and

**WARFORD ELECTED TO UK ATHLETICS HOF**

The University of Kentucky Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2021 was announced in June of 2021, with Bettie Lou Evans (women’s golf), Kendra Harrison (women’s track and field), Nazr Mohammed (men’s basketball), **Larry Warford (football)**, Bob Whelan (men’s track and field/cross country) and Arin Gilliland Wright (women’s soccer) chosen for induction.

The new Hall of Famers were inducted on Thursday, Nov. 4, during Hall of Fame Weekend. They were joined by the 2020 class that could not be honored last year because of Covid precautions – Chanda Bell (softball), Sawyer Carroll (baseball), Ron Mercer (men’s basketball), AJ Reed (baseball), **Danny Trevathan (football)** and Wayne Turner (men’s basketball).

**Larry Warford, Football (2009-12)**

One of the greatest offensive linemen in Kentucky history went on to an outstanding career in the NFL ... Helped UK to two bowl games ... Did not allow a quarterback sack and graded over 90% during his senior year ... Earned all-star recognition all four years at UK ... Earned All-America Third Team honors as a senior from Associated Press and Phil Steele’s College Football ... All-SEC First Team as a senior by ESPN.com and CBSsports.com ... All-SEC Second Team as a junior and sophomore ... Named to the Sophomore All-America Team by College Football News ... Freshman All-SEC by league coaches ... Seven-year NFL career with Detroit and New Orleans ... Pro Bowl selection in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

<b>1998</b> 1. Dec. 2, Kirk Ferentz, Iowa	6. Dec. 22, Troy Calhoun, AF	<b>2012</b> 11. Nov. 27, Mark Stoops, UK 12. Dec. 1, Dave Doeren, N.C. State
<b>2004</b> 2. Dec. 9, Kyle Whittingham, Utah	<b>2007</b> 7. Jan. 3, Nick Saban, Alabama 8. Dec. 8, Ken Niumatalolo, Navy	
<b>2005</b> 3. Jan. 3, Mike Gundy, Okla. State 4. Dec. 12, Rick Stockstill, MT	<b>2008</b> 9. Oct. 13, Dabo Swinney, Clemson	
<b>2006</b> 5. July 7, Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern	<b>2011</b> 10. Jan. 13, David Shaw, Stanford	

is nearing Paul “Bear” Bryant’s school-record 60 victories.

- Off the field, Stoops is a staunch supporter of the Kentucky Children’s Hospital, helping raise more than \$500,000 annually for the kids
- Kentucky’s football team has fared well academically under Stoops, as each year UK’s football score in the NCAA Academic Progress Rate has been well above the benchmark of 930.
- Stoops is the second-longest tenured coach in the SEC behind Alabama’s Nick Saban. He is the 11th-longest tenured coach in the nation (see chart above).

**Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History**

1. 60 Paul “Bear” Bryant (1946-53)
- 2. 58 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)**
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-81)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)  
41 Blanton Collier (1954-61)
6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-09)





TOP 25 POLLS

2021 ASSOCIATED PRESS POLL

- 1 Alabama
2 Michigan
3 Georgia
4 Cincinnati
5 Notre Dame
6 Baylor
7 Ohio State
8 Ole Miss
9 Oklahoma State
10 Utah
11 Michigan State
12 BYU
13 Pittsburgh
14 Oklahoma
15 Oregon
16 Louisiana
17 Iowa
18 NC State
19 Clemson
20 Wake Forest
21 Houston
22 Arkansas
23 Texas A&M
24 UTSA
25 KENTUCKY

UK and UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Mississippi State 4

2021 USA TODAY AFCA COACHES POLL

- 1 Alabama
2 Michigan
3 Georgia
4 Cincinnati
5 Notre Dame
6 Baylor
7 Ohio State
8 Ole Miss
9 Oklahoma State
10 Michigan State
11 Utah
12 Pittsburgh
13 Oklahoma
14 BYU
15 Oregon
16 Iowa
17 Louisiana
18 NC State
19 Wake Forest
20 KENTUCKY
21 Houston
22 Clemson
23 Texas A&M
24 Arkansas
25 UTSA

UK and UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Mississippi State 2

KENTUCKY IN THE POLLS

Table with 4 columns: DATE, AP, COACHES, BCS. Rows include Preseason, Week 2-13, and Pre-bowls.

Most Career SEC Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 29 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
2. 25 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
3. 22 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-53)

Most Career Home Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 41 Mark Stoops (2013-present)
2. 33 Paul Bryant (1946-53)
3. 32 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)

Most Wins by an Active FBS Coach - All at The Same School

- 1. 149 Dabo Swinney Clemson
2. 148 Mike Gundy Oklahoma St.
3. 144 Kyle Whittingham Utah
4. 110 Troy Calhoun Air Force
5. 109 Pat Fitzgerald Northwestern
6. 104 Ken Niumatalolo Navy
7. 100 Rick Stockstill Middle Tenn.
8. 93 David Shaw Stanford
9. 64 Kirby Smart Georgia
10. 58 Mark Stoops Kentucky

THE BLOCK OF JOSHUA

- Senior defensive end Josh Paschal's story is well-chronicled, his return from cancer a remarkable testament to his courage and perseverance. But focusing solely on that would do a disservice to his on-field exploits.
The All-American and Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year finalist has an incredible stat line this season that reads: 53 tackles, a team-high 15.5 tackles for loss, 5.5 sacks, a team-high eight quarterback hurries, one forced fumble and a blocked kick.
He was named Second-Team All-America by CBS Sports and USA Today and First-Team All-SEC by The Associated Press. He also excels in the classroom, earning Academic All-America Second Team by CoSIDA.
"The most underappreciated defensive player in the SEC" as described by SEC Network analyst Gene Chizik.
Ranks second in the SEC and 16th nationally in tackles for loss (15.5).
Has a TFL in 10 of 12 games, and eight in a row. The eight games in a row is tied for the second-longest streak in school history dating to 1980.
Has six or more tackles in six games.

2022 SCHEDULE

Table with 2 columns: DATE, OPPONENT. Rows include Sept. 3 MIAMI (OHIO), Sept. 10 at Florida\*, Sept. 17 YOUNGSTOWN STATE, Sept. 24 NORTHERN ILLINOIS, Oct. 1 at Ole Miss\*, Oct. 8 SOUTH CAROLINA\*, Oct. 15 MISSISSIPPI STATE\*, Oct. 22 Open, Oct. 29 at Tennessee\*, Nov. 5 at Missouri\*, Nov. 12 VANDERBILT\*, Nov. 19 GEORGIA\*, Nov. 26 LOUISVILLE

- His 37.0 tackles for loss in his career ranks tied for third at UK.
Paschal played perhaps the game of his life in the Cats' win over No. 10 Florida, highlighted by a blocked field goal that teammate Trevin Wallace caught and returned 76 yards for a go-ahead touchdown in the third quarter.
It was Kentucky's first blocked field goal returned for a touchdown since David Jones had a 57-yard blocked field goal return against Vanderbilt in 2008.
It is Paschal's third blocked kick of his career, also a blocked punt vs. Eastern Michigan in 2017 and blocked punt vs. Tennessee in 2019.
Paschal currently has the Cats' most recent blocked field goal and punt.

"BIG BLUE WALL" NAMED FINALIST FOR THE JOE MOORE AWARD

- The Kentucky offensive line was one of four units named as a semifinalist for the Joe Moore Award, recognizing the Most Outstanding Offensive Line Unit in college football.
It's the fourth consecutive season that the Kentucky offensive line, known as the "Big Blue Wall," has been recognized by the award for its work in the trenches.
Behind Kentucky's talented "Big Blue Wall," running back Chris Rodriguez Jr. ranks second in the Southeastern Conference and 12th nationally at 106.0 rushing yards per game. He has totaled 1,272 yards and tied a school record with eight 100-yard rushing games this season.
UK linemen, led by offensive line coach Eric Wolford and graduate assistant coach Ryan Finck, were chosen SEC Offensive





## WE'RE GOING STREAKIN'

Kentucky has extended its non-conference winning streak to 15 games, tied for the longest active streak in FBS with Vrbo Citrus Bowl opponent Iowa.

Streak	Last Defeat
15 - Kentucky	Dec. 29, 2017 vs. Northwestern

15 - Iowa Jan. 1, 2017 vs. Florida

UK also is tied for the third-longest active bowl winning streak with three straight victories:

Streak	Team
6	Appalachian State
4	Texas
3	Kentucky, Iowa, Texas A&M

Lineman of the Week five times this season.

- All totaled, the Wildcats have 119 combined starts on the offensive line. Senior right tackle Darian Kinnard has started in 38 consecutive games, while super senior Luke Fortner has started in 35 straight games, including the last 12 at center.
- UK led the SEC in rushing yards per carry with a 5.51 average.
- Kinnard earned the SEC's prestigious Jacobs Blocking Trophy, just the second time a UK player has won the top blocking award since its inception in 1935 (also Warren Bryant in 1976.)
- Kinnard also was named one of six semifinalists for the Outland Trophy, given to the nation's top interior lineman.

## HORSEY NAMED TO ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM

- Junior offensive guard Kenneth Horsey was one of 22 student-athletes, including one of just 11 football players from the FBS, to be named to the 2021 Allstate American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Good Works Team®. The team honors football players for their dedication to community service and the positive impact they have made on the lives of others.
- Horsey, was the 2020 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year, has a remarkable comeback story that has inspired his community service work for heart health.

- In the spring of 2018, before he was to arrive at Kentucky for his freshman season, he was complaining of a pain in his side. His parents rushed him to the emergency room where doctors ultimately found a growth on one of his heart valves. He went through open-heart surgery on April 8, 2018 and was even told by a few doctors that his football career was over. However, Horsey would not be deterred. He came to Kentucky and redshirted the 2018 season with a goal of earning a starting spot on Kentucky's offensive line, affectionately known as the "Big Blue Wall." In 2019, he saw action in four games and continued to train and prepare his body for the rigors of the Southeastern Conference. Since his surgery in 2018, he has lost 50 pounds and because of his hard work and dedication, has earned the starting left guard spot on the "Big Blue Wall." He started in eight games played in 2020, helping the Wildcats rank fifth in the Southeastern Conference in rushing offense (187.4) and is the current starter at left guard on the 2021 squad.
- Because of his heart condition and how supported he felt through his surgery and recovery, he began volunteering with the Lexington chapter of the American Heart Association in 2020. In September, Horsey was even awarded the Finn Collier Service Award by the AHA in recognition of his work to support its lifesaving mission – to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.
- Horsey coordinated and planned a hands-only CPR training for the UK Football team and staff in the spring of 2021 and helped plan a Hands-Only CPR media availability on June 14 that promoted Hands-Only CPR awareness to the media for CPR Awareness Month.
- Kentucky has the second-most honorees on the national Good Works Team with 17. Horsey is the fifth player under head coach Mark Stoops to be named to the prestigious team, including the third straight - Landon Young, 2019; Luke Fortner, 2020. He's also the third straight offensive lineman named to the team.

## THREE CATS NAMED COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS

- Three players - Colin Goodfellow, Luke Fortner and Josh Paschal - were voted to the CoSIDA Academic All-America Second

## WHERE ARE THE COACHES?

### SIDELINE

Mark Stoops, Head Coach  
Liam Coen, Offensive Coordinator, QBs  
Vince Marrow, Assoc. Head Coach, Tight Ends  
John Settle, Running Backs  
Chris Collins, Defensive Backs  
Anwar Stewart, Defensive Line  
Jon Sumrall, Co-Defensive Coordinator, ILBs  
Brad White, Defensive Coordinator, OLBs  
Eric Wolford, Offensive Line

### PRESS BOX

Frank Buffano, Safeties  
Scott Woodward, Wide Receivers

Team, which recognizes the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on and off the field.

- The six All-District selections tied with Cincinnati for the most on the All-District Team. They were: Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald (DL), Luke Fortner (OL), Collin Goodfellow (P), Josh Paschal (DL), Matt Ruffolo (K) and Quintin Wilson (OL).

## COACHING CHANGES; NEW ROLES

- Liam Coen was named Kentucky's new offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach on Dec. 14. Coen spent the last three years with the Los Angeles Rams, 2018 and '19 as the assistant wide receivers coach before being named assistant quarterbacks coach prior to the 2020 season.
- Eric Wolford was named UK's new offensive line coach on Dec. 16, 2020, coming to UK with 25 years of coaching experience at the collegiate and NFL levels. He spent the past four seasons at South Carolina.
- John Settle was announced as UK's new running backs coach/co-special teams coordinator on March 15, 2021. Settle comes to the Bluegrass after 11 overall seasons between two stints at Wisconsin, the second one starting in 2015. Settle will coach the special teams unit with safeties coach Frank Buffano.
- Chris Collins was named UK's new defensive backs coach on June 3, 2021. He came to Kentucky after four seasons (2017-20) as the safeties coach at Georgia State.
- Jon Sumrall added an additional title to his resume as co-defensive coordinator/inside linebackers coach. Sumrall was named head coach at Troy on Dec. 2, but will rejoin the Wildcats to help coach the bowl.





## HONORING THE CATS

### Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald

- CoSIDA Academic All-District First-Team

### Josh Ali

- Second-Team All-SEC (PR), Pro Football Focus
- Third-Team All-SEC (WR), Pro Football Focus

### Yusuf Corker

- Lott IMPACT Trophy Semifinalist
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
- Honorable Mention All-SEC (PFF)

### Eli Cox

- Midseason All-America (AP, ESPN)
- SEC co-Offensive Lineman of Week (Oct. 10)

### Luke Fortner

- East-West Shrine Game
- First-Team All-SEC (Coaches)
- Second-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele, PFF)
- CoSIDA Academic All-American Second Team
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team
- William V. Campbell Trophy semifinalist
- SEC Offensive Lineman of Week (Sept. 27)
- SEC co-Offensive Lineman of Week (Sept. 7)

### Collin Goodfellow

- CoSIDA Academic All-American Second Team
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First-Team

### Kenneth Horsey

- Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
- Wuerffel Trophy Watch List
- American Heart Association Finn Collier Award
- Honorable Mention All-SEC, Pro Football Focus
- SEC Community Service Team

### Jacquez Jones

- Walter Camp National FBS Defensive Player of the Week (Week 5)
- SEC co-Defensive Player of Week (Oct. 3)

### Darian Kinnard

- Outland Trophy Semifinalist
- Jacobs Blocking Trophy (SEC)
- Reese's Senior Bowl All-American Team
- First-Team All-America (AFCA, AP, FWAA, Walter Camp, Phil Steele, CBS Sports, Reese's Senior Bowl)
- Second-Team All-American (The Sporting News, PFF, The Athletic, USA Today)
- First-Team All-SEC (AP, PFF, Coaches, Phil Steele, USA Today Network)
- SEC Offensive Lineman of Week (Nov. 29)
- SEC co-Offensive Lineman of Week (Nov. 15)
- Midseason All-America (CBS Sports, Sporting News, The Athletic)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

### Will Levis

- Davey O'Brien QB Class of 2021
- The Manning Award "QB of the Week" (Week 12)
- Manning "Star of the Week" (Week 12)
- CFPA National Performer of Week, Honorable Mention (Week 12)
- Walter Camp National FBS Offensive Player of the Week (Week 6)
- Davey O'Brien Award Great 8 (Week 6)
- The Manning Award "QB of the Week" (Week 1)
- Manning "Star of the Week" (Week 1)

### Marquan McCall

- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

### Octavious Oxendine

- SEC co-Defensive Lineman of Week (Oct. 10)

### Josh Paschal

- Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year finalist
- Second-Team All-American (CBS/247Sports, USA Today)
- Fourth-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
- First-Team All-SEC (Associated Press)
- Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches, PFF)

- Assistant strength and conditioning coach Rafael Horton returned to the Bluegrass after two seasons at West Virginia. Horton was previously at UK from 2013-15.
- Eddie Gran, former UK assistant head coach, offensive coordinator and running backs coach, returned to the program on Sept. 17 as a special assistant to the head coach, an off-the-field role.

## PRIDE OF THE OCEAN STATE

- They are Kentuckians now but UK offensive coordinator Liam Coen and defensive coordinator Brad White most certainly spend some time reminiscing on their early football days at rival Rhode Island high schools. One thing is for sure, the odds of a Power Five school in the southeast having a pair of coordinators from the smallest state in the nation would have been astronomical.
- Coen, who is four years White's junior, is from Warwick, R.I., played at LaSalle Academy while White, a Portsmouth native, played at rival Bishop Hendricken.
- The oddity wasn't lost on the coaches: "How about that? I think there's about three or four in the NFL or Division I football, so there's not many," Coen said of high-level coordinators. "Small world, man. Such a small world, how these things work out."

## UK TAKES ADVANTAGE OF NCAA TRANSFER PORTAL WITH SEVEN ADDITIONS

- Head coach Mark Stoops took advantage of the NCAA Transfer Portal to fulfill needs in key positions for the 2021 season and beyond, welcoming seven new Wildcats to the program in 2021: Justice Dingle II - Jr. - OLB - Georgia Tech  
Luke Fulton - So. - ILB - Michigan State  
Jacquez Jones - Sr. - ILB - Ole Miss  
Will Levis - Jr. - QB - Penn State  
Tre'Von Morgan - WR - Michigan State  
Wan'Dale Robinson Jr. - WR - Nebraska  
Dare Rosenthal - Jr. - OT - LSU

## CATS IN THE NFL DRAFT

- Kentucky had six NFL Draft picks in the 2021 NFL Draft - Jamin Davis (1st - Washington); Kelvin Joseph (2nd - Cowboys); Quinton Bohanna (6th - Cowboys); Brandin Echols (6th - Jets);

## HONORING THE CATS

- Reese's Senior Bowl Defensive Player of the Week (Oct. 3)
- SEC co-Special Teams Player of Week (Oct. 3)
- CoSIDA Academic All-American Second Team
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

### Wan'Dale Robinson

- Second-Team All-America (PFF)
- First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele, PFF)
- Second-Team All-SEC (AP, Coaches)
- Paul Hornung Award Watch List
- Biletnikoff Award Watch List

### Chris Rodriguez Jr.

- First-Team All-SEC (AP, USA Today Network)
- Second-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele, Coaches)
- Honorable Mention All-SEC (PFF)
- Co-SEC Offensive Player of the Week (Sept. 14)
- CFPA HM National Performer of the Week
- On3's SEC Player of the Week (Week2)
- College Sports Madness Offensive SEC Player of the Week (Week 2)
- Maxwell Trophy Watch List
- Doak Walker Award Watch List

### Dare Rosenthal

- Third-Team All-SEC, Pro Football Focus

### Matt Ruffolo

- CoSIDA Academic All-District First-Team
- Lou Groza Award Watch List
- Burlsworth Trophy Watch List

### DeAndre Square

- Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

### Trevin Wallace

- Freshman All-SEC (Coaches)
- SEC Freshman of the Week (Nov. 1)

### J.J. Weaver

- Third-team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Capital One Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award nominee
- Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award

### Quintin Wilson

- CoSIDA Academic All-District First-Team

Landon Young (6th - Saints); Phil Hoskins (7th - Panthers). All six made the initial 53-man rosters.

- The six picks are the tied for the fourth-most in school history and the most since 1979 (eight). Five of the six picks were defensive players.
- The six picks are the most for Kentucky since the current seven-round draft era began in 1994.
- It marked the second time in the last three years that Kentucky had five or more draft picks (five in 2019).
- For the second time in the last three years, Kentucky had a first- and second-round pick in Jamin Davis, first round and Kelvin Joseph, second round. Prior to that, you have to go back 42 years to find two UK picks in the first two rounds (Warren Bryant and Randy Burke, first round 1977).



- In total, 18 players have been drafted under head coach Mark Stoops, including 12 defensive players in Avery Williamson, Bud Dupree, Za'Darius Smith, Josh Forrest, Josh Allen, Lonnie Johnson, Mike Edwards, Jamin Davis, Kelvin Joseph, Quinton Bohanna, Brandin Echols.

### KENTUCKY'S YOUNGSTOWN BOYS

- A neighbor of Pittsburgh, a.k.a. Steel City USA, Youngstown, Ohio has a reputation as a blue collar community defined by hard work and relationships forged over generations that are stronger than steel. Kentucky's football program is, in many ways, defined by that bond as it creates a southern alumni club from Youngstown, the hometown of head coach Mark Stoops and several other key members of the program. Below is a list of staffers and players from Youngstown, Ohio

**Mark Stoops** - Head Coach (Cardinal Mooney), **Vince Marrow** - Recruiting Coord./Tight Ends (Cardinal Mooney), **Frank Buffano** - Safeties (Cardinal Mooney), **Courtney Love** - Dir. of Player Development (Cardinal Mooney), **Eric Wolford** - Offensive Line (Ursuline), **Luke Fulton** - Sophomore, inside linebacker (Cardinal Mooney)

### UK ALUMNUS TIM COUCH INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HOF/LISTED ON COLLEGE FOOTBALL HOF BALLOT

- Former UK quarterback Tim Couch was one of seven athletes inducted into the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) National High School Hall of Fame on July 1 in Orlando. Couch has also been named to the 2022 ballot for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. That announcement will be made in early 2022.
- During his football career at Leslie County High School in Hyden, Kentucky in the mid-1990s, Couch set three national career passing records – 872 completions, 12,104 yards and 133 touchdowns. He helped Leslie County to a 13-1 record as a junior while completing an amazing 75 percent of his passes – a national record that stood for 15 years. As a senior, he passed for 42 touchdowns and led his team to an 11-3 mark, and he was named Gatorade and USA Today National Player of the Year while earning Mr. Football honors in Kentucky. ESPN.com selected Couch the sixth-best high school athlete in history. Couch was equally dominant on the basketball court. He scored 3,023 points in his career, leading the state in scoring as a senior at 37 points per game. He was two-time all-state in basketball. Couch's football prowess continued at the University of Kentucky, where he passed for 8,159 yards and 73 touchdowns in his final two seasons. He led Kentucky to the Outback Bowl after his junior season and was fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting. Couch was the No. 1 pick in the 1999 NFL draft by the Cleveland Browns and passed for more than 11,000 yards and 64 touchdowns in his five years with the Browns.

### OFFENSIVE QUICK HITTERS

- Excitement is in the air as the Cats' new offense scheme, directed by offensive coordinator Liam Coen, has taken shape this season. The former quarterbacks coach for the Los Angeles Rams brings a pro-style offense to the Bluegrass and it's a welcomed change. UK threw just 243 passes for 1,336 yards last season, ranking 14th in the SEC in passing offense.

## CATS IN THE PROS

A total of 20 former Kentucky Wildcats are currently on National Football League rosters/practice squads with additional players in the CFL. Here is the list, along with their years at UK (as of Nov. 14, 2021):

**Arizona Cardinals**  
Corey Peters, DT (2006-09)

**Baltimore Ravens**  
Chris Westry, DB (2015-17)

**Carolina Panthers**  
Phil Hoskins, DT (2017-18, 2020)

**Chicago Bears**  
Danny Trevathan, LB (2008-11)

**Dallas Cowboys**  
Quinton Bohanna, NT (2017-20)  
Kelvin Joseph, CB (2020)

**Denver Broncos**  
Avery Williamson, LB (2010-13) - Practice Squad

**Detroit Lions**  
Logan Stenberg, OG (2016-19)

**Green Bay Packers**  
Randall Cobb, WR (2008-10)  
Za'Darius Smith, OLB (2013-14)

**Houston Texans**  
Lonnie Johnson Jr., CB (2017-18)

**Jacksonville Jaguars**  
Josh Allen, DE/LB (2015-18) - Team captain

**Miami Dolphins**  
Lynn Bowden Jr., RB (2017-19)

**Minnesota Vikings**  
A.J. Rose, RB (2017-20) - Practice Squad

**New Orleans Saints**  
Landon Young, OT (2016-17, 19-20)

**New York Jets**  
Brandin Echols, CB (2019-20)

**Pittsburgh Steelers**  
Benny Snell Jr., RB (2016-18)

**Tampa Bay Buccaneers**  
Mike Edwards, S (2015-2018)

**Tennessee Titans**  
Bud Dupree, OLB (2011-14)

**Washington Football Team**  
Jamin Davis, ILB (2018-20)

### OTHER CATS IN NFL ROLES

**Chicago Bears, Assistant Dir. of Player Personnel**  
Champ Kelly, WR/DB (1998-2001)

**San Francisco 49ers, Director of Player Engagement**  
Austin Moss, DE (2006-09)

**Las Vegas Raiders, Assistant Dir. of Pro Personnel**  
Quentus Cumby, DB (1999-02)

### CATS IN THE CFL

Cory Johnson, Micah Johnson, Chris Matthews, E.J. Price, Kayaune Ross, Jordan Swindle and Stanley "Boom" Williams





- UK's offense is built around a solid group of six offensive starters which includes "super seniors" wide receiver Josh Ali, offensive guard Luke Fortner and tight end Justin Rigg. Also returning is wide receiver DeMarcus Harris, offensive guard Kenneth Horsey and preseason All-America tackle Darian Kinnard.
- Leading returning rusher Chris Rodriguez Jr. is UK's most productive offensive threat from a year ago. He finished fifth in the SEC in rushing in 2020 with 119 rushes for 785 yards (87.2 ypg) in just nine games. He's currently the SEC's second-leading rusher with 106.0 yards per game.
- The "Big Blue Wall" returns three starters from 2020 in Darian Kinnard, Kenneth Horsey and Luke Fortner. Through 12 games this season the entirety of the line has 119 combined career starts and recently was named a semifinalist for the Joe Moore Award for the third straight season.
- Kentucky scored 42 points against LSU and Tennessee, the first time in UK history that the Wildcats scored at least 42 points against two Southeastern Conference opponents in the same season.

## QUARTERBACKS

- During Stoops' tenure, the Wildcats have had nine different starting quarterbacks win a game in Jalen Whitlow, Maxwell Smith, Patrick Towles, Drew Barker, Stephen Johnson, Luke Wright, Lynn Bowden Jr., Terry Wilson and now Will Levis.
- Levis earned the starting spot early in fall camp and was sensational in his UK debut, passing for 367 yards and four scores. It was the most passing yards for a Wildcat in his debut and the most for any UK quarterback since Drew Barker in 2016.
- For more on Levis, see p. 8 of these notes.
- With starting lineups available since 1993, he is the first UK quarterback since that time to win his first six starts.
- Sophomore **Beau Allen** is the backup. He has played in three games this season, completing 8 of 12 passes for 92 yards while also running for a three-yard TD vs. NMSU.

## WIDE RECEIVERS

- Kentucky has 19 total wide receivers this fall, and it includes a mix of experience and young talent. Twelve of the 19 are returners,

while seven are newcomers to the program.

- Three players had a 50+ yard reception vs. ULM in Josh Ali, Isaiah Epps and Wan'Dale Robinson). The last time UK had three different players with a 50+ yard reception in the same game was October 25, 2014 vs. Mississippi State (Javess Blue, Demarco Robinson and Ryan Timmons).
- UK had two 100-yard receivers against ULM, the first time that's happened since 2011 vs. Ole Miss (La'Rod King and Matt Roark). It happened again vs. New Mexico State.
- The top returning pass catcher from last season is **Josh Ali**. He currently has 131 career receptions for 1,447 yards and eight scores.
- He was a blur in the opener, going over 100 yards for the first time in his career while hauling in five balls for 136 yards and a score.
- In his final home game vs. New Mexico State, he caught seven balls for a career-high 164 yards and a career-best two touchdowns. He averaged 23.4 yards per catch in that game, second-highest in school history for a player with at least seven receptions. Dee Smith averaged 24.3 yards per catch (7 for 170) vs. Tennessee in 1987.
- Wan'Dale Robinson has proven to be every bit the home run threat the Cats thought they were getting when he transferred back home from Nebraska (see page 9 of this release). He ranks as one of the nation's most explosive playmakers.
- Wan'Dale Robinson went over 100 receiving yards in each of the first three games and has 111 yards on seven rushes. He had career bests with 13 catches for 166 yards vs. Tennessee, then bested the yardage total with 181 vs. New Mexico State.
- Robinson has six 100-yard games this season, one shy of the UK single-season record.
- His 94 receptions is a school record for a season and ranks fourth nationally in 2021.

## TIGHT ENDS

- The tight ends have played a role in the growth of the passing game this season. They have 43 catches for 378 yards and eight scores this season. Four tight ends have caught a pass.
- The tight ends were key blockers for UK's explosive running game last season, which averaged nearly 200 yards per game and ranked third in the SEC.
- Senior **Justin Rigg** is back after taking advantage of the NCAA's blanket eligibility waiver for all 2020 fall student-athletes due

## ON THE WATCH LISTS

### Yusuf Corker

- Lott IMPACT Trophy

### Luke Fortner

- Campbell Trophy
- Rimington Trophy

### Colin Goodfellow

- Ray Guy Award

### Kenneth Horsey

- Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
- Wuerffel Trophy

### Darian Kinnard

- Outland Trophy
- Lombardi Award

### Will Levis

- Davey O'Brien Award Midseason

### Josh Paschal

- Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year

### Chris Rodriguez Jr.

- Maxwell Trophy
- Doak Walker Award
- CFP National Performer of the Year

### Wan'Dale Robinson

- Paul Hornung Award
- Biletnikoff Award

### Matt Ruffolo

- Lou Groza Award
- Burlsworth Trophy

### J.J. Weaver

- Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year
- The Capital One Orange Bowl Courage Award

to COVID-19. Rigg has 48 career receptions for 536 yards and five scores, two of which came against New Mexico State on Senior Day 2021.

- UK received a huge blow when it was announced that junior **Keaton Upshaw** would miss the season due to injury. Upshaw had 16 catches for 198 yards and three TDs in 2020, both leading the tight end corps and ranking second on the team overall.
- In spring practice and preseason camp, coaches spoke very highly about junior **Brenden Bates** and he made them look prophetic as he caught his first UK touchdown with a four-yard score vs. ULM.
- Another addition to the room is sophomore **Izayah Cummings** who moved from wide receiver to tight end during fall camp and made an immediate impression at his new position, catching his first touchdown pass in the win over Chattanooga (31 yards). He also caught a TD in back-to-back games against Tennessee and Vanderbilt.

## RUNNING BACKS/FULLBACKS

- Veteran running backs coach John Settle was hired in March of 2021 after spending



the last six seasons and 11 years total at Wisconsin.

- The running back room features juniors **Chris Rodriguez Jr.** and **Kavosiey Smoke** most heavily but also can utilize youngsters **JuTahn McClain**, **La’Vell Wright** and **Mike Drennen**.
- Rodriguez got off to a great start with 125 yards and a touchdown in the season opener vs. ULM, his seventh career 100-yard game.
- He was even better in the SEC opener vs. Missouri, setting new career highs with 207 yards on 27 attempts and two touchdowns.
- Rodriguez now ranks seventh in school history with 2,633 rushing yards.
- Rodriguez has proven nearly impossible to bring down behind the line of scrimmage, having lost yardage on just 12 of his 397 career rushing attempts. In 2020, he lost yards on his first attempt of the season before starting a streak of 105 consecutive carries of positive yards.
- Rodriguez has scored a touchdown once every 15.9 rush attempts in his career (25 in 397 attempts). By comparison, UK all-time leading rusher and scorer Benny Snell Jr. hit paydirt once every 15.4 rush attempts.
- For more on Rodriguez, see page 9 of these notes.
- Smoke has played in 34 career games and has 1,306 yards. He currently averages 5.51 per carry. He had a career-high 104 yards in the win over LSU.

## OFFENSIVE LINE

- John Schlarman was Kentucky’s offensive line coach for eight seasons before passing away on Nov. 12, 2020 after a two-year battle with cancer.
- Eric Wolford was hired to replace Schlarman in December of 2020 after four seasons at South Carolina.
- The O-line, known as the “Big Blue Wall” returns three of five starters from 2020 in **Darian Kinnard**, **Kenneth Horsey** and **Luke Fortner**.
- The addition of LSU transfer **Za’Darius “Dare” Rosenthal** in July was a huge boost for the “Big Blue Wall.” The 6-foot-7, 327-pound offensive tackle played in 13 career games with eight career starts for the Tigers. He has started every game this season for UK at left tackle.
- Two big losses that needed replacing in 2021 are All-SEC center Drake Jackson and All-SEC left tackle Landon Young. Jackson started in



## RUNNING WILD

**A.J. ROSE, CHRIS RODRIGUEZ JR., BENNY SNELL JR. AND STANLEY “BOOM” WILLIAMS**

*THE QUARTET HAS PUT ITS STAMP ON KENTUCKY FOOTBALL OVER THE PAST EIGHT SEASONS, TURNING THE PROGRAM INTO “RUNNING BACK U” AS COACH MARK STOOPS HAS CREATED A PHYSICAL, AGGRESSIVE IDENTITY IN LEXINGTON. HELPED BY THE “BIG BLUE WALL” THE FOUR RUNNING BACKS ALL RANK IN THE TOP 11 IN CAREER RUSHING AT KENTUCKY, HAVING CHURNED OUT NEARLY 11,000 YARDS AND 104 TOUCHDOWNS ON THE GROUND.*

- 44 consecutive games at center, while Young was a starter at left tackle for 24 straight games.
- Kinnard (45 career games, 38 career starts) held down the right tackle position since he entered the starting lineup at the end of the 2018 season. He has been excellent in 2021, earning consensus All-America honors and being named one of six semifinalists for the coveted Outland Trophy.
- Fortner (54 career games, 35 career starts) is another “super senior” who provided the coaching staff with a late Christmas present when he announced he’d return for the 2021 season. He started in 10 games at right guard in 2020 and graded at 82.9 percent with 26 knockdowns and 146 blocks at the point of attack.
- Fortner moved to center for 2021 and is starting at that position. He already has been named SEC Offensive Lineman of the Week twice this season, following wins vs. ULM and at South Carolina. He earned first-team All-SEC honors by SEC Coaches.
- Horsey (24 career games, 20 career starts) manned the left guard spot last season, starting in eight games. An interesting note about Horsey - he had open-heart surgery in April of 2018 and was named winner of the 2020 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year. He graded at 82.6 percent, had 17 knockdowns and 93 blocks at the point of attack.
- Sophomore **Eli Cox** has emerged at right guard, earning Associated Press and ESPN Midseason All-America honors. He has been described as, pound-for-pound, perhaps the strongest player on the team. He made first collegiate start in the opener vs. ULM. Against Missouri, he scored the game-winning touchdown by recovering a fumble in the end zone. Unfortunately, Cox sustained an injury against Tennessee and will miss the final three games of the season, plus the bowl game.
- The “Big Blue Wall,” along with UK tight ends, have helped Kentucky post six consecutive seasons of 2,000 or more



## 2021 TEAM CAPTAINS

Eight Wildcats – including six seniors – were voted as team captains for the 2021 football campaign. **Senior defensive end Josh Paschal becomes the first player in school history to be elected team captain three straight seasons.** Along with Paschal, the team’s permanent season captains include returning captains Josh Ali, Yusuf Corker, DeAndre Square, and first-time captains Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Will Levis and Chris Rodriguez Jr. Game captains will be decided on a week-by-week basis. They are listed below.

vs. ULM . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square  
 vs. Missouri . . . . . Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Josh Paschal, Chris Rodriguez Jr.  
 vs. Chattanooga . . . . . Josh Ali, Yusuf Corker, Luke Fortner, Josh Paschal  
 at South Carolina . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Marquan McCall, Josh Paschal  
 vs. Florida . . . . . Luke Fortner, Josh Paschal, Chris Rodriguez Jr., DeAndre Square  
 vs. LSU . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square  
 at Georgia . . . . . Yusuf Corker, Luke Fortner, Josh Paschal, Chris Rodriguez Jr.  
 at Mississippi State . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square  
 vs. Tennessee . . . . . Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Josh Paschal, Chris Rodriguez Jr.  
 at Vanderbilt . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square  
 vs. New Mexico State . . . . . Josh Ali, Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Josh Paschal  
 at Louisville . . . . . Luke Fortner, Will Levis, Marquan McCall, Josh Paschal

rushing yards, with at least one 1,000-yard individual in five of those.  
 2016 - 3,044 (Stanley “Boom” Williams - 1,170; Benny Snell Jr. - 1,091)  
 2017 - 2,102 (Benny Snell Jr. - 1,333)  
 2018 - 2,592 (Benny Snell Jr. - 1,449)  
 2019 - 3,624 (Lynn Bowden Jr. - 1,468)  
 2020 - 2,158  
 2021 - 2,473 (Chris Rodriguez Jr. - 1,272)

### DEFENSIVE QUICK HITTERS

- Defensive coordinator Brad White is in his third season as the defensive coordinator, his fourth as the outside linebackers coach at UK. Also helping with the coordinator duties is former Wildcat and inside linebackers coach Jon Sumrall. He added co-defensive coordinator title to his resume in 2020.
- Guided by defensive coordinator Brad White, UK is 10th in the FBS in fourth down defense (38.7%), 36th in tackles for loss (6.4 per game) and 25th in total defense (336.4).
- Kentucky is 17th nationally in rushing defense (117.2 per game).
- The depth and experience was on display in the opener as:
- The Kentucky defense limited ULM to 87 total yards. That’s the fewest in a game in 33 years, since holding Central Michigan to 78 total yards in the 1988 season opener.
- UK held ULM to 17 net rushing yards, fewest since Eastern Michigan had 13 rushing yards in 2017.
- Ten seniors started on defense against ULM. With starting lineups available since 1993, it is the most seniors starting on offense or defense in a season opener since that time.
- The Wildcats turned in a sterling defensive performance in the win at South Carolina

as well ... UK limited the Gamecocks to 10 points, 51 total plays, 58 net rushing yards (2.2 per attempt), 216 total yards, 3 of 12 on third-down conversions and 0 of 3 on fourth down ... UK turned it over three times against the Gamecocks but Wildcats held on all three of the ensuing possessions.

### DEFENSIVE LINE

- Former Wildcat Anwar Stewart is in his second season coaching the defensive line. His unit is a position of strength for UK despite losing two key starters in All-SEC nose guard Quinton Bohanna (Dallas Cowboys) and defensive tackle Phil Hoskins (Carolina Panthers).
- Returning senior **Josh Paschal** moved from outside linebacker to defensive end in 2020 and was a shining star in his new role.
- Paschal has 37 career TFL and 13.5 sacks, along with three blocked kicks. He ranks tied for third on the school’s all-time TFL list.
- This season, Paschal leads the team in tackles for loss (15.5) and quarterback hurries (8).
- He has earned second-team All-America and first-team All-SEC honors this season.
- Another senior who is playing a major role on the defensive line this season is **Marquan “Bully” McCall**. His mountainous force in the middle wreaks havoc on opponents. He currently has seven tackles, 3.5 for loss and two QBH this season. He missed three games because of an ankle injury. before returning at Vanderbilt.
- **Josaih Hayes** and **Justin Rogers** shared the noseguard position in McCall’s absence and each have shown flashes of their potential.
- **Octavius Oxendine** (2.0 sacks vs. LSU) emerged as the starting defensive tackle

but has been lost for the season because of injury. Senior **Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald** (2.0 sacks vs. Tennessee) has been starting in place of Oxendine.

### SECONDARY

- The secondary unit is in the hands of two of the most energetic and talented young coaches in Chris Collins and Frank Buffano.
- UK has ranked in the top four of the SEC in pass defense, including leading the league in both 2019 and 2020, for three straight seasons.
- UK also led the SEC and ranked third nationally in total interceptions (16) in 2020, eight coming from the secondary.
- Returning cornerbacks **Cedrick Dort, Jr.** (43 career games, 25 career starts) , and Carrington Valentine have starting experience under their belts.
- Another “super senior” looking to take his game to the next level is corner **Quandre Mosely** (35 career games, three career starts). He had a pick-six on Senior Day.
- At safety, “super senior” **Yusuf Corker** (48 career games, 35 career starts) is one of the SEC’s most underrated players. For the season, he is tied for fourth in the SEC in pass breakups with eight.
- Safety **Tyrell Ajian** (47 career games, 22 career starts) led UK in the win over Missouri with a career-high eight tackles and sealed the Chattanooga win with a 95-yard interception return for a score in the fourth quarter.
- Safety **Davonte Robinson** (48 career games, 17 career starts), another “super senior,” is back from a quadriceps injury that robbed him of the 2019 season.
- Safety **Jalen Geiger** made his first career start on Nov. 13, 2021 at Vanderbilt and made it memorable with a 31-yard interception return for a touchdown.

### LINEBACKERS

- Only three letterwinners in sophomores **K.D. McDaniel** and **J.J. Weaver** and senior **Jordan Wright** returned for White’s outside linebackers group.
- Wright and Weaver both got off to good starts this season -- Wright with six tackles, two TFL, a sack and a pass breakup while Weaver had 1.5 sacks in the opener. Weaver had a huge defensive play vs. Missouri with an eight-yard sack on the Tigers’ final



possession. He leads the team in sacks with 6.0. Wright had a crucial interception against Florida to set up a touchdown.

- The inside linebackers are led by lone returning starter **DeAndre Square** (48 career games, 34 career starts). He was UK's second-leading tackler in 2019 (69) and in 2020 he ranked third on the team (60).
- Square is second on the team in tackles with 74 and tackles for loss with nine. He also has three quarterback hurries.
- Transfer **Jacquez Jones** was a three-year letterwinner who played in 33 games with 19 starts, totaling 182 tackles in his Ole Miss career. In 2020, he led the Rebels with 75 tackles, while adding 2.5 tackles for loss and three quarterback hurries.
- Jones has started every game and has 86 tackles, ranking 13th in the SEC in total tackles. He has made three huge plays in pass defense -- an interception vs. Missouri, a touchdown-saving pass breakup vs. Chattanooga and game-saving tipped pass to seal the Florida win.
- He had a career-high 18 tackles at Mississippi State.
- Highly-regarded freshmen **Martez Thrower** (Rochella, Ga.) and **Trevin Wallace** (Jesup, Ga.) have showcased why they were two of Georgia's top prep defensive players.
- Wallace helped turn the Florida game when he caught a blocked field goal in midair and raced untouched 76 yards for the go-ahead touchdown. Making his first collegiate start at Mississippi State, he notched 12 tackles and was named SEC Freshman of the Week. For the season, he has 32 tackles and was named to the Freshman All-SEC team.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

- Returning are placekicker **Matt Ruffolo**, kickoff specialist **Chance Poore**, long snapper **Cade Degraw**, punt returner **Josh Ali** and kick returner **Zach Johnson**.
- Ali notched his first career punt return for a touchdown when he scampered 74 yards vs. Mississippi State on Oct. 30.
- Senior **Colin Goodfellow** was on the watch list for the Ray Guy Award, given to the nation's top punter. He is third in the SEC by averaging 46.0 yards per punt this season, with 11 ending inside the opponent 20-yard line.
- Against Georgia, Goodfellow had a career-long 70-yard punt and an additional



63-yarder. It is the only time in school history a punter has had two punts of 63 yards or longer with one being at least 70 yards.

- He followed that performance by booming another 70-yard punt vs. Mississippi State, making him the first player in school history to have two punts of 70 or more yards in his career.
- Ruffolo, a "super senior" who took advantage of the NCAA's blanket waiver due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was UK's starting placekicker last season. This season, he has made 8-of-11 field goals, with two misses coming on blocked kicks caused by a breakdown in protection.
- For his career, Ruffolo has made 24-of-30 FG and 92-of-98 PAT. Making 80 percent of his field goals places him third on the UK career list.
- Ruffolo's 52 PATs this season is a new UK single-season record.
- Poore handles kickoffs for the Wildcats. He also has placekicking experience.



**KENTUCKY BOWL HISTORY**

**All-Time Record: 11-9**

**Great Lakes Bowl**

Dec. 6, 1947: UK 24, Villanova 14

**Orange Bowl**

Jan. 2, 1950: Santa Clara 21, UK 13

**Sugar Bowl**

Jan. 1, 1951: UK 13, Oklahoma 7  
**MVP:** Walt Yowarsky

**Cotton Bowl**

Jan. 1, 1952: Kentucky 20, TCU 7  
**MVPs:** Emery Clark, Ray Correll, Babe Parilli

**Peach Bowl**

Dec. 31, 1976: UK 21, North Carolina 0  
**Off. MVP:** Rod Stewart  
**Def. MVP:** Mike Martin

**Hall of Fame Bowl**

Dec. 22, 1983: West Virginia 20, UK 16  
**UK MVP:** George Adams

**Hall of Fame Bowl**

Dec. 29, 1984: UK 20, Wisconsin 19  
**MVP:** Marc Logan

**Peach Bowl**

Dec. 31, 1993: Clemson 14, UK 13  
**UK Offensive MVP:** Pookie Jones  
**UK Defensive MVP:** Zane Beehn

**Outback Bowl**

Jan. 1, 1999: Penn State 26, UK 14

**HomePoint.com Music City Bowl**

Dec. 29, 1999: Syracuse 20, UK 13

**Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl**

Dec. 29, 2006: UK 28, Clemson 20  
**MVP:** Andre' Woodson

**Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl**

Dec. 31, 2007: UK 35, Florida State 28  
**MVP:** Andre' Woodson

**AutoZone Liberty Bowl**

Jan. 2, 2009: UK 25, East Carolina 19  
**MVP:** Ventrell Jenkins  
**UK Offensive MVP:** Mike Hartline  
**UK Defensive MVP:** Braxton Kelley

**Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl**

Dec. 27, 2009: Clemson 21, UK 13

**BBVA Compass Bowl**

Jan. 8, 2011: Pittsburgh 27, UK 10

**TaxSlayer Bowl**

Dec. 31, 2016: Georgia Tech 33, UK 18  
**UK MVP:** Stephen Johnson

**Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl**

Dec. 29, 2017: Northwestern 24, UK 23

**VRBO Citrus Bowl**

Jan. 1, 2019: UK 27, Penn State 24  
**MVP:** Benny Snell Jr.

**Belk Bowl**

Dec. 31, 2019: UK 37, Virginia Tech 30  
**MVP:** Lynn Bowden Jr.

**TaxSlayer Gator Bowl**

Jan. 2, 2021: UK 23, NC State 21  
**UK MVP:** A.J. Rose

**BOWL GAME INDIVIDUAL RECORDS**

**Rushing**

233 Lynn Bowden Jr. (34 att.) Belk, 2019  
 152 Rafael Little (28 att.) Music City, 2007  
 148 A.J. Rose (12 att.) Gator, 2021  
 144 Benny Snell Jr. (26 att.) Citrus, 2019

**Pass Attempts**

50 André Woodson (32 comp.) Music City, 2007  
 48 Tim Couch (30 comp.) Outback, 1999  
 43 Dusty Bonner (30 comp.) Music City, 1999

**Pass Completions**

32 André Woodson (50 att.) Music City, 2007  
 30 Dusty Bonner (43 att.) Music City, 1999  
 30 Tim Couch (48 att.) Outback, 1999

**Passing Yards**

358 André Woodson (32 of 50) Music City, 2007  
 336 Tim Couch (30 of 48) Outback, 1999  
 308 Dusty Bonner (30 of 43) Music City, 1999

**Offensive Plays**

56 Tim Couch (8 rush, 48 pass) Outback, 1999  
 54 André Woodson (4 rush, 50 pass) Music City, 2007  
 52 Dusty Bonner (9 rush, 43 pass) Music City, 1999

**Total Yards**

344 Tim Couch (8 rush, 336 pass) Outback, 1999  
 332 André Woodson (-26 rush, 358 pass) Music City, 2007  
 326 Lynn Bowden Jr. (233 rush, 73 pass, 20 kick return); Belk, 2019  
 324 Dusty Bonner (16 rush, 308 pass) Music City, 1999

**Receptions**

8 Anthony White (85 yards) Music City, 1999  
 8 Rafael Little (50 yards) Music City, 2007

**Receiving Yards**

124 Steve Johnson (7 rec.) Music City, 2007  
 89 Tavin Richardson (5 rec.) Music City 2017  
 85 Anthony White (8 rec.) Music City, 1999

**BOWL GAME TEAM RECORDS**

**Rushing**

Rush Attempts: ..... 55 (Belk, 2019)  
 Net Rushing Yards: ..... 331 (Belk, 2019)  
 Touchdowns Rushing: ... 3 (Great Lakes, 1947; Peach, 1976; Music City 2017, Belk 2019)

**Passing**

Pass Attempts: ..... 50 (Music City, 2007)  
 Pass Completions: ..... 32 (Music City, 2007)  
 Had Intercepted: ..... 2 (Orange, 1950; Outback, 1999; Music City 2017)  
 Passing Yards: ..... 358 (Music City, 2007)  
 Touchdowns Passing: ..... 4 (Music City, 2007)

**Total Offense**

Offensive Plays: ..... 82 (Music City, 2007)  
 Total Yards: ..... 501 (Music City, 2007)

**Scoring**

Points Scored: ..... 37 (Belk, 2019)  
 Most Touchdowns: ..... 5 (Music City 2007, Belk 2019)

Most Field Goals: ..... 3 (Gator Bowl, 2021)

**First Downs**

Most First Downs: ..... 29 (Music City, 2007)  
 First Downs by Rush: ..... 17 (Peach, 1976)  
 First Downs by Pass: ..... 19 (Music City, 2007)

**Fumbles**

Most Fumbles: ..... 5 (Music City, 2007)  
 Fumbles Lost: ..... 3 (Music City, 2007)

**Interceptions**

Most INTs: ..... 3 (Gator Bowl, 2021)



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME KENTUCKY ...

Scored 40 points: 52 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Scored 50 points: 52 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Scored 60 points: 62 vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016  
 Scored 70 points: 77 vs. Texas El-Paso, Sept. 7, 2002  
 Scored 80 points: 83 vs. North Dakota, Nov. 18, 1950  
 Shut Out an Opponent: vs. Miami (42-0), Sept. 5, 2009  
 Shut Out an Opponent in the 1st half: vs. LSU, Oct. 9, 2021  
 Shut Out an SEC Opponent in the 1st half in consecutive games: at Georgia, Oct. 19, and vs. Missouri, Oct. 26, 2019  
 Did Not Allow an Offensive Point: vs. Miss. State, Oct. 10, 2020 (24-2 win)  
 Game is scoreless at the half: at Georgia, Oct. 19, 2019  
 Shut Out an Opponent in the 2nd half: at Tennessee, Oct. 17, 2020  
 Scored a TD on first series: at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Scored on first play from scrimmage of game: at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016  
 Had 25 First Downs: 29 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had 30 First Downs: 35 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021  
 Had 250 yards rushing: 362 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had 300 yards rushing: 362 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had 400 yards rushing: 408 vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020  
 Had 500 yards rushing: 517 vs. Louisville, Nov. 30, 2019 (SCHOOL RECORD)  
 Had consecutive 400-yard rushing games: 401 at Vanderbilt (11/16/19), 462 vs. UT Martin (11/23/19) and 517 vs. Louisville (11/30/19)  
 Had below 50 yards rushing: 48 vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013  
 Had 300 yards passing: 459 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had 400 yards passing: 459 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had below 50 yards passing: 47 at Missouri, Oct. 24, 2020  
 Had 300 yards rushing and passing: (381/311) vs. New Mexico St., Sept. 17, 2016  
 Had 500 yards total offense: 511 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had 600 yards total offense: 707 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had 700 yards total offense: 707 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had below 200 yards total offense: 179 at Alabama, Nov. 21, 2020  
 Held opp. below 100 yards rushing: 96, at Vanderbilt, Nov. 13, 2021  
 Held opp. below 50 yards rushing: 58, at South Carolina, Sept. 25, 2021  
 Held opp. below 100 yards passing: 70, vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021  
 Held opponent below 200 yards total offense: 87 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021  
 Held opp. below 100 yards total offense: 87 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021  
 Had 10 or more tackles for loss: 14.0 vs ULM, Sept. 4, 2021  
 Had six or more sacks: 6.0 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021  
 Recorded a safety: vs. UT Martin, Nov. 23, 2019  
 Recorded zero penalties: vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009  
 Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 34 by Lynn Bowden Jr. vs. Virginia Tech (Belk Bowl), Dec. 31, 2019  
 Had a player rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (121) and Will Levis (113) at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had two players rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (121) and Will Levis (113) at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had three players rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (133), Terry Wilson (129), A.J. Rose(117) vs. Ole Miss; Oct. 3, 2020 (ONLY TIME AT UK)  
 Had 2 players rush for 175 yards or more: Benny Snell (192) and Boom Williams (182) vs. Missouri, Oct. 29, 2016  
 Had 2 players rush for 100 yards or more in consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. and Lynn Bowden Jr. at Vanderbilt (11/16/19); Bowden and A.J. Rose vs. UT Martin (11/23/19), Bowden and Rodriguez Jr. vs. Louisville (11/30/19)  
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (119 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021 and 121 Chris Rodriguez Jr. (121) at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in three consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. 114 at Vanderbilt, Nov. 13, 2021; 119 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021; 121 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021)  
 Had player rush for 100 yards in four consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2021)  
 Had player rush for 100 yards in five consecutive games: Lynn Bowden Jr. (2019)  
 Had a true freshman rush for 100 yards: 152 by Benny Snell Jr. vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016  
 Had a player rush for 200 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (207) vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021  
 Had 4 players with 50+ yards rushing in the same game: 4 vs. UT Martin, Nov. 23, 2019  
 Had a player with 3 rushing touchdowns: 4 by Will Levis at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021  
 Had a player with 50 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012

Had a player with 60 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012  
 Had a player with 30 pass completions: 31 by Will Levis, vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021  
 Had a player with 300 passing yards: 419 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player with 400 passing yards: 419 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had 2 players pass for 100 yards: Maxwell Smith (109), Jalen Whitlow (105) vs. Louisville, Sept. 14, 2013  
 Had a player with 3 or more touchdowns passes: 4 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player with 2 passing touchdowns and 2 rushing touchdowns: Patrick Towles, vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 25, 2014  
 Had a player with 10+ receptions: 13 by Wan'Dale Robinson vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021  
 Had a player with 100 yards receiving in a game: 181 by Wan'Dale Robinson and 164 by Josh Ali, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player with consecutive 100-yard receiving games: Wan'Dale Robinson, 2 (vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021; vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021)  
 Had a player with three consecutive 100-yard receiving games: Wan'Dale Robinson, 3 (vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021; vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021; vs. Chattanooga, Sept. 18, 2021)  
 Had 2 players with 100 yards receiving: 181 by Wan'Dale Robinson and 164 by Josh Ali, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player with 1,000 receiving yards in a season: 1164, Wan'Dale Robinson (2021)  
 Had a player with 3 touchdown receptions: 3 by C.J. Conrad vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016  
 Had a player with 100 rushing and 100 receiving yards in the same game: Rafael Little (132 rushing, 114 receiving) vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2006  
 Had a 100-yard passer and a 100-yard rusher in the same game: Terry Wilson (151 passing, 129 rushing) vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020  
 Had a 100-yard rusher and a 100-yard receiver in the same game: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (119 rush) and Wan'Dale Robinson (181 receiving), Josh Ali (164 receiving) vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player score a TD by rushing and receiving in the same game: Chris Rodriguez Jr. vs. LSU, Oct. 9, 2021  
 Had a player throw a TD pass and score a rushing and receiving TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. Auburn, Oct. 9, 2010  
 Had a player throw at least two TD passes and score a rushing TD in consecutive games: Patrick Towles in 2015  
 Had a player throw a TD pass, score a receiving TD and score on a punt return for a TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. WKU, Sept. 11, 2010  
 Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Derrick Locke (100 yards) vs. Louisville, Sept. 19, 2009  
 Had a player return a punt for a TD: Josh Ali (74 yards) at Mississippi State, Oct. 30, 2021  
 Had a player return an interception for a TD: Quandre Mosely, 38 yards, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021  
 Had a player recover/return a fumble for a TD: Jordan Wright, vs. Virginia Tech (Belk Bowl), 28 yards, Dec. 31, 2019  
 Had two defensive TDs in the same game: Kelvin Joseph (INT) and Jamin Davis (INT) at Tennessee, Oct. 17, 2020  
 Had a player recover two fumbles in one game: Jordan Wright vs. South Carolina, Dec. 5, 2020  
 Had a player block a punt: Josh Paschal vs. Tennessee, Nov. 9, 2019  
 Had a player block a field goal: Josh Paschal vs. Florida, Oct. 2, 2021  
 Had a player block a PAT: Lonnie Johnson Jr. vs. Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 9, 2017  
 Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: Trevin Wallace (76 yards) vs. Florida, Oct. 2, 2021  
 Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Andrew Hopewell (6 yards), vs. Arkansas, Nov. 1, 2006  
 Had a player score a TD on a fake field goal: Joe Mansour (25 yards), vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013  
 Had a field goal of 50 yards or more: Matt Ruffolo (50 yards) at Missouri, Oct. 24, 2020  
 Had a punt of 70 yards or more: Colin Goodfellow (70 yards) at Miss. State, Oct. 30, 2021  
 Played an overtime game: vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020 - (L, 41-42)  
 Won an overtime game: vs. EKU, Oct. 3, 2015 - (W, 34-27)  
 Won a game on the last play of regulation as time expired: 15-14 at Missouri, Oct. 27, 2018 (2-yard TD pass)





## WHEN WAS THE TIME THE OPPONENT ...

**Scored 40 points: 45 by Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021**

Scored 50 points: 63 by Alabama, Nov. 21, 2020

**Scored 10 or less points: 10 by South Carolina, Sept. 25, 2021**

Shut Out Kentucky: 0-21 by Georgia, Oct. 19, 2019

Shut Out Kentucky in 2nd half: by Florida, Nov. 28, 2020

Rushed for 300 yards: 331 by Georgia, Nov. 3, 2018

**Passed for 300 yards: 316 by Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021**

Had 500 yards of total offense: 562 by Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017

Recorded a safety: Mississippi State, Oct. 10, 2020 (bad snap on punt)

Blocked a Kentucky punt: Southern Miss, Sept. 3, 2016

**Blocked a Kentucky field goal: at Georgia, Oct. 16, 2021**

**Blocked a Kentucky PAT: at Georgia, Oct. 16, 2021**

Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 37, Larry Rountree (Missouri, 126 yards), Oct. 24, 2020

**Had a player with 100 yards rushing: 147, Tyrion Davis-Price (LSU), Oct. 9, 2021**

Had a player with 200 yards rushing: 210, Kevin Harris (South Carolina), Dec. 5, 2020

Had two players with 100 yards rushing: 107, Tavien Feaster, 102, Rico Dowdle (South Carolina), Sept. 28, 2019

**Had a player with 40 pass attempts: 51 by Connor Bazelak (Missouri), Sept. 11, 2021**

**Had a player with 25 pass completions: 34 by Connor Bazelak (Missouri), Sept. 11, 2021**

**Had a player with 300 yards passing: 316 by Hendon Hooker (Tennessee), Nov. 6, 2021**

Had two players with 100 yards passing: 174 by Feleipe Franks and 126 by Kyle Trask (Florida), Sept. 14, 2019

**Had a player with 10 pass receptions: 10, Tyler Badie (Missouri, 88 yards), Sept. 11, 2021**

**Had a player with 100 yards receiving: 100, Velus Jones Jr. (Tennessee, 5 catches), Nov. 6, 2021**

Had a player with 200 yards receiving: 216 by Demarcus Robinson (Florida), Sept. 13, 2014

Had two players with 100 yards receiving: 111, Korey Robertson and 103, Quez Watkins (Southern Miss), Sept. 2, 2017

Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Evan Berry (UT), 100 yards, Oct. 31, 2015

Had a player return a punt for a TD: Kadarius Toney (UF), 50 yards, Nov. 28, 2020

Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: Neiko Thorpe (69 yards) vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009

Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Chris Rainey (23 yards) vs. Florida, Sept. 26, 2009

**Had a player return an interception for a TD: Alontae Taylor (Tennessee), 56 yards, Nov. 6, 2021**

**Had a player return a fumble for a TD: Trevor Brohard (New Mexico State), 25 yards, Nov. 20, 2021**



## 2021 GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

### OFFENSIVE STARTERS

	TE/WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	WR	WR/TE	WR/TE	RB	QB
vs ULM	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis
vs Missouri	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	Cummings	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis
vs Chattanooga	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Epps	Rodriguez	Levis
at South Carolina	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Epps	Rodriguez	Levis
vs Florida	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Epps	Rodriguez	Levis
vs LSU	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Epps	W. Robinson	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis
at Georgia	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Epps	W. Robinson	Cummings	Rodriguez	Levis
at Miss. State	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Epps	Smoke	Levis
vs Tennessee	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Cox	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis
at Vanderbilt	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Dotson	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Harris	Rodriguez	Levis
vs New Mexico St.	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Dotson	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis
at Louisville	Rigg	Rosenthal	Horse	Fortner	Dotson	Kinnard	Ali	W. Robinson	Bates	Rodriguez	Levis

### DEFENSIVE STARTERS

	CB	DE	NG	DT	SLB	WLB	MLB	NICK	SS	FS	CB
vs ULM	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Fitzgerald	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
vs Missouri	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Fitzgerald	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
vs Chattanooga	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Fitzgerald	Weaver	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
at South Carolina	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Oxendine	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
vs Florida	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Oxendine	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
vs LSU	Valentine	Paschal	Rogers	Oxendine	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
at Georgia	Valentine	Paschal	Rogers	Fitzgerald	Wright	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
at Miss. State	Valentine	Weaver	Rogers	Paschal	Wallace	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
vs Tennessee	Valentine	Paschal	Rogers	Fitzgerald	Weaver	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
at Vanderbilt	Valentine	Paschal	Hayes	Fitzgerald	Weaver	Square	Jones	V. Tisdale	Geiger	Corker	Dort
vs New Mexico St.	Mosely	Paschal	McCall	Fitzgerald	Weaver	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Ajian	Corker	Dort
at Louisville	Valentine	Paschal	McCall	Fitzgerald	Weaver	Square	Jones	D. Robinson	Geiger	Corker	Dort



INDIVIDUAL/TEAM RECORDS - CAREER

Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
2. 58 Mark Stoops (2013-present)
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
41 Blanton Collier (1954-1961)
6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)

Most Career Home Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 41 Mark Stoops (2013-present)
2. 33 Paul Bryant (1946-53)
3. 32 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)
4. 29 Fran Curci (1973-81)
29 Blanton Collier (1954-61)

Rushing Yardage, Career

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, Att, Yards, Avg., TD. Lists top rushing yardage leaders like Benny Snell Jr., Sonny Collins, Moe Williams, etc.

Avg. Per Rushing Attempt, Career (min. 200 attempts)

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, Average per rush. Lists leaders like Lynn Bowden Jr., Boom Williams, C. Rodriguez Jr., etc.

Rushing Touchdowns, Career

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, TD. Lists leaders like Benny Snell, Moe Williams, Chris Rodriguez Jr., etc.

Consecutive Games with a Rushing TD (since 1985)

- 6 Benny Snell Jr. (2017)
5 Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2020-2021)
Stanley "Boom" Williams (2016)
Artose Pinner (2002)

100-Yard Rushing Games, Career

- 1. Benny Snell Jr., 2016-18 19
2. Sonny Collins, 1972-75 18
3. Chris Rodriguez Jr., 2018-present 14
4. Rafael Little, 2004-07 13
Moe Williams, 1993-95 13

Receiving Yardage, Career

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, Rec., Yards, TD. Lists top receiving yardage leaders like Craig Yeast, Keenan Burton, Derek Abney, etc.

Receptions, Career

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, Rec., Yards, Avg., TD. Lists top reception leaders like Craig Yeast, Derek Abney, Anthony White, etc.

Best Field Goal Percentage, Career (min. 10 made)

Table with columns: Player, Pct., Made/Att, Years. Lists leaders like Joe Mansour, Marc Samuel, Matt Ruffolo, etc.

Tackles For Loss, Career

Table with columns: #, Player, Years, TFL. Lists leaders like Oliver Barnett, Josh Allen, Josh Paschal, etc.

Consecutive Games with a Tackle For Loss (since 1980)

- 11 Vincent Burns (2002-03)
8 Josh Paschal (2021)
Josh Allen (2017)
Marlon McCree (2000)



INDIVIDUAL/TEAM RECORDS - SINGLE-SEASON

Average Yards Per Play, Team, Single-Season

Avg.	Year	Plays	Yards
6.57	2021	787	5,173
6.45	1998	911	5,876
6.26	2016	872	5,463

Average Yards Per Rush, Team, Single-Season

Avg.	Year	Attempts	Yards
6.32	2019	573	3,624
5.51	2021	449	2,473
5.43	2016	560	3,044
4.96	2020	436	2,162

1,000-Yard Rushing Seasons

#	Player	Years	Att	Yards	Avg.	TD
1.	Moe Williams	1995	294	1,600	5.4	17
2.	Benny Snell Jr.	2018	289	1,449	5.0	16
3.	Lynn Bowden Jr.	2019	185	1,468	7.9	13
4.	Artose Pinner	2002	283	1,414	5.0	13
5.	Benny Snell Jr.	2017	262	1,333	5.1	19
6.	Mark Higgs	1987	193	1,278	6.6	10
7.	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	2021	205	1,272	6.2	7
8.	Sonny Collins	1973	224	1,213	5.4	13
9.	Boom Williams	2016	171	1,170	6.8	7
10.	Sonny Collins	1975	248	1,150	4.6	5
11.	Benny Snell Jr.	2016	186	1,091	5.9	13
12.	George Adams	1984	253	1,085	4.2	13
13.	Rafael Little	2005	197	1,045	5.3	9
14.	Rafael Little	2007	190	1,013	5.3	3

Average Rush Yards Per Attempt, Single-Season (min. 100 attempts)

Avg.	Player	Year	Rushes	Yards
7.93	Lynn Bowden Jr.	2019	185	1,468
7.10	Boom Williams	2015	121	855
6.84	Boom Williams	2016	171	1,170
6.62	Mark Higgs	1987	193	1,278
6.60	C. Rodriguez Jr.	2020	119	785
6.28	A.J. Rose	2020	106	666
6.20	C. Rodriguez Jr.	2021	205	1,272
6.02	Ivy Joe Hunter	1986	103	621
5.87	Benny Snell Jr.	2016	186	1,091

100-yard Rushing Games, Single-Season

#	Games	Player	Year
1.	8	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	2021
	8	Artose Pinner	2002
3.	7	Benny Snell Jr.	2018
	7	Benny Snell Jr.	2017
	7	Moe Williams	1995

Consecutive 100-yard Rushing Games

6	Lynn Bowden Jr. (Oct. 26 - Dec. 31, 2019)
	Sonny Collins (Sept. 13 - Oct. 18, 1975)
4	Chris Rodriguez Jr. (Nov. 6, 2021 - present)
	Derrick Locke (Sept. 4 - Sept. 25, 2010)
	Artose Pinner (Oct. 26 - Nov. 16, 2002)

Receptions, Single-Season

#	Player	Year	Rec.	Yards	TD
1.	Wan'Dale Robinson	2021	94	1,164	7
2.	James Whalen	1999	90	1,019	10
3.	Craig Yeast	1998	85	1,311	14
4.	Randall Cobb	2010	84	1,017	7
5.	Anthony White	1998	78	582	1
6.	Keenan Burton	2006	77	1,036	12
7.	Craig Yeast	1997	73	873	10
8.	Lynn Bowden Jr.	2018	67	745	5
9.	Derek Abney	2001	66	741	6
10.	Keenan Burton	2007	66	741	9

100-yard Receiving Games, Single-Season

#	Games	Player	Year
1.	7	Craig Yeast	1998
2.	5	Wan'Dale Robinson	2021
	5	James Whalen	1999
4.	4	Randall Cobb	2010
	4	Steve Johnson	2007
	4	Keenan Burton	2006
	4	Quentin McCord	2000

1,000-Yard Receiving Seasons

#	Player	Year	Rec.	Yards	TD
1.	Craig Yeast	1998	85	1,311	14
2.	Wan'Dale Robinson	2021	94	1,164	7
3.	Steve Johnson	2007	60	1,041	13
4.	Keenan Burton	2006	77	1,036	12
5.	James Whalen	1999	90	1,019	10
6.	Randall Cobb	2010	84	1,017	7

Most Passing Yards, Single-Season

#	Player	Year	Yards	TD
1.	Tim Couch	1998	4275	36
2.	Tim Couch	1997	3884	37
3.	Andre' Woodson	2007	3709	40
4.	Jared Lorenzen	2000	3687	19
5.	Andre' Woodson	2006	3515	31
6.	Dusty Bonner	1999	3266	26
7.	Mike Hartline	2010	3178	23
8.	Patrick Towles	2014	2718	14
9.	Will Levis	2021	2593	23

Most Total Offense, Single-Season

#	Player	Year	Rush	Pass	Plays	Total
1.	Tim Couch	1998	-124	4275	617	4151
2.	Jared Lorenzen	2000	140	3687	635	3827
3.	Tim Couch	1997	-125	3884	613	3759
4.	Andre' Woodson	2007	-193	3709	587	3516
5.	Andre' Woodson	2006	-137	3515	489	3378
6.	Mike Hartline	2010	-35	3178	437	3143
7.	Dusty Bonner	1999	-141	3266	576	3125
8.	Patrick Towles	2014	303	2718	538	3021
9.	Will Levis	2021	387	2593	417	2980

Completion Percentage, Single-Season (min. 100 comp.)

#	Player	Year	Pct.	Comp/Att
1.	Tim Couch	1998	.723	400/553
2.	Maxwell Smith	2012	.687	103/150
3.	Terry Wilson	2018	.672	180/268
4.	Will Levis	2021	.665	216/335
5.	Tim Couch	1997	.664	363/547
6.	Mike Hartline	2010	.662	268/405
7.	Dusty Bonner	1999	.652	303/465

Pass Efficiency Rating, Single-Season (min. 100 comp.)

#	Player	Year	Rating
1.	Andre' Woodson	2006	154.4
2.	Tim Couch	1998	153.3
3.	Will Levis	2021	149.4
4.	Mike Hartline	2010	146.4

Punting Average, Single-Season (min. 30)

#	Player	Year	Avg.	No./Yards
1.	Max Duffy	2019	48.12	49/2358
2.	Colin Goodfellow	2021	46.00	31/1426
3.	Glenn Pakulak	2002	45.58	66/3008
4.	Tim Masthay	2008	45.23	53/2397
5.	Max Duffy	2020	45.12	42/1895
6.	Max Duffy	2018	44.78	60/2687
7.	Paul Calhoun	1984	44.61	60/2677
8.	Glenn Pakulak	2001	44.50	56/2492

PATs Made, Single-Season

#	Player	Year	Made (Att.)
1.	Matt Ruffolo	2021	52 (53 att.)
2.	Lones Seiber	2007	51 (54 att.)
3.	Seth Hanson	1998	48 (51 att.)
4.	Austin MacGinnis	2016	44 (45 att.)
5.	Austin MacGinnis	2014	41 (41 att.)

Tackles For Loss, Single-Season

#	Player	Year	TFL
1.	Art Still	1977	22.0
2.	Josh Allen	2018	21.5
3.	Dennis Johnson	2001	19.0
4.	Vincent Burns	2003	18.0
5.	Danny Trevathan	2010	16.0
6.	Josh Paschal	2021	15.5
	Jordan Jones	2016	15.5



2021 GAME REVIEWS

1

KENTUCKY 45, ULM 10

SEPT. 4, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (47,693)



Will Levis passed for 367 yards and four touchdowns as Kentucky opened its 2021 season with a 45-10 win over Louisiana-Monroe at Kroger Field.

Two Wildcats had more than 100 yards receiving in the game. Senior Josh Ali had five receptions for 136 yards and a touchdown while junior Wan'Dale Robinson had five catches for 125 yards and two scores. Isaiah Epps nearly made it a trio, catching three passes for 83 yards.

On the ground, Chris Rodriguez Jr. went over 100 yards for the seventh time in his career. The junior rushed 19 times for 125 yards and a touchdown.

Kentucky (1-0) had 564 yards of total offense in the first game under new offensive coordinator Liam Coen. UK finished with 419 yards passing and 145 yards on the ground.

Levis became the first UK passer to throw for over 300 yards since Stephen Johnson had 338 against Louisville in 2016.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky defense more than did its job against ULM. The Cats held the Warhawks to 87 total yards (70 passing, 17 rushing) in the game. ULM had 43 yards on its first drive of the game, then 44 yards the rest of the game.

SCORING SUMMARY

ULM	7	0	0	3	-	10
Kentucky	14	14	3	14	-	45

- 1st 08:53 ULM - #24 K.Roach 3 yd rush (#31 C.Sutherland kick), 12-43, 05:01 7-0
- 1st 06:13 UKY - #1 W.Robinson 33 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-84, 02:35 7-7
- 1st 04:20 UKY - #6 J.Ali 58 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 1-58, 00:09 7-14
- 2nd 10:40 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 2 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 14-84, 06:37 7-21
- 2nd 05:44 UKY - #1 W.Robinson 15 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 4-80, 02:24 7-28
- 3rd 03:54 UKY - #96 M.Ruffolo 45 yd FG, 7-41, 03:40 7-31
- 4th 13:07 UKY - #80 B.Bates 4 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 9-80, 04:00 7-38
- 4th 04:39 ULM - #31 C.Sutherland 29 yd FG, 11-48, 05:11 10-38
- 4th 01:00 UKY - #5 M.Drennen 4 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 8-68, 03:34 10-45

TEAM STATISTICS

	ULM	UK
First Downs	12	24
Rush Att./Net Rush	43/17	34/145
Passing C/A/I	11/20/0	22/33/1
Offensive Plays	63	67
Total Offense	87	564
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	4/2
Penalties/Yards	3/25	7/65
Punts/Average	10/42.1	2/35.5
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 19	6 of 11
Time of Possession	28:13	31:47

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

ULM - Rogers 7-11, Henry 8-9, Alce 2-9, Holmes 3-7, Roach 4-3-1  
UK - Rodriguez Jr. 19-125-1, Smoke 5-26, Drennen 3-16-1, Tisdale 1-4, Levis 4-(6)

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

ULM - Rodriguez 9-17-0-56-0, Rogers 2-3-0-14-0, Suits 0-0-0-0-0  
UK - Levis 18-26-1-367-4, Allen 4-7-0-31-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

ULM - Knight 7-58, Sparks 4 -(-3), Derrick 3-9, Bloomfield 1-5, Wiley 1-1  
UK - Ali 8-136-1, Robinson 8-125-2, Epps 4-83, Rodriguez Jr. 2-10, Jo. Dingle 1-31, Crumes 1-10, Cummings 2-7

TACKLES

ULM - Sparks 7, Johnson 7, Shelby 5, Woodard 5  
UK - Paschal 7, Wright 6, Square 6, D. Robinson 5, Oxendine 5

2

KENTUCKY 35, MISSOURI 28

SEPT. 11, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (58,437)



Chris Rodriguez Jr. rushed 27 times for 207 yards and three touchdowns as Kentucky won its Southeastern Conference opener over Missouri 35-28 at Kroger Field.

For Rodriguez, both the number of carries and the yards rushing were career highs. The junior from McDonough, Georgia, also caught a pass for a touchdown. His four touchdowns tied a school record.

Will Levis connected on 10 of 18 passing for 179 yards with a touchdown and an interception in the game. Levis' main target was Wan'Dale Robinson, who had a big game in his own right. The Frankfort native led the Cats with 101 yards receiving on five catches. He also had three carries for 73 yards in the game.

Kentucky (2-0, 1-0 SEC) turned to the ground game in this one, rushing for 341 yards while passing for 179. The Cats ended the game with 520 yards of total offense, compared to just 398 for Missouri.

On defense, safety Tyrell Ajian led the Cats with eight tackles, while J.J. Weaver had another big game with a sack and two tackles for loss.

SCORING SUMMARY

Missouri	7	7	7	7	-	28
Kentucky	14	7	7	7	-	35

- 1st 12:52 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 5 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-75, 02:08 0-7
- 1st 05:13 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 2 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 12-80, 05:32 0-14
- 1st 00:27 MIZ - #82 D.Parker 6 yd pass from #8 C.Bazelak (#92 H.Mevis kick), 10-75, 04:40 7-14
- 2nd 09:26 UKY - #7 W.Levis 3 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 8-92, 03:34 7-21
- 2nd 00:04 MIZ - #6 K.Chism 17 yd pass from #8 C.Bazelak (#92 H.Mevis kick), 9-80, 01:37 14-21
- 3rd 13:19 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 3 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 3-38, 01:08 14-28
- 3rd 09:15 MIZ - #82 D.Parker 6 yd pass from #8 C.Bazelak (#92 H.Mevis kick), 10-75, 04:04 21-28
- 4th 13:11 MIZ - #1 T.Badie 17 yd pass from #8 C.Bazelak (#92 H.Mevis kick), 14-80, 04:46 28-28
- 4th 11:28 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 8 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-75, 01:43 28-35

TEAM STATISTICS

	MIZ	UK
First Downs	25	26
Rush Att./Net Rush	24/104	52/340
Passing C/A/I	34/52/1	10/18/1
Offensive Plays	76	70
Total Offense	398	519
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	1/1
Penalties/Yards	7/65	3/35
Punts/Average	5/39.2	2/38.5
Third-Down Conv.	9 of 15	8 of 12
Time of Possession	27:12	32:48

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

MIZ - Badie 14-64, Bazelak 6-28, Cooper 2-10, Young 2-5  
UK - Rodriguez Jr. 27-207-2, W. Robinson 3-73, Smoke 8-39, Levis 11-25-1

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

MIZ - Bazelak 34-51-1-294-4, Luper 0-1-0-0-0  
UK - Levis 10-18-1-179-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

MIZ - Badie 10-88-1, Dove 6-65, Hea 5-37, Lovett 4-18, Luper 3-27, Parker 3-32-2  
UK - W. Robinson 5-101, Ali 2-30, Rigg 1-28, Cummings 1-15, Rodriguez Jr. 1-6-1

TACKLES

MIZ - Alldredge 13, Nicholson 8, Manuel 6  
UK - Ajian 8, Jones 7, Corker 6





2021 GAME REVIEWS

3

KENTUCKY 28, CHATTANOOGA 23

SEPT. 18, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (55,214)



Will Levis connected on 23 of 35 passing for 246 yards and two touchdowns as Kentucky overcame a sluggish effort to beat Chattanooga 28-23.

With the Cats clinging to a 21-16 lead in the fourth quarter, Tyrell Ajian made the play that saved the game. Ajian intercepted a Chattanooga pass at the UK five and returned it 95 yards for what turned out to be the game-clinching touchdown.

Wan'Dale Robinson was Levis' favorite target on Saturday, catching eight passes for 111 yards. He became the first UK player since Derek Abney in 2001 to have three straight 100-yard receiving games.

Chris Rodriguez Jr. led UK with 46 rushing yards, although the Kentucky run game was not as effective as it was last week against Missouri. The Cats had 102 yards rushing on 27 carries in the game.

Kentucky took the opening kickoff and methodically marched down the field, using a combination of running and passing. The nine-play drive consisted of five plays and four rushes and ended with an 11-yard touchdown rush by Josh Ali, the first rushing touchdown of his career. Matt Ruffolo added the extra point and the Cats grabbed a 7-0 lead with 10:43 to play in the first quarter.

But the rest of the game was not that easy. The game was tight throughout until Ajian's interception sealed the deal. Still, Chattanooga rallied to cut the UK lead to 28-23, but their outside kick attempt failed and Kentucky hung on to win.

Kentucky returned to action the following week, hitting the road for the first time this season. The Cats visited Williams-Brice Stadium to face South Carolina.

SCORING SUMMARY

Chattanooga	7	3	3	10	-	23
Kentucky	7	7	0	14	-	28

- 1st 10:43 UKY - #6 J.Ali 11 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 9-70, 04:11 0-7
- 1st 06:56 CHA - #12 R.Henderson 12 yd pass from #18 C.Copeland (#62 A.Sears kick), 6-75, 03:47 7-7
- 2nd 13:29 UKY - #81 I.Epps 20 yd pass from #7 W.Lewis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-68, 02:51 7-14
- 2nd 08:47 CHA - #62 A.Sears 27 yd FG, 4-5, 01:36 10-14
- 3rd 10:43 CHA - #62 A.Sears 43 yd FG, 10-49, 04:17 13-14
- 4th 13:27 CHA - #62 A.Sears 30 yd FG, 7-53, 02:36 16-14
- 4th 10:18 UKY - #84 I.Cummings 31 yd pass from #7 W.Lewis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-77, 03:03 16-21
- 4th 07:40 UKY - #23 T.Ajian 95 yd interception return (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 02:38 16-28
- 4th 01:20 CHA - #18 C.Copeland 2 yd rush (#62 A.Sears kick), 14-75, 06:20 23-28

TEAM STATISTICS

	UTC	UK
First Downs	16	20
Rush Att./Net Rush	28/171	27/102
Passing C/A/I	21/35/1	23/35/2
Offensive Plays	63	62
Total Offense	339	356
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	3/1
Penalties/Yards	5/40	8/60
Punts/Average	5/46.8	4/50.5
Third-Down Conv.	7 of 15	5 of 11
Time of Possession	31:42	28:18

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UTC - Ford 21-128, Price 6-41, Copeland 1-2-1  
UK - Rodriguez Jr. 13-46, Smoke 7-27, Levis 3-18, Ali 1-11-1, Drennen 1-1

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

UTC - Copeland 21-35-1-168-1  
UK - Levis 23-35-2-254-2

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UTC - Henderson 9-75-1, Arnett 3-21, James 3-13, Ford 3-15, McKinnon 1-26, Mayes 2-9, Smith 1-2  
UK - Robinson 8-111, Ali 5-53, Rigg 3-18, Epps 2-21-1, Bates 2-2, Cummings 1-31-1, Harris 2-10, Drennen 1-8

TACKLES

UTC - Boeck 13, Lawson 9, Dowdell 8  
UK - Valentine 11, Jones 9, Corker 6

4

KENTUCKY 16, SOUTH CAROLINA 10

SEPT. 25, 2021 • COLUMBIA, S.C.  
WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM (77,559)



Chris Rodriguez Jr. rushed for 144 yards and the Kentucky defense made a number of crucial stops as the Cats topped South Carolina 16-10 at Williams-Brice Stadium.

Rodriguez led the charge on the ground as the Cats rushed 44 times for 230 yards in the game. Kavosiey Smoke had 50 yards and a touchdown on nine carries and quarterback Will Levis carried five times for 30 yards.

Levis connected on 15 of 22 through the air for 102 yards in the game. Wan'Dale Robinson was his favorite target on this night, catching seven passes for 65 yards.

Kentucky (4-0, 2-0 SEC) got a big defensive effort in the game. The Cats held the Gamecocks to 216 total yards and just 58 yards on the ground. UK had five tackles for loss, including a pair of sacks, in the contest. DeAndre Square led the defensive charge with eight tackles, while Carrington Valentine had four tackles, including a sack. J.J. Weaver accounted for the other UK sack in the game.

The Cats took the opening kickoff and used the ground game to march down the field. Rodriguez carried four times for 35 yards and Kavosiey Smoke rushed twice for 23 yards and a 15-yard touchdown to get the Cats on the board. Matt Ruffolo added the point after and Kentucky led 7-0 with 8:27 left in the first quarter. The Cats would lead the rest of the way.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	7	3	3	3	-	16
South Carolina	0	0	7	3	-	10

- 1st 08:27 UKY - #0 K.Smoke 15 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 12-75, 06:33 7-0
- 2nd 00:00 UKY - #96 M.Ruffolo 43 yd FG, 10-57, 04:39 10-0
- 3rd 10:52 USC - #3 J.Brooks 5 yd pass from #4 L.Doty (#43 P.White kick), 10-75, 04:08 10-7
- 3rd 03:43 UKY - #96 M.Ruffolo 21 yd FG, 13-67, 07:09 13-7
- 4th 04:26 UKY - #96 M.Ruffolo 27 yd FG, 9-51, 05:17 16-7
- 4th 02:31 USC - #43 P.White 54 yd FG, 5-39, 01:55 16-10

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	USC
First Downs	22	12
Rush Att./Net Rush	44/230	26/58
Passing C/A/I	15/22/1	17/25/0
Offensive Plays	66	51
Total Offense	332	216
Fumbles/Lost	4/2	0/0
Penalties/Yards	4/29	5/45
Punts/Average	3/40.7	5/42.8
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 12	3 of 12
Time of Possession	35:36	24:24

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UK - Rodriguez Jr. 26-144, Smoke 9-50-1, Levis 5-20, Robinson 1-5  
USC - Harris 12-38, McDowell 5-13, Doty 8-4, Lloyd 1-3

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

UK - Levis 15-22-1-102-0  
USC - Doty 17-25-0-158-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UK - Robinson 7-65, Ali 4-14, Rodriguez Jr. 2-5, Bates 1-15, Smoke 1-3  
USC - Brooks 4-63-1, Harris 4-13, Vann 3-16, McDowell 2-16, Powers 2-12, Muse 2-25, Jenkins 1-13

TACKLES

UK - Square 8, Ajian 4, Valentine 4, Corker 4, Jones 4  
USC - Foster 12, Johnson 11, Roderick 10, Staley 9, Enagbare 6





5

#RV/23 KENTUCKY 20, #10/9 FLORIDA 13

OCT. 2, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (61,632)



Josh Paschal blocked a field goal that Trevin Wallace returned 76 yards for a touchdown as No. 23 Kentucky upset ninth-ranked Florida 20-13 at Kroger Field.

With Florida holding a 10-7 advantage in the third quarter, Paschal used all of his 6-3 frame to successfully block the 48-yard Jace Christmann attempt. Trevin Wallace then snatched the ball at the Kentucky 24 and rapidly sped down the sideline 76 yards until reaching the end zone, giving UK a lead that it would never surrender.

It was the UK defense and special teams that carried the team all evening, as Kentucky beat Florida in Lexington for the first time since 1986 and for just the second time in the last 35 meetings.

Chris Rodriguez Jr. carried the offensive load for the Cats with 99 yards and a touchdown in the game. Quarterback Will Levis was six of 15 through the air for 74 yards and a score.

DeAndre Square led the defensive attack with 13 tackles, while Jacquez Jones had nine tackles, one tackle for loss and a pass breakup on Florida's final offensive play of the game. Paschal has seven tackles, including two and a half for loss, in addition to the blocked kick, the third of his UK career.

SCORING SUMMARY

Florida	7	3	0	3	-	13
Kentucky	7	0	6	7	-	20

1st 07:57 UFL - #0 J.Fraziars 7 yd pass from #5 E.Jones (#47 J.Christmann kick), 7-60, 03:08 7-0  
 1st 05:19 UKY - #1 W.Robinson 41 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-75, 02:38 7-7  
 2nd 05:32 UFL - #47 J.Christmann 51 yd FG, 11-55, 06:14 10-7  
 3rd 06:36 UKY - #32 T.Wallace 76 yd blocked field goal return (#96 M.Ruffolo kick blocked), 02:36 10-13  
 4th 11:32 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 9 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-29, 02:13 10-20  
 4th 06:23 UFL - #47 J.Christmann 33 yd FG, 13-59, 05:09 13-20

TEAM STATISTICS

	UF	UK
First Downs	21	13
Rush Att./Net Rush	39/171	30/137
Passing C/A/I	24/32/1	7/17/1
Offensive Plays	71	47
Total Offense	382	224
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	5/115	4/30
Punts/Average	5/42.8	6/42.5
Third-Down Conv.	4 of 13	1 of 9
Time of Possession	36:18	23:42

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UF - Jones 13-63, Pierce 8-54, Richardson 5-25, Davis 8-22, Wright 5-7  
 UK - Rodriguez 19-99-1, Levis 6-21, Smoke 4-17

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

UF - Jones 23-31-1-203-1, Richardson 1-1-0-8-0  
 UK - Levis 7-17-1-87-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UF - Copeland 6-59, Whittemore 4-36, Wright 3-26, Shorter 3-19, Henderson 2-31, Gamble 2-13  
 UK - W. Robinson 4-65-1, Ali 1-15, Bates 1-11

TACKLES

UF - Diabate 11, Dean III 8, Burney 4, Cox 4  
 UK - Square 13, Jones 9, Ajian 8, Valentine 8, Corker 8

6

#16/14 KENTUCKY 42, LSU 21

OCT. 9, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (61,690)



Chris Rodriguez Jr. rushed for 147 yards and quarterback Will Levis accounted for five touchdowns as No. 16/14 Kentucky topped LSU 42-21 at Kroger Field.

With the win, Kentucky moved to 6-0 on the season and 4-0 in the SEC. It's the first time Kentucky has been 6-0 since 1950 and just the fifth time in school history.

Kavosey Smoke also had a big night on the ground for the Cats, amassing 104 yards rushing. UK quarterback Will Levis had 75 yards and two touchdowns on the ground as Kentucky rushed for 330 yards as a team.

Levis hit on 14 of 17 passing for 145 yards and three touchdowns. Wan'Dale Robinson was the favorite target for Levis on this evening, catching eight passes for 60 yards and a score.

LSU (3-3, 1-3) took the opening possession and made a pair of first downs before the UK defense made yet another big play. DeAndre Square sacked LSU quarterback Max Johnson and forced a fumble that was recovered by Josaih Hayes at the LSU 44 yard line.

Kentucky would convert the turnover into points. The Cats drove into the LSU red zone and, on fourth-and-goal from the three, Levis connected with Rodriguez on a touchdown pass in the right side of the end zone. Matt Ruffolo added the PAT and UK grabbed a 7-0 lead with 6:17 to play in the first quarter.

From there, the Cats would never look back, building the lead as large as 35-7 before settling for the 21-point victory.

SCORING SUMMARY

LSU	0	0	7	14	-	21
Kentucky	7	7	14	14	-	42

1st 06:17 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 3 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 9-44, 04:55 0-7  
 2nd 14:54 UKY - #1 W.Robinson 11 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-69, 02:31 0-14  
 3rd 10:57 UKY - #7 W.Levis 1 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-75, 04:03 0-21  
 3rd 06:43 LSU - #3 T.Davis-Price 1 yd rush (#36 C.York kick), 9-75, 04:14 7-21  
 3rd 01:06 UKY - #7 W.Levis 5 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 10-75, 05:37 7-28  
 4th 12:07 UKY - #17 J.McClain 25 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 3-56, 01:19 7-35  
 4th 11:03 LSU - #8 M.Nabers 41 yd pass from #14 M.Johnson (#36 C.York kick), 4-75, 01:04 14-35  
 4th 05:29 LSU - #3 T.Davis-Price 2 yd rush (#36 C.York kick), 11-78, 03:24 21-35  
 4th 04:23 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 18 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 4-44, 01:04 21-42

TEAM STATISTICS

	LSU	UK
First Downs	22	24
Rush Att./Net Rush	35/147	45/330
Passing C/A/I	22/38/0	14/17/0
Offensive Plays	73	62
Total Offense	408	475
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	0/0
Penalties/Yards	4/18	3/25
Punts/Average	3/53.3	3/45.7
Third-Down Conv.	7 of 15	2 of 7
Time of Possession	27:48	32:12

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

LSU - Davis-Price 22-147-2, Goodwin 4-18, Kiner 4-5  
 UK - Rodriguez 16-147-1, Smoke 12-104, Levis 11-75-2, McClain 1-5, Drennen 3-0

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

LSU - Johnson 22-38-0-261-1  
 UK - Levis 14-17-0-145-3

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

LSU - Boutte 8-73, Nabers 3-66-1, Thomas Jr. 3-45, Jenkins 3-39, Bech 3-20  
 UK - W. Robinson 8-60-1, Epps 2-27, Rigg 1-34, McClain 2-25-1, Rodriguez Jr. 1-3-1

TACKLES

LSU - Clark 14, Baskerville 7, Ward 5  
 UK - Jones 9, Square 8, Valentine 7, Corker 7, Wright 6, Robinson 5





#1/1 GEORGIA 30, #11/11 KENTUCKY 13

7

OCT. 16, 2021 • ATHENS, GA.  
SANFORD STADIUM (92,746)



Will Levis passed for 198 yards and two scores but it was not enough as No. 11 Kentucky fell at top-ranked Georgia, 30-13.

Levis connected on 32 of his 42 passes, including one-yard touchdown strikes to Justin Rigg and Wan'Dale Robinson in the game. The Cats struggled to run the ball, amassing just 51 yards on the ground against the nation's number one defense.

Kentucky's defense was led by Josh Paschal, who had six tackles, including one for a loss, and Georgia native Yusuf Corker, who had five tackles, one for a loss and a pass breakup.

The teams were scoreless after one period of play. But early in the second quarter, Georgia took a 7-0 lead. After a Kentucky punt, Georgia would score again, and the Bulldogs led 14-0 in the second quarter.

Kentucky had its best drive of the first half on its next possession. The Cats used a nice mix of running and passing plays, including a hook-and-ladder, to get into the Georgia red zone. Levis connected with Chris Rodriguez Jr. on a swing pass to get the Cats to the UGA one. From there, Levis connected with tight end Justin Rigg for a one-yard touchdown pass. Matt Ruffolo added the PAT and Georgia led 14-7 after a 15-play, 75-yard drive.

But the Cats could get no closer.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	0	7	0	6	-	13
Georgia	0	14	10	6	-	30

2nd 14:54 UGA - #4 J.Cook 19 yd pass from #13 S.Bennett (#96 J.Podlesny kick), 5-50, 02:35 0-7  
 2nd 10:35 UGA - #3 Z.White 24 yd rush (#96 J.Podlesny kick), 5-80, 02:11 0-14  
 2nd 03:53 UKY - #83 J.Rigg 1 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 13-75, 06:42 7-14  
 3rd 12:13 UGA - #19 B.Bowers 27 yd pass from #13 S.Bennett (#96 J.Podlesny kick), 6-75, 02:47 7-21  
 3rd 07:21 UGA - #96 J.Podlesny 26 yd FG, 8-63, 03:55 7-24  
 4th 11:27 UGA - #19 B.Bowers 20 yd pass from #13 S.Bennett (#96 J.Podlesny kick missed), 7-82, 11:27 7-30  
 4th 00:04 UKY - #1 W.Robinson 1 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick blocked), 22-75, 11:23 13-30

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	UGA
First Downs	16	20
Rush Att./Net Rush	27/51	27/166
Passing C/A/I	32/42/0	14/20/0
Offensive Plays	69	47
Total Offense	243	416
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	2/0
Penalties/Yards	3/15	5/42
Punts/Average	7/51.1	4/47.2
Third-Down Conv.	9 of 19	2 of 7
Time of Possession	37:47	21:15

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UGA - Cook 6-51, White 12-46-1, Milton 4-33, Bennett 3-22, McConkey 1-15  
 UK - Smoke 5-14, Levis 10-12, McClain 4-12, Rodriguez Jr. 7-7, Robinson 1-6

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

UGA - Bennett 14-20-250-3  
 UK - Levis 32-42-0-192-2

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UGA - Bowers 5-101-2, Mitchell 3-43, Washington 2-37, FitzPatrick 1-2, Cook 1-19, McConkey 1-15, White 1-15  
 UK - W. Robinson 12-39-1, Rigg 4-24-1, Rodriguez Jr. 3-10, Epps 3-27, Cummings 3-22, Harris 2-31, Bates 2-13, McClain 2-12

TACKLES

UGA - Walker 9, Ringo 7, Dean 7, Jackson 7, Kendrick 7  
 UK - Paschal 6, Mosely 4, Jones 4, Square 4, Corker 4

8

MISSISSIPPI STATE 31, #12/12 KENTUCKY 31

OCT. 30, 2021 • STARKVILLE, MISS.  
DAVIS WADE STADIUM (49,487)



No. 12 Kentucky struggled to get anything going offensively and was hurt by turnovers as the Cats lost to Mississippi State 31-17 at Davis Wade Stadium.

Quarterback Will Levis connected on 17 of 28 through the air for 150 yards and a touchdown. However, Levis was intercepted three times in the game.

Kentucky (6-2, 4-2 SEC) had just 66 yards rushing on Saturday, well below the Cats' season average. Chris Rodriguez Jr. led UK with eight carries for 34 yards.

Wan'Dale Robinson caught nine passes for 79 yards to lead the Cats in that department. No other Wildcat had more than two catches.

The UK defense spent a lot of time on the field in the game and the tackling numbers reflected that. UK had four players with double-figure tackles on Saturday. Linebacker Jacques Jones led the way with 18 tackles, while DeAndre Square and Trevin Wallace each had 12. Yusuf Corker had 11 stops for the Cats in the game.

In the first quarter, Josh Ali fielded the punt at the UK 26 and took it to the left, turned the corner and went 74 yards for the special teams touchdown. Matt Ruffolo added the point after and Kentucky grabbed a 7-0 lead with 7:14 left in the first quarter.

Unfortunately, the Cats would fall behind and eventually drop their second straight contest.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	7	3	0	7	-	17
Mississippi State	0	14	17	0	-	31

1st 07:14 UK - Josh Ali 74 yd punt return (Matt Ruffolo kick) 7 - 0  
 2nd 12:14 UK - Matt Ruffolo 41 yd field goal, 14-48 6:32 10 - 0  
 07:45 MS - J. Marks 7 yd run (Brandon Ruiz kick), 8-75 4:29 10 - 7  
 01:40 MS - Dillon Johnson 9 yd run (Brandon Ruiz kick), 9-75 4:21 10 - 14  
 3rd 06:34 MS - Brandon Ruiz 27 yd field goal, 14-66 8:26 10 - 17  
 04:44 MS - Dillon Johnson 1 yd run (Brandon Ruiz kick), 3-22 1:09 10 - 24  
 02:51 MS - Rara Thomas 25 yd pass from Will Rogers (Brandon Ruiz kick), 3-24 1:45 10 - 31  
 4th 13:37 UK - Demarcus Harris 17 yd pass from Will Levis (Matt Ruffolo kick), 10-75 4:14 17 - 31

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	MSU
First Downs	14	27
Rush Att./Net Rush	20/66	35/94
Passing C/A/I	17/28/3	36/39/0
Offensive Plays	48	74
Total Offense	216	438
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	0/0
Penalties/Yards	6/68	11/88
Punts/Average	3/53.7	3/37.0
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 10	7 of 12
Time of Possession	18:50	41:10

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

MSU - Marks 20-58-1, Johnson 11-41-2  
 UK - Rodriguez 8-34, Smoke 8-19, Levis 3-9, W. Robinson 1-4

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)

MSU - Rogers 36-39-0-344-1  
 UK - Levis 17-28-3-150-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

MSU - Mark 9-57, Walley 6-95, Polk 5-51, Williams 4-32, Johnson 4-30, Griffin 2-16, Thomas 1-25-1  
 UK - W. Robinson 9-79, Harris 2-30-1, Rodriguez 2-23, Ali 2-9, Cummings 1-5, Rigg 1-4

TACKLES

MSU - Johnson 9, Forbes 6, Watson 5  
 UK - Jones 18, Wallace 12, Square 12, Corker 11







9

TENNESSEE 45, #18/17 KENTUCKY 42

NOV. 6, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (61,690)



No. 18 Kentucky amassed 612 yards of total offense on Saturday night but the Cats came up just short, falling to Tennessee 45-42 at Kroger Field.

Quarterback Will Levis connected on 31 of 49 through the air for 372 yards and three touchdowns with an interception. Levis also rushed 15 times for 47 yards and two touchdowns.

Chris Rodriguez Jr. led the Cats' ground attack with 109 yards on 22 carries. Wide receiver Wan'Dale Robinson caught 13 passes for 166 yards and a score.

Tennessee wasted no time getting on the board. On the first play from scrimmage, quarterback Hendon Hooker hit JaVonta Payton with a screen pass that Payton took 75 yards for a touchdown. Chase McGrath added the point after and the Vols had a 7-0 lead just 11 seconds into the game.

Kentucky answered right back. With their first possession, the Cats relied on the run game, with both Rodriguez and Kavosiey Smoke gaining significant ground. UK would cover 75 yards in 14 plays, taking 8:36 off the clock. The drive ended with a nine-yard touchdown rush from Smoke. Matt Ruffolo added the PAT and the game was tied 7-7 with 6:13 to play in the first quarter.

The teams would go back and forth all night but in the end, the Vols held on for the tight win.

SCORING SUMMARY

Tennessee	14	10	14	7	-	45
Kentucky	7	14	14	7	-	42

- 1st 14:49 UTK - #3 J. Payton 75 yd pass from #5 H. Hooker (#40 C. McGrath kick), 1-75, 00:11 7-0
- 1st 06:13 UKY - #0 K. Smoke 9 yd rush (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 14-75, 08:36 7-7
- 1st 05:47 UTK - #1 V. Jones Jr. 72 yd pass from #5 H. Hooker (#40 C. McGrath kick), 3-75, 00:26 14-7
- 2nd 10:23 UKY - #7 W. Levis 8 yd rush (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 6-71, 03:11 14-14
- 2nd 03:57 UKY - #83 J. Rigg 3 yd pass from #7 W. Levis (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 11-68, 05:23 14-21
- 2nd 01:14 UTK - #87 J. Warren 18 yd pass from #5 H. Hooker (#40 C. McGrath kick), 7-52, 02:36 21-21
- 2nd 00:00 UTK - #40 C. McGrath 43 yd FG, 4-35, 00:16 24-21
- 3rd 09:56 UKY - #7 W. Levis 2 yd rush (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 10-75, 05:04 24-28
- 3rd 09:11 UTK - #2 J. Small 37 yd rush (#40 C. McGrath kick), 3-49, 00:37 31-28
- 3rd 06:23 UTK - #2 A. Taylor 56 yd interception return (#40 C. McGrath kick), 02:48 38-28
- 3rd 01:20 UKY - #1 W. Robinson 15 yd pass from #7 W. Levis (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 9-75, 05:03 38-35
- 4th 11:40 UTK - #4 C. Tillman 6 yd pass from #5 H. Hooker (#40 C. McGrath kick), 3-47, 00:44 45-35
- 4th 09:36 UKY - #84 I. Cummings 24 yd pass from #7 W. Levis (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 5-75, 02:04 45-42

TEAM STATISTICS

	UT	UK
First Downs	17	35
Rush Att./Net Rush	27/145	49/225
Passing C/A/I	15/20/0	32/50/1
Offensive Plays	47	99
Total Offense	461	612
Fumbles/Lost	3/1	0/0
Penalties/Yards	6/40	7/58
Punts/Average	1/52.0	0
Third-Down Conv.	3 of 8	12 of 17
Time of Possession	13:52	46:08

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)**  
 UT - Small 4-55-1, Wright 7-50, Hooker 11-41  
 UK - Rodriguez 22-109, Smoke 11-53-1, McClain 1-16

**PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)**  
 UT - Hooker 15-20-0-316-4  
 UK - Levis 31-49-1-372-3

**RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)**  
 UT - Tillman 6-79-1, Jones 5-100-1, Payton 2-78-1, Hyatt 1-41, Warren 1-18-1  
 UK - W. Robinson 13-166-1, Ali 7-74, Cummings 4-7-1, Rigg 3-20-1, Bates 2-16, Magwood 1-17, Levis 1-15, McClain 1-2

**TACKLES**  
 UT - Banks 14, Beasley 14, Jackson 11  
 UK - Tisdale 6, Jones 5, Weaver 4, Corker 4

10

KENTUCKY 34, VANDERBILT 17

NOV. 13, 2021 • NASHVILLE, TENN.  
VANDERBILT STADIUM (25,798)



Kentucky scored on its first four possessions of the game, building a sizeable lead in the process, and went on to beat Vanderbilt 34-17 at Vanderbilt Stadium.

Quarterback Will Levis connected on 14 of his 22 passes for 177 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Chris Rodriguez Jr. had 114 yards rushing and a touchdown, while JuTahn McClain had a career high 69 yards on 10 carries.

Wan'Dale Robinson caught six passes for 75 yards and a score, while Josh Ali caught four balls for 58 yards.

Kentucky (7-3, 5-3 SEC) had 413 yards of total offense in the game, with 236 yards rushing and 177 of it coming

through the air.

On defense, the Cats had six tackles for loss, including four sacks in the game. Josh Paschal led the way with a pair of sacks, while Justin Rogers had two tackles for loss, including a sack.

On its first possession of the game, Kentucky's offense picked up exactly where it left off last week. The Cats used a nice mix of run and pass, including three completions from Levis to Robinson, to cover 85 yards in 10 plays. The final play was as five-yard touchdown pass from Levis to Robinson in the corner of the end zone. Matt Ruffolo added the point after and Kentucky led 7-0 with 6:07 left in the first period. From there, the Cats would never trail and would snap a three-game losing streak.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	7	24	0	3	-	34
Vanderbilt	3	0	8	6	-	17

- 1st 06:07 KEN - #1 W. Robinson 6 yd pass from #7 W. Levis (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 10-85, 05:31 7-0
- 1st 00:44 VAN - #36 J. Bulovas 48 yd FG, 10-45, 05:23 7-3
- 2nd 14:53 KEN - #84 I. Cummings 22 yd pass from #7 W. Levis (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 3-71, 00:45 14-3
- 2nd 13:09 KEN - #34 J. Geiger 0 yd interception return (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 01:39 21-3
- 2nd 10:43 KEN - #24 C. Rodriguez Jr. 5 yd rush (#96 M. Ruffolo kick), 3-48, 01:05 28-3
- 2nd 03:46 KEN - #96 M. Ruffolo 25 yd FG, 8-67, 03:32 31-3
- 3rd 05:53 VAN - #19 C. Pierce 8 yd pass from #5 M. Wright (#7 C. Johnson pass from #5 M. Wright), 12-72, 05:51 31-11
- 4th 13:26 KEN - #96 M. Ruffolo 32 yd FG, 14-61, 07:27 34-11
- 4th 07:33 VAN - #2 A. Abdur-Rahman 8 yd pass from #5 M. Wright (#42 P. Smith pass from #5 M. Wright failed), 11-75, 05:53 34-17

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	VU
First Downs	21	16
Rush Att./Net Rush	36/236	30/96
Passing C/A/I	14/22/1	20/29/1
Offensive Plays	58	59
Total Offense	413	266
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	1/0
Penalties/Yards	4/45	6/31
Punts/Average	2/45.5	4/38.2
Third-Down Conv.	3 of 9	5 of 15
Time of Possession	29:46	30:14

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)**  
 VU - Smith 18-84, Wright 7-20, Zigor III 2-13, Seals 3-(21)  
 UK - Rodriguez 16-114-1, McClain 10-69, Levis 6-32, Robinson 1-23, Smoke 1-1

**PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)**  
 VU - Seals 12-17-1-87-0, Wright 7-11-0-58-2, Johnson 1-1-0-25-0  
 UK - Levis 14-22-1-177-2

**RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)**  
 VU - Abdur-Rahman 7-65-1, Pierce 6-69-1, Smith 3-9, Bresnahan 1-11, Johnson 1-7, Zigor III 2-5, Boddie 1-4  
 UK - W. Robinson 6-75-1, Ali 4-58, Cummings 2-27-1, Harris 1-10, Rigg 1-7

**TACKLES**  
 VU - Jedy 8, Worship 6, Barr 5, James 5  
 UK - Corker 8, Paschal 7, Valentine 5, Square 5, Jones 5





11

KENTUCKY 56, NEW MEXICO STATE 16

NOV. 20, 2021 • LEXINGTON, KY.  
KROGER FIELD (47,749)



Quarterback Will Levis passed for a career high 412 yards and four touchdowns as Kentucky beat New Mexico State 56-16 on Senior Day at Kroger Field.

Kentucky (8-3) amassed 707 yards of total offense in the game, the second-highest total in school history. Kentucky's only greater output came when the Cats piled up 801 yards against Louisville on Sept. 5, 1998.

Levis connected on 21 of 31 through the air on his way to the most passing yards by a UK quarterback in 14 years (Andre Woodson had 430 against Tennessee in 2007).

Wan'Dale Robinson was on the receiving end of eight of those passes, covering 181 yards. Senior Josh Ali caught seven passes for a career high 164 yards and two touchdowns.

On the ground, Chris Rodriguez Jr. rushed 16 times for 119 yards and a score, while freshman La'Veell Wright had 75 yards on just six carries.

After falling behind 7-0, Kentucky scored 21 points in a row to take command of the game. The Cats would shut out the Aggies in the second half on their way to the big win.

SCORING SUMMARY

New Mexico State	7	9	0	0	-	16
Kentucky	21	14	14	7	-	56

- 1st 12:18 NMS - #80 T.Brohard 25 yd fumble return (#84 E.Albertson kick), 01:24 7-0
- 1st 09:27 UKY - #83 J.Rigg 32 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-81, 02:44 7-7
- 1st 05:54 UKY - #21 Q.Mosely 38 yd interception return (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 00:08 7-14
- 1st 00:02 UKY - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 6 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 8-91, 04:34 7-21
- 2nd 12:06 NMS - #84 E.Albertson 50 yd FG, 9-43, 02:56 10-21
- 2nd 09:19 UKY - #6 J.Ali 9 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-75, 02:47 10-28
- 2nd 05:16 NMS - #84 E.Albertson 30 yd FG, 10-60, 03:58 13-28
- 2nd 00:46 UKY - #83 J.Rigg 2 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-65, 01:28 13-35
- 2nd 00:00 NMS - #84 E.Albertson 32 yd FG, 4-55, 00:39 16-35
- 3rd 08:09 UKY - #6 J.Ali 62 yd pass from #7 W.Levis (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-90, 03:44 16-42
- 3rd 00:18 UKY - #0 K.Smoke 23 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 3-33, 01:25 16-49
- 4th 11:40 UKY - #11 B.Allen 3 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-82, 03:05 16-56

TEAM STATISTICS

	NMST	UK
First Downs	13	29
Rush Att./Net Rush	26/101	36/248
Passing C/A/I	16/35/1	24/35/1
Offensive Plays	61	71
Total Offense	282	707
Fumbles/Lost	2/1	3/3
Penalties/Yards	4/40	7/69
Punts/Average	10/40.8	2/33.5
Third-Down Conv.	4 of 16	6 of 9
Time of Possession	26:07	33:53

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)**  
 NMST - Price 11-56, Johnson 9-35, Escobar 5-18, Garcia-Castaneda 1-6  
 UK - Rodriguez 16-119-1, Wright 6-75, Smoke 3-35-1, Levis 4-11, Markray 2-10, McClain 2-2

**PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)**  
 NMST - Johnson 16-35-1-181-0  
 UK - Levis 21-31-1-419-4, Allen 3-4-0-40-0

**RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)**  
 NMST - Price 4-7, Escobar 3-24, Garcia-Castaneda 2-33, Johnson III 2-8, Bodison 2-24, Powers 1-41, Wyatt 1-17, Warner 1-6  
 UK - W. Robinson 8-181, Ali 7-164-2, Harris 3-37, Rigg 2-34, Dingle 1-23, Epps 1-12, McClain 1-7, Bates 1-1

**TACKLES**  
 NMST - McCullough 8, Brohard 7, Giacalone 7, Mills 6  
 UK - Jones 8, Corker 7, Paschal 6

12

KENTUCKY 52, LOUISVILLE 21

NOV. 27, 2021 • LOUISVILLE, KY.  
CARDINAL STADIUM (55,018)



Kentucky quarterback Will Levis rushed 14 times for 113 yards and four touchdowns as Kentucky thumped archrival Louisville 52-21 at Cardinal Stadium.

Levis was also 14 of 18 through the air for 149 yards in the game.

Chris Rodriguez Jr. rushed 16 times for 121 yards and a score, leading a rushing attack that racked up 362 yards on 49 carries in the game. Altogether, Kentucky had 511 yards of offense in the game.

Wan'Dale Robinson caught nine passes for 97 yards, setting the UK single-season mark for receptions in a season along the way.

Kentucky took the opening kickoff and went immediately into attack mode. Levis connected with Robinson for 29 yards on the first play to get into Louisville territory. The Cats would make another first down before facing a third and three from the U of L 29. From there, Levis took off on a designed quarterback run and went virtually untouched into the end zone for the touchdown. Matt Ruffolo added the PAT at the Cats led 7-0 with 12:22 left in the first quarter.

Louisville would tie the game at 7-7 but the Cats would answer with another scoring drive before the end of the quarter. The Cats would march 75 yards in 12 plays, using seven rushes and five passes. At the end of the drive, it was Levis rushing for the score again, this time from seven yards out, giving UK the lead again. Ruffolo added the PAT to make it 14-7 with 1:18 left in the first quarter. That would be the score after 15 minutes of play.

From there, Kentucky would stretch the lead as large as 38 points (45-7 and 52-14) before settling for a 31-point victory.

With the win, the Cats finished the regular season at 9-3.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	14	10	14	14	-	52
Louisville	7	0	0	14	-	21

- 1st 12:22 UK - #7 W.Levis 29 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 6-75, 02:38 7-0
- 1st 07:30 LOU - #3 M.Cunningham 2 yd rush (#32 J.Turner kick), 10-75, 04:52 7-7
- 1st 01:18 UK - #7 W.Levis 7 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 12-75, 06:12 14-7
- 2nd 08:46 UK - #96 M.Ruffolo 43 yd FG, 9-36, 05:23 17-7
- 2nd 01:53 UK - #7 W.Levis 5 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 12-65, 06:02 24-7
- 3rd 09:28 UK - #7 W.Levis 1 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 7-75, 03:41 31-7
- 3rd 03:18 UK - #24 C.Rodriguez Jr. 2 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 8-59, 04:35 38-7
- 4th 13:33 UK - #0 K.Smoke 13 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 5-51, 02:36 45-7
- 4th 08:49 LOU - #11 J.Johnson 8 yd pass from #6 E.Conley (#32 J.Turner kick), 9-70, 04:37 45-14
- 4th 03:54 UK - #29 L.Wright 41 yd rush (#96 M.Ruffolo kick), 2-64, 00:48 52-14
- 4th 00:08 LOU - #36 M.Burkley 7 yd rush (#32 J.Turner kick), 8-75, 03:46 52-21

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	UL
First Downs	29	21
Rush Att./Net Rush	49/362	31/144
Passing C/A/I	15/19/0	19/28/1
Offensive Plays	68	59
Total Offense	511	352
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	4/29	3/24
Punts/Average	1/33.0	3/36.7
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 10	3 of 9
Time of Possession	34:58	24:56

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)**  
 UK - Mitchell 11-53, Cunningham, 11-35-1, Burkley 5-33-1, Conley 2-26, Cooley 2-(-3)  
 UL - Rodriguez 16-121-1, Lewis 14-113-4, L. Wright 3-43-1, McClain 6-33, Smoke 8-31-1, Allen 1-23

**PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)**  
 UL - Cunningham 12-20-1-145-0, Conley 7-8-0-63-1  
 UK - Levis 14-18-0-149-0, Allen 1-1-0-0-0

**RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)**  
 UL - Ford 6-68, Huggins-Bruce 3-43, Watkins 2-21, Cooley 2-5  
 UK - W. Robinson 9-97, Ali 4-48

**TACKLES**  
 UL - Cole 15, Avery 9, Diaby 6, Duncan 6  
 UK - Jackson 8, Valentine 7, Corker 4, Robinson 4, Geiger 4





## 2021 GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

Game	Score	First Downs	Time of Possession	Rushing (No-Yds-TD)	Passing (Cmp-Att-Int-Yds-TD)	Total Offense (Plays-Yds-TD)	3rd Down Conversions	Fumbles-Lost
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	45	23	32:00	34-145-2	22-33-1-419-4	67-564-6	4-of-11	4-2
vs. Louisiana Monroe	10	11	28:00	43-17-1	11-20-0-70-0	63-87-1	5-of-19	0-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	35	26	32:48	52-340-4	10-18-1-179-0	70-519-5	8-of-12	1-1
vs. Missouri	28	25	27:12	24-104-0	34-52-1-294-1	76-398-4	9-of-15	1-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	28	20	28:18	27-102-1	23-35-2-246-2	62-356-3	5-of-11	3-1
vs. Chattanooga	23	16	31:42	28-171-1	21-35-1-168-1	63-339-2	7-of-15	0-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	16	22	35:36	44-230-1	15-22-1-102-0	66-332	6-of-12	4-2
at South Carolina	10	12	24:24	26-58-0	17-25-0-158-1	51-216	3-of-12	0-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	20	13	22:42	30-137-1	6-15-1-74-1	47-224	1-of-9	0-0
vs. Florida	13	20	33:42	39-171-0	24-32-1-211-1	71-382	4-of-13	0-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	42	24	32:12	45-330-3	14-17-0-145-3	62-475	2-of-7	0-0
vs. LSU	21	22	27:48	35-147-2	22-38-0-261-1	73-408	7-of-15	1-1
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	13	16	37:47	27-51-0	32-42-0-192-2	69-243	9-of-19	1-0
at Georgia	30	20	21:51	27-166-1	14-20-0-250-3	47-416	2-of-7	2-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	17	14	18:50	20-66-0	17-28-3-150-1	48-216	6-of-10	1-1
at Mississippi State	31	27	41:10	35-94-3	36-39-0-344-1	74-438	7-of-12	0-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	42	35	46:08	49-225-3	32-50-1-387-3	99-612	12-of-17	0-0
vs. Tennessee	45	17	13:52	27-145-1	15-20-0-316-4	47-461	3-of-8	1-52
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	34	21	29:46	36-236-1	14-22-1-177-2	58-413	3-of-9	0-0
at Vanderbilt	17	16	30:14	30-96-0	20-29-1-170-2	59-266	5-of-13	1-0
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	56	29	33:53	36-248-3	24-35-1-459-4	71-707	6-of-9	3-3
vs. New Mexico State	16	13	26:07	26-101-0	16-35-1-181-0	61-282	4-of-16	2-1
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	52	29	34:58	49-362-7	15-19-0-149-0	68-511	6-of-10	0-0
at Louisville	21	21	24:56	31-144-2	19-28-1-208-1	59-352	3-of-9	0-0

## GAME-BY GAME RUSHING

(No-Yds-TD)	Ali	Drennen	Levis	McClain	Robinson	Rodriguez Jr.	Smoke	Tisdale	L. Wright
vs. Louisiana Monroe	0-0-0	3-16-1	4-(-6)-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	19-125-1	5-26-0	1-4-0	0-0-0
vs. Missouri	0-0-0	0-0-0	11-38-1	0-0-0	3-73-0	27-206-3	8-41-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. Chattanooga	1-11-1	1-1-0	3-18-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	13-46-0	7-27-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at South Carolina	2-2-0	0-0-0	5-30-0	0-0-0	1-5-0	26-144-0	9-50-1	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. Florida	0-0-0	0-0-0	6-21-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	19-99-1	4-17-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. LSU	0-0-0	3-0-0	11-75-2	1-5-0	0-0-0	16-147-1	12-104-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Georgia	0-0-0	0-0-0	10-14-0	4-12-0	1-6-0	7-7-0	5-14-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Mississippi State	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-9-0	0-0-0	1-4-0	8-34-0	8-19-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. Tennessee	0-0-0	0-0-0	15-47-2	1-16-0	0-0-0	22-109-0	11-53-1	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0	0-0-0	6-32-0	10-69-0	1-23-0	16-114-1	1-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. New Mexico State	0-0-0	0-0-0	4-11-0	2-2-0	0-0-0	16-119-1	3-35-1	0-0-0	6-75-0
at Louisville	0-0-0	0-0-0	14-114-4	6-33-0	0-0-0	16-121-1	8-31-1	0-0-0	3-43-1

## GAME-BY GAME RECEIVING

(Rec-Yds-TD)	Ali	Bates	Crumes	Cummings	Drennen	Epps	Harris	Lewis	McClain	Rigg	Robinson	Rodriguez Jr.	Smoke
vs. ULM	5-136-1	1-4-1	1-10-0	1-7-0	0-0-0	3-83-0	1-4-0	1-4-0	0-0-0	1-5-0	5-125-2	2-10-0	0-0-0
vs. Missouri	2-30-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-15-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-28-0	5-101-0	1-5-1	0-0-0
vs. Chattanooga	5-53-0	2-2-0	0-0-0	1-31-1	1-8-0	2-21-1	1-10-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-10-0	8-111-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at South Carolina	4-14-0	1-15-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	7-65-0	2-5-0	1-3-0
vs. Florida	1-15-0	1-11-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-(-4)-0	0-0-0	3-52-1	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. LSU	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-(-5)-0	2-28-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-25-1	1-34-0	8-60-1	1-3-1	0-0-0
at Georgia	0-0-0	3-13-0	0-0-0	3-22-0	0-0-0	3-27-0	2-31-0	0-0-0	2-12-0	4-24-1	12-39-1	4-10-0	1-14-0
at Mississippi State	2-9-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-5-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-30-1	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-4-0	9-79-0	2-23-0	0-0-0
vs. Tennessee	7-74-0	2-18-0	0-0-0	4-75-1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-2-0	3-20-1	13-166-1	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Vanderbilt	4-58-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-27-1	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-10-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-7-0	6-75-1	0-0-0	0-0-0
vs. NMST	7-164-2	1-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-12-0	3-37-0	0-0-0	1-7-0	2-34-2	8-181-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Louisville	4-48-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	1-4-0	9-97-0	0-0-0	0-0-0



**GAME-BY-GAME PASSING**

(Cmp-Att-Int-Yds-TD)	Allen	Levis
vs. ULM	4-7-0-52-0	18-26-1-367-4
vs. Missouri	0-0-0-0-0	10-18-1-179-1
vs. Chattanooga	0-0-0-0-0	23-35-2-246-2
at South Carolina	0-0-0-0-0	15-22-1-102-0
vs. Florida	0-0-0-0-0	6-15-1-74-1
vs. LSU	0-0-0-0-0	14-17-0-145-3
at Georgia	0-0-0-0-0	32-42-0-192-2
at Mississippi State	0-0-0-0-0	17-28-3-150-1
vs. Tennessee	0-0-0-0	31-49-1-372-3
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0-0	14-22-1-177-2
vs. NMST	3-4-0-40-0	21-31-1-419-4
at Louisville	1-1-0-0-0	14-18-0-149-0

**GAME-BY-GAME PUNTING**

(No-Yds-Avg-LG-In20)	Berry	Goodfellow
vs. ULM	2-71-35.5-39-1	0-0-0-0-0
vs. Missouri	2-77-38.5-39-0	0-0-0-0-0
vs. Chattanooga	-	4-202-50.5-59-2
at South Carolina	-	3-122-40.7-42-1
vs. Florida	-	6-255-42.5-47-4
vs. LSU	-	3-137-45.7-48-2
at Georgia	-	7-358-51.1-70-1
at Mississippi State	-	3-161-53.7-70-1
vs. Tennessee	-	0-0-0-0
at Vanderbilt	-	2-91-45.5-51-1
vs. NMST	-	2-67-33.5-34-0
at Louisville	-	1-33-33.0-22-0

**GAME-BY-GAME FIELD GOALS**

FG Made (Miss)	Poore	Ruffolo
vs. ULM	0	1
vs. Missouri	0	0 (1)
vs. Chattanooga	0	0
at South Carolina	0	3
vs. Florida	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0
at Georgia	0	0 (1)
at Mississippi State	0	1
vs. Tennessee	0	0 (1)
at Vanderbilt	0	2 (0)
vs. NMST	0	0
at Louisville	0	1 (0)

**GAME-BY-GAME DEFENSIVE LINE (Tackles-Tackles-For-Loss-Sacks)**

Game	A-Fitzgerald	Gibson	Hayes	McCall	Oxendine	Paschal	Rogers	Rybka	Saunders
vs. ULM	4-0-0	1-0.5-0	3-0.5-0	2-0.5-0	5-1-0	7-2-1	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0
vs. Missouri	0-0-0	-	0-0-0	2-1-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	-
vs. Chattanooga	0-0-0	-	1-0-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	2-1.5-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	-
at S Carolina	0-0-0	-	1-0-0	1-1-0	2-0-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	-
vs. Florida	-	-	2-0.5-0	0-0-0	3-0.5-0	7-2.5-0	3-0-0	2-0-0	-
vs. LSU	1-0-0	-	1-0-0	-	3-2-2	3-1-0	1-0-0	3-0-0	-
at Georgia	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	-	-	6-1-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	-
at Mississippi St	1-0-0	-	4-1.0-1.0	-	-	6-2.0-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	-
vs. Tennessee	2-2.0-2.0	1-0-0	0-0-0	-	-	1-0.5-0	0-0-0	-	-
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	-	7-2.0-2.0	4-2.0-1.0	1-0-0	-
vs. NMST	2-0.5-0.5	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	-	6-1.5-1.0	1-0.5-0.5	2-0-0	1-1.0-0
at Louisville	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-0	-	2-1.0-1.0	1-0-0	0-0-0	1-1.0-0

**GAME-BY-GAME LINEBACKERS (Tackles-Tackles-For-Loss-Sacks-Pass Breakups)**

Game	Bembry	Casey	Jones	McDaniel	Square	Thrower	Wallace	Weaver	Wright
vs. ULM	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	6-3.5-1-0	1-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2-2-0	6-2-1-0
vs. Missouri	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	5-0-0-2	0-0-0-0	6-0-1-0	1-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	3-2-1	3-0-0-1
vs. Chattanooga	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	9-0-0-1	2-0-0-0	5-2-0-0	0-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	4-1-0	0-0-0-0
at S Carolina	1-1-0-0	0-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	8-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	2-1-1-0	3-0-0-1
vs. Florida	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	9-1-0-1	0-0-0-0	13-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	2-0.5-0-0	2-0-0-0
vs. LSU	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	9-1-0-0	0-0-0-0	8-1-1-0	0-0-0-0	1-1-1-0	2-0-0-0	6-1-0-0
at Georgia	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	4-0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	4-1-1-0	0-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
at Mississippi St	3-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	18-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	12-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	12-2-0-0	6-0.5-0-0	0-0-0-0
vs. Tennessee	1-0-0-0	-	5-0.5-0.5-0	0-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	4-2.5-2.5-0	-
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	-	2-0-0-0	3-1.0-0-0	-
vs. NMST	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	8-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	4-0.5-0-0	-	5-1.0-1.0-1	0-0-0-1	-
at Louisville	2-0-0	1-0-0	3-1-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	-	3-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0

**GAME-BY-GAME DEFENSIVE BACKS (Tackles-Pass Breakups-Int.)**

Game	Aijan	Corker	Dodson	Dort Jr.	Douglass	Geiger	Lovett	Mosely	Robinson	Tisdale	Valentine
vs. ULM	3-0-0	5-2-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	6-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0
vs. Missouri	8-0-0	6-0-0	0-0-0	4-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-0	5-0-0	0-0-0	5-0-0
vs. Chattanooga	3-0-1	6-2-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	5-0-0	0-0-0	11-0-0
at S Carolina	4-0-0	4-1-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	4-0-0
vs. Florida	8-2-0	8-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	6-0-0	0-0-0	8-0-0
vs. LSU	2-1-0	7-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-3-0	5-0-0	2-0-0	8-1-0
at Georgia	2-0-0	4-1-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	4-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-0
at Mississippi St	5-0-0	11-0.5-0	1-0-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	3-0-0	5-1-0	4-0-0
vs. Tennessee	0-0-0	4-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	3-1-0	0-0-0	6-0-0	2-0-0
at Vanderbilt	1-0-0	8-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-1	0-0-0	1-0-0	3-0-0	2-0-0	5-1-0
vs. NMST	1-0-0	7-0-0	1-1-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-1	2-1-0	1-0-0	2-1-0
at Louisville	2-0-0	4-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	4-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	4-0-0	2-0-0	7-0-1



## 2021 GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

## TURNOVERS

Opponent	FORCED BY KENTUCKY					FORCED BY OPPONENT			
	Fum	Int	Tot	Margin	UK Pts Off	Fum	Int	Tot	Opp Pts Off
vs. Louisiana Monroe	0	0	0	-3	0	2	1	3	10
vs. Missouri	1	1	2	0	7	1	1	2	7
vs. Chattanooga	0	1	1	-2	7	1	2	3	6
at South Carolina	0	0	0	-3	0	2	1	3	0
vs. Florida	0	1	1	0	13	0	1	1	0
vs. LSU	1	0	1	+1	7	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Mississippi State	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	14
vs. Tennessee	1	0	1	+1	7	0	1	1	7
at Vanderbilt	0	1	1	0	7	0	1	1	0
vs. New Mexico State	1	1	2	-2	7	3	1	4	7
at Louisville	0	1	1	+1	7	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>51</b>

## KENTUCKY BIG PLAYS

Opponent	RUSHING					PASSING				SPECIAL TEAMS	
	15+	20+	30+	40+	50+	20+	30+	40+	50+	Block	Return for TD
vs. Louisiana Monroe	3	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	3	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
vs. Chattanooga	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
vs. LSU	3	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Mississippi State	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Tennessee	4	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
vs. New Mexico State	2	2	0	0	1	6	2	0	2	0	0
at Louisville	1	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

## OPPONENT BIG PLAYS

Opponent	RUSHING					PASSING				SPECIAL TEAMS	
	15+	20+	30+	40+	50+	20+	30+	40+	50+	Block	Return for TD
vs. Louisiana Monroe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
vs. Chattanooga	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
vs. LSU	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	1	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	0
at Mississippi State	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
vs. New Mexico State	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>



2021 EXPLOSIVE PLAYS

RUNS 15+

Levis, 21 yards  
 Levis, 18 yards  
 Levis, 33 yards  
 Levis, 13 yards  
 Levis, 17 yards  
 Levis, 16 yards  
 Levis, 29 yards\*  
 Levis, 22 yards  
*(8 rush for 169 yards, 21.1 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Robinson, 64 yards  
 Robinson, 23 yards  
*(2 rush for 87 yards, 43.5 avg., 0 TD)*  
 Rodriguez, 16 yards  
 Rodriguez, 19 yards  
 Rodriguez, 31 yards  
 Rodriguez, 21 yards  
 Rodriguez, 31 yards  
 Rodriguez, 28 yards  
 Rodriguez, 16 yards  
 Rodriguez, 17 yards  
 Rodriguez, 21 yards  
 Rodriguez, 22 yards  
 Rodriguez, 18 yards\*  
 Rodriguez, 15 yards  
 Rodriguez, 18 yards  
 Rodriguez, 30 yards  
 Rodriguez, 17 yards  
 Rodriguez, 16 yards  
 Rodriguez, 29 yards  
 Rodriguez, 15 yards  
 Rodriguez, 41 yards\*  
*(19 rush for 421 yards, 22.2 avg., 2 TD)*  
 Smoke, 15 yards\*  
 Smoke, 32 yards  
 Smoke, 15 yards  
 Smoke, 23 yards\*  
*(4 rush for 100 yards, 25.0 avg., 2 TD)*  
 McClain, 16 yards  
 McClain, 22 yards  
 McClain, 15 yards  
*(3 rush for 53 yards, 17.7 avg., 0 TD)*  
 L. Wright, 52 yards  
 L. Wright, 41 yards\*  
*(2 rush for 93 yards, 46.5 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Allen, 23 yards  
*(1 rush for 23 yards, 23.0 avg., 0 TD)*  
**Total: 36 rush for 897 yards, 24.9 avg, 6 TD**

RECEIVING 20+

Ali, 58 yards\*  
 Ali, 23 yards  
 Ali, 24 yards  
 Ali, 24 yards  
 Ali, 25 yards  
 Ali, 26 yards  
 Ali, 21 yards  
 Ali, 62 yards\*  
*(8 rec. for 263 yards, 32.9 avg., 2 TD)*  
 Cummings, 31 yards\*  
 Cummings, 24 yards\*  
 Cummings, 28 yards  
 Cummings, 22 yards\*  
*(4 rec. for 105 yards, 26.3 avg., 3 TD)*  
 Dingle, 31 yards  
*(1 rec. for 31 yards, 31.0 avg., 0 TD)*  
 Epps, 57 yards

Epps, 20 yards\*  
 Epps, 20 yards  
*(3 rec. for 97 yards, 32.3 avg., 1 TD)*  
 McClain, 25 yards\*  
*(1 rec. for 25 yards, 25.0 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Rigg, 28 yards  
 Rigg, 34 yards  
 Rigg, 32 yards\*  
*(3 rec. for 94 yards, 31.3 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Robinson, 33 yards\*  
 Robinson, 62 yards  
 Robinson, 49 yards  
 Robinson, 33 yards  
 Robinson, 39 yards  
 Robinson, 23 yards  
 Robinson, 41 yards\*  
 Robinson, 21 yards  
 Robinson, 31 yards  
 Robinson, 27 yards  
 Robinson, 25 yards  
 Robinson, 39 yards  
 Robinson, 29 yards  
 Robinson, 23 yards  
 Robinson, 37 yards  
 Robinson, 79 yards  
 Robinson, 27 yards  
*(17 rec. for 618 yards, 36.4 avg., 2 TD)*  
 Dingle, 23 yards  
*(1 rec. for 23 yards, 23.0 avg., 0 TD)*  
**Total: 35 rec. for 1256 yards, 35.9 avg., 10 TD**

KICK RETURNS 30+

**Total: 0 return for 0 yards, 0.0 avg, 0 TD**

PUNT RETURNS 20+

Ali, 74 yards\*  
 Ali, 25 yards  
**Total: 2 return for 99 yards, 49.5 avg., 1 TD**

DEFENSIVE RETURNS 20+

Ajian, 95 yards\*  
*(1 INT. for 95 yards, 95.0 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Geiger, 31 yards\*  
*(1 INT. for 31 yards, 31.0 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Wallace, 76 yards\*  
*(1 Return for 76 yards, 76.0 avg., 1 TD)*  
 Mosely, 38 yards\*  
*(1 INT for 38 yards, 38.0 avg., 1 TD)*  
**Total: 4 returns for 239 yards, 59.8 avg., 4 TD**

UK LONG PLAYS (20+) BY THE NUMBERS

20+ Plays By Yards	No.	TD
100+	0	0
90-99	1	1
80-89	0	0
70-79	3	2
60-69	3	1
50-59	3	1
40-49	4	2
30-39	15	3
20-29	37	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>16</b>

20+ Plays By Type	No.	TD
Rushing	22	6
Passing	36	10

Punt returns	1	1
Kick returns (30+)	0	0
Interceptions	3	3
Fumble returns	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>18</b>

OPPONENT BIG PLAYS

**Total:**

Run (15+)	16 for 426 yds
Receiving (20+)	29 for 849 yds
Kick Returns (30+)	0 for 0 yds
Punt Returns (20+)	0 for 0 yds
Defensive Returns (20+)	2 for 81 yds
<b>TOTAL: 47 for 1357 yards (28.9 avg.)</b>	



2021 SCORING DRIVE ANALYSIS

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING DRIVES

Game	Plays/Yards	Qtr./Clock	Res.	Scoring Play
ULM	5/84	1/6:13	TD	Robinson 33 yard pass
ULM	1/58	1/4:20	TD	Ali 58 yard pass
ULM	14/84	2/10:40	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 2 yard run
ULM	4/80	2/5:44	TD	Robinson 15 yard pass
ULM	7/51	3/3:54	FG	Ruffolo 45 yard kick
ULM	9/80	4/13:07	TD	Bates 4 yard pass
ULM	8/68	4/1:00	TD	Drennen 4 yard run
MIZ	5/75	1/12:52	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 5 yard pass
MIZ	12/80	1/5:13	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 2 yard run
MIZ	8/92	2/9:26	TD	Levis 3 yard run
MIZ	3/38	3/13:19	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 3 yard run
MIZ	5/75	4/11:28	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 8 yard run
UTC	9/70	1/10:43	TD	Ali 11 yard rush
UTC	7/68	2/13:29	TD	Epps 20 yard pass
UTC	7/77	4/10:18	TD	Cummings 31 yard pass
SC	12/75	1/8:27	TD	Smoke 15 yard run
SC	10/57	2/0:00	FG	Ruffolo 43 yard kick
SC	13/67	3/3:43	FG	Ruffolo 21 yard kick
SC	9/51	4/4:26	FG	Ruffolo 27 yard kick
UF	5/75	1/7:57	TD	Robinson 41 yard pass
UF	5/29	4/13:45	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 9 yard run
LSU	9/44	1/6:17	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 3 yard pass
LSU	5/69	2/14:54	TD	Robinson 11 yard pass
LSU	7/75	3/10:57	TD	Levis 1 yard run
LSU	10/75	3/1:06	TD	Levis 5 yard run
LSU	3/56	4/12:07	TD	McClain 25 yard pass
LSU	4/44	4/4:23	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 18 yard run
UGA	13/75	2/3:53	TD	Rigg 1 yard pass
UGA	22/75	4/0:04	TD	Robinson 1 yard pass
MST	14/48	2/12:14	FG	Ruffolo 41 yard kick
MST	10/75	4/13:37	TD	Harris 17 yard pass
TN	14/75	1/6:13	TD	Smoke 9 yard run
TN	6/71	2/10:23	TD	Levis 8 yard run
TN	11/68	2/3:57	TD	Rigg 3 yard pass
TN	10/75	3/9:56	TD	Levis 2 yard run
TN	9/75	3/1:20	TD	Robinson 15 yard pass
TN	5/75	4/9:36	TD	Cummings 24 yard pass
VU	10/85	1/6:07	TD	Robinson 6 yard pass
VU	3/71	2/14:53	TD	Cummings 22 yard pass
VU	3/48	2/10:43	TD	Rodriguez 5 yard run
VU	8/67	2/3:46	FG	Ruffolo 25 yard kick
VU	14/61	4/13:26	FG	Ruffolo 32 yard kick
NMSU	5/81	1/9:27	TD	Rigg 32 yard pass
NMSU	8/91	1/0:02	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 6 yard run
NMSU	5/75	2/9:19	TD	Ali 9 yard pass
NMSU	7/65	2/0:46	TD	Rigg 2 yard pass
NMSU	7/90	3/8:09	TD	Ali 62 yard pass
NMSU	3/33	3/0:18	TD	Smoke 23 yard run
NMSU	7/82	4/11:40	TD	Allen 3 yard run
UL	6/75	1/12:22	TD	Levis 29 yard run
UL	12/75	1/1:18	TD	Levis 7 yard run
UL	9/36	2/8:46	FG	Ruffolo 43 yard kick
UL	12/65	2/1:53	TD	Levis 5 yard run
UL	7/75	3/9:28	TD	Levis 1 yard run
UL	8/59	3/3:18	TD	Rodriguez Jr. 2 yard run
UL	5/51	4/13:33	TD	Smoke 13 yard run
UL	2/64	4/3:54	TD	L. Wright 41 yard run

GAME OPENING DRIVES

Game	KENTUCKY		OPPONENT	
	Res/Pts	Yds	Res/Pts	Yds
ULM	INT/0	10	TD/7	43
MISSOURI	TD/7	75	Punt/0	13
CHATTANOOGA	TD/7	70	TD/7	75
SOUTH CAROLINA	TD/7	75	Punt/0	7
FLORIDA	Punt/0	5	Punt/0	34
LSU	TD/7	44	Fumble/0	19
GEORGIA	Punt/0	19	Punt/0	22
MISSISSIPPI STATE	INT/0	35	Punt/0	23
TENNESSEE	TD/7	75	TD/7	75
VANDERBILT	TD/7	85	Punt/0	17
NEW MEXICO ST.	FUM/0	-5	Punt/0	8
LOUISVILLE	TD/7	75	TD/7	75
<b>Total/Avg</b>	<b>7 TD</b>	<b>563/46.9</b>	<b>4 TD</b>	<b>411/34.3</b>

2ND HALF OPENING DRIVES

Game	KENTUCKY		OPPONENT	
	Res/Pts	Yds	Res/Pts	Yds
ULM	Punt/0	-1	Punt/0	6
MISSOURI	TD/7	38	INT/7	1
CHATTANOOGA	Punt/0	17	FG/3	49
SOUTH CAROLINA	FG/3	67	TD/7	75
FLORIDA	Punt/0	28	Punt/0	38
LSU	TD/7	75	Downs/0	75
GEORGIA	Punt/0	3	TD/7	75
MISSISSIPPI STATE	FUM/0	-3	FG/3	66
TENNESSEE	TD/7	75	TD/7	49
VANDERBILT	Punt/0	12	TD/7	72
NEW MEXICO ST.	Punt/0	1	Punt/0	22
LOUISVILLE	TD/7	75	Punt/0	10
<b>Total/Avg</b>	<b>4 TD, 1 FG</b>	<b>387/32.3</b>	<b>4 TD, 2 FG</b>	<b>538/44.8</b>

DRIVE ANALYSIS

Game	Total Drive	TD	FG	MFG	P	TO	4DN
ULM	13	6	1	0	2	2	1
MISSOURI	11	5	0	1	2	2	0
CHATTANOOGA	11	3	0	0	4	2	1
SOUTH CAROLINA	11	1	3	0	3	3	0
FLORIDA	11	2	0	0	6	1	1
LSU	11	6	0	0	3	0	0
GEORGIA	10	2	0	1	7	0	0
MISSISSIPPI STATE	9	1	1	0	3	4	0
TENNESSEE	11	6	0	1	0	1	3
VANDERBILT	9	3	2	0	2	1	0
NEW MEXICO ST.	14	7	0	0	2	4	1
LOUISVILLE	10	7	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>





# 2021 GAME NOTES

## ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

94	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	DL	Sr-2L
53	R.J. Adams	OL	Fr-RS
23	Tyrell Ajian	S	Sr-3L
6	Josh Ali	WR	%Sr-4L
11	Beau Allen	QB	So-1L
91	Sam Anaele	DL	Fr-RS
63	Alex Bascom	DL	Jr-Sq
64	Richard Bascom	DL	Jr-Sq
80	Brenden Bates	TE	Jr-2L
98	Isaiah Beasley	DL	So-Sq
42	Marquez Bembry	OLB	Sr-1L
24	Zac Berezowitz	DB	Sr-1L
57	Jonathan Berry	OL	Fr-HS
93	Wilson Berry	P	Fr-HS
45	Jase Bruner	OLB	So-Sq
56	Deondre Buford	OL	Fr-RS
62	Jager Burton	OL	Fr-HS
6	Jared Casey	ILB	So-1L
35	Kaleb Cheek	WR	So-Sq
29	Yusuf Corker	S	Sr-3L
75	Eli Cox	OL	So-1L
3	Dekel Crowdus	WR	Fr-HS
82	Tae Tae Crumes	WR	So-Sq
84	Izayah Cummings	WR	So-1L
46	Cade Degraw	LS	Jr-1L
14	Patrick Delahunty	QB	Jr-Sq
34	Trey Dennis	WR	Fr-HS
85	Jordan Dingle	TE	Fr-HS
55	Justice Dingle II	OLB	Jr-Tr
95	Jamarius Dinkins	DL	Fr-HS
30	Taj Dodson	S	So-1L
3	Cedrick Dort Jr.	DB	Sr-3L
61	Austin Dotson	OL	Sr-3L
11	Moses Douglass	S	So-1L
33	Ben Drake	DB	Jr-Sq
5	Mike Drennen II	RB	So-1L
31	Darren Edmond	WR	Sr-Sq
46	Braxton Eiserman	LB	Jr-Sq
81	Isaiah Epps	WR	Sr-3L
45	Parker Estes	TE	Fr-HS
77	Jeremy Flax	OL	So-RS
79	Luke Fortner	OL	%Sr-4L
40	Luke Fulton	ILB	So-Tr
34	Jalen Geiger	S	So-1L
96	Isaiah Gibson	DL	So-1L
48	Cody Goatley	ILB	So-Sq
94	Colin Goodfellow	P	%Sr-1L
39	Austin Gough	ILB	Fr-HS
43	Darren Green	ILB	So-Sq
31	Maxwell Hairston	DB	Fr-HS
86	DeMarcus Harris	WR	So-1L
69	Collin Hartmann	DL	Sr-Sq
99	Josaih Hayes	NG	So-1L
68	Kenneth Horsey	OL	Jr-2L
36	Adrian Huey	DB	Fr-HS
35	Rickey Hyatt Jr.	S	Fr-RS
56	D'Eryk Jackson	ILB	So-1L
28	Zach Johnson	S/KR	%Sr-4L
10	Jacquez Jones	ILB	Sr-Tr
72	Josh Jones	OL	Fr-RS
70	Darian Kinnard	OL	Sr-3L
37	Luke Leeper	WR	So-Sq
7	Will Levis	QB	Jr-Tr
89	Chris Lewis	WR	Fr-HS
28	Rahsaan Lewis	WR	Jr-Sq

## NUMERICAL ROSTER

0	Kavosiey Smoke	RB	5-9	202	Jr-2L	Wetumpka, Ala. (Wetumpka)
1	Wan'Dale Robinson	WR	5-10	183	Jr-Tr	Frankfort, Ky. (Nebraska/Western Hills)
2	Joey Gatewood	QB	6-5	224	Jr-1L	Jacksonville, Fla. (Auburn/Bartram Trail)
3*	Dekel Crowdus	WR	5-10	180	Fr-HS	Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
3*	Cedrick Dort Jr.	DB	5-11	188	Sr-3L	Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. (Dwyer)
4	Joshua Paschal	DL	6-3	275	Sr-3L	Prince George's County, Md. (Our Lady of Good Counsel)
5*	Mike Drennen II	RB	5-11	194	So-1L	Hilltop, Ohio (Coffman)
5*	DeAndre Square	ILB	6-1	221	Sr-3L	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
6*	Josh Ali	WR	6-0	190	%Sr-4L	Hollywood, Fla. (Chaminade-Madonna)
6*	Jared Casey	ILB	6-3	217	So-1L	Louisville, Ky. (Ballard)
7*	Will Levis	QB	6-3	232	Jr-Tr	Madison, Conn. (Penn State/Xavier HS)
7*	Vito Tisdale	NB	6-1	188	So-1L	Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green)
8	Octavious Oxendine	DL	6-1	302	So-1L	Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
9	Davonte Robinson	S	6-2	210	%Sr-3L	Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)
10*	Jacquez Jones	ILB	6-0	235	Sr-Tr	Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Ole Miss/Hillcrest)
10*	Chauncey Magwood	WR	6-0	190	Fr-HS	Albany, Ga. (Lee County)
11*	Beau Allen	QB	6-2	208	So-1L	Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic)
11*	Moses Douglass	S	6-2	203	So-1L	Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)
12*	Chance Poore	K	6-2	219	Jr-2L	Anderson, S.C. (Westside)
12*	Kaiya Sheron	QB	6-3	203	Fr-HS	Somerset, Ky. (Somerset HS)
13*	Earnest Sanders IV	WR	6-1	218	Fr-RS	Beecher, Mich. (Beecher)
13*	J.J. Weaver	OLB	6-5	231	So-1L	Louisville, Ky. (Moore Traditional)
14*	Patrick Delahunty	QB	6-0	197	Jr-Sq	Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)
14*	Carrington Valentine	DB	6-0	188	So-1L	Cincinnati, Ohio (Moeller)
15	Jordan Wright	OLB	6-5	225	Sr-3L	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard)
17	JuTahn McClain	RB	5-9	187	So-1L	Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)
18	Clevan Thomas Jr.	WR	5-11	190	Sr-2L	Miami, Fla. (Charles W. Flanagan)
19	Rahsaan Lewis	WR	5-11	184	Jr-Sq	Orlando, Fla. (Florida Atlantic/Central Florida/Windermere Prep)
21	Quandre Mosely	DB	6-2	192	%Sr-2L	Brunswick, Ga. (Eastern Arizona CC/Glynn Academy)
22	Chris Oats	ILB	6-3	232	Sr-2L	Cincinnati, Ohio (Winton Woods)
23	Tyrell Ajian	S	6-0	190	Sr-3L	Mansfield, Ohio (Madison Comprehensive)
24*	Zac Berezowitz	DB	6-0	170	Sr-1L	Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)
24*	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	RB	5-11	224	Jr-2L	McDonough, Ga. (Ola)
25	Jordan Lovett	S	6-2	200	Fr-HS	Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
27	Joel Williams	NB	6-1	213	So-1L	Baton Rouge, La. (Madison Prep Academy)
28	Zach Johnson	S / KR	5-10	195	%Sr-4L	Cincinnati, Ohio (Colerain)
29*	Yusuf Corker	S	6-0	204	Sr-3L	McDonough, Ga. (Woodland)
29*	La'Ve'll Wright	RB	6-0	195	Fr-HS	Louisville, Ky. (North Hardin)
30*	Taj Dodson	S	6-1	194	So-1L	Union City, Ga. (Creekside)
31*	Darren Edmond	WR	5-11	207	Sr-Sq	Norman, Okla. (Paul Laurence Dunbar - Ky.)
31*	Maxwell Hairston	DB	6-1	165	Fr-HS	West Bloomfield, Mich. (West Bloomfield)
32*	Tyler Markray	RB	5-10	223	Jr-Sq	West Bloomfield, Mich. (Walled Lake Central)
32*	Trevin Wallace	ILB	6-2	220	Fr-HS	Jesup, Ga. (Wayne County)
33*	Ben Drake	DB	6-1	199	Jr-Sq	Charlottesville, Va. (Monticello)
33*	Travis Tisdale	RB	5-9	180	So-1L	Valdosta, Ga. (Lowndes - Ga.)
34*	Trey Dennis	WR	5-8	150	Fr-HS	Lexington, Ky. (Sayre)
34*	Jalen Geiger	S	6-1	200	So-1L	Columbia, S.C. (Spring Valley)
35*	Kaleb Cheek	WR	5-10	188	So-Sq	Asheboro, N.C. (Asheboro)
35*	Rickey Hyatt Jr.	S	6-2	202	Fr-RS	Columbus, Ohio (Central)
36*	Adrian Huey	DB	6-0	180	Fr-HS	Nashville, Tenn. (Hillsboro)
36*	Jai Williams	TE	6-5	195	Fr-HS	Lake Forest, Ill. (Lake Forest)
37*	Luke Leeper	WR	5-11	195	So-Sq	Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy of Louisville)
37*	Andru Phillips	DB	6-0	182	Fr-RS	Mauldin, S.C. (Mauldin)
38	William Nalty	ILB	6-0	222	%Sr-1L	Metairie, La. (Metairie Park Country Day)
39*	Austin Gough	ILB	6-0	208	Fr-HS	Owensboro, Ky. (Owensboro)
39*	Dillon Wheatley	FB	6-1	201	Sr-Sq	Richmond, Ky. (Pikeville/Lexington Christian)
40	Luke Fulton	ILB	6-4	229	So-Tr	Youngstown, Ohio (Michigan State/Cardinal Mooney)
42	Marquez Bembry	OLB	6-3	228	Sr-1L	Stone Mountain, Ga. (Jones County JC/Mount Vernon Presbyterian)
43	Darren Green	ILB	6-1	231	So-Sq	Vine Grove, Ky. (North Hardin)
44	Martez Thrower	ILB	6-2	212	Fr-HS	Rochelle, Ga. (Wilcox County)
45*	Jase Bruner	OLB	6-2	244	So-Sq	Science Hill, Ky. (Somerset)
45*	Parker Estes	TE	6-3	212	Fr-H	Paris, Ky. (Bourbon County)
46*	Braxton Eiserman	ILB	6-1	218	Jr-Sq	Jackson, Ky. (Breathitt County)
46*	Cade Degraw	LS	5-11	206	Jr-1L	Lake Cormorant, Miss. (Lake Cormorant)
47	K.D. McDaniel	OLB	6-2	225	So-1L	Tifton, Ga. (Tift County)







59	Conner Long	OLB	Fr-HS
25	Jordan Lovett	S	Fr-HS
10	Chauncey Magwood	WR	Fr-HS
32	Tyler Markray	RB	Jr-Sq
50	Marquan McCall	NG	Sr-3L
17	JuTahn McClain	RB	So-1L
47	K.D. McDaniel	OLB	So-1L
87	Tre'Von Morgan	WR	So-Tr
54	Jordan Morrow	LS	Jr-Sq
21	Quandre Mosely	DB	%Sr-2L
38	William Nalty	ILB	%Sr-1L
22	Chris Oats	ILB	Sr-2L
8	Octavious Oxendine	DL	So-1L
58	Lucas Padgett	OL	Fr-HS
4	Joshua Paschal	DL	Sr-3L
55	Clay Perry	LS	So-Sq
37	Andru Phillips	DB	Fr-RS
12	Chance Poore	K	Jr-2L
83	Justin Rigg	TE	%Sr-3L
9	Davonte Robinson	S	%Sr-3L
1	Wan'Dale Robinson	WR	Jr-Tr
24	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	RB	Jr-2L
67	Paul Rodriguez	OL	Fr-HS
52	Justin Rogers	NG	So-1L
51	Dare Rosenthal	OL	Jr-Tr
96	Matt Ruffolo	K	%Sr-2L
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	DL	Fr-RS
13	Earnest Sanders IV	WR	Fr-RS
92	Kahlil Saunders	DL	Fr-HS
12	Kaiya Sheron	QB	Fr-HS
0	Kavosiey Smoke	RB	Jr-2L
5	DeAndre Square	ILB	Sr-3L
18	Clevan Thomas Jr.	WR	Sr-2L
44	Martez Thrower	ILB	Fr-HS
33	Travis Tisdale	RB	So-1L
7	Vito Tisdale	NB	So-1L
88	Keaton Upshaw	TE	Jr-2L
14	Carrington Valentine	DB	So-1L
48	Jack Varga	FB	Jr-Sq
97	Graham Wald	K	So-Sq
32	Trevin Wallace	ILB	Fr-HS
13	J.J. Weaver	OLB	So-1L
39	Dillon Wheatley	FB	Sr-Sq
36	Jai Williams	TE	Fr-HS
27	Joel Williams	NB	So-1L
60	Quintin Wilson	C	Jr-2L
74	David Wohlabaugh Jr.	OL	Fr-HS
15	Jordan Wright	OLB	Sr-3L
29	La'Ve'll Wright	RB	Fr-HS
71	John Young	OL	Fr-RS

48*	Cody Goatley	ILB	6-2	234	So-Sq
48*	Jack Varga	FB	5-11	235	Jr-Sq
50	Marquan McCall	NG	6-3	344	Sr-3L
51	Dare Rosenthal	OL	6-7	327	Jr-Tr
52	Justin Rogers	NG	6-3	328	So-1L
53	R.J. Adams	OL	6-3	332	Fr-RS
54	Jordan Morrow	LS	6-1	226	Jr-Sq
55*	Justice Dingle II	OLB	6-3	262	Jr-Tr
55*	Clay Perry	LS	6-0	187	So-Sq
56*	Deondre Buford	OL	6-3	290	Fr-RS
56*	D'Eryk Jackson	ILB	6-1	241	So-1L
57	Jonathan Berry	OL	6-5	280	Fr-HS
58	Lucas Padgett	OL	6-4	320	Fr-HS
59	Conner Long	OLB	6-3	210	Fr-HS
60	Quintin Wilson	C	6-1	296	Jr-2L
61	Austin Dotson	OL	6-6	321	Sr-3L
62	Jager Burton	OL	6-4	302	Fr-HS
63	Alex Bascom	DL	6-5	264	Jr-Sq
64	Richard Bascom	DL	6-5	286	Jr-Sq
67	Paul Rodriguez	OL	6-5	330	Fr-HS
68	Kenneth Horsey	OL	6-3	302	Jr-2L
69	Collin Hartmann	DL	6-4	264	Sr-Sq
70	Darian Kinnard	OL	6-5	338	Sr-3L
71	John Young	OL	6-6	296	Fr-RS
72	Josh Jones	OL	6-6	305	Fr-RS
74	David Wohlabaugh Jr.	OL	6-6	283	Fr-HS
75	Eli Cox	OL	6-4	301	So-1L
77	Jeremy Flax	OL	6-6	338	So-RS
79	Luke Fortner	OL	6-6	297	%Sr-4L
80	Brenden Bates	TE	6-5	255	Jr-2L
81	Isaiah Epps	WR	6-2	188	Sr-3L
82	Tae Tae Crumes	WR	6-1	182	So-Sq
83	Justin Rigg	TE	6-6	261	%Sr-3L
84	Izayah Cummings	TE	6-3	230	So-1L
85	Jordan Dingle	TE	6-4	235	Fr-HS
86	DeMarcus Harris	WR	6-1	180	So-1L
87	Tre'Von Morgan	WR	6-6	218	So-Tr
88	Keaton Upshaw	TE	6-6	250	Jr-2L
89	Chris Lewis	WR	6-4	190	Fr-HS
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	DL	6-4	301	Fr-RS
91	Sam Anaele	DL	6-4	265	Fr-RS
92	Kahlil Saunders	DL	6-5	270	Fr-HS
93	Wilson Berry	P	6-4	193	Fr-HS
94*	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	DL	6-6	303	Sr-2L
94*	Colin Goodfellow	P	6-2	233	%Sr-1L
95	Jamarius Dinkins	DL	6-5	255	Fr-HS
96*	Isaiah Gibson	DL	6-3	319	So-1L
96*	Matt Ruffolo	K	5-11	210	%Sr-2L
97	Graham Wald	K	6-0	176	So-Sq
98	Isaiah Beasley	DL	5-11	278	So-Sq
99	Josai Hayes	NG	6-3	305	So-1L

Mayfield, Ky. (Graves County)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)
Ferriday, La. (LSU/Ferriday)
Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)
Woodbridge, Va. (Woodbridge Senior)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier HS)
Bowling Green, Ky. (Georgia Tech/Bowling Green HS)
Upton, Ky. (Central Hardin)
Detroit, Mich. (Martin Luther King)
Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens)
Stamping Ground, Ky. (Scott County)
Birmingham, Ala. (La Cueva)
East Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Turpin)
Belfry, Ky. (Belfry)
Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Mason, Ohio (William Mason)
Sanford, Fla. (Sanford Seminole)
Somerset, Ky. (Somerset)
Knoxville, Tenn. (Saint Ignatius - Ohio)
Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy)
Columbus, Ga. (Central-Phenix City - Ala.)
Stow, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)
Nicholasville, Ky. (West Jessamine)
Detroit, Mich. (Independence CC/Robichaud)
Sylvania, Ohio (Sylvania Northview)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
enks, Okla. (Jenks)
Louisville, Ky. (Butler)
Springboro, Ohio (Springboro)
Louisville, Ky. (Male)
Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS)
Vero Beach, Fla. (Vero Beach)
Massillon, Ohio (Michigan State/Massillon Washington)
Lima, Ohio (Lima Senior)
Pleasant Grove, Ala. (Pleasant Grove)
Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County)
Lagos, Nigeria (McDougle Technical Institute - Fla.)
Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom)
Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)
Lakeland, Fla. (Victory Christian Academy)
Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)
Columbus, Ohio (Walnut Ridge)
Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)
Centerville, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)
Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)
Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
Horn Lake, Miss. (Horn Lake)

**PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

Abule (ah-BOO-lay) Abadi (ah-BODY) Fitzgerald  
 Sam Anaele (ah-NEL-lee)  
 Tyrell Ajian (a-jun)  
 Zac Berezowitz (BREZ-o-wits)  
 Jager (Jagger) Burton  
 Yusuf (YOU-suf) Corker  
 Jamarius (jah-MAR-ee-us) Dinkins  
 Taj (same as "Taj Mahal") Dodson  
 Jalen Geiger (GI-ger)  
 Austin Gough (Goff)  
 Josai (joe-SIGH-uh) Hayes  
 D'Eryk (dee-ERIC) Jackson

Will Levis (lev-iss)  
 JuTahn (juh-TAWN) McClain  
 Quandre (QUAN-dray) Mosely  
 Davonte (da-VON-tay) Robinson  
 Tre'vonn (TREY-vaughn) Rybka (RIB-ka)  
 Kaiya (KI-yah) Sheron (Sharon)  
 Kavosiey (kah-VAH-see-ay) Smoke  
 Clevan (clee-VAN - like the van you drive) Thomas  
 Naasir (nah-SEER) Watkins  
 David Wohlabaugh (WUL-uh-bah)





**HEAD COACH MARK STOOPS / NINTH SEASON / IOWA, 1989**



The 2021 season has marked yet another year of achievement for Coach Mark Stoops and the Kentucky football program.

When the Wildcats take the field for the Vrbo Citrus Bowl, it will make official a school-record six consecutive bowl games – all under Stoops – surpassing the mark of five straight bowls from 2006-10.

Kentucky reached the postseason by posting a 9-3 record, only the third time in the last 44 seasons (twice under Stoops) that the Wildcats have reached nine victories. UK began the season with a 6-0 start for the first time since 1950, when the legendary Paul “Bear” Bryant patrolled the sidelines in Lexington.

The current campaign featured a 5-3 tally in the Southeastern Conference. UK finished in sole possession of second place in the SEC Eastern Division, the first time the Wildcats had done so since the league split into divisions in 1992.

Now in his ninth season at Kentucky, tying for the longest-termed head coach in school history, Stoops has totaled 58 victories – second only to Bryant’s 60 wins at UK. However, Stoops’ success hasn’t come easily.

Inheriting a program that was 2-10 the year before he arrived, Stoops’ rebuilding efforts took time. Two games into the 2016 season his record was 12-26, but the program took off from there and the coach has engineered a 46-27 (.630) mark since.

In addition to this season’s achievements, a partial accounting of Stoops’ exploits also features:

- Three straight bowl wins – the 2020 Gator Bowl, the 2019 Belk Bowl and the Citrus Bowl on Jan. 1, 2019 – first time in school history that UK won bowls in three consecutive seasons;
- First win at Tennessee since 1984 (2019)
- First New Year’s Day Bowl win since 1951 (2018 season)
- First 10-win season since 1977 (2018)
- First SEC Coach of the Year since 1983 (2018)
- First final poll ranking since 1984 (2018)
- First bowl win since 2008 (2018)
- First win vs. Florida since 1986 (2018)
- First bowl appearance since 2010 (2016)

In addition to the team accomplishments, several of Stoops’ players have won All-America accolades, along with honors such as the Bronko Nagurski Award, Chuck Bednarik Award, Paul Hornung Award,



## STOOPS AND CO. MAKING A HIT IN RECRUITING

In nine seasons at the helm of the Kentucky football program, head coach Mark Stoops and his staff have been making noise on the recruiting trail. Kentucky's 10 classes under Stoops have ranked in the top 50 by all four major recruiting services. Below is a look at UK's recruiting success under Stoops and Co.

Kentucky's Signing Day class for 2022, at the time of this writing, is UK's highest-rated class in the available history of recruiting rankings. (Note: these rankings are based on UK's 20 signees, 19 high school and one junior college, and do not include four-year college transfers Tashawn Manning and Tayvion Robinson.) The 2022 rankings will fluctuate as players continue to sign during the current and February signing period.

Outlet	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Rivals	#29	#17	#35	#29	#26	#30	#30	#20	#45	#10
ESPN	#36	#20	#43	#34	#30	#36	#36	#23	#40	#13
247Sports	#41	#23	#38	#34	#29	#38	#34	#22	#39	#11

Ronnie Lott Trophy, Ray Guy Award, Danny Wuerffel Trophy, Pop Warner Award, Academic All-America and National Good Works Team.

The bountiful crop of victories and honors are the fruit of the last six seasons, but the harvest didn't come easily. Arriving in 2013, inheriting a team that had gone 2-10 the season before, it took three years of plowing, planting and growing before the results came.

Stoops earned his first bowl game as head coach in 2016, when the Wildcats overcame an 0-2 start to go 7-3 down the stretch and advance to the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl. UK duplicated seven wins in 2017, playing in the Franklin-American Mortgage Music City Bowl.

Led by linebacker Josh Allen, the National Defensive Player of the Year, and Benny Snell Jr., the school's all-time leading rusher, the 2018 squad went 10-3. It was UK's best season in 41 years, topped by a win over Penn State in the VRBO Citrus Bowl. It was only the third 10-win season in school history.

In addition, the 2018 campaign featured a win at Florida -- the Wildcats' first victory over the Gators in 32 years -- resulting in UK being named the National Team of the Week by the Football Writers Association of America. The regular season concluded with a 56-10 win at in-state rival Louisville, the largest margin of victory in the history of the Governor's Cup series.

UK was No. 11 in the final USA Today coaches' poll and No. 12 in the final Associated Press tabulation, the school's first appearance in the final rankings since 1984. The 2018 season also continued a remarkable trend -- since Stoops took over as coach of the Cats in 2013, UK was the only school in the nation that tied or improved its win total in six straight seasons.

CollegeFootballNews.com listed Stoops as the best coaching performance of the season

and he was named Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year by The Associated Press, Athlon Sports and the league coaches.

The 2019 season was one of the most unusual in school history. A succession of injuries decimated the quarterbacks and Stoops turned to wide receiver Lynn Bowden Jr. to man the QB position. Running the ball almost exclusively, UK went 6-2 down the stretch and closed the season with four straight wins, topped by a dramatic come-from-behind Belk Bowl win over Virginia Tech when Bowden threw the game-winning touchdown pass with only 15 seconds remaining.

How has Stoops accomplished all of this? The coach would tell you that there's been nothing magical about the process.

True to his blue-collar roots in Youngstown, Ohio, the methodical advancement made by Stoops' teams is a reflection of the coach's rock-steady work ethic, tireless recruiting, and ability to adapt.

Stoops came to Kentucky from Florida State, where he was defensive coordinator from 2010-12. He inherited a unit ranked 108th in the nation in total defense and turned it into one of the nation's best. In the 2012 season, the Seminoles were second in the nation in total defense, allowing 254.1 yards per game, and sixth nationally in scoring defense at 14.7 points per game. Playing well against the run and the pass, FSU was third in the country in rushing defense and led the nation in pass defense. FSU led the ACC in seven defensive categories. Stoops also coached the defensive backs under head coach Jimbo Fisher.

Eight Seminoles on defense earned 2012 All-ACC honors, including four first-team selections, highlighted by one of the nation's top defensive end duos in Bjoern Werner and Cornellius Carradine, who combined for 24 sacks and 31 tackles for loss. Werner was a finalist for the 2012 Bronko Nagurski Award as

the National Defensive Player of the Year and was among the national leaders in sacks with 13. Stoops also coached cornerback Ronald Darby to ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year.

The Seminoles' prowess was a continuation of the 2011 season, when Stoops' defenders led the nation in fewest yards allowed per carry (2.3), ranked fourth in the nation in total defense (275 yards per game), second in rushing defense (82.7 ypg), fourth in scoring defense (15.1 points per game), and eighth in tackles for loss (8.6 per game) and quarterback sacks (3.1 per game). FSU led the ACC in eight defensive categories.

Stoops overhauled the Florida State defense in 2010, his first season as defensive coordinator. The Seminoles gave up 19.6 points per game, third-best in the ACC and 20th nationally. FSU ranked 42nd nationally in total defense that season; in contrast, the team was 108th nationally in total defense and 94th in scoring defense in 2009, the year before Stoops' arrival. FSU improved its overall defense by more than 80 yards per game, primarily by limiting opponents to 75 fewer rushing yards per game. The Seminoles ranked third in the nation in quarterback sacks and were 21st in tackles for loss. In the secondary, Stoops coached Xavier Rhodes to ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year honors and National Defensive Freshman of the Year accolades.

During Stoops' three seasons, FSU went 10-4, 9-4 and 12-2, including wins over South Carolina in the 2010 Chick-fil-A Bowl, Notre Dame in the 2011 Champs Sports Bowl and Northern Illinois in the 2013 Orange Bowl.

Stoops was defensive coordinator and DBs coach at Arizona from 2004-09, working for his brother, Mike, who was head coach of the Wildcats. During Mark's time there, Arizona's records improved steadily, going 3-8, 3-8, 6-6, 5-7, 8-5 and 8-5. The Wildcats advanced to the Las Vegas Bowl and Holiday



Bowl during the last two years. Mark and Mike are also brothers of Bob Stoops, who spent 18 years as the Oklahoma head coach and has been elected to the College Football Hall of Fame. The eldest Stoops brother, Ron Jr., is retired after coaching at Youngstown State.

Stoops inherited an Arizona unit that was 109th in the nation in total defense and 107th in scoring defense in 2003, the year before he arrived. By the end of his term at Arizona, the Wildcats ranked in the nation's top 25 in total defense his final two seasons and ranked as high as 33rd in scoring defense.

Prior to Arizona, Stoops coached the defensive backs three years at Miami (Fla.). The 2001 national champion Hurricanes led the nation in pass efficiency defense, scoring defense and turnover margin. That team also established a school record with 27 interceptions and 45 total takeaways.

Stoops' 2002 secondary led the nation in pass defense and pass efficiency defense. Despite having to replace all four starters in the defensive backfield, the 2003 team led the nation in pass defense. In his three seasons, Miami went 35-3, including the 12-0 Rose Bowl title campaign, plus appearances in the Fiesta and Orange bowls. Ten Miami defensive backs who played at least one season under Stoops were eventually selected in the National Football League draft – seven in the first round.

Stoops got his first experience in leading a defense as co-defensive coordinator at Houston in the 2000 season. He coached the secondary at Wyoming from 1997-99 and the Cowboys notched three straight winning

Most Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
2. 57 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
41 Blanton Collier (1954-1961)
6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)
7. 32 Harry Gamage (1927-1933)
8. 26 Bill Curry (1990-1996)

Most Wins By A Head Coach At Kroger Field

- 1. 41 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
2. 33 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
3. 32 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
4. 29 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
5. 25 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)

seasons. A highlight of his time there was a school-record 24 interceptions in the '97 season. His first full-time coaching job was in 1996 at South Florida, helping USF in the start-up of its program before the Bulls had their first kickoff in '97.

Stoops has recruited and developed numerous outstanding defensive backs, many of whom went on to National Football League careers. Among the notables are Antoine Cason and Michael Johnson at Arizona, Miami's Philip Buchanon, Kelly Jennings, Brandon Meriweather, Ed Reed, Antrel Rolle, Mike Rumph and Sean Taylor and Wyoming's Brian Lee.

Stoops was raised in Youngstown, Ohio. As did brothers Bob and Mike, Mark played in the secondary at the University of Iowa for Hall of Fame coach Hayden Fry. He participated in four bowl games as a player. Fry hired Stoops as a graduate assistant coach at Iowa in the 1990 and '91 seasons. The Hawkeyes won the 1990 Big Ten title and played in the Rose Bowl, duplicating feats

STOOPS VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Table with 2 columns: Opponent and Record. Lists various college football teams and their win-loss records against Stoops, including a total record of 58-53.

Stoops also achieved as a player. Stoops went on to coach four years in high school before entering the collegiate ranks.

Stoops has two sons, Will and Zack.



**THE MARK STOOPS COACHING FILE**

Year	School	Position	W-L	SEC	Bowl
1990	Iowa	Graduate Assistant	8-4		Rose
1991	Iowa	Graduate Assistant	10-1-1		Holiday
1992-95	Nordonia HS	Defensive Backs			
1996	South Florida	Defensive Backs	0-0		
1997	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	7-6		
1998	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	8-3		
1999	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	7-4		
2000	Houston	Co-Defensive Coord., Safeties	3-8		
2001	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	12-0		Rose
2002	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	12-1		Fiesta
2003	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	11-2		Orange
2004	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	3-8		
2005	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	3-8		
2006	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	6-6		
2007	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	5-7		
2008	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	8-5		Las Vegas
2009	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	8-5		Holiday
2010	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	10-4		Chick-fil-A
2011	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	9-4		Champs Sports
2012	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	12-2		Orange
2013	Kentucky	Head Coach	2-10	0-8	
2014	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-7	2-6	
2015	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-7	2-6	
2016	Kentucky	Head Coach	7-6	4-4	TaxSlayer
2017	Kentucky	Head Coach	7-6	4-4	Music City
2018	Kentucky	Head Coach	10-3	5-3	Citrus
2019	Kentucky	Head Coach	8-5	3-5	Belk
2020	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-6	4-6	TaxSlayer Gator
2021	Kentucky	Head Coach	9-3	5-3	Citrus

58-53 29-45

**STOOPS' NFL DRAFT PICKS**

Name	Year	Rd	Pick	Overall	Team
Avery Williamson	2014	5	11	151	Titans
Bud Dupree	2015	1	22	22	Steelers
Za'Darius Smith	2015	4	23	122	Ravens
Josh Forrest	2016	6	15	190	Rams
Josh Allen	2019	1	7	7	Jaguars
Lonnie Johnson	2019	2	22	54	Texans
Mike Edwards	2019	3	35	99	Bucs
Benny Snell Jr.	2019	4	19	122	Steelers
George Asafo-Adjei	2019	7	18	232	Giants
Lynn Bowden Jr.	2020	3	16	80	Raiders
Logan Stenberg	2020	4	15	121	Lions
Jamin Davis	2021	1	19	19	Washington
Kelvin Joseph	2021	2	12	44	Cowboys
Quinton Bohanna	2021	6	8	192	Cowboys
Brandin Echols	2021	6	16	200	Jets
Landon Young	2021	6	22	206	Saints
Phil Hoskins	2021	7	3	232	Panthers



## STOOPS YEAR-BY-YEAR

### 2013 – Won 2, Lost 10

26	WKU*	35	Nashville	Aug 31
41	Miami (Ohio)	7	Lexington	Sept 7
13	Louisville	27	Lexington	Sept 14
7	Florida*	24	Lexington	Sept 28
28	South Carolina*	35	Columbia	Oct 5
7	Alabama*	48	Lexington	Oct 12
22	Mississippi State*	28	Starkville	Oct 24
48	Alabama State*	14	Lexington	Nov 2
17	Missouri	48	Lexington	Nov 9
6	Vanderbilt	22	Nashville	Nov 16
17	Georgia*	59	Athens	Nov 23
13	Tennessee*	27	Lexington	Nov 30
<b>246</b>		<b>374</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Avery Williamson and game captains

### 2014 – Won 5, Lost 7

59	UT Martin	14	Lexington	Aug 30
20	Ohio	3	Lexington	Sept 6
30	Florida* (3 OT)	36	Gainesville	Sept 13
17	Vanderbilt	7	Lexington	Sept 27
45	South Carolina*	38	Lexington	Oct 4
48	ULM	14	Lexington	Oct 11
3	LSU*	41	Baton Rouge	Oct 18
31	Mississippi State	45	Lexington	Oct 25
10	Missouri	20	Columbia	Nov 1
31	Georgia	63	Lexington	Nov 8
16	Tennessee	50	Knoxville	Nov 15
40	Louisville	44	Louisville	Nov 29
<b>350</b>		<b>375</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Javess Blue, Alvin "Bud" Dupree, Za'Darius Smith, Jordan Swindle

### 2015 – Won 5, Lost 7

40	UL Lafayette*	33	Lexington	Sept 5
26	South Carolina*	22	Columbia	Sept 12
9	Florida*	14	Lexington	Sept 19
21	Missouri*	13	Lexington	Sept 26
34	Eastern Ky. (OT)*	27	Lexington	Oct 3
27	Auburn*	30	Lexington	Oct 15
16	Mississippi State*	42	Starkville	Oct 24
21	Tennessee*	52	Lexington	Oct 31
3	Georgia	27	Athens	Nov 7
17	Vanderbilt	21	Nashville	Nov 14
58	Charlotte*	10	Lexington	Nov 21
24	Louisville	38	Lexington	Nov 28
<b>296</b>		<b>329</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Farrington Huguenin, Josh Forrest, Patrick Towles, Jordan Swindle, Melvin Lewis, A.J. Stamps

### 2016 – Won 7, Lost 6

35	Southern Miss*	44	Lexington	Sept 3
7	Florida	45	Gainesville	Sept 10
62	New Mexico St.	42	Lexington	Sept 17
17	South Carolina*	10	Lexington	Sept 24
6	Alabama*	34	Tuscaloosa	Oct 1
20	Vanderbilt	13	Lexington	Oct 8
40	Mississippi State*	38	Lexington	Oct 22
35	Missouri	21	Columbia	Oct 29
24	Georgia*	27	Lexington	Nov 5
36	Tennessee	49	Knoxville	Nov 12
49	Austin Peay	13	Lexington	Nov 19
41	Louisville	38	Louisville	Nov 26

#### TAXSLAYER BOWL

18	Georgia Tech	33	Jacksonville	Dec 31
<b>390</b>		<b>407</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Jon Toth, Courtney Miggins, Courtney Love, Jeff Badet, Jojo Kemp, Marcus McWilson

### 2017 – Won 7, Lost 6

24	Southern Miss	17	Hattiesburg	Sept 2
27	Eastern Ky.	16	Lexington	Sept 9
23	South Carolina*	13	Columbia	Sept 16
27	Florida*	28	Lexington	Sept 23
24	Eastern Mich.	20	Lexington	Sept 30
40	Missouri*	34	Lexington	Oct 7
7	Mississippi State	45	Starkville	Oct 21
29	Tennessee*	26	Lexington	Oct 28
34	Ole Miss	37	Lexington	Nov 4
44	Vanderbilt	21	Nashville	Nov 11
13	Georgia	42	Athens	Nov 18
17	Louisville	44	Lexington	Nov 25

#### FRANKLIN AMERICAN MORTGAGE MUSIC CITY BOWL

23	Northwestern	24	Nashville	Dec 29
<b>332</b>		<b>367</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love, Garrett Johnson, Charles Walker

### 2018 – Won 10, Lost 3

35	Central Michigan	20	Lexington	Sept 1
27	Florida*	16	Gainesville	Sept 8
48	Murray State	10	Lexington	Sept 15
28	Mississippi State*	7	Lexington	Sept 22
24	South Carolina*	10	Lexington	Sept 29
14	Texas A&M (OT)*	20	College Station	Oct 6
14	Vanderbilt*	7	Lexington	Oct 20
15	Missouri	14	Columbia	Oct 27
17	Georgia	34	Lexington	Nov 3
7	Tennessee	24	Knoxville	Nov 10
34	Middle Tennessee	23	Lexington	Nov 17
56	Louisville*	10	Louisville	Nov 24

#### VRBO CITRUS BOWL

27	Penn State	24	Orlando	Jan 1
<b>346</b>		<b>219</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Josh Allen, George Asafo-Adjei, C.J. Conrad, Kash Daniel, Mike Edwards, Benny Snell Jr.

### 2019 – Won 8, Lost 5

38	Toledo	24	Lexington	Aug 31
38	Eastern Michigan*	17	Lexington	Sept 7
21	Florida*	29	Lexington	Sept 14
13	Mississippi State	28	Starkville	Sept 21
7	South Carolina*	24	Columbia	Sept 28
24	Arkansas*	20	Lexington	Oct 12
0	Georgia*	21	Athens	Oct 19
29	Missouri*	7	Lexington	Oct 26
13	Tennessee*	17	Lexington	Nov 9
38	Vanderbilt	14	Nashville	Nov 16
50	UT Martin	7	Lexington	Nov 23
45	Louisville	13	Lexington	Nov 30

#### BELK BOWL

37	Virginia Tech	30	Charlotte	Dec 31
<b>353</b>		<b>251</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Lynn Bowden Jr., Kash Daniel, Logan Stenberg, Terry Wilson, Josh Paschal

### # 2020 – Won 5, Lost 6

13	Auburn	29	Auburn	Sept 26
41	Ole Miss (OT)	42	Lexington	Oct 3
24	Mississippi State*	2	Lexington	Oct 10
34	Tennessee	7	Knoxville	Oct 17
10	Missouri	20	Columbus	Oct 24
3	Georgia	14	Lexington	Oct 31
38	Vanderbilt	35	Lexington	Nov 14
3	Alabama	63	Tuscaloosa	Nov 21
10	Florida	34	Gainesville	Nov 28
41	South Carolina*	18	Lexington	Dec 5

#### TAXSLAYER GATOR BOWL

23	North Carolina St.	21	Jacksonville	Jan 2
<b>240</b>		<b>285</b>		

COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Josh Ali, Quinton Bohanna, Yusuf Corker, Max Duffy, Drake Jackson, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square, Boogie Watson, Terry Wilson and Landon Young

# Due to COVID 19, 2020 was a 10-game SEC-only schedule

### 2021 – Won 9, Lost 3

45	ULM	10	Lexington	Sept 4
35	Missouri*	28	Lexington	Sept 11
28	Chattanooga	23	Lexington	Sept 18
16	South Carolina*	10	Columbia	Sept 25
20	Florida*	13	Lexington	Oct 2
42	LSU*	21	Lexington	Oct 9
13	Georgia	30	Athens	Oct 16
17	Mississippi State*	31	Starkville	Oct 30
42	Tennessee*	45	Knoxville	Nov 6
34	Vanderbilt*	17	Nashville	Nov 13
56	New Mexico State	16	Lexington	Nov 20
52	Louisville*	21	Louisville	Nov 27

#### Vrbo Citrus Bowl

TBA	Iowa	TBA	Orlando	Jan 1
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COACH: Mark Stoops

CAPTS: Josh Ali, Yusuf Corker, DeAndre Square, Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Will Levis, Josh Paschal and Chris Rodriguez Jr.

\* indicates night game



# ASSISTANT COACHES



## FRANK BUFFANO

### SAFETIES/ CO-SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

Frank Buffano was hired in March of 2020 after serving seven years as the director of football operations at UK. He helps Chris Collins with the defensive backs and works primarily with the safeties. He will also serve as the co-special teams coordinator with John Settle.

Senior safety Yusuf Corker shined under Buffano in 2020 with 77 tackles (second on the team), two interceptions, 2.5 TFL, two PBU and one forced fumble. Also returning to form after injury in 2019 was senior Davonte Robinson. He had 27 tackles in 2020, including 2.0 TFL.

2008-09	Defensive Grad Assistant	Arizona
2011-12	Linebackers	Youngstown State
2010	Secondary	Youngstown State
2020	Safeties	Kentucky
2021-present	Safeties/Co-Special Teams Coordinator	Kentucky



## CHRIS COLLINS

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

Chris Collins enters his first season at Kentucky coaching the defensive backs. Collins was hired in June of 2021 after four seasons as the safeties coach at Georgia State. He helped the Panthers advance to a bowl game in three of his four seasons.

Collins was a four-year letter winner and two-year captain as a safety and outside linebacker at Western Carolina from 2006-09. He finished his career with 303 tackles, 19 tackles for loss, nine forced fumbles and five pass breakups.

2011-12	Defensive Assistant	Western Carolina
2013-14	Secondary / Special Teams Coordinator	Catawba
2015	Defensive Graduate Assistant	Appalachian State
2016	Assistant Linebackers Coach	Western Carolina
2017-18	Assistant Safeties Coach	Georgia State
2019-20	Assistant Safeties Coach / Recruiting Coordinator	Georgia State
2021-present	Kentucky	Defensive Backs



## LIAM COEN

### OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/QBS

Liam Coen is in his first season at Kentucky as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. Coen spent the last three years with the Los Angeles Rams, 2018 and '19 as the assistant wide receivers coach before being named assistant quarterbacks coach prior to the 2020 season.

Coen played collegiate football at UMass and had an illustrious career as a four-year starter at quarterback from 2005-08. He set nearly every career UMass passing record, including most yards gained (11,031), highest passing efficiency (152.92), completion percentage (63.9), completions (830) and touchdowns (90).

2010	Quarterbacks Coach	Brown
2011	Quarterbacks Coach	Rhode Island
2012-13	Quarterbacks Coach	Brown
2014-15	Pass Game Coord./QBs Coach	UMass
2016-17	Offensive Coordinator, QBs	Maine
2018-19	Assistant Wide Receivers Coach	Los Angeles Rams
2020	Assistant Quarterbacks Coach	Los Angeles Rams
2021-present	Offensive Coord./Quarterbacks Coach	Kentucky



**JOHN SETTLE**

**RUNNING BACKS/CO-SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR**

Former Wisconsin running backs coach John Settle is in his first season at Kentucky. Settle comes to the Bluegrass with 26 years of coaching experience, including six in the NFL, 19 bowl appearances and a long list of successful running backs.

Eleven years of his coaching career were spent at Wisconsin, the most recent as the running backs coach from 2015-2021. He also coached the Badger running backs from 2006-10.

Settle was a four-year letterwinner (1983-86) at Appalachian State, where he finished as the school's career rushing leader with 4,409 yards (then third-most in FCS history) and 43 touchdowns. A two-time All-American, he was the Southern Conference Player of the Year as a senior after rushing for 1,661 yards and 20 TDs. His No. 23 was retired by his alma mater and he was inducted into the school's hall of fame in 1994.

1994	Running backs	Appalachian State
1995	Offensive Assistant	Cleveland Browns
1996-97	Offensive Assistant	Baltimore Ravens
1998-2005	Running backs	Fresno State
2006-10	Running backs	Wisconsin
2011-12	Running backs	Carolina Panthers
2013	Running backs	Cleveland Browns
2014	Running backs	Pittsburgh
2015-20	Running backs	Wisconsin
2021-Present	Running backs/Co-Special Teams Coordinator	Kentucky



**VINCE MARROW**

**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/TIGHT ENDS/RECRUITING COORDINATOR**

Vince Marrow, aka the "Big Dawg", enters his ninth season as associate head coach/tight ends coach/recruiting coordinator/NFL liaison.

Marrow's tight ends have been a big factor in UK producing five consecutive seasons of 2,000 or more rushing yards with at least one 1,000-yard rusher in four of those (Stanley "Boom" Williams -2016; Benny Snell Jr., - 2017, 2018; Lynn Bowden - 2019). Marrow also has been instrumental in UK signing eight straight top-50 recruiting classes.

Marrow had a professional playing career as a member of NFL rosters on five teams, including Buffalo, Carolina, New York Jets, Chicago and San Francisco. After his NFL days ended, Marrow played for the Frankfurt Galaxy of NFL Europe in 1998, earning all-league honors with 32 receptions for 345 yards. He also played for the Orlando Rage in the XFL in 2001.

He began his collegiate playing career at Youngstown State before transferring to Toledo. Marrow played two seasons at Toledo, earning second-team All-MAC honors in 1991 before being drafted by the Bills in 1992.

2005-06	Berlin (NFL Europe)	Tackles, Tight Ends
2006-07	Rhein (NFL Europe)	Tackles, Tight Ends
2008	Toledo	Tight Ends
2009	Holland HS	Head Coach
2010	Omaha (United Football League)	Tight Ends
2011-12	Nebraska	Graduate Assistant / Tight Ends
2013	Kentucky	Tight Ends
2014-18	Kentucky	Tight Ends, Recruiting Coordinator
2019-present	Kentucky	Associate Head Coach/Tight Ends



**ANWAR STEWART**

**DEFENSIVE LINE**

Former Wildcat Anwar Stewart was named the defensive line coach at Kentucky in January of 2020. He returned to the Bluegrass after one season as the defensive line coach at Appalachian State.

Stewart is quite familiar with the Kentucky football program after playing linebacker/defensive end from 1996-99 under head coaches Bill Curry and Hal Mumme and having served as a student assistant and defensive assistant under head coach Mark Stoops from 2017-18.

During his playing days at Kentucky, he totaled 64 tackles, including nine tackles for loss and eight sacks, playing both linebacker and defensive end.

2014	Montreal Alouettes	Defensive Quality Control
2015	Montreal Alouettes	Defensive Ends
2016	Montreal Alouettes	Defensive Line
2017-18	Kentucky	Defensive Assistant
2019	Appalachian State	Defensive Line
2020-present	Kentucky	Defensive Line



**JON SUMRALL**

**INSIDE LINEBACKERS/ CO-DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR**

Former Wildcat linebacker Jon Sumrall is in his third season as the inside linebackers coach and first as co-defensive coordinator, a title he earned in 2021.

He recently announced he has accepted the head coaching position at Troy but will coach in the bowl game.

Prior to UK, Sumrall spent time at Ole Miss, Troy, Tulane and San Diego.

Sumrall was a three-year letter winner at middle linebacker at Kentucky from 2002-04. He started every game in 2004, leading the Wildcats with 72 tackles. He also excelled off the field as he was named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll and was selected to the Frank G. Ham Society of Character.

After earning his degree in finance in 2005, Sumrall served as a graduate assistant for the Wildcats during the 2005 and 2006 seasons under head coach Rich Brooks.

2005-06	Kentucky	Graduate Assistant
2007-09	San Diego	Defensive Line, Recruiting Coordinator
2010	San Diego	Co-Defensive Coordinator, Linebackers
2011	San Diego	Asst. Head Coach, Co-Defensive Coordinator, Linebackers
2012-13	Tulane	Defensive Line
2014	Tulane	Assistant Linebackers
2015-17	Troy	Special Teams Coordinator, Linebackers
2018	Ole Miss	Linebackers
2019	Kentucky	Inside Linebackers
2020-present	Kentucky	Co-Defensive Coordinator/Inside Linebackers





## BRAD WHITE

### DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR/ OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

Brad White is in his fourth season at Kentucky as the outside linebackers coach and third as the Cats' defensive coordinator. He was elevated to the DC position by head coach Mark Stoops in February of 2019.

White came to Kentucky after spending six years at the outside linebackers coach with the Indianapolis Colts.

A graduate of Wake Forest, White started at linebacker and finished his playing career with 227 tackles, 19.0 tackles for loss, 4.0 sacks and eight passes defended, while starting 34-of-35 games played. White was a three-time Academic All-ACC selection and was named to the 2004 CoSIDA Academic All-District III team.

2007-08	Defensive Graduate Assistant	Wake Forest
2009	Safeties	Murray State
2010-11	Inside Linebackers	Air Force
2012-13	Defensive Quality Control	Indianapolis (NFL)
2014	Assistant Linebackers	Indianapolis (NFL)
2015-17	Outside Linebackers	Indianapolis (NFL)
2018	Outside Linebackers	Kentucky
2019-present	Defensive Coordinator/Outside Linebackers	Kentucky



## ERIC WOLFORD

### OFFENSIVE LINE

Eric Wolford was hired as the new offensive line coach in December of 2020.

Prior to UK, Wolford spent the previous four seasons at South Carolina. Wolford has over 25 years of coaching experience, including two in the NFL.

Wolford was a four-year starter as an offensive guard at K-State under Bill Snyder. He went on to start 34 games in his career, including 21 at right guard and 13 at left guard. During his senior year, the Wildcats won the school's first bowl game in the 1993 Copper Bowl, defeating Wyoming.

After college, Wolford signed a free-agent contract with the Arizona Cardinals before returning to Manhattan to embark on his coaching career.

1996	Offensive Line/Strength Coach	Emporia State (Division II)
1997-99	Offensive Line	South Florida
2000-02	Offensive Line	Houston
2003	Offensive Line	North Texas
2004-06	Offensive Line	Arizona
2007-08	Offensive Line	Illinois
2009	Offensive Line	South Carolina
2010-14	Head Coach	Youngstown State
2015-16	Offensive Line	San Francisco 49ers
2017-20	Offensive Line	South Carolina
2021-present	Offensive Line	Kentucky



## SCOTT WOODWARD

### WIDE RECEIVERS

Scott Woodward is in his first season as the wide receivers coach.

Before coming to the Bluegrass, Woodward spent two seasons as a quality control coach at Pittsburgh. From 2015-18, he served as the tight ends coach at his alma mater, Massachusetts, and also served as an offensive analyst and worked with the quarterbacks and receivers.

Prior to UMass, had coaching stints at Fairleigh Dickinson-Florham (2013-15) and Westfield State (2010-13).

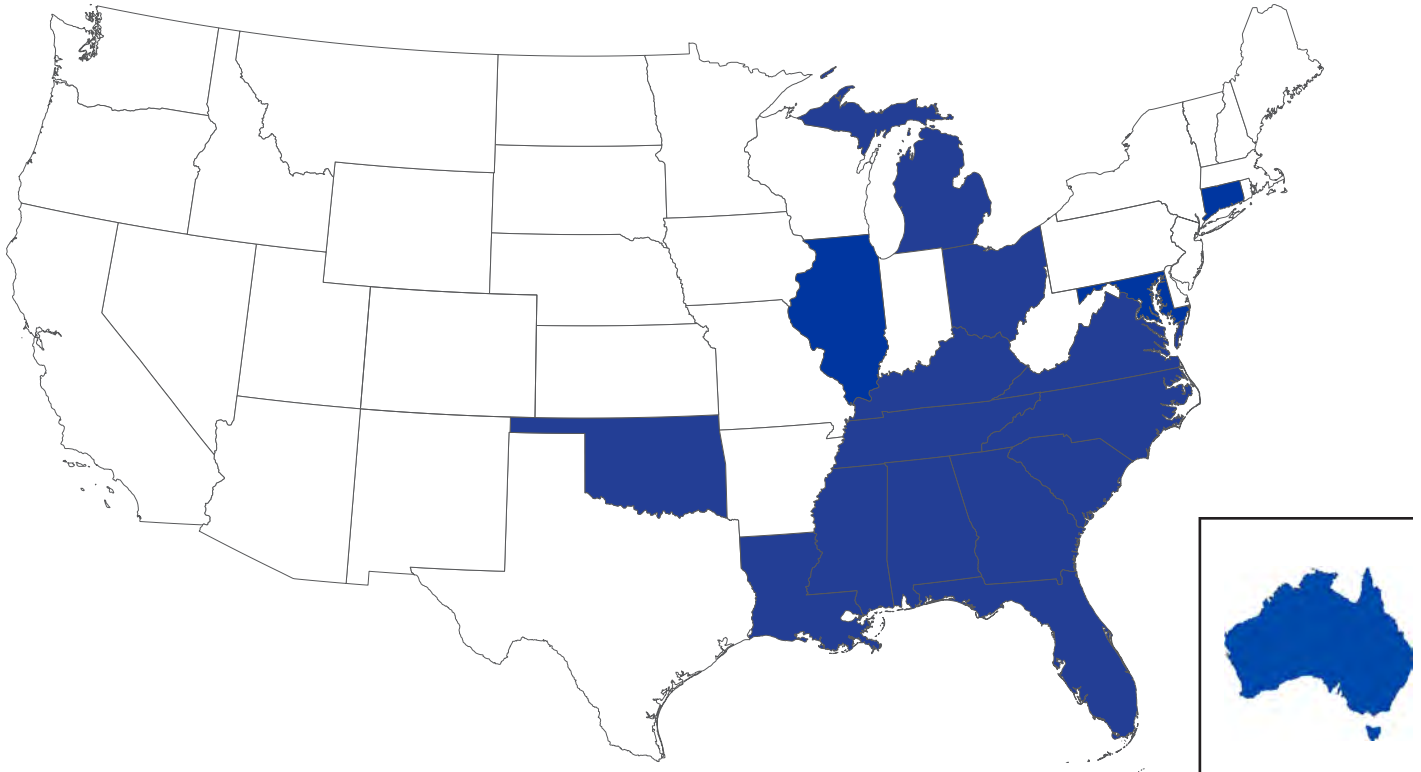
Woodward was a four-year letterman at quarterback for Massachusetts and played for the Minutemen's 2006 team that finished as the Division I-AA National Championship national runner-up

2010-13	Offensive Graduate Assistant	Westfield State
2013-15	Offensive Coordinator/QBs	Fairleigh Dickinson
2015	Graduate Assistant/WRs	Massachusetts
2016	Offensive Analyst/QBs	Massachusetts
2017	Quarterbacks	Massachusetts
2018-19	Tight ends	Massachusetts
2019-20	Offensive Quality Control	Pittsburgh
2021-present	Wide Receivers	Kentucky



# CATS ON THE MAP

The 2021 football roster is comprised of 16 different states and Australia



### Alabama (5)

Birmingham	Lucas Padgett
Huntsville	Kahlil Saunders
Pleasant Grove	Chris Lewis
Tuscaloosa	Jacquez Jones
Wetumpka	Kavosley Smoke

### Connecticut (1)

Madison	Will Lewis
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### Florida (11)

Fort Lauderdale	Jake Pope
	Nik Scalzo
	Jordan Wright
Hollywood	Josh Ali
Lakeland	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald
Miami	Sam Anaele
	Clevan Thomas Jr.
Orlando	Rahsaan Lewis
Palm Beach	Cedrick Dort Jr.
Sanford	Kenneth Horsey
Vero Beach	DeMarcus Harris

### Georgia (12)

Brunswick	Quandre Mosely
Columbus	Josh Jones
Dublin	D'Eryk Jackson
Jesup	Trevin Wallace
Albany	Chauncey Magwood
McDonough	Yusuf Corker
	Chris Rodriguez Jr.
Rochelle	Martez Thrower
Stone Mountain	Marquez Bemby
Tifton	K.D. McDaniel
Union Grove	Taj Dodson
Valdosta	Travis Tisdale

### Illinois (1)

Lake Forest	Jai Williams
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### Kentucky (39)

Belfry	Austin Dotson
Bowling Green	Jordan Dingle
	Justice Dingle
	Vito Tisdale
Frankfort	Wan'Dale Robinson
Jackson	Braxton Eiserman
Lexington	Beau Allen
	Zac Berezowitz
	Jager Burton
	Dekel Crowdus Jr.
	Trey Dennis
	Davonte Robinson
	Graham Wald
Louisville	Alex Bascom
	Richard Bascom
	Jared Casey
	Tae Tae Crumes
	Izayah Cummings
	Luke Leeper
	Jordan Morrow
	Jack Varga
	J.J. Weaver
	Lavell Wright
	John Young
Mayfield	Cody Goatley
Nicholasville	Eli Cox
	Matthew Napier
Owensboro	Austin Gough
Paris	Parker Estes
Radcliff	Isaiah Beasley
	Jordan Lovett
	Octavious Oxendine
Richmond	Dillon Wheatley
Science Hill	Jase Bruner
Somerset	Collin Hartmann
	Kaiya Sheron
Stamping Ground	Jonathan Berry
Upton	Clay Perry
Vine Grove	Darren Green

### Louisiana (3)

Baton Rouge	Joel Williams
Ferriday	Dare Rosenthal
Metairie	William Nalty

### Maryland (2)

Laurel	Naasir Watkins
Prince George's County	Josh Paschal

### Michigan (9)

Beecher	Earnest Sanders IV
Detroit	Deondre Buford
	Jeremy Flax
	Marquan McCall
	Justin Rogers
	DeAndre Square
East Lansing	Conner Long
West Bloomfield	Maxwell Hairston
	Tyler Markray

### Mississippi (2)

Horn Lake	Josaih Hayes
Lake Cormorant	Cade Degraw

### North Carolina (1)

Asheboro	Kaleb Cheek
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### Ohio (21)

Cincinnati	Brenden Bates
	Zach Johnson
	Chris Oats
	Carrington Valentine
	Quintin Wilson
Centerville	Matt Ruffolo
Cleveland	Patrick Delahunty
	Colin Goodfellow
Columbus	Jamarius Dinkins
	Rickey Hyatt Jr.

Fairfield	JuTahn McClain
Hilltop	Mike Drennen II
Lima	Keaton Upshaw
Mansfield	Tyrell Ajian
Mason	Paul Rodriguez
Springfield	Moses Douglass
	Isaiah Gibson
Springboro	Justin Rigg
Stow	David Wohlabaugh Jr.
Sylvania	Luke Fortner
Youngstown	Luke Fulton

### Oklahoma (2)

Jenks	Isaiah Epps
Norman	Darren Edmond

### South Carolina (3)

Anderson	Andru Phillips
	Chance Poore
Columbia	Jalen Geiger

### Tennessee (3)

Dickson	Tre'Vonn Rybka
Knoxville	Darian Kinnard
Nashville	Adrian Huey

### Virginia (2)

Charlottesville	Ben Drake
Woodbridge	R.J. Adams

### AUSTRALIA (1)

Maribyrnong	Wilson Berry
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# 2021 PLAYER BIOGRAPHIES

## Breakdown by Class

### Super Seniors (9)

Josh Ali  
 Luke Fortner  
 Colin Goodfellow  
 Zach Johnson  
 Quandre Mosely  
 William Nalty  
 Justin Rigg  
 Davonte Robinson  
 Matt Ruffolo

### Seniors (22)

Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald  
 Tyrell Ajian  
 Marquez Bemby  
 Zac Berezowitz  
 Yusuf Corker  
 Cade Degraw  
 Patrick Delahunty  
 Cedrick Dort Jr.  
 Austin Dotson  
 Darren Edmond  
 Isaiah Epps  
 Collin Hartmann  
 Jacquez Jones  
 Darian Kinnard  
 Marquan McCall  
 Chris Oats  
 Joshua Paschal  
 DeAndre Square  
 Clevan Thomas Jr.  
 Naasir Watkins  
 Dillon Wheatley  
 Jordan Wright

### Juniors (20)

Alex Bascom  
 Richard Bascom  
 Brenden Bates  
 Justice Dingle\*  
 Ben Drake  
 Braxton Eiserman  
 Jeremy Flax  
 Kenneth Horsey  
 Will Levis  
 Raahsaan Lewis  
 Tyler Markray  
 Jordon Morrow  
 Chance Poore  
 Wan'Dale Robinson\*  
 Chris Rodriguez Jr.  
 Dare Rosenthal  
 Kavosiey Smoke  
 Keaton Upshaw  
 Jack Varga  
 Quintin Wilson

### Sophomores (18)

Beau Allen  
 Jared Casey  
 Eli Cox  
 Tae Tae Crumes  
 Taj Dodson  
 Moses Douglass  
 Luke Fulton\*  
 Jalen Geiger  
 Isaiah Gibson  
 DeMarcus Harris

Josaih Hayes  
 K.D. McDaniel  
 Tre'Von Morgan  
 Octavious Oxendine  
 Jake Pope  
 Nik Scalzo  
 Travis Tisdale  
 J.J. Weaver

### r-Freshmen (25)

R.J. Adams  
 Sam Anaele  
 Isaiah Beasley  
 Jase Bruner  
 Deondre Buford  
 Kaleb Cheek  
 Izayah Cummings  
 Torrance Davis  
 Michael Drennen II  
 Cody Goatley  
 Darren Green  
 Rickey Hyatt Jr.  
 D'Eryk Jackson  
 Josh Jones  
 JuTahn McClain  
 Clay Perry  
 Andru Phillips  
 Justin Rogers  
 Tre'Vonn Rybka  
 Earnest Sanders IV  
 Graham Wald  
 Vito Tisdale  
 Carrington Valentine  
 Joel Williams  
 John Young

### Freshmen (25)

Jonathan Berry  
 Wilson Berry\*  
 Jager Burton\*  
 Dekel Crowdus Jr.  
 Trey Dennis  
 Jordan Dingle  
 Jamarius Dinkins  
 Parker Estes  
 Austin Gough  
 Maxwell Hairston\*  
 Adrian Huey  
 Chrisitan Lewis  
 Conner Long  
 Jordan Lovett\*  
 Chauncey Magwood\*  
 Lucas Padgett  
 Paul Rodriguez  
 Devonte Ross  
 Kahlil Saunders  
 Kaiya Sheron\*  
 Martez Thrower  
 Trevin Wallace  
 Jai Williams  
 David Wohlabaugh\*  
 La'Ve'll Wright\*

\* 2021 Mid-year enrollee



# 94

ABULE  
**ABADI-  
 FITZGERALD**

DEFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 303 • Senior-2L  
 Lakeland, Fla. (Victory Christian Academy)

### 2021 - Senior

- Has played in 11 games with eight starting assignments
- Has 10 tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks and one forced fumble this season
- Got the first two sacks of his career against Tennessee, one of which caused a fumble
- Earned first career start vs. ULM and charted a career-best three tackles
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team

### 2020 - Junior

- Saw action in five games and charted his first career PBU in the win over South Carolina
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team

### 2019 - Sophomore

- Saw action in all 13 games and had four tackles
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

### 2018 - r-Freshman

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Spring 2019)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

### 2017 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

### High School

- Recorded 39 tackles, including nine TFL, two sacks and 13 quarterback hurries in 2016 for coach Tommy Lewis at Victory Christian Academy ... Also had two forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and an INT
- Named second-team All-Polk County by the *Lakeland Ledger* and Florida AP All-State Class 2A honorable mention as a senior in helping the Storm finish 13-2 overall
- Member of the 2014 State Championship team
- Named to the Southeast Super-Region Team by the National Christian School Athletic Association
- Transferred to Victory Christian in 2016 after playing at Dade Christian
- Also a star player on the basketball court and competed in the shot put, discus and 400 meters
- School-record holder and back-to-back regional champion in the shot put
- Named second-team All-Dade as a junior
- Averaging 23.0 points and 13.0 rebounds as a senior, compiling over 1,400 career points
- Chose Kentucky over Florida, Florida Atlantic and Florida International

### Community Cats

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

### Personal

- Name is pronounced "Abule (ah-BOO-lay) Abadi (ah-BODY)"
- Originally from Yenagoa, Nigeria
- Moved to Florida at the age of 12
- Son of Steve and Teri Fitzgerald
- Siblings are Alaowei Talent, Dublin, Aiden, Mackenzie, Jackson, Liam and Austin Fitzgerald
- Brother, Alaowei Talent, played college basketball at Broward College and Southeastern University
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in communication ... Currently working on an undergraduate certificate in digital design literacy

### Abule Says

- His nickname is "A.B." or "A-Bizzle"
- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to get out of his comfort zone and Kentucky felt like home
- Three words to describe him are motivated, disciplined, and tough
- The best advice he's ever received is "work so hard so the coaches have no choice but to play you"
- Most people don't know he's Nigerian, he's adopted and he has approximately 40 siblings back in Nigeria

### FITZGERALD'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FC/FR	PBU	QBH
2018	DT	0-0	0	0	0	0/0	0	0
2019	DT	13-0	4	0	0	0/0	0	0
2020	DT	5-0	0	0	0	0/0	1	0
2021	DT	11-8	10	2.5-7	2.5-7	1/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>29-8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2.5-7</b>	<b>2.5-7</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

### FITZGERALD'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM*	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
vs. Florida			DNP				
vs. LSU	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	2	2.0-6	2.0-6	1/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	2	0.5-1	0.5-1	0/0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2.5-7</b>	<b>2.5-7</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### FITZGERALD'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Auburn			DNP				
vs. Ole Miss			DNP				
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee			DNP				





FITZGERALD'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for opponent, tackles, sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows include Missouri, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, NC State, and Totals.

FITZGERALD'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for opponent, tackles, sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows include Toledo, Michigan, Florida, Miss. State, USC, Arkansas, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, UT Martin, Louisville, Va. Tech, and Totals.

FITZGERALD'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 3, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021
Sack: 2.0, vs. Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021
Tackles for loss: 2.0, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021
Pass breakups: 1, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020
Forced fumbles: 1, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021



53

REUBEN "R.J." ADAMS

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-3 • 330 • Freshman-RS
Woodbridge, Va. (Woodbridge Senior)

2021 - r-Freshman

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

High School

- Four-star recruit by Rivals.com and ESPN
Rivals listed him as the No. 6 prospect in Virginia and No. 12 overall prospect in the nation
Named an Under Armour All-America and contributed for Coach Deion Sanders' winning squad, Team Pressure, defeat Team Savage, 30-24, in January of 2020

- Three-year starter and two-year captain at Woodbridge Senior High School for Coach Gary Wortham Sr.
Led Woodbridge to a regional championship and Final Four appearance in 2017 with a school-best 12-2 record
Allowed zero sacks as a senior and went on to earn 2019 second-team All-District, All-Region and All-Met honors by The Washington Post
Helped lead the Vikings to a 2018 Class 6A state title
Winner of the school's prestigious Iron Mad Award for starting every game in three seasons (34 straight), the final 10 games on both sides of the ball
Also a two-year varsity basketball player at Woodbridge
Four-year member of the AB Honor Roll
Chose Kentucky over Alabama and NC State

Personal

- Born in Arlington, Virginia
Son of Reuben and Lisa Adams
Has two sisters, Imani and Nia
Dad, Reuben, played football at Howard and is a member of Howard's Athletics Hall of Fame
Major is pre-communication

R.J. Says

- His nickname is "Big Nasty" or "Big Woo"
He chose Kentucky because the staff made him feel at home immediately and did not pressure him to commit
His dream job is to become a teacher
One word to describe him on the field is "powerful"
Most people don't know that he was crowned Homecoming King as a senior



23

TYRELL AJIAN

SAFETY

6-0 • 190 • Senior-3L
Mansfield, Ohio (Madison Comprehensive)

2021 - Senior

- Has played in all 12 games with 10 starting assignments at safety this season
Has 39 tackles, three pass breakups and one of UK's seven interceptions this season
Had a career-high tying eight tackles and a career-best two pass breakups in the win over No. 10/9 Florida
Had a 95-yard interception return for a touchdown in the fourth quarter vs. UTC ... Marked his first collegiate score and the fourth interception of his career ... Tied for the third-longest interception return in school history and the longest since David Johnson's 95-yard TD return at Cincinnati in 1986 ... Marked the longest UK interception return in Commonwealth Stadium/Kroger Field history

- Led the Wildcats with a career-high eight tackles vs. Missouri

2020 - Junior

- Started at safety in 10 of 11 games played
Totaled 48 tackles, an interception, a forced fumble, a PBU and a blocked kick
Blocked a field goal attempt in the second quarter vs. No. 23 NC State in the Gator Bowl, the first blocked kick of his career and UK's second blocked field goal of the season, also Jamin Davis vs. Georgia
Made a career-high seven tackles vs. the Wolfpack
Had his third career interception in the win over No. 18 Tennessee

2019 - Sophomore

- Played in 12 games with two starting assignments (Florida and Miss. State) at safety
Totaled 17 tackles, an interception and a PBU
Recorded a career-high tying three tackles vs. Vanderbilt, Eastern Michigan and at South Carolina
In his first career start, had two tackles and an interception vs. Florida, his second career INT
Dean's List (Fall 2019)
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2018 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in all 13 games
Finished the season with 10 tackles, three PBUs and one INT
Made his first career interception and also had a pass breakup in Kentucky's 28-7 win over Mississippi State ... With MSU threatening to tie the game early in the fourth quarter, his third-down pass breakup forced a punt ... On the next possession, with MSU again threatening to tie, he intercepted a pass and returned it 35 yards ... His long return set up a touchdown run on the next play, giving UK a two-TD lead
Recorded two tackles vs. Murray State, his first career action

2017 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

High School

- Combination athlete in high school, playing defensive back, wide receiver and quarterback
Four-star prospect by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
Rivals ranks him the No. 10 overall prospect in the state of Ohio and the No. 23 athlete in the class of 2017
ESPN has him as the No. 8 safety in the country
Four-year letter winner and three-year starter for Coach Jamie Masi at Madison Comprehensive
First-team OCC All-Conference and honorable mention second-team All-Northwest Ohio in 2016 after averaging 9.0 tackles per game
Nominated for the 2017 U.S. Army All-American Bowl
Had three interceptions and 54 tackles as a junior, along with 783 receiving yards, 551 rushing yards and 19 touchdowns
OCC Offensive Player of the Year and first-team Offense All-Northwest Ohio in 2015
Also excelled on the basketball court, becoming a member of Madison's 1,000-point club during his senior season
Chose Kentucky over Michigan, Michigan State, and West Virginia



**Personal**

- Name is pronounced "Ajian (a-jun)"
- Born in Ashland, Ohio
- Son of Nikki Ajian and Burton Hester
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in family science and a minor in coaching

**Tyrell Says**

- His nickname is "Ty"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home
- One word to describe him on the field is "ball hawk"
- The one thing he's looking forward to this season is continuing what the guys started last year
- When he played football as a kid he pretend to be Terrell Owens

**AJIAN'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	INT	PBU	Blk
2018	S	13-0	10	0-0	0-0	0/0	1-35	3	0
2019	S	12-2	17	0-0	0-0	0/0	1-22	1	0
2020	S	11-10	48	0-0	0-0	1/0	1-0	1	1
2021	S	12-10	39	0-0	0-0	0/0	1-95	2	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>48-22</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>4-152</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

**AJIAN'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	INT	QBH	Blk
vs. ULM*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	8	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1-95	0	0
at USC*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	8	0-0	0-0	0/0	2	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
NMST*	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1-95</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**AJIAN'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	INT	QBH	Blk
at Auburn*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0	0
at Tennessee*	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1	0	0
at Missouri	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt*	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	3	0-0	0-0	1/0	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. USC*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	7	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**AJIAN'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	INT	QBH
vs. Toledo	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Eastern Michigan	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	1-22	0

at Miss. State*	2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
at South Carolina	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	DNP						
vs. Missouri	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Va. Tech	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1-22</b>	<b>0</b>

**AJIAN'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	INT	QBH
vs. Central Mich.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	1	1-35	0
vs. South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at TAMU	1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
vs. Penn State	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1-35</b>	<b>0</b>

**AJIAN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Tackles:** 8, twice, last vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021  
**Blocked kicks:** 1, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
**Interceptions:** 1, 4x, last vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021 (1-95)  
**Pick Six:** 1, at UTC, Sept 13, 2021 (95)  
**Pass breakups:** 2, vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021



6

JOSH ALI

WIDE RECEIVER

6-0 • 190 • Senior-4L  
 Hollywood, Fla. (Chaminade-Madonna)

**2021 - Senior\* (Team Captain)**

- Elected to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Two-time team captain
- All-SEC Second Team, PR (PFF)
- All-SEC Third Team, WR (PFF)
- Has played in 55 career games with 34 consecutive starts at wide receiver
- Has caught a pass in 22 consecutive games played
- Did not see action vs. LSU or at Georgia with a leg injury
- Has 131 career receptions, the 18th player in school to history to catch at least 100 passes ...

- Currently tied for 10th on UK's career receptions list with Rafael Little ... Needs two more to tie Jacob Tamme (133) at No. 9, three more to tie La'Rod King (134) at No. 8 and 10 more catches to move up to No. 7 with Dicky Lyons Jr. (141)
- Has 1,447 career receiving yards for 12th place in UK history ... Needs 36 more to move up to No. 11 with Tom Hutchinson (1,483 from 1960-62)
- Caught seven passes for a career-high 164 yards and a career-best two touchdowns on Senior Day vs. New Mexico State ... Averaged 23.4 yards per catch, second-highest in school history for a player with at least seven receptions ... Dee Smith averaged 24.3 yards per catch (7 for 170) vs. Tennessee in 1987 ... Caught a career-long 62-yard pass in the game
- Returned to action at Mississippi State after missing two games and got the scoring started with a 74-yard punt return for a touchdown following MSU's first possession ... Marked his first punt return TD of his career and UK's first since Lynn Bowden Jr.'s 58-yard scoring jaunt on Jan. 1, 2019 in the Citrus Bowl vs. Penn State ... UK's longest punt return since Rafael Little's 84-yard return vs. Louisiana-Monroe in 2006 ... UK's longest punt return in an SEC road game since Derek Abney's 86-yard return in 2002 in Arkansas
- Had an 11-yard rushing touchdown vs. UTC, his first collegiate rushing TD
- Had five receptions for 136 yards vs. ULM in the season opener ... Marked the first 100-yard game of his career ... Most receiving yardage in a season opener since Garrett Johnson had 143 vs. Southern Mississippi in 2016
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Preseason Big Board
- Preseason Second-Team All-SEC Specialist (Phil Steele)
- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC Specialist (Athlon)

**2020 - Senior (Team Captain)**

- Started in all 11 games
- UK's leading receiver with 54 catches for 473 yards and a score... Averaged 8.8 yards per catch
- Led the team in receptions with five catches for 11 yards in the win over No. 23 NC State in the Gator Bowl
- Paced the Wildcats receiving with four catches for 38 yards in the win over No. 18 Tennessee
- Led the Wildcats in receiving with nine catches for 98 yards, both career highs, at Auburn ... Marked the most receiving yards in a top-10 opponent road game since Chris Matthews at Florida in 2010
- Elected as one of 10 team captains
- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

**2019 - Junior**

- Started in all 13 games
- Second on the team with 23 catches for 233 yards (third on the team) and three TDs (team high)
- Led the Wildcat wide receivers with four catches for 52 yards in the Belk Bowl, including two huge plays on the final drive – a nine-yard contested catch on 4th-and-7 and what proved to be the game-winning 13-yard touchdown grab
- Led UK with 14 punt returns for 88 yards (6.3)
- Attempted his first career pass at Georgia
- Changed to uniform No. 6

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Saw action in 12 of 13 games
- Had 10 catches for 115 yards and one TD
- Caught three passes and his first collegiate TD with a season-long 32-yard reception at UofL





- Caught two passes for 22 yards in the win at Mizzou
- Wore No. 82

### 2017 - Freshman

- Saw action in nine games
- Caught three passes for 25 yards
- Wore No. 82

### High School

- Three-star prospect by all major recruiting services
- Scout.com ranks him the No. 32 wide receiver in the talent-rich state of Florida
- Four-year starter and letter winner for Coach Dameon Jones at Chaminade
- Caught 43 passes for 805 yards and five receiving TDs in 2016 in helping lead the Lions to a 10-5 overall record and an appearance in the Class 3A state championship game
- Named first-team All-County and All-State
- Also had one kickoff return for a touchdown
- Hauled in 56 passes for 896 yards and 15 scores as a junior at University School in Ft. Lauderdale
- Chose Kentucky over Central Florida and Utah

### Community Cats

- Participated in Read Across America and has been a volunteer speaker at local elementary schools (2020)

### Personal

- Born in Miami, Florida
- Son of Katrina Gray and Faheem Ali
- Dad, Faheem, was a WR at Louisiana Tech
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in community and leadership development ... Currently working on a second degree in communication

### Josh Says

- His nickname is "Jayboogie"
- He chose Kentucky because it was away from home, in a great conference and he wanted to help change the program
- One word to describe him on the field is "smooth"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a real estate agent
- His hidden talent is cooking

### ALI'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	PR	Yds.	Long	TD
2017	WR	9-0	3	25	8.3	0	14	0	0	0	0
2018	WR	12-0	10	115	11.5	1	32	0	0	0	0
2019	WR	13-13	23	233	10.1	3	25	14	88	19	0
2020	WR	11-11	54	473	8.8	1	33	6	62	39	0
2021	WR	10-10	41	601	14.7	3	62	9	133	74	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>55-34</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1447</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>1</b>

### ALI'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg.
vs. ULM*	5	136	1	58	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	2	30	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	5	53	0	18	1	11	1	11	11.0
at USC*	4	14	0	4	2	2	0	9	1.0
vs. Florida*	1	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU				DNP					
at Georgia				DNP					
at Miss. State*	2	9	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	7	74	0	31	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	4	58	0	24	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	7	164	2	62	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	4	48	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1.9</b>

### ALI'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME CONT.

Opponent	PR	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
vs. Florida*	1	6	6.0	6	0
at Miss. State*	1	74	74.0	74	1
at Vanderbilt*	2	28	14.0	25	0
NMST*	4	20	5.0	11	0
at Louisville*	1	5	5.0	5	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>1</b>

### ALI'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg.
at Auburn*	9	98	0	33	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	7	88	0	24	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State*	2	22	0	17	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee*	4	38	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri*	4	47	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	5	35	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt*	3	15	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	4	52	0	33	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	6	32	0	12	1	15	0	15	0
vs. USC*	5	35	0	18	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	5	11	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>

### ALI'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME CONT.

Opponent	PR	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
at Auburn*	1	6	6.0	6	0
vs. Ole Miss*	1	17	17.0	17	0
vs. Miss. State*	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee*	1	1	1.0	1	0
at Missouri*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt*	2	38	19.0	39	0
at Alabama*	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. USC*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>

### ALI'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att	Yds	TD	Long	TD
vs. Toledo*	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
vs. EMU*	1	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	2	28	0	18	0	0	0	0	0
at MSU*	5	61	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	3	18	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
vs. ARK*	2	13	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
at UGA*	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	0
vs. Mizzou*	1	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UT*	1	12	0	12	1	3	0	3	0
at Vandy*	3	27	1	14	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTM*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Va. Tech*	4	52	1	25	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

### ALI'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME CONT.

Opponent	PR	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
vs. Toledo*	1	6	6.0	6	0
vs. EMU*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	0	0	0	0	0
at MSU*	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	1	9	9.0	9	0
vs. ARK*	2	18	9.0	18	0
at UGA*	2	13	6.5	19	0
vs. Mizzou*	3	29	9.6	18	0
vs. UT*	1	-1	0	0	0
at Vandy*	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTM*	1	-3	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	2	7	3.5	7	0
vs. Va. Tech*	1	10	10.0	10	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>

### ALI'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Central Michigan	1	14	0	14
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	1	1	0	1
vs. Miss. State	1	6	0	6
vs. South Carolina	1	8	0	8
at TAMU	1	5	0	5
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	2	22	0	13
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. MTSU				DNP
at Louisville	3	59	1	32
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>

### ALI'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	1	6	0	6



**ALI'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME**

vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	14	0	14
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern	1	5	0	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>

**ALI'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Receptions:** 9, at Auburn, Sept 26, 2020  
**Receiving yards:** 164, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021 (7 receptions)  
**Receiving touchdowns:** 2, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Long reception:** 62, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Rush attempts:** 2, at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021  
**Rush yards:** 15, at Florida, Nov 28, 2020  
**Rush touchdowns:** 1, vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021  
**Punt Returns:** 3, vs Missouri, Oct 26, 2019  
**Punt Return Yards:** 74, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
**Punt Return touchdowns:** 1, at Mississippi State, Oct. 30, 2021 (74 yards)



**11**

**BEAU ALLEN**

**QUARTERBACK**

**6-2 • 208 • Sophomore-1L**  
 Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has played in three games (ULM, New Mexico State and Louisville) and completed 8 of 12 passes for 92 yards
- Entered in the fourth quarter vs. New Mexico State and completed 3 of 4 passes for 40 yards ... Also had a three-yard scramble for his first collegiate rushing touchdown
- Got a career-long 23-yard rush at Louisville

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Mid-year enrollee
- Saw action in two games (Vanderbilt and at Alabama)
- Completed 3-of-7 passes for 40 yards
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Vanderbilt on Nov. 14 and completed 3 of 5 passes for 40 yards

**High School**

- Four-star recruit by Rivals as the No. 13 pro-style quarterback
- Rated a top 500 player in the class by 247Sports and the No. 19 pro-style quarterback
- Named the Paul Hornung Award winner given to the top high school player in Kentucky
- Four-year starter who compiled 11,439 career passing yards and 127 touchdowns, numbers that put him in the top five all-time
- Coached by Nigel Smith
- Candidate for Kentucky's Mr. Football award
- Completed 248 of 366 passes for 3,682 yards and 38 touchdowns and rushed for a team-high 478 yards and 12 scores

- Three-time first-team All-State
- Named to the 2019 Class of the Commonwealth by the Lexington Herald-Leader
- Also was a two-year basketball letter winner
- Academic All-State
- Member of the Beta Club and was named Academic All-State
- Picked Kentucky over Georgia, Washington State, West Virginia, Duke and others

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at LexCity Church (2020)
- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Carmel, Indiana
- Son of Bill and Ingrid Allen
- Dad, Bill, also played quarterback at Kentucky from 1984-88
- Majoring in pre-finance

**Beau Says**

- His nickname is "Beau" - his birth name is William
- He chose Kentucky because of the coaches and the relationships he made with team
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to coach
- One word to describe him on the field is "calm"
- His sports hero is Tom Brady because he wins

**ALLEN'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Rush	Yds	TD	Comp.	Att.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Long
2020	2-0	2	-9	0	3	7	0	42.9	40	0	20
2021	3-0	4	9	1	8	12	0	66.7	92	0	31
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>

**ALLEN'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Comp.-Att.-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	4-7-0	52	0	31	1	-10	0	0
vs. NMST	3-4-0	40	0	23	2	-4	0	3
at Louisville	1-1-0	0	0	0	1	23	0	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8-12-0</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>

**ALLEN'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Comp.-Att.-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Vanderbilt	3-5-0	40	0	20	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	0-2-0	0	0	0	2	-9	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3-7-0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**ALLEN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Pass attempts:** 7, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
**Pass completions:** 4, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
**Pass yards:** 52, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
**Long pass:** 31, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
**Rush attempts:** 2, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Rushing touchdowns:** 1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Long rush:** 23, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021



**91**

**SAM ANAELE**

**DEFENSIVE LINE**

**6-4 • 265 • Freshman-RS**  
 Lagos, Nigeria (McDougle Technical Institute)

**2021 - r-Freshman**

- Has seen action in two games vs. ULM and Louisville
- Got a career-high two tackles, including 1.0 tackle for loss vs. the Cards
- Moved to defensive end from outside linebacker

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season as an outside linebacker
- Mid-year enrollee in Jan. 2020
- Saw action in one game vs. South Carolina
- Moved to the defensive line after the 2020 season
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Four-star recruit by 247Sports Composite and Rivals rankings
- Ranked the No. 96 overall player in the class by Rivals and the No. 5 weakside defensive end
- The No. 16 player in talent-rich state of Florida according to Rivals
- Selected to the 2020 Under Armour All-America Game
- Has been timed at 4.9 in the 40-yard dash
- Had 38 total tackles, 19 tackles for loss and seven sacks as a senior at McDougle Technical Institute Preparatory
- Coached by Norman Richards
- Picked Kentucky over Miami, South Florida, Florida, Colorado and others

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Brenda Cowan Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Lagos, Nigeria
- Son of Steven Anaele
- Began athletic career on the basketball court and has only been playing football five years
- Named is pronounced Sam "ah-NEL-lee"
- Majoring in pre-communication

**Sam Says**

- His nickname is "Bax"
- He chose Kentucky so he could to play football at the highest level and get a high-level education
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to work in business management/communications
- One word to describe him on the field is "hard-nosed"
- His hidden talent is writing





ANAEL'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tkls, TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, Blks, Int, FF/RR, QBH. Rows for 2020, 2021, and Totals.

ANAEL'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkls, TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF/RR, Blks, Int, QBH. Rows for vs. ULM, at Louisville, and Totals.

ANAEL'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkls, TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF/RR, Blks, Int, QBH. Rows for vs. USC and Totals.

ANAEL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 2, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021
Tackles for loss: 1.0, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021 (2 yards)



63

ALEX BASCOM

DEFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 264 • Junior-SQ
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team
Dean's List (Fall 2020)
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

High School

- Three-year letter winner for head coach Kevin Wallace
Started at defensive end and helped lead the Tigers to 9-4 record as a senior, totaling 54 tackles and 7.0 sacks
Named All-District as a senior
Helped St. Xavier go 12-3 and finish as state runner up in 2017
Also a two-year letter winner as a forward on the basketball team
Member of the National Honor Society and was named to the President's List for excelling in the classroom
Chose Kentucky over Butler, Jacksonville, and Louisville

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky

- Son of Theresa and Rich Bascom
Has a twin brother, Richard, also on the team
Double majors are in finance and management

Alex Says

- He chose Kentucky because he's been a fan his whole life and he liked the coaching staff
After his football career, he would like to be a financial advisor
Three words to describe him are respectable, reliable, and funny
The best advice he's ever received is "always remember, things get better"
The person he admires the most is his grandpa because he's always been able to make him laugh



64

RICHARD BASCOM

DEFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 286 • Junior-SQ
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team
Dean's List (Fall 2020)
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

High School

- Three-year letter winner at Saint Xavier under head coach Kevin Wallace
Started at defensive end and helped lead the Tigers to 9-4 record as a senior, totaling 68 tackles and 7.0 sacks
Named All-State honorable mention and was a member of the Courier Journal's All-Metro Louisville football team as a senior
Helped St. Xavier go 12-3 and finish as state runner up in 2017
Also played basketball for two seasons
Member of the National Honor Society
Chose Kentucky over Butler, Jacksonville and Louisville

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
Son of Theresa and Rich Bascom
Has a twin brother, Alex, also on the team
Double majors are in finance and management

Richard Says

- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to experience the highest level of football
After his football career, he would like to be an investment banker

- His sports hero is Justin Thomas because he's from Louisville and he's one of the greatest to ever play golf
The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Robert Herjavec, Donald Trump, and LeBron James
The best advice he's ever received is "do what you think is right, not what others think is right"



80

BRENDEN BATES

TIGHT END

6-5 • 255 • Junior-2L
Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in 33 career games with five starting assignments
Has seen action in all 12 games, all five starts coming this season
Has 10 receptions for 64 yards (6.4) with one score
Earned his first career start vs. ULM and also started vs. Missouri, LSU, Tennessee and Louisville
Caught a season-high tying two passes at No. 1 Georgia and vs. Tennessee
Caught his first collegiate touchdown with a four-yard catch vs. ULM

2020 - Sophomore

- Played in six games in 2020
Missed five games with injury
Made his first collegiate catch, a 14-yarder in the third quarter, vs. Mississippi State

2019 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in 13 games, mostly on special teams

2018 - Freshman

- Saw action in two games
Redshirt season
First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- One of the nation's top-20 tight ends by Rivals
Noted for his receiving ability, a difficult skill to find among tight ends in the high school ranks
Caught 17 passes for 305 yards with 11 touchdowns as a senior at Archbishop Moeller in Cincinnati
Totaled 250 yards receiving on 14 catches with five scores as a junior
Two-time first-team All-Greater Catholic League selection
Accepted an invitation to the 2018 Team USA Under-19 National Team for International Bowl IX
Coached by John Rodenberg
Three-year letter winner in track in the 200-meters and discus throw and was a power forward/center for two seasons on the basketball team
Was a member of the Improv Club





- Received offers from the SEC, Big Ten, Big 12 and Atlantic Coast Conference, including schools such as Vanderbilt, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, West Virginia, Louisville and Pittsburgh

**Personal**

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Doug and Kelly Bates
- Has two siblings, Morgan and Doug Jr.
- Comes from a family of athletes as father played football at Indiana, mother played volleyball at Morehead State, brother, Doug, played tight end at Toledo, sister, Morgan currently plays lacrosse at Cincinnati and grandfather, Gene Neff, played basketball at Kentucky under Coach Adolph Rupp from 1951-52
- Major is consumer economics and family financial counseling

**Brenden Says**

- His nickname is "Batesy"
- Most people don't know that he is extremely good at the worm
- A muscular Will Ferrell or Chris Pratt would play him in a movie about his life
- If he could only eat three foods for the rest of his life he would choose spicy chicken sandwiches, carrots with ranch, and Philly cheese steaks
- The best part of being a Kentucky Wildcat is meeting great people and being a part of something special

**BATES' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2018	TE	2-0	0	0	0.0	0	0
2019	TE	13-0	0	0	0.0	0	0
2020	TE	6-0	1	14	14.0	0	14
2021	TE	12-5	10	64	6.4	1	15
<b>Totals</b>		<b>33-5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>

**BATES' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM*	1	4	1	4
vs. Missouri*	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	2	2	0	4
at South Carolina	1	15	0	15
vs. Florida	1	11	0	11
vs. LSU*	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	2	13	0	8
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	2	18	0	13
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	1	0	1
at Louisville*	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>

**BATES' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0
vs. Mississippi State	1	14	0	14
at Tennessee		DNP	(Injury)	
at Missouri		DNP	(Injury)	

vs. Georgia		DNP	(Injury)
vs. Vanderbilt		DNP	(Injury)
at Alabama		DNP	(Injury)
at Florida	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>

**BATES' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 2, 3x, last vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 18, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (2 receptions)  
 Long reception: 15, at South Carolina, Sept 15, 2021  
 Receiving touchdowns: 1, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021



**98**

ISAIAH  
**BEASLEY**

DEFENSIVE LINE

5-11 • 278 • Sophomore-SQ  
Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Three-year letter winner and two-year starter for head coach Brent Thompson at North Hardin High School
- Helped lead the Trojans to a 13-1 overall record in 2019 and take the region and district championship before advancing to the KHSAA Class 6-A state semifinals
- Voted team captain and totaled 39 tackles, 5.0 sacks, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries as a senior
- Earned Select Preps Player of the Year and was a first-team All-Area selection by *The News-Enterprise*
- Also a member of the baseball team
- An excellent student who earned a 4.0 grade point average and was named first-team All-Academic by the KHSAA all four years of high school
- Selected as a 2018 University of Kentucky Rising Scholar
- Earned a certificate of nomination for the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists Award of Excellence
- Nominated for Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders
- Active in community service, helping build house frames for the homeless and serving breakfast to senior citizens
- Member of the High School Ministry, the Pep Club and DECA

- High school teammates with fellow Wildcats Darren Green and Oxtavious Oxendine
- Chose Kentucky over Western Kentucky, Kentucky Wesleyan, and Liberty

**Personal**

- Born in Burglengenfeld, Germany
- Son of Roderick and Tammy Beasley
- Has one brother, Alex
- Major is psychology

**Isaiah Says**

- His nickname is "Beaz"
- His dream job is to be a psychiatrist
- One thing people may not know about him is that he writes left-handed and throws right-handed
- His sports hero is Aaron Donald because he has proven that no matter your size as a defensive lineman, you can dominate and be successful
- One word to describe him is "consistent"



**42**

MARQUEZ  
**BEMBRY**

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-3 • 228 • Senior-1L  
Stone Mountain, Ga.  
(Mount Vernon Presbyterian/  
Jones County JC)

**2021 - Senior**

- Moved from inside to outside linebacker
- Has played in all 12 games and has nine tackles, a TFL and a quarterback hurry this season
- Charted a season-best three tackles at Mississippi State
- Got his TFL in the win over South Carolina

**2020 - Junior**

- Played in all 11 games with two starting assignments (Vanderbilt and Alabama)
- Totaled 27 tackles
- Made his first collegiate start vs. Vanderbilt and totaled a career-high 10 tackles

**2019 - Sophomore**

- Saw his first action of the season at Vanderbilt and charted one tackle
- Mid-year enrollee
- Did not participate in 2019 spring practice due to knee surgery

**Junior College**

- Played for head coach Steve Buckley at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, Mississippi
- Recorded 36 tackles during his redshirt freshman season in 2018, helping the Bobcats finish 10-2 overall and 6-0 in conference play
- Advanced to the MACJC State Championship ... Led Jones to a 27-7 win over Eastern Arizona in the Mississippi Bowl on Dec. 2, highlighted by his six





tackles, including 4.5 TFLs, one QB sack, one forced fumble and a fumble recovery

- Graduated from Jones in December of 2018 as a two-time Dean's List member
- Chose Kentucky over Ole Miss and Tennessee

### High School

- Rated a three-star pass-rushing specialist out of high school
- Played for head coach Wayne Babbs at Mount Vernon Presbyterian High School

### Personal

- Born in Des Moines, Iowa
- Son of Danny Sirmans and Letcia Bemby
- Siblings are Miles Bemby, Malik Bemby, and Mya Sirmans
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in communication ... Currently working on a second degree in kinesiology

### Marquez Says

- His nickname is "Quez"
- If he could only eat three foods for the rest of his life he would choose pineapples, chicken, and meatballs
- Besides being good at football, he's also good at running track
- Teye Diggs would play him in a movie about his life
- The best part of being a Kentucky Wildcat is being around his brothers

### BEMBRY'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FC/FR	INT	PBU	QBH
2019	ILB	1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILB	11-2	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	OLB	12-0	9	0	1.0-4	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>24-2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.0-4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

### BEMBRY'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	1.0-4	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1
at Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1.0-4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

### BEMBRY'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Auburn	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Mississippi State	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0

vs. Vanderbilt*	10	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### BEMBRY'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### BEMBRY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 10, vs Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2020  
 Tackles for loss: 1, at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021



# 24

## ZAC BEREZOWITZ

### DEFENSIVE BACK

6-0 • 170 • Senior-1L  
 Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)

### 2021 - Senior

- Has seen action in nine games this season and got his first career tackle in the win at Louisville

### 2020 - Junior

- Saw action at Alabama
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

### 2019 - Sophomore

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin at safety
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

### 2018 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

### High School

- Four-year letter winner and three-year starter at wide receiver and defensive back for Henry Clay
- Helped the Blue Devils win two district championships and two regional championships
- Scored 25 career touchdowns
- Coached by Sam Simpson
- Member of the National Honors Society and graduated in the top one percent of his class

### Personal

- Born in Austin, Texas
- Son of Dan and Janet Berezowitz
- Siblings are Brayden, Bryan, Jordan and Alexa
- Brayden and Bryan were wide receivers at UK from 2016-18
- Dad and grandfather played quarterback at Wisconsin-Whitewater

- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in economics

### Zac Says

- He chose Kentucky because it was close to home and there was a discount
- The one thing he likes most about football is schemes and finding weaknesses in opponents
- He gets starstruck any time he sees Maria Taylor or Laura Rutledge
- His passion in life is investing
- Sandman would play him in a movie about his life



# 57

## JONATHAN BERRY

### OFFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 280 • Freshman-HS  
 Stamping Ground, Ky. (Scott County)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

### High School

- Three-year letter winner and two-year starter at left tackle for head coach Jim McKee at Scott County High School
- Named second-team All-State by the Associated Press in 2020 after helping lead the Cardinals to a 9-1 record with more than 2,000 yards rushing and one of the state's top ground attacks
- As a junior, helped the Cardinals' offense generate 3,736 yards of rushing offense and finish with a 10-2 record and an appearance in the 6th District finals
- Member of the 6A state runner-up team in 2018
- Chose Kentucky over Georgetown College and University of the Cumberlands

### Personal

- Born in Georgetown, Kentucky
- Son of Kevin and Melissa Berry
- Siblings are Alexandra and Daniel
- Brother, Daniel, was an offensive lineman at the University of the Cumberlands from 2014-17
- Major is pre-social work

### Jonathan Says

- His nickname is "Berry"
- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to play for his home state school
- His dream job is to be a U.S. Marshal
- Besides football, he's also good at fishing
- The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are his great grandfather, Vin Diesel and "Stone Cold" Steve Austin



93

WILSON  
BERRY

PUNTER

6-4 • 193 • Freshman-HS  
Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)**2021 - Freshman**

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2021
- Has four punts for 148 yards (37.0) with one punt instead the 20-yard line in two games played
- Has not played since the Missouri game with injury
- Had two punts for 71 yards (35.5) in the season opener vs. ULM, his first collegiate action

**High School / Australian Rules Football**

- Following in the footsteps of UK's two previous Aussie punters – Matt Panton (2017) and Max Duffy (2018-20), the 2019 Ray Guy Award winner as the nation's best punter
- Comes to UK from the auspices of ProKick Australia
- 247sports rated him as the No. 3 player out of Australia and the No. 7 punter in the 2020 recruiting class
- Coached by Nathan Chapman and John Smith at ProKick
- Following high school, played three years of Australian rules football for Essendon's team in the Victorian Football League
- Prior to footy, attended Maribyrnong College, previously known as Maribyrnong High School, that specializes in sports

**Personal**

- Born in Ballarat, Victoria
- Son of Jason and Louise Berry
- Siblings are Jordan, Lachlan, and Oscar
- Older brother, Jordan, played football at Eastern Kentucky and is currently the starting punter for the Pittsburgh Steelers
- Majoring in kinesiology
- Currently 23 years old (birthday is in June)
- While playing footy, held down a part-time job at Grill'd, a restaurant known for preparing healthy hamburgers ... Started as a waiter before being promoted to the kitchen as a cook and then as an assistant manager

**Wilson Says**

- His nickname is "Bangers"
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a physical therapist
- One word to describe him on the field is "silky"
- To calm butterflies before a game he watches Max Duffy highlights
- The best advice he's ever received is "life's uncertain, eat dessert first"



45

JASE  
BRUNER

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-2 • 244 • Sophomore-SQ  
Science Hill, Ky. (Somerset)**2021 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Four-year letter winner and starter at linebacker, safety, running back, fullback, and tight end for head coach Robbie Lucas at Somerset High School
- Had a team-high 121 tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss, one forced fumble, two recovered fumbles, and one interception on defense in 2019
- Offensively, charted 434 yards rushing on 55 carries with five touchdowns, in addition to 10 catches for 169 yards
- Helped the Briar Jumpers win the 2019 District 4 championship, the Region 2 championship, and the Class 2A State championship
- Also won the 2018 District and Region championship
- Earned the 2019 *Commonwealth Journal* Defensive Player of the Year and was on the *Lexington Herald-Leader's* "Best of the Bluegrass" team
- Twice named honorable mention on *The Associated Press* All-State team (2018, 2019)
- Three-time first-team All-Conference player (2017, 2018, 2019)
- Named the 2018 AA District 7 Player of the Year
- Also played baseball and basketball
- Earned a spot on the 2020 12th Region All-Tournament Team and 47th All-District Team as a center
- Excelled in the classroom as a member of the National Honor Society
- Was a Kentucky Governor's Scholar, Rogers Scholar, and Rogers Explorer
- Chose Kentucky over Louisville, Centre, and Furman

**Personal**

- Born in Somerset, Kentucky
- Son of John and Beth Bruner
- Siblings are Grace, Kate, Jack, and Josh
- Comes from a family of athletes as dad, John, was a tight end at Centre College; mother, Beth, was a cheerleader at Transylvania; grandfather, Jack Bruner, was a four-sport athlete in basketball, baseball, track, and golf at Union College; uncle, Teel Bruner, played basketball and football at Transylvania; aunt, Rachel Gaynor, was a basketball player at Western Kentucky; aunt, Margaret Brown, ran track at Centre; aunt, Martha Breeding,

- played basketball at Transylvania; cousin Jake Bruner, played basketball at the College of Idaho
- Major is animal science

**Jase Says**

- His nickname is "Bronko"
- He chose Kentucky because he was born in Kentucky and has been a Wildcat his whole life
- His dream job is to be a dermatologist
- The best advice he's ever received is "don't argue with ignorance"
- The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner Adam Sandler, Jon Gruden, and Ronald Reagan



56

DEONDRE  
BUFORD

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-3 • 290 • Freshman-RS  
Detroit, Mich. (Martin Luther King)**2021 - r-Freshman**

- Has seen action in two games (New Mexico State and Louisville)

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Mid-year enrollee
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Four-star recruit by 247 Sports Composite rankings
- A Detroit News Blue Chip top-10 recruit
- Ranked the No. 24 offensive tackle in the 2020 class and No. 7 prospect in Michigan by 247Sports
- Coached by Tyrone Spencer
- Helped Detroit King win two Division 2 state titles in his four-year career
- Led Detroit King to the Detroit Public School League championship title in 2019, finishing with an 11-3 overall record
- Named to the Detroit News All-State First Team
- Earned Offensive Lineman of the Year in 2019 by Detroit PSL
- Earned the highest offensive GPA as a junior
- Picked Kentucky over Missouri and Pittsburgh, Purdue and Arizona and held offers from Auburn, LSU, Penn State, Tennessee and Miami

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered to pack food for God's Pantry (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Detroit
- Son of Sianena Taylor
- Siblings are Andre, Adrianna, and Damondre
- Major is family science

**Deondre Says**

- Nickname is "Deon"



- He chose Kentucky because he loves the university, the coaches, and the SEC
- The thing he looks forward to the most this season is learning, growing, and dominating
- His hidden talent is art
- Three words to describe him on the field are physical, smart, and dominant



62

JAGER BURTON

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-4 • 302 • Freshman-HS  
Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)

2021 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2021
- Redshirt season
- Has seen action in three games this season (ULM, New Mexico State and Louisville)

High School

- A four-star offensive lineman who was rated as one of the nation's top-10 offensive guard prospects by 247, Rivals and ESPN
- The No. 1 prospect in Kentucky by Rivals and 247sports
- The No. 66 national prospect by 247sports and No. 200 nationally by Rivals
- An all-around talent known for his combination of athleticism, footwork, playing intensity and notable strength for a high school player
- Winner of the 2020 Paul Hornung Award, chosen by the Louisville Quarterback Club, as the top high school player in Kentucky ... Only the third offensive lineman to win the award
- Named Co-Mr. Football in the state of Kentucky in 2020 by The Associated Press ... First Lexington player and first offensive lineman to take the honor since its inception in 1986
- Selected to the prestigious All-American Bowl, held annually in San Antonio, Texas
- A four-year letter winner and three-year starter for head coach Brian Landis and Nathan McPeek
- A two-way player who played both offensive tackle and defensive end
- Helped Frederick Douglass finish 7-2 as a senior, reaching the Class 5A state semifinals
- Anchored a line that helped the Broncos average 38.7 points and 323 yards per game
- As a defensive lineman, had a 33-yard interception return for a touchdown against Ballard
- Named first-team all-state by the AP, Louisville Courier-Journal and Kentucky Sports Radio
- Named to the Lexington Herald-Leader "Class of the Commonwealth" list of the top seniors in KY
- Named a finalist for the 2020 Sports Illustrated All-America team
- As a junior, helped lead the Broncos to a 14-1 record and state runner-up position in Class AAAAA

- Earned a spot on the Courier Journal's All-State First Team in 2019 as well
- In his four-year prep career, Fredrick Douglass totaled a 44-6 overall record
- Chose Kentucky over Alabama, Clemson, Ohio State and Oregon
- Was an academic honor roll student
- Also lettered one season as a midfielder in lacrosse

Personal

- Named pronounced same as "jagger"
- Born in Lexington, Kentucky
- Son of Teresa and Jeff Burton
- Has one brother, Drayden Burton
- Dad, Jeff, played football at Morehead State
- Major is pre-communication

Jager Says

- His nickname is "Moose"
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to own his own restaurant
- One word to describe him on the field is "aggressive"
- The person he most admires is his dad because he made him a man
- He chose Kentucky because it was home and he wanted to help continue building this program



6

JARED CASEY

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-3 • 217 • Sophomore-1L  
Louisville, Ky. (Ballard)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has played in 25 career games, 11 games this season
- Has totaled eight tackles and a quarterback hurry

2020 - r-Freshman

- Played in all 11 games, finishing with 20 tackles and 2.0 TFL
- Had five tackles and a TFL at Alabama ... Also had a TFL at Missouri
- Totaled a career-best six tackles vs. Mississippi St.
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games
- Charted first career tackle vs. UT Martin
- Mid-year enrollee
- FWAA 2019 Freshman All-American Team and Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Watch List
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- A four-star prospect
- Rivals.com ranked him as the No. 15 outside linebacker nationally

- As a senior, totaled 70 tackles, 15.5 TFLs, three sacks and one forced fumble in 11 games for head coach Adrian Morton
- Played two seasons at Trinity before transferring to Ballard
- Chose UK over Oregon and Louisville

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of Melissa Gaines and Craig Shively
- Major is community leadership and development

Jared Says

- He chose Kentucky to play for his home state and because of the coaching staff
- Most people don't know he can cut hair and he can sew clothes
- His sports hero is Muhammad Ali
- His hidden talent is making a duck noise
- The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Muhammad Ali, Spider-Man, and Kobe Bryant

CASEY'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC/FR	QBH	PBU
2019	ILB	3-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
2020	ILB	11-0	20	2.0-5	0-0	0/0	0	0
2021	ILB	11-0	8	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>25-0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2.0-5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

CASEY'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. UTC	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Tennessee			DNP			
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

CASEY'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	PBU
at Auburn	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Mississippi State	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Missouri	1	0-0	1.0-3	0/0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Alabama	5	0-0	1.0-2	0/0	0	0
at Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2.0-5</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



## CASEY'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1
vs. Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## CASEY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 6, vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020  
**Tackle for loss:** 1.0, twice, last at Alabama, Nov 21, 2020



35

KALEB  
CHEEK

WIDE RECEIVER

5-10 • 188 • Sophomore-SQ  
Asheboro, N.C. (Asheboro)

## 2021 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team

## 2020 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

## High School

- Three-year letter winner and two-year starter as a running back at Asheboro High School for head coach Kevin Gillespie
- Earned All-Conference honors after averaging 99.5 total yards per game (699 total) through seven games as senior before being sidelined with injury
- Scored seven touchdowns, six rushing and one receiving
- Also earned All-Conference in the 100-meters for the track team
- Chose Kentucky over Virginia Military Institute

## Personal

- Born in Asheboro, North Carolina
- Son of Kimberly Cheek and Dominique Nicholson
- Has one brother, Kaden Cheek
- Major is kinesiology

## Kaleb Says

- His nickname is "Cheek"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like the right place to grow as a football player and person
- His dream job is to be a pharmacist
- The person he admires the most is his mom because she is a hard worker and has been a positive role model in his life
- Three words to describe him are passionate, driven, and self-reliant



29

YUSUF  
CORKER

SAFETY

6-0 • 204 • Senior-3L  
McDonough, Ga. (Woodland)

## 2021 - Senior (Team Captain)

- Lott IMPACT Trophy Semifinalist
- Reese's Senior Bowl
- Elected two-time team captain
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Preseason Big Board
- Has played in 49 career games with 36 consecutive starting assignments
- Has 232 career tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss, 14 pass breakups, two quarterback hurries, two fumble recoveries and a forced fumble
- In 12 games this season, has 73 tackles (third on the team), including 3.5 tackles for loss, 1.0 sacks, a team-high eight pass breakups and a quarterback hurry
- Preseason second-team All-SEC defense (Phil Steele)
- Preseason third-team All-SEC defense (Athlon)

## 2020 - Junior (Team Captain)

- Second-Team All-SEC, Safety (Pro Football Focus, Phil Steele)
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Played in all 11 games, finishing second on the team in tackles with 77
- Also had 2.5 TFL, two interceptions, two PBUs and a forced fumble
- Had an interception in the second quarter in the win over South Carolina, his first pickoff of the season and second of his career
- Also had a pick in the bowl win over NC State and has a two-game streak with an INT
- Posted a career-high 18 tackles at Missouri, along with a career-high two tackles for loss ... Marked the most tackles for a Wildcat since Jordan Jones had 19 stops vs. Southern Mississippi in 2016 ... 16 of the tackles were solo which tied the single-game school record set by Larry Smith vs. Tulane in 1984 and Jeff Zurcher vs. Georgia in 1998
- Elected as one of 10 team captains
- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Coaches)
- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC (Athlon Sports)

## 2019 - Sophomore

- Started in all 13 games
- Team's leading tackler with 74
- Also had four PBUs, an interception, a quarterback hurry and a team-high-tying two fumble recoveries
- Had seven tackles (second on the team) vs. Virginia Tech in the Belk Bowl win
- Recovered a bad center snap in the end zone in the first quarter vs. UT Martin, his first collegiate touchdown ... Marked his second consecutive game with a turnover play, as he also had an

interception at Vanderbilt ... Also had two tackles, including one-half tackle for loss

- Snagged his first career interception in the third quarter at Vanderbilt, setting up a UK touchdown drive
- Had a career-high 11 tackles at Georgia, marking the fourth consecutive game he tied or broke his career high in stops, totaling 7, 9, 9 and 11 tackles in successive games
- Earned first career start vs. Toledo

## 2018 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in all 13 games, totaling eight tackles

## 2017 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

## High School

- Four-star defensive back and receiver at Woodland High School in Stockbridge, Ga., where he was coached by Steve Davenport
- The nation's No. 26 cornerback by ESPN and Scout
- Named an ESPN Top 150 player
- The No. 1 cornerback in Georgia by Scout.com
- A four-year starter who totaled 105 tackles, 82 solo, with 15 interceptions and two forced fumbles
- As a senior, made 40 tackles, including 23 solo, along with five interceptions, two fumble recoveries and two blocked punts
- Offensively, had 20 receptions for 447 yards and four touchdowns for a 23.0 yards per reception average
- Helped lead his team to a 10-3 overall record and the 4-5A playoffs as a senior, earning him first-team All-State honors
- Two-time member of the *Atlanta Journal Constitution's* All-Metro Team
- Named to the AJC's All-State Defensive Team as senior and was a first-team All-County selection by the *Henry Herald*
- Also a two-year letter winner in track and field in the 200 and 400-meters
- Chose UK over Tennessee and Michigan State

## Personal

- Name is pronounced "Yusuf (YOU-suf)"
- Born in Atlanta, Georgia
- Got married in February of 2021 to long-time girlfriend, Tarryn Todd-Long, and the couple has one daughter, Amirah
- Son of Robin Meadows-Ragin and Yusuf Corker
- Has two sisters, Brenda and Victoria
- Uncle, Anthony Mitchell, played college football at Tuskegee and went on to spend nine seasons in the NFL, while cousin, Raymond Sanders, was a running back at UK from 2010-13
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in economics and is currently working on a second degree in communication

## Yusuf Says

- His nickname is "Deuce"
- He chose Kentucky because it was the best fit
- One word to describe him on the field is "ballhawk"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a pediatric surgeon
- His sports hero is Richard Sherman because he's a ballhawk, too



CORKER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tkls, Int.-Yds., Sacks, TFL-Y, FF/FR, QBH, PBU. Rows for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and Totals.

CORKER'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FF/FR, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows for various opponents and Totals.

CORKER'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FF/FR, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows for various opponents and Totals.

CORKER'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

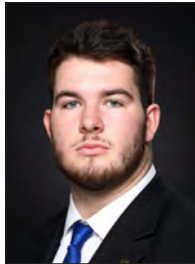
Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows for various opponents and Totals.

CORKER'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC, PBU, Int., QBH. Rows for various opponents and Totals.

CORKER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 18, at Missouri, Oct 24, 2020
Sacks: 1.0, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021
Tackles for loss: 2.0, at Missouri, Oct 24, 2020
Quarterback hurry: 1, twice, last vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021
Fumble forced: 1, at Florida, Nov 28, 2020
Fumble recovery: 1, twice, last vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019
Pass breakups: 2, 3x, last vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021
Interceptions: 1, 3x, last vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021



75

ELI COX

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-4 • 301 • Sophomore-1L
Nicholsville, Ky. (West Jessamine)

2021 - Sophomore

- Midseason All-American (ESPN, AP)
Started at right guard in the first nine games of the season before suffering a season-ending hand injury vs. Tennessee
Named SEC Co-Offensive Line Player of the Week in helping UK pile up 330 rushing yards in the win over LSU ... Played every offensive snap and graded at 91 percent ... Led the offensive line with seven knockdown blocks and had 15 blocks at the point of attack, including Will Levis' quarterback sneak for a touchdown ... Did not have any missed assignments and did not allow any quarterback sacks or pressures
Earned his first career start vs. ULM
Recovered a fumble in the end zone vs. Missouri, giving him his first career score
Also recovered a fumble at South Carolina

2020 - r-Freshman

- Back up at left guard behind Kenneth Horsey
Saw action in eight games
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin
Mid-year enrollee

High School

- A three-star recruit by 247sports.com and Rivals.com
Ranked as the No. 14 Kentucky prospect in the class of 2019 by 247Sports
Has the versatility to play at either offensive guard or tackle
Has been instrumental in West Jessamine improving its win total each season of his prep career
Named to the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl watch list
Represented West Jessamine at the Louisville vs. Bluegrass Senior All-Star Game
Coached by John Gilliam
Chose UK over Cincinnati, Marshall, Ohio and Toledo

Community Cats

- Volunteered at Rosewood Elementary (2020)
Volunteered at LexCity Church and Florence Baptist Church (2020)
Volunteered for a weekend of service in Harlan County, Ky., with other UK student-athletes, where he worked with nonprofit organizations Willing Hearts and Club 180 Ministry, and also helped the Harlan County Youth Football League with various projects
Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

Personal

- Born in Nicholasville, Kentucky
Son of John and Katherine Cox
Siblings are Avery and Ellie
Major is integrated strategic communications with a business minor
One of three representatives for UK football on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Eli Says

- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to represent his state
His hidden talent is his photoshop skills
His dream job is to go into sports broadcasting
One word to describe him on the field is "aggressive"
If he could create a holiday he would call it "National Super Bowl Monday" and everyone would have the day off after the Super Bowl



3

DEKEL  
CROWDUS

WIDE RECEIVER

5-10 • 180 • Freshman-HS  
Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season ... suffered a knee strain in August that did not require surgery

**High School**

- 247sports ranks him as a four-star prospect, the No. 3 prospect in Kentucky, No. 51 receiver and No. 300 overall player nationally
- Three-star recruit by Rivals and rated the No. 4 player in Kentucky and No. 74 receiver nationally
- Known for his high-end speed and explosiveness who has drawn comparisons in some circles to the NFL's Brandin Cooks
- Frederick Douglass coach Nathan McPeek: "He is track fast but he translates that to the field. If he touches the ball five times he could score five touchdowns ... He's not as big as Lynn (Bowden) but he can do some of those things."
- Finished with 91 receptions for 1,505 yards and 22 touchdowns in his prep career
- In 2020, named second-team All-State by the AP and the *Louisville Courier-Journal* after totaling 25 catches for 331 yards and nine touchdowns
- Averaged 13.0 yards per catch
- Named to the *Lexington Herald-Leader* "Class of the Commonwealth" list of the top seniors in Kentucky
- Owns the school record for career touchdown receptions (14 before 2020) and in a season 11 (2018), as well as career receiving yards and yards in a season (831, 2018)
- In 2018, had 37 receptions for 831 yards
- Selected the hometown Wildcats over a top 10 that included Louisville, Ohio State, Michigan, Oklahoma, Texas, Baylor, South Carolina and Virginia Tech

**Personal**

- Name pronounced "da-KEL CROWD-us"
- Born in Lexington, Kentucky
- Son of Shonda Minnifield
- Siblings are Shania Lyvers and Shylah Lyvers
- Uncle, Frank Minnifield, was a defensive back for the Cleveland Browns from 1984-92 and was a four-time pro-bowler; cousin, Chase Minnifield, played for the Washington Football Team from 2012-14
- Major is health promotion

**DeKel Says**

- His nickname is "Kel"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home
- His dream job is to own his own gym and be a personal trainer

- One word to describe him on the field is "unpredictable"
- Besides football, he's also good at drumming, basketball and soccer



82

TAE TAE  
CRUMES

WIDE RECEIVER

6-1 • 182 • Sophomore-SQ  
Louisville, Ky. (Butler)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has seen action in four games this season
- Caught his first career pass for 10 yards in the season opener vs. ULM

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin

**High School**

- A quality in-state prospect that ranked as one of the top 10 players in the Commonwealth of Kentucky by Rivals.com and 247sports.com
- An incredible senior season at Butler with 42 receptions for 877 yards
- Averaged 73.1 receiving yards per game, which was fourth most among all Class 6A players while his 14 receiving touchdowns were third most in the division
- Had 30 receptions for 779 yards and 14 touchdowns his junior season
- Finished his high school career with 35 touchdowns and 2,021 receiving yards
- Was named to the 2018 *Lexington Herald-Leader* Class of the Commonwealth and was also tabbed an all-state honoree and all-Louisville metro performer
- Speedy wide receiver that has been timed at 4.3 in the 40-yard dash
- Coached by Gary Wheeler
- Chose Kentucky over Michigan and Oregon

**Personal**

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of Tinisha Wilson
- Major is health promotion

**Tae Tae Says**

- His nickname is "Tae Tae" is derived from his first name "Demontae"
- He chose Kentucky because he felt a bond like no other school had
- One word to describe him on the field is "fast"
- After his football career he would like to be an athletic trainer

- The best advice he's ever received is "if you can't change the people around you, change the people around you"

**CRUMES' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2019	WR	1-0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	WR	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	WR	4-0	8	63	7.9	0	21
<b>Totals</b>		<b>5-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>

**CRUMES' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	1	10	0	10
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>

**CRUMES' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 1, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 10, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (1 reception)  
 Receiving TDs: n/a  
 Long reception: 10, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021



84

IZAYAH  
CUMMINGS

TIGHT END

6-3 • 230 • Sophomore-1L  
Louisville, Ky. (Male)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Moved from wide receiver to tight end during fall camp
- Has played in all 12 games with two starting assignments (Missouri and Georgia) ... Got his first career start vs. Missouri
- Has 13 receptions for 182 yards (14.0) and three scores this season
- Caught two passes for 27 yards, including a 22-yarder at Vanderbilt, his third touchdown of the year
- Set career highs with four catches for 75 yards against Tennessee, including the second touchdown catch of his career
- Caught three passes for 22 yards at No. 1 Georgia
- Caught his first collegiate touchdown pass, a 31-yard play in the fourth quarter, vs. UTC
- Caught first career pass for seven yards in the season opener vs. ULM

**2020 - Freshman**

- Saw action in nine games (Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Tennessee, Missouri, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida and South Carolina)
- Charted first career tackle on special teams in the win over South Carolina
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll





High School

- Three-star prospect by all three major recruiting services
A top-10 prospect in the state of Kentucky and rated the No. 86 wide receiver by 247Sports
Named Kentucky Football Coaches Association 6A Player of the Year
Candidate for Kentucky's Mr. Football award
Named to the 2019 Class of the Commonwealth by the Lexington Herald-Leader
First-team All-State by the Courier-Journal
Three-year starter who finished his career with 109 receptions for 1,965 yards and 27 touchdowns
Had a team-high 57 receptions for 1,100 yards and 15 touchdowns in 2019, helping the Bulldogs go 14-1 overall
Named Class 6A Player of the Year by the Kentucky Football Coaches Association
Helped Male advance to back-to-back appearances in the Class 6A State Championship
Won the title in 2018
Combined for 23 receiving TDs in his last two seasons of football
Ranked fifth in Class 6A in receiving yards and sixth in receptions despite playing three fewer games than the state leader
Coached by Chris Wolfe
Averaged nearly 20 yards per reception and 96.0 yards per game
Ranked in the top 20 of all class levels in receptions and receiving yards
Has a 38-inch vertical leap
Also an honor-roll student and participated in track and basketball
Chose Kentucky over Louisville, Indiana, Purdue, Virginia, Cincinnati, Missouri and others

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
Son of Andra and Natasha Cummings
Has two sisters, Mia and Nia
Major is undecided

Izayah Says

- He chose Kentucky because it was close to home and because of his relationship with the coaches
Three words to describe him are smart, quiet, and talented
The best advice he's ever received is "someone right now is working to take your spot"
His dream job is to own his own business and help out the next generation
Besides football, he's also good at playing basketball and video games

CUMMINGS' CAREER STATISTICS

Table with 8 columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Rec., Yds., Avg., TD, Long. Rows for 2020 (WR), 2021 (TE), and Totals.

CUMMINGS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with 5 columns: Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long. Rows for various opponents including ULM, Missouri, UTC, South Carolina, Florida, LSU, Georgia, Miss. State, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, NMST, and Louisville.

CUMMINGS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 4, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021
Receiving yards: 75, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (4 receptions)
Receiving TDs: 1, 3x, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021
Long reception: 31, vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021
Tackles: 1, vs USC, Dec 5, 2020



46

CADE DEGRAW

LONG SNAPPER

5-11 • 206 • Junior-1L
Lake Cormorant, Miss. (Lake Cormorant)

2021 - Junior

- Starting long snapper, seen action in all 12 games

2020 - Sophomore

- Served as the team's long snapper after the graduation of four-year starter Blake Best
Saw action in all 10 games
Charted one tackle

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

High School

- Four-year starter and letter winner as a long snapper and defensive end for the Gators
Rated as a 4.5-star prospect by Rubio Long Snapping
Earned first-team All-State and All-Conference in both his junior and senior seasons
Elected team captain as a senior
Also was a two-year letter winner in archery
Excelled in the classroom as he was a member of the National Honor Society and was a Graduate of Distinction
Played for head coach Nick Nester

Community Cats

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

Personal

- Born in Memphis, Tennessee
Son of Alisha and Dominic Degraw
Has one brother, Brandon
Major is pre-management

Cade Says

- He chose Kentucky because he loved the environment
His hidden talent is being able to play the guitar
His hobbies are hunting and fishing
Chewing gum and listening to music helps him stay focused before a game
The best advice he's ever received is "don't look back, there's nothing back there to go after"



14

PATRICK DELAHUNTY

QUARTERBACK

6-0 • 197 • Junior-SQ
Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team
Dean's List (Fall 2020)
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team
Dean's List (Fall 2019)

High School

- Two-year letter winner for head coach Chuck Kyle at Saint Ignatius
Earned the starting QB position as a senior and accounted for over 2,00 yards and 20 touchdowns
Earned Saint Ignatius Student-Athlete of the Week, Ohio Catholic Player of the Week
Named All-District as a senior
Member of the honor roll

Personal

- Born in Cleveland, Ohio
Son of Pat and Michele Delahunty
Has three sisters, Meghan, Katie, and Erin
Member of UK's Sigma Chi fraternity
Major is pre-accounting

Patrick Says

- His nickname is "Delly"
The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Drew Brees, Warren Buffett, and the Pope
Besides playing football, he's also good at playing the guitar and juggling
One sentence to describe Coach Stoops is "he's a wise football mind"





- His dream job is to be a CFO or COO of a Fortune 500 company



34

TREY DENNIS

WIDE RECEIVER

5-8 • 150 • Freshman-HS  
Lexington, Ky. (Sayre)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- Played just one season of high school football as a senior in 2020
- Earned a starting spot at slot receiver for head coach Chad Pennington at Sayre
- Recorded 62 receptions for 776 yards and 11 scores in a COVID-shortened season
- Helped lead the Spartans to an 8-1 overall record which included an undefeated regular season
- Named All-State honorable mention by the *Louisville Courier-Journal*
- Earned first-team All-City honors by the *Lexington Herald-Leader*
- Also a three-time letter winner in basketball at point guard for the Spartans
- Member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Chose Kentucky over scholarship offers from Center, Hanover and Georgetown College

**Personal**

- Born in Lexington, Ky.
- Son of Harold and Donna Dennis
- Dad, Harold, was a wide receiver at Kentucky from 1994-96
- Siblings are Jasmine and Kylee
- Major is chemistry

**Trey Says**

- His nickname is "T.D."
- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to continue the legacy his dad started
- His dream job is to work in the medical field
- The best advice he's ever received is "time never stops, so seize the moment"
- Three words to describe him are outgoing, kind and assertive



85

JORDAN DINGLE

TIGHT END

6-4 • 235 • Freshman-HS  
Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Has seen action in five games (ULM, Miss. State, Vanderbilt, NMST)
- Has two catches for 54 yards
- Caught first career pass for 31 yards in the season opener vs. ULM

**High School**

- A four-star prospect by ESPN and a three-star recruit by Rivals and 247sports
- Ranked the No. 5 player in the state and a top-25 tight end nationally by Rivals and 247sports
- Four-year letter winner and starter for head coach Mark Spader
- Caught 41 passes for 515 yards (12.6 ypc) with two touchdowns in helping lead Bowling Green to the 2020 Class AAAAA state championship with a 10-2 overall record
- Caught five passes, ran for a touchdown, and had a quarterback sack in the state finals win
- Named the 2020 4th Region AD Association Player of the Year
- Named to the *Lexington Herald-Leader* "Class of the Commonwealth" list of the top seniors in Kentucky
- Named first-team All-State by the *Courier Journal* and AP as a senior
- Named a preseason All-America candidate by Sports Illustrated
- Named honorable mention All-State by the *Courier Journal* as a junior after catching 35 passes for 474 yards and five TDs
- Three-sport athlete who also was a four-year letter winner in basketball and a three-year letter winner in track and field (shot put and hurdles)
- Led Bowling Green to the 2020 4th region title and an elite eight appearance in basketball
- High school teammate of current UK safety Vito Tisdale
- Chose Kentucky over Purdue, Vanderbilt, Virginia Tech and Ohio State
- Member of the National Honor Society
- Excelled in the classroom with a 4.0 GPA

**Personal**

- Born in Manning, South Carolina
- Son of Tonya and Justice Dingle
- Younger brother of teammate Justice Dingle
- Major is undeclared

**Jordan Says**

- His nickname is "The Professor"
- He chose Kentucky because it had a great family feeling
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a CEO of a hospital

- Three words to describe him are hardworking, trustworthy, and intelligent
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he likes to ride four-wheelers

**DINGLE'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2021	TE	4-0	2	54	27.0	0	31
<b>Totals</b>		<b>4-0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>

**DINGLE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	1	31	0	31
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	23	0	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>

**DINGLE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 1, twice, last vs NMST, Nov 20, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 31, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (1 reception)  
 Receiving TDs: n/a  
 Long reception: 31, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021



55

JUSTICE DINGLE II

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-3 • 262 • Junior-Tr  
Bowling Green, Ky. (Georgia Tech/  
Bowling Green HS)

**2021 - Junior**

- Transferred to Kentucky after three seasons at Georgia Tech
- Has three seasons of eligibility remaining
- Has seen action in 22 games (19 at Ga Tech, 3 at UK)
- Totaled eight career tackles, three fumble recoveries and a tackle for loss at Ga Tech
- Has one tackle at UK vs. NMST and also saw action vs. ULM and Louisville
- Mid-year enrollee

**2020 - Sophomore (Georgia Tech)**

- Played in four games, recording one tackle

**2019 - r-Freshman (Georgia Tech)**

- Made 11 appearances, including his first college start at defensive end in the home opener against South Florida (Sept. 7)
- The Yellow Jackets' top ball hawk, led the team with three fumble recoveries
- Also finished with six tackles (five solo) on the season, including an 8-yard sack

**2018 - Freshman (Georgia Tech)**

- Redshirted as a true freshman but saw action in four games, vs. Alcorn State (Sept. 1), at USF (Sept. 8), at Pitt (Sept. 15) and vs. Clemson (Sept. 22) and recorded one tackle at USF





- One of 13 true freshmen in 2018 to see game action for the Yellow Jackets

### High School

- Rated as a four-star prospect by Rivals coming out of high school
- No. 2-ranked player in his class in the state of Kentucky and the No. 18-ranked inside linebacker in the nation, according to Rivals
- Listed as the nation's No. 16-ranked inside linebacker by ESPN
- Two-time all-state honoree
- Two-time first-team all-district selection
- Nominated for Army All-America Game, Dick Butkus Award (national high school Linebacker of the Year) and Kentucky's Mr. Football award as a senior
- Selected to participate in Kentucky/Tennessee Border Bowl, Kentucky Best of Bluegrass all-star game and Army All-American Combine
- Helped lead Bowling Green to state championship as a junior in 2016
- Two-time team captain
- Honor roll student
- Coached by Kevin Wallace
- Played first two prep seasons at Oakland H.S. in Murfreesboro, Tenn. (coached by Kevin Creasy and Tommy McDaniel)
- Helped lead Oakland to a pair of district championships as a freshman and sophomore (2014 and 2015)
- Also lettered in track and field and basketball

### Personal

- Born in Manning, South Carolina
- Son of Tonya and Justice Dingle
- Older brother of signee Jordan Dingle
- Majoring in pre-communication

### Justice Says

- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a sports commentator
- One word to describe him on the field is "beast"
- Besides playing football, he's also good at riding dirt bikes
- He chose Kentucky because it's home and UK will help develop him into a better player and man
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's country

### JU. DINGLE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC/FR	QBH	INT	PBU
2018*	LB	4-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2019*	DL	11-1	6	1.0-8	0-0	0/3	0	0	0
2020*	DL	4-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2021	DL	3-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>22-1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.8-8</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\*at Georgia Tech

### JU. DINGLE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
vs. ULM	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### JU. DINGLE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME (GT)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
vs. Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Clemson	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Boston College	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Notre Dame	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### JU. DINGLE'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME (GT)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
at Clemson	0	0-0	0-0	0/1	0	0
vs. South Florida*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. The Citadel	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Temple		DNP				
vs. North Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Duke	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Miami (FL)	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Pittsburgh	1	0-0	0-0	0/1	0	0
at Virginia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Georgia	1	1.0-8	0-0	0/1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### JU. DINGLE'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME (GT)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
vs. Alcorn State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at UCF	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Pitt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Clemson	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### JU. DINGLE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 2, at Duke, Oct 12, 2019  
 Sacks: 1, vs Georgia, Nov 30, 2019  
 Fumble recoveries: 1, 3x, last vs Georgia, Nov 30, 2019



# 95

JAMARIUS  
**DINKINS**  
 DEFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 255 • Freshman-HS  
 Columbus, Ohio (Walnut Ridge)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Has played in three games (ULM, Georgia, NMST)
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. ULM and charted a tackle and a half sack

### High School

- Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports and Rivals
- Rated a top 25 recruit in talent-rich Ohio and a top 35 strongside defensive end nationally
- Four-year starter on the defensive line for head coach Byron Mattox

- Named Central District D-II Defensive Player of the Year after totaling 43 tackles, 12 tackles-for-loss, eight sacks and four forced fumbles in 2020
- Helped Walnut Ridge win the Columbus City League Championship title
- Also helped the Scots advance to the second round of the Division II, Region 7 playoffs and finish 6-3 after going 11-1 and advancing to a regional semifinal in 2019
- Ohio MaxPreps All-State Second Team honors
- Named First-Team Division II All-Ohio by the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association
- Chose Kentucky over Michigan State

### Personal

- First name is pronounced "ja-MAR-ee-us"
- Born in Columbus, Ohio
- Son of Juanita Dinkins
- Siblings are James Polk-Dinkins and Akilah Stewart
- Major is art studio

### Jamarius Says

- His nickname is "Spider"
- He chose Kentucky because it was the best fit
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's a sleep walker
- Three words to describe him are funny, loud, and energetic
- The best advice he's ever received is "keep God first"

### DINKINS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC/FR	INT	PBU
2021	DE	3-0	1	0.5-2	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>3-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### DINKINS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
vs. ULM	1	0.5-2	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### DINKINS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 1, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Sacks: 0.5, vs. ULM, Sept 4, 2021



# 30

TAJ  
**DODSON**  
 SAFETY

6-1 • 194 • Sophomore-1L  
 Union City, Ga. (Creekside)

### 2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in 10 games and has six tackles and a PBU
- Recorded a career-best two tackles at Louisville



- Got his first career PBU vs. New Mexico State

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Played in five games and had two tackles
- Missed six games with injury
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Had three total tackles in three games played
- Had a fumble recovery vs. Florida
- Mid-year enrollee

**High School**

- A consensus three-star recruit by all the major recruiting services
- Coached by Region 5-6A Coach of the Year Maurice Dixon
- Had 19 returns for 737 yards and two touchdowns, including a 92-yard score
- Named first-team All-Region 5-6A after totaling 86 tackles, 12 PBUs, two interceptions, one sack and once forced fumble in 2018
- Also had seven catches for 106 yards
- Excelled in track and field, earning All-Region 1A State Track honors in 2016 and 2017 as a sprinter and high jumper
- Ran a personal best 10.78 in the 100-meter dash
- Chose Kentucky over Syracuse, Louisville, and Ole Miss

**Personal**

- First name is pronounced the same as Taj Mahal
- Born in Atlanta, Georgia
- Son of Terika Dodson and Alex Chapman
- Siblings are India Paulk and Kyle Davis
- Member Omega Psi Phi fraternity
- Major is communication

**Taj Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it's a family vibe
- One word to describe him on the field is "calm"
- After his football career he would like to be a stock broker
- The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Nipsey Hussle, Kobe Bryant, and Donald Trump
- If he could create a holiday he would call it "National Chicken Wing Day" and everyone would get free chicken wings

**DODSON'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC/FR	INT	PBU
2019	S	3-0	3	0-0	0-0	0/1	0	0
2020	S	5-0	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
2021	S	10-0	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>18-0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**DODSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
vs. ULM	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Mississippi St.	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
at Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**DODSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
at Auburn	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Mississippi St.	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Missouri			DNP	(Injury)		
vs. Georgia			DNP	(Injury)		
vs. Vanderbilt			DNP	(Injury)		
at Alabama			DNP	(Injury)		
at Florida			DNP	(Injury)		
vs. South Carolina			DNP	(Injury)		
vs. Dodson	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DODSON'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	Int.
vs. Toledo	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Eastern Mich.	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0/1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DODSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 2, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
 Fumble Recovery: 1, vs Florida, Sept 14, 2019  
 Pass breakup: 1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021



**3**  
**CEDRICK**  
**DORT JR.**  
**DEFENSIVE BACK**

**5-11 • 188 • Senior-3L**  
**Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. (Dwyer)**

**2021 - Senior**

- Has seen action in 43 career games with 25 starting nods
- Has started in all 12 games this season
- Has 17 tackles

- Charted a career-high tying four tackles in the win over Missouri

**2020 - Junior**

- Played in 10 games with one starting assignment vs. South Carolina in 2020
- Totalled 10 tackles and two PBUs
- Charted a career-best four tackles and a PBU vs. Mississippi State and also had a PBU vs. the Gamecocks

**2019 - r-Sophomore**

- Honorable mention cornerback (PFF) with zero touchdowns allowed
- Played and started in 12 games at corner
- Did not see action vs. Tennessee
- Totalled 16 tackles, five PBU (third on the team) and one forced fumble
- Had a career-high two PBU in the win over Vanderbilt

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Redshirt season

**2017 - Freshman**

- Played in nine games
- Totalled six tackles
- Graduated a semester early and enrolled at Kentucky in January of 2017

**High School**

- Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports, ESPN and Scout as the No. 42 cornerback in the 2017 class
- As a senior, named first-team All-Area by the Palm Beach Post and first-team All-County by the Sun Sentinel after recording 40 tackles, 14 pass breakups and six interceptions, returning one for a touchdown
- Played a key role in helping Dwyer finish 10-1 overall in 2016 with its second-straight appearance in the Class 7A regional semifinals
- Did not allow a TD pass, a first down pass or a pass over five yards during the regular season
- Did not miss a tackle all season and battled against six receivers who were expected to sign Division I scholarships
- Named one of ESPN 106.3's top seniors in Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast
- Was All-Area honorable mention in 2015 after helping lead the Panthers to an 11-2 overall record, a district championship title and a berth in the 7A regional semifinal
- Helped Dwyer shut out two opponents and held six others to 14 points or less
- A three-year letter winner in basketball as a combo guard
- Only played two years of high school football
- Coached by Jack Daniels
- Chose UK over Wisconsin, Virginia Tech, Minnesota, Colorado and USF

**Personal**

- Born in Palm Beach, Florida
- Son of Clevette Wiggins and Cedrick Dort
- Siblings are Mikyle Dort, Cainaya Green, Keimoni Hunter, Levon Mosley, Michael Mosely, Michaela Mosely and Santonio Obas
- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in community and leadership development ... Working on a second degree in communication





Cedrick Says

- In one sentence he would describe Coach Stoops as "a thoughtful man who wants you to succeed"
Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a sports agent or in real estate
What he loves most about football is meeting life-long brothers
Most people don't know he's a snare drummer and only played football in the 11th and 12th grade
Three words to describe him are funny, intelligent, and caring

DORT'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, Sacks, TFL, FF/FR, Int-Yds, PBU, QBH. Totals: 43-25, 49, 0-0, 0-0, 1/0, 0, 7, 1

DORT'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL, FF/FR, PBU, Int-Yds, QBH. Totals: 17, 0-0, 0.0, 0/0, 0, 0, 0

DORT'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL, FF/FR, PBU, Int-Yds, QBH. Totals: 10, 0-0, 0.0, 0/0, 2, 0, 1

DORT'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FF/FR, PBU, Int-Yds. Totals: 16, 0-0, 0.0, 1/0, 5, 0-0

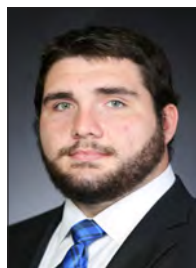
Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int.-Yds. Totals: 6, 0-0, 0.0, 0/0, 0, 0-0

DORT'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int.-Yds. Totals: 6, 0-0, 0.0, 0/0, 0, 0-0

DORT'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 4, twice, last vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021
Pass breakups: 2, at Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019
Forced fumbles: 1, vs Eastern Mich, Sept 7, 2019
Quarterback hurry: 1, at Auburn, Sept 26, 2020



61

AUSTIN DOTSON

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 321 • Senior-3L
Belfry, Ky. (Belfry)

2021 - Senior

- Has seen action in all 12 games with three starts at right guard (Vanderbilt, New Mexico State and Louisville)
Had a tackle vs. Miss. State

2020 - Junior

- Played in all 11 games with four starting assignments (Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida and South Carolina)
Earned first career start vs. Vanderbilt

2019 - Sophomore

- Saw action in nine games
Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2018 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in seven games

2017 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

High School

- A three-star prospect by ESPN and 247Sports
Ranks as the No. 2 offensive tackle in the Commonwealth by ESPN
A three-year starter for Coach Phillip Haywood, who said, "He's a very physical blocker. He's one of these guys who would really get after you and stay after you until the whistle blows. And if we score a touchdown, he'd be the first one down there in the end zone patting the guy on the back or tossing him in the air. He just loves playing on the line"
Named to The Courier-Journal's 2016 All-State Football Team as a first-team selection after being a second-team member as a junior
Also named to the AP All-State First Team
Member of four straight championship teams (2013-16)
Played right tackle on a massive offensive line that helped the Pirates finish 14-1 as a senior and average 347.1 rushing yards and 44.1 points per game
Helped Belfry win its sixth overall, including fourth straight Class 3-A State championship with a 52-31 win over Central in 2016
Member of the Kentucky squad in the Best of the Bluegrass All-Star Game
Also a four-year letter winner in baseball as a pitcher and first baseman
Chose Kentucky over Charlotte, Eastern Kentucky, Florida Atlantic and Marshall

Personal

- Born in Pikeville, Kentucky
Son of Sherry and Derrick Dotson
Siblings are Brandon Blackburn and Paula Dotson
Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in sociology

Austin Says

- He chose Kentucky because it's home
After his football career he would like to be in the Secret Service
Most people don't know he's a descendant of Devil Anse Hatfield, the patriarch of the Hatfield clan during the infamous Hatfield-McCoy feud
When he's not on the field, he enjoys fishing, hunting, and eating with friends
The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Dale Earnhardt, Stone Cold Steve Austin, and Popcorn Sutton



11

MOSES DOUGLASS

SAFETY

6-2 • 203 • Sophomore-1L
Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in three games this season
Charted a career-best three tackles in the opener vs. ULM and got a tackle at Louisville





**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in seven games (Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida and NC State)
- Got a tackle at Alabama

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games (Eastern Michigan, Tennessee and UT Martin)
- Charted his first career tackle vs. UT Martin
- Mid-year enrollee

**High School**

- Four-star recruit and one the nation's top-30 safety prospects by Rivals.com and 247sports.com
- The No. 7 prospect in Ohio and one of the nation's top 300 players by Rivals
- As a senior, helped lead Springfield HS to a 9-3 record and second round of the state playoffs
- First-team All-Ohio in Division I (largest classification)
- Coached by his father, Maurice, at Springfield
- Teammate of fellow signee Isaiah Gibson
- Chose Kentucky over Georgia Tech, Louisville, and Michigan State

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered to pack food for God's Pantry (2020)
- Volunteered at the Catholic Action Center (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Dayton, Ohio
- Son of Camela and Maurice Douglass
- Siblings are Maurice Douglass Jr., Shiloh Douglass, and Christian Douglass-Hall
- Father, Maurice, was a defensive back at Kentucky in 1984-85 and went on to an 11-year NFL career with the Chicago Bears and New York Giants
- Major is pre-journalism

**Moses Says**

- His nickname is "MoeDoug"
- He chose Kentucky because he liked the vibe and the opportunities that came with it
- Three words to describe him are goofy, chill, and smiley
- Daniel Kaluuya would play him in a movie about his life
- After his football career he would like to be a sports broadcaster and work for the NFL Network

**DOUGLASS' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	Int-Yds	PBU	QBH
2019	S	3-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2020	S	7-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2021	S	3-0	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>13-0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DOUGLASS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	PBU	Int-Yds	QBH
vs. ULM	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DOUGLASS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	PBU	Int-Yds	QBH
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. St.	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vandy	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Alabama	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DOUGLASS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	Int-Yds
vs. Eastern Mich.	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>

**DOUGLASS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 3, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021



**33**

BEN  
**DRAKE**

**DEFENSIVE BACK**

**6-1 • 199 • Junior-SQ**  
Charlottesville, Va. (Monticello)

**2021 - Junior**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2019 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- Two-year starter at safety and wide receiver for head coach Jeff Lloyd at Monticello
- An all-around athlete as he was also a four-year letter winner in basketball as a small forward and soccer as a center midfielder ... Also played lacrosse one season
- Earned Monticello's Male Athlete of the Year in 2019
- Honorable mention in the Jefferson district for basketball and football
- Member of the student council
- Chose Kentucky over James Madison and Virginia Tech

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Athens Chilesburg Elementary (2020)
- Visited sick children at the Kentucky Children's Hospital (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Charlottesville, Virginia
- Son of David Drake and Malissa Drake
- Siblings are Emarie, Lauren, and Will
- Uncle, Richard Shadwick, played football at Morehead State from 1988-92
- Major is communication

**Ben Says**

- His nickname is "Drizzy"
- After football, he would like to work or coach in sports
- Three words to describe him are funny, attentive and committed
- His sports hero is Michael Jordan because he taught him to never stop working
- One sentence to describe Coach Stoops is "he's a great leader"



**5**

MIKE  
**DRENNEN II**

**RUNNING BACK**

**5-11 • 194 • Sophomore-1L**  
Hilltop, Ohio (Coffman)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Switched from wide receiver to running back during fall camp
- Played in six games this season
- Has seven carries for 17 yards and two catches for three yards
- Rushed three times for 16 yards, including a four-yard touchdown that is his first collegiate TD in the season opener vs. ULM

**2020 - Freshman**

- Saw playing time in eight games (Mississippi State, Tennessee, Missouri, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida and South Carolina)
- Had three catches for 26 yards
- Got his first career catch for six yards in the win over Tennessee
- Also had a catch for 14 yards vs. Vanderbilt and a six-yard reception vs. South Carolina
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Consensus four-star prospect
- Considered the No. 6 all-purpose back in the nation by 247Sports
- No. 3 overall recruit in Ohio by Rivals and 247Sports
- Four-year starter for head coach Mark Crabtree
- Helped lead the Rocks to the state playoffs all four years of his prep career and two straight regional title games
- Won the 2018 Class 6A State championship
- Was limited as a senior due to injury
- Earned a spot on the All-America Future 50 game roster





- Earned second-team All-Ohio honors as a junior in 2018 after rushing for 801 yards on 162 carries, making 30 receptions for 464 yards, and scoring 16 touchdowns in helping the Shamrocks (11-2) to a regional final
- Earned the 2019 Buckeye Blue Chip Award, given by the Touchdown Club of Columbus ... Excelled in the classroom with a 3.7 grade point average
- Had 43 scholarship offers but ultimately chose Kentucky over Southern California

**Personal**

- Born in Hilltop, Ohio
- Son of Mike Drennen and Carmaleah Pritchett
- Siblings are Michea Drennen, Myka Drennen, and Armané Cotton
- Major is pre-computer science

**Mike Says**

- His nickname is "Donut"
- He chose Kentucky because he loved it from the beginning and UK had the best plan for him to accomplish his goals
- After football, his dream job is to become a pro skateboarder
- Three words to describe him are goofy, intelligent, and abnormal
- The best advice he's ever received is "be comfortable being uncomfortable"

DRENNEN'S CAREER STATISTICS											
Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2020	8-0	0	0	0	0	0	3	26	8.7	0	14
2021	6-0	7	17	2.4	1	9	2	3	1.5	0	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14-0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>

DRENNEN'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME											
Opponent	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	
vs. ULM	3	16	5.3	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Missouri	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. UTC	1	1	1.0	0	8	1	8	8.0	0	8	
at USC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. LSU	3	0	0.0	0	2	1	-5	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	

DRENNEN'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME				
Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn			DNP	
vs. Ole Miss			DNP	
vs. Miss. State	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	6	0	6
at Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	14	0	14
at Alabama	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	6	0	6
vs. NC State			DNP	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>

**DRENNEN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 1, 5x, last vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 14, vs Vanderbilt, Nov. 14, 2020  
 Long reception: 14, vs Vanderbilt, Nov. 14, 2020  
 Rush attempts: 4, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Rush yards: 16, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (3 carries)  
 Long rush: 9, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Rushing TDs: 1, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021



31

DARREN EDMOND

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 207 • Senior-SQ  
Norman, Okla. (Paul Laurence Dunbar - KY)

**2021 - Senior**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Junior**

- Practiced with the team

**2019 - Sophomore**

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2018 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- A three-year starter at wide receiver for head coach Chris Mullins at Paul Laurence Dunbar
- Led the Bulldogs in receiving as a senior with 156 yards and three touchdowns on 20 catches
- Also ran for 63 yards and a score

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at William Wells Brown Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Norman, Oklahoma
- Son of Laurie and Corey Edmond
- Has one sister, Leah
- Dad, Corey, is the director of performance for UK Football ... Sister, Leah, was a four-time All-American outside hitter for UK's volleyball team from 2016-19
- Major is digital media and design

**Darren Says**

- Hidden talents are singing and playing the piano
- The person he most admires is his dad because he pushes him to be great
- His dream job is to be a sports photographer
- If he could create a holiday he would call it "National Coach Ed Day" and everyone would wear black and no one would smile
- The best part of being a Kentucky Wildcat is the support of the Big Blue Nation

46

BRAXTON EISERMAN

INSIDE LINEBACKER



6-1 • 218 • Junior-SQ  
Jackson, Ky. (Breathitt County)

**2021 - Junior**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- Four-year letter winner and three-year starter for head coach Kyle Moore, playing linebacker and center
- Totaled 107 tackles, 12.0 TFL and six sacks as a senior
- Also lettered four years in track and field as a discus thrower
- Named salutatorian of his graduating class
- President of SkillsUSA a career and technical student organization and Technology Student Association, an organization that helps develop skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics as well as business education ... Also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes

**Community Cats**

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Lexington, Ky.
- Son of Lea and Al Eiserman
- Has one brother, Zach
- Major is art studio

**Braxton Says**

- His nickname is "Diesel" because he runs over people like a diesel
- His dream job is to be an architect and design houses
- One word to describe him on the field is "determined"
- When he played football as a kid he pretended he was Jack Lambert
- His favorite movie is Remember the Titans



81

ISAIAH  
EPPS

WIDE RECEIVER

6-2 • 188 • Senior-3L  
Jenks, Okla. (Jenks)

**2021 - Senior**

- Has played in 43 career games with nine starts
- Has seen action in 11 games this season with six starting assignments
- Did not see action vs. Tennessee with injury
- Has 11 catches for 171 yards and a score
- Averaging a team-high 15.5 yards per catch
- Had a career-high tying three receptions for 27 yards at No. 1 Georgia
- Caught two passes for 21 yards, including his first collegiate touchdown, a 20-yard reception in the second quarter vs. UTC
- Totaled three catches for a career-high 83 yards in the season opener vs. ULM, including a career-long 57-yard catch

**2020 - r-Junior**

- Totaled eight catches for 63 yards in six games
- Earned his first career start in the Gator Bowl vs. NC State
- Saw action at Auburn in the season opener then missed three games with a thumb injury ... Dressed vs. Missouri and Georgia but did not see action in the game
- His catch for eight yards vs. Vanderbilt was his first catch since the 2018 season
- Had a career-high-tying three catches for 23 yards in the win over NC State

**2019 - Junior**

- Redshirt season
- Missed the season due to injury in his left foot suffered during fall camp that required surgery

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Played in all 13 games with two starts vs. Georgia and Tennessee
- Caught eight passes for 76 yards
- Had a career-high three catches vs. MTSU

**2017 - Freshman**

- Played in all 13 games
- Totaled four catches for 55 yards
- One of seven true freshmen to see action in the season opener at Southern Miss

**High School**

- A big, talented wide receiver who had a breakout senior season for Coach Allan Trimble at Jenks
- Set a Jenks receiving record with 1,209 yards in 2016 with 59 catches and 12 touchdowns, along with 10 rushes for 76 yards and a score
- Helped lead the Trojans to an 11-1 overall record with their only loss coming in the 6A semifinal playoff game

- Earned District 6A-1 Offensive Player of the Year
- Named third-team All-State by *The Oklahoman*
- Rivals listed him as a three-star wide receiver and ranked him as the 21st-best receiver in Oklahoma
- Also lettered in basketball (2014-16) and track & field (2015) at Jenks
- Excelled in the classroom, earning a spot on the Principal's Honor Roll
- Chose Kentucky over offers from Tulsa, Southern Methodist, Illinois and Western Michigan

**Personal**

- Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Son of Michael and LaQuisha Epps
- Siblings are Carson and Michael
- Older brother, Carson, and cousin, Denver Johnson, were wide receivers at Iowa State
- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in psychology and is currently working on a master's degree in kinesiology and health promotion with a specialization in coaching

**Isaiah Says**

- His nickname is "Zay"
- After his football career he would like to be a sports psychologist at a university
- One thing most people don't about him is that he likes to shop
- His passion in life is helping others
- The best advice he's ever received was "never quit, always finish what you've started and stay grounded"

**EPPS' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2017	WR	13-0	4	55	13.8	0	28
2018	WR	13-2	8	76	9.5	0	18
2020	WR	6-1	8	63	7.9	0	21
2021	WR	11-6	11	171	15.5	1	57
<b>Totals</b>		<b>43-9</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>

**EPPS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	3	83	0	57
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	2	21	1	20
at South Carolina*	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	2	28	0	20
at Georgia*	3	27	0	16
at Miss. State*	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee		DNP		
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	12	0	12
at Louisville	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>

**EPPS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss		DNP		
vs. Mississippi St.		DNP		
at Tennessee		DNP		
at Missouri		DNP		
vs. Georgia		DNP		
vs. Vanderbilt	1	8	0	8
at Alabama	2	24	0	21
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	2	8	0	5
vs. NC State*	3	23	0	10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>

**EPPS' 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Central Mich.	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	1	8	0	8
vs. Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	11	0	11
at TAMU	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	2	29	0	18
at Tennessee*	1	4	0	4
vs. MTSU	3	24	0	14
at Louisville	0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>

**EPPS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	1	6	0	6
vs. ECU	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	18	0	18
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	2	31	0	28
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>

**EPPS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Receptions:** 3, 4x, last at Georgia, Oct 16, 2021  
**Receiving yards:** 83, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (3 receptions)  
**Receiving TDs:** 1, vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021  
**Long reception:** 57, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021





45

PARKER ESTES

TIGHT END

6-3 • 212 • Freshman-HS  
Paris, Ky. (Bourbon County)

2021 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

High School

- Two-way player at wide receiver, tight end and outside linebacker at Bourbon County
- Started two seasons for head coach and former Wildcat alumnus David Jones
- Didn't start playing football until his junior year of high school
- As a senior, had 26 receptions for 392 yards and four touchdowns, while charting 30 tackles, 5.0 tackles for loss and 5.0 sacks in only six games due to a COVID-shortened season
- Also a four-year letter winner in basketball and lettered one season in track
- Earned All-Region and All-District honors in basketball as a senior
- Member of the 2A State Runner-Up team in 2019
- Also excelled academically, earning first-team academic All-State honors three years
- Member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society and the Beta Club
- Named the United State Marine Corps Distinguished Male Athlete of the Year in his senior class
- Chose Kentucky over Marshall, EKU, Morehead State, Kentucky Wesleyan and Centre

Personal

- Born in Paris, Ky.
- Son of Joe and Leigh-Clay Estes
- Siblings are Clay and Marleigh
- Majoring in pre-finance

Parker Says

- His nickname is "John P"
- He chose Kentucky because it would best push him to reach his academic and athletic potential, while also being able to represent his hometown team
- After his football career he would like to be a sports broadcaster
- Three words to describe him are "determined, good-spirited, and funny"
- The best advice he's ever received was "it's not about how hard you hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward."



77

JEREMY FLAX

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 338 • Sophomore-RS  
Detroit, Mich. (Independence CC/Robichaud)

2021 - r-Sophomore

- Has seen action in 10 of 12 games this season

2020 - Sophomore

- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Vanderbilt and also played vs. South Carolina

High School/JUCO

- Considered a four-star recruit by Rivals
- 247Sports listed him as the top JUCO offensive tackle and the No. 8 overall JUCO prospect
- Rivals rated him as the No. 2 offensive tackle prospect nationally and the 20th overall JUCO prospect
- Three-year starter at Dearborn Heights Robichaud for head coach Jason Malloy
- Played both sides of the ball and recorded 40 tackles, 10 TFL, two sacks and a forced fumble as a defensive lineman during his senior season
- Earned a spot on The Free Press' All-West Prep Football Team
- Also played basketball
- Signed with UK over Auburn and Texas Tech

Community Cats

- Dressed up as Santa Clause and gave out gifts to kids for the Woodhill Community Center Holiday Party (2021)

Personal

- Born in Detroit
- Son of Sandra Flax
- Has one brother, Isaiah
- Major is community leadership and development

Jeremy Says

- His nickname is "Big Jerm"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home and family
- After his football career he would like to be a coach
- Three words to describe him are funny, caring, and strong
- If he could eat three foods for the rest of his life he would choose pizza, soul food, and eggs



79

LUKE FORTNER

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 297 • Senior-4L  
Sylvania, Ohio  
(Sylvania Northview)

2021\* - Senior (Team Captain)

- Elected to return for a sixth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Has seen action in 54 career games and started in 35 consecutive games played
- Second-Team CoSIDA Academic All-American
- First-Team CoSIDA Academic All-District
- Campbell Trophy semifinalist
- Rimington Trophy Watch List (nation's top center)
- Second Team All-SEC (PFF, Phil Steele)
- Switched from playing right guard to center during fall camp
- Notched his second SEC Offensive Player of the Week award after the South Carolina win, grading at 84 percent, with 26 blocks at the point of attack, and did not miss an assignment or allow any quarterback pressures
- Earned his first SEC Offensive Player of the Week honor after the ULM win, totaling four knockdown blocks, eight blocks at the point of attack, and he did not allow a sack
- Preseason third-team All-SEC (Coaches, Media and Athlon)

2020 - Senior

- Wuerffel Trophy semifinalist
- Campbell Trophy semifinalist
- SEC Community Service Team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team
- Member of the team's Unity Council
- One of 11 FBS players named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, UK's second straight member of the prestigious team (Landon Young in 2019)
- Started in 10 games played
- Graded out at 82.9 percent with 26 knockdowns and 146 blocks at the point of attack
- Preseason Second-Team All-SEC (Pick Six Previews)
- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Athlon Sports)

2019 - Junior

- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Inducted into the Frank G. Ham Society of Character which honors Wildcats who have shown an extraordinary commitment to academic excellence, athletic participation, personal development, career preparation and serving as a role model
- A mechanical engineer major who, along with Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky and other engineering students, helped design a specially built push cart vehicle to provide a Kentucky Children's Hospital patient the chance to both





accompany the Wildcats on the Cat Walk and attend a game at Kroger Field in a project called "Lift Them Up"

- Started in all 13 games at right guard
- Part of the "Big Blue Wall" who helped four Wildcats rush for at least 500 yards, only the second time in school history that has happened, also 1976
- Helped Lynn Bowden Jr. become the first player in college football history with at least 1,400 rushing yards, 300 passing yards and 300 receiving yards in the same season
- Totaled 27 knockdown blocks
- Had no missed assignments, allowed only one sack, and had only one penalty in 646 plays

#### 2018 - Sophomore

- Played in 11 of 13 games
- Blocked for All-SEC running back, Benny Snell Jr., UK's all-time leading rusher and the first player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in three straight seasons
- Dean's List (Spring 2019)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

#### 2017 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in eight games
- Blocked for All-SEC running back, Benny Snell Jr., the first player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

#### 2016 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Dean's List (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)
- SEC First-year Academic Honor Roll (2016-17)

#### High School

- A three-star offensive tackle by ESPN, Rivals and 247sports
- Rated as the 69th best offensive lineman nationally and the 36th best prospect in Ohio by 247sports
- Also played guard and center
- Four-year starter for Coach Doug Downing
- Named team captain as a senior
- Earned third-team All-Ohio for Division II
- Named second-team All-Northwest Ohio in 2014 and 2015
- Dual-sport athlete as he also was a center on the Northview basketball team
- Honor-roll student and member of the National Honor Society
- Earned President's Education Award
- Chose UK over Akron, Cincinnati, Marshall, Maryland, Toledo and Western Michigan

#### Personal

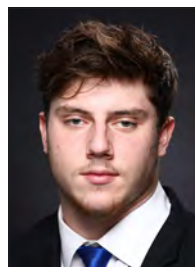
- Born in Cleveland, Ohio
- Son of John and Nancy Fortner
- Siblings are Matt and Sarah
- Uncle, Don Svec, played football at Youngstown St.
- Graduated in December of 2019 with a degree in mechanical engineering ... Graduated with a master's degree in mechanical engineering on Decemeber 17, 2021 ... Began working on a second master's degree in business administration in June of 2021 and is on track to graduate with a MBA in June of 2022

#### Community Cats

- Along with other UK engineering students and a team of Toyota Manufacturing engineers, Fortner worked for months to help design, test and manufacture a specially-built push cart vehicle through a project called "Lift Them Up" ... The push cart vehicle provided a Kentucky Children's Hospital patient the chance to both accompany the Wildcats on the Cat Walk and attend a game at Kroger Field (2019)
- Volunteered with other engineering students at UK's 2020 "Engineers Day" to celebrate engineering and showcase the "Lift Them Up" cart
- Has volunteered at Kentucky Children's Hospital weekly since September of 2019 as part of the "Tuesdays with the Wildcats" program, created by former Wildcat C.J. Conrad
- When COVID19 hit in March of 2020, Fortner and teammate Max Duffy set up a program with the KCH called "In the Huddle with KCH" where for eight weeks, they taped a video of themselves from their homes answering questions from kids who submitted through the KCH Facebook Page. The video was posted to Facebook every Tuesday morning to replace what would have been their in-person visit
- In addition to "In the Huddle with KCH," Fortner and Duffy took it one step farther by volunteering each week to make Zoom calls with patients at KCH to offer words of encouragement
- Volunteer at Urban Impact at the Woodhill Community Center, an organization that strives to enable youth to grow, succeed and lead (2020)
- Volunteer reader at Athens-Chilesburg Elementary (2020)
- Volunteer for Read Across America at Fayette County public schools (2020)
- Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity (2016)

#### Luke Says

- He chose Kentucky because he loved the atmosphere
- One word to describe him on the field is "dependable"
- His sports hero is Joe Thomas because he's consistent and good at what he does
- If he had to be stranded on an island with a teammate he would choose Drake Jackson
- His passion in life is football



# 40

LUKE  
FULTON

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-4 • 229 • Sophomore-Tr  
Youngstown, Ohio (Michigan State/  
Cardinal Mooney)

#### 2021 - Sophomore

- Mid-year enrollee
- Has seen action in nine of 12 games this season on special teams

#### 2020 - r-Freshman (Michigan State)

- Did not play in 2020

#### 2019 - Freshman (Michigan State)

- Redshirt season
- Played in one game and was named Scout Team Special Teams Player of the Week vs. Rutgers

#### High School

- A four-star linebacker who came out of traditional powerhouse Cardinal Mooney High School in Youngstown, Ohio
- Ranked among the best players in Ohio by 247Sports (No. 9), Rivals.com (No. 15) and ESPN.com (No. 19)
- Listed as one of the top overall prospects in the nation by 247Sports (No. 280) and one of the top overall prospects in the Midwest (No. 51) by ESPN.com
- Three-year starter for head coach P.J. Fecko
- Cardinals' leading tackler as a junior and senior
- Totaled 98 tackles, 16.0 TFL and three sacks in 2018 as a senior
- Named to the 2018 Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association All-State Third Team in Division IV
- Two-time Ohio All-Northeast Inland District First-Team selection
- Named to the Butkus Award preseason watch list as one of the top 50 linebackers in the country
- Landed a spot on the WKBN Big 22 list
- Honorable mention all-state choice by OPSWA (Division IV) as a junior in 2017 after recording 135 tackles, including six sacks, and eight forced fumbles
- An all-around athlete who also participated in basketball, basketball and track at Mooney
- Excellent in the classroom as he was a member of the National Honor Society and ranked in the top 10 in his class with over a 4.00 GPA
- Named the WYTV "33 Student-Athlete of the Week" on Sept. 13, 2018
- Chose UK over Cincinnati, N.C. State and West Virginia

#### Personal

- Born in Youngstown, Ohio
- Son of Tina and Jeff Fulton
- Has two younger brothers, Jack and Cole
- Dad, Jeff, played baseball at Pitt
- Majoring in pre-management

#### Luke Says

- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a sports agent
- He chose Kentucky because of his strong relationships with the coaching staff
- In one sentence he describes Coach Stoops as "not only a great coach but a great man"
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he can play the piano
- The best advice he's ever received is "no one cares, work harder"



34

JALEN GEIGER

SAFETY

6-1 • 200 • Sophomore-1L  
Columbia, S.C. (Spring Valley)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has played in all 12 games with two start starts (Vanderbilt and Louisville)
- Has totaled 16 tackles, a tackle for loss, a quarterback hurry and an interception for a touchdown
- In his first collegiate start at Vanderbilt, made his first collegiate interception and returned it 31 yards for a touchdown
- Got a career-high four tackles at Louisville
- Playing in front of his hometown fans at South Carolina, made two tackles, including one for loss ... TFL came on USC's final possession and helped forced a field goal

2020 - r-Freshman

- Saw in action in six games (Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina and NC State) and totaled three tackles
- Had a career-high two tackles at Alabama and also charted a tackle vs. NC State

2019 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games (Missouri, Vanderbilt and UT Martin)
- Charted his first pass breakup in the win at Vanderbilt and got a tackle vs. UT Martin
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- A three-star defensive back by 247Sports.com
- Considered the No. 9 overall recruit and No. 2 corner in the state of South Carolina by Rivals.com
- Competed in the 82nd Annual Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas and finished with four tackles
- Recorded 71 tackles, including 60 solo, eight PBUs, and three interceptions as a senior
- Named defensive back MVP
- Two-time All-State First Team selection
- Helped the Vikings finish 11-2 with a playoff berth as a junior in 2017
- Coached by Robin Bacon
- Transferred to Spring Valley after playing two seasons at Cardinal Newman
- Also a talented basketball player
- Chose UK over South Carolina, Virginia, and UNC

Community Cats

- Volunteered to pack food for God's Pantry (2020)
- Volunteered at the Catholic Action Center (2020)

Personal

- Last name is pronounced "GJ-ger"
- Born in Columbia, South Carolina

- Son of Tony and Ramona Geiger
- Siblings are Eriq and Ja'nia
- Brother, Eriq, played football at Bowling Green from 2009-12
- Major is health, society and populations

Jalen Says

- He chose Kentucky because of the great coaching staff and the family feel
- Most people don't know he lived in Korea from age 5 to 9
- The people he admires most are his parents because of their work ethic
- Three words to describe him are humble, quiet, and competitive
- His favorite thing about football is competing against the best in big games

GEIGER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FF/FR	INT	QBH	PBU
2019	3-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
2020	6-0	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2021	12-2	16	0-0	1.0-6	0/0	1-31	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20-2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1.0-6</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1-31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

GEIGER'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	INT	QBH	PBU
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1	0
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	2	0-0	1.0-6	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	1-31	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1.0-6</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1-31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

GEIGER'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Alabama	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NC State	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

GEIGER'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1
vs. UT Martin	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

GEIGER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 4, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
 Tackles for loss: 1, at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021 (6 yards)  
 Pass breakup: 1, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 Quarterback hurry: 1, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Interceptions: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (1-31)  
 Pick Six: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov. 13, 2021 (31)



96

ISAIAH GIBSON

DEFENSIVE END

6-3 • 319 • Sophomore-1L  
Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in six games and has four tackles
- Had a tackle and his first tackle for loss in the season-opening win over ULM
- Also had a tackle vs. Georgia, Tennessee and Vandy

2020 - r-Freshman

- Totaled five tackles and a QBH in nine games
- Had a career-high two tackles at Missouri
- Charted his first career quarterback hurry vs. Mississippi State and first tackle vs. Tennessee

2019 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin
- Mid-year enrollee in January 2019

High School

- Consensus choice as one of the nation's top-50 defensive tackles and one of the top 33 players in Ohio by all the major recruiting services
- Rated as high as the No. 32 DT by 247sports.com and No. 17 in Ohio by ESPN.com
- As a senior, helped lead Springfield HS to a 9-3 record and second round of the state playoffs
- First-team All-Ohio in Division I (largest classification)
- Coached by Maurice Douglass
- Maurice was a defensive back at Kentucky in 1984-85 and went on to an 11-year NFL career with the Chicago Bears and New York Giants

Community Cats

- Volunteered to pack food at God's Pantry (2019 and 2020)

Personal

- Born in Springfield, Ohio
- Son of Amy Gibson and Fred Almon
- Has one brother, T'Shaun Bridgeforth
- Has a son, Isaiah James Gibson Jr.
- Major is community and leadership development with a communication minor

Isaiah Says

- His nickname is "Big Zae"
- After his football career, he would like to be in business or broadcasting



- His hidden talent is golf
- One word to describe him on the field is "different"
- Best advice he's ever received is "be great"

**GIBSON'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
2019	DT	1-0	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
2020	DT	9-0	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0
2021	DT	6-0	4	0-0	0.5-1	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>16-0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.5-1</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

**GIBSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0.5-1	0/0	0	0
at Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.5-1</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**GIBSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Missouri	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0
vs. Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Alabama	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

**GIBSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 2, at Missouri, Oct 24, 2020  
 Tackles for loss: 0.5, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Quarterback hurry: 1, at Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020



**48**

**CODY GOATLEY**

**INSIDE LINEBACKER**

**6-2 • 234 • Sophomore-SQ**  
 Mayfield, Ky. (Graves County)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Ranked as one of the top 35 prospects in Kentucky for the class of 2020 by 247Sports
- Four-year starter at Graves County High School
- Coached by Nick Kemp
- A four-time member of the All-Western Kentucky Conference Football First Team
- Earned AP first-team All-State honors as a senior linebacker after totaling a team-high 139 tackles, including 55 solo ... Also had 4.0 tackles for loss
- His 11.6 tackles per game ranked sixth in the state in 2019
- Owns Graves County's career tackles record with 386
- As a junior, led the team with 502 rushing yards and nine touchdowns as the starting running back
- Named a second-team All-State performer by the Courier-Journal
- Also participated in basketball as a freshman and sophomore and was on the track team as a junior and senior ... His 100-meter time of 11.62 in 2019 ranks fourth in school history
- Excelled in the classroom, graduating cum laude
- A four-year member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Future Farmers of America
- Chose Kentucky over Air Force and Southern Illinois

**Personal**

- Born in Mayfield, Kentucky
- Son of Jason and Christina Goatley
- Siblings are Cade and Carli
- Comes from a family of athletes as father, Jason, and mother, Christina, both played basketball at Freed-Hardeman, and an uncle, Jody Goatley, played football at Purdue
- Major is agricultural economics

**Cody Says**

- His nickname is "Goat "
- He chose Kentucky because of the staff and the program is about developing players
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to own a business that trains athletes in speed and strength & conditioning
- His sports hero is Luke Keuchly because he plays linebacker, is a fantastic leader, and has great knowledge for the game
- Besides playing football he's also good at duck hunting



**94**

**COLIN GOODFELLOW**

**PUNTER**

**6-2 • 233 • Senior-1L**  
 Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)

**2021 - \*Senior**

- Elected to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Second-team CoSIDA Academic All-American
- First-team CoSIDA Academic All-District
- Ray Guy Award Watch List (nation's best punter)
- Ranks third in the SEC in punting with a 46.0 average in nine games
- Kicked three times for a 53.7-yard average at Mississippi State ... Second straight game he had a career-long 70 yarder, becoming the first player in school history to have two punts of at least 70 yards during his career
- Punted seven times for a 51.1-yard average at No. 1 Georgia, including the two longest of his career – a 63-yarder in the second quarter, followed by a 70-yarder in the third quarter
- Made his first appearance of the season vs. UTC and punted four times for a 50.5-yard average, including two that were inside the opponent 20-yard line
- Punted three times a 45.7-yard average, including two punts inside the 20-yard line vs. LSU ... LSU did not have any punt return yardage and the Tigers' average starting yard line following his punts was its own 15

**2020 - Senior**

- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Starting punter vs. Vanderbilt and Alabama and totaled 10 punts for 477 yards with a 47.7 yards per punt average
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Vanderbilt, punting three times for a 46.3-yard average, and there were no return yards
- Punted seven times for 48.3 yards per kick at Alabama ... Nailed a career-long 55-yarder and placed two inside the 20

**2019 - Junior**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Dean's List (Fall 2018)

**2017 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2017)





### High School

- Three-year letter winner and starter at punter for St. Ignatius in Cleveland
- Averaged 41.1 yards per punt as a senior, helping the Wildcats finish 13-2
- Kept nine punts inside the 20-yard line and allowed only three touchbacks
- Also handled kickoffs, sending 61-of-87 to the end zone
- Named to Cleveland.com's 2016 all-star football team
- Was a two-time first-team All-County and two-time All-State selection
- Coached by Chuck Kyle
- Also a two-year letter winner as a guard on the basketball team
- Member of the National Honor Society
- 1st Honors (2016 and 2015), 2nd Honors (2014 and 2013)
- Chose Kentucky over Penn State and Pittsburgh

### Community Cats

- Volunteers with God's Pantry each Monday, picking up and delivering crates of food (2021)
- Volunteers each Friday to help younger nursing students work on their first aid skills (2021)
- Helped make blankets for Project Linus-Home, a non-profit organization which provides handmade blankets to children in need (2020)

### Personal

- Born in Cleveland, Ohio
- Son of Kathy and Don
- Siblings are Alex, Christina, Eric, and Julianne
- Father, Don, played basketball at Case Western and sister, Christina, played soccer at Duquesne
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a nursing degree and is currently working on a second degree in kinesiology and health promotion

### Colin Says

- His nickname is "Goody"
- He chose Kentucky because it would allow him to study nursing and play football
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a certified registered nurse anesthetist
- When he played football as a kid he pretended to be Phil Dawson
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's in nursing school

### GOODFELLOW'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G	Punts	Yds.	Avg.	TBs	FC	Inside 20	Long	50+
2020	2	10	477	47.7	2	3	1	55	3
2021	9	31	1426	46.0	5	8	11	70	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>12</b>

### GOODFELLOW'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Punts	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Inside 20
vs. UTC*	4	202	50.5	59	2
at South Carolina*	3	122	40.7	42	1
vs. Florida*	6	255	42.5	47	3
vs. LSU*	3	137	45.7	48	2
at Georgia*	7	353	51.1	70	1
at Miss. State*	3	161	53.7	70	1
vs. Tennessee*	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	2	91	45.5	51	1
vs. NMST*	2	67	33.5	34	0
at Louisville*	1	33	33.0	33	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1426</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>11</b>

### GOODFELLOW'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Punts	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Inside 20
vs. Vanderbilt*	3	139	46.3	51	1
at Alabama*	7	338	48.3	55	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1</b>

### GOODFELLOW'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Punts:** 7, twice, last at Georgia, Oct 16, 2021  
**Punt Yards:** 353, at Georgia, Oct 16, 2021  
**Single-game Avg:** 53.7, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
**Long:** 70, twice, last at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021



# 39

## AUSTIN GOUGH

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-0 • 208 • Freshman-HS  
Owensboro, Ky. (Owensboro)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

### High School

- Four-year starter and letter winner at linebacker for head coach Jay Fallin at Owensboro High School
- Totaled 112 tackles, including 41 solo and three tackles for loss in helping the Red Devils finish 12-1 and advance to their first KHSAA Class 5A State Championship since 2014
- Named first-team All-State by the Associated Press and was the *Owensboro Times* Defensive Player of the Year in 2020
- Selected second-team All-State as a junior, despite missing eight games due to injury
- Broke Owensboro's single-season tackles mark as a sophomore with 141 and the all-time tackles record with 413
- Also named first-team All-State by the AP in 2018, one of only two sophomores selected to the team
- Chose Kentucky over Southern Illinois, Austin Peay, and Southeast Missouri State

- An all-around athlete also lettering three years in baseball as a catcher and one season as a shot put and discus thrower on the track & field team
- Four-time Academic All-State member
- Elected class president as a freshman and sophomore

### Personal

- Name is pronounced Austin "Goff"
- Born in Owensboro, Kentucky
- Son of Greg and Tin Gough
- Siblings are Hunter, Isaac, Mary Katherine, and Ethan
- Major is human health sciences

### Austin Says

- His nickname is "A.G."
- He chose Kentucky because it's home and was the best fit to help him reach his goals
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be in medical sales
- Most people don't know that he participated in ballet as a kid
- Besides football, he's also good at drawing



# 43

## DARREN GREEN

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-1 • 231 • Sophomore-SQ  
Vine Grove, Ky. (North Hardin)

### 2021 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team

### 2020 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

### High School

- Four-year starter at inside linebacker for head coach Brent Thompson at North Hardin High School
- First-team all-district and all-state linebacker who helped lead the Trojans to a 13-1 overall record in 2019 and take the region and district championship before advancing to the KHSAA Class 6-A state semifinals
- Also won the 2018 district championship
- Participated in weightlifting and in track at North Hardin
- Was the 2019 weightlifting state champion in the 220-weight class
- Honor roll student
- High school teammates with fellow Wildcats Isaiah Beasley and Octavious Oxendine
- Chose Kentucky over Murray State and Tennessee

### Personal

- Born in Kaiserslautern, Germany
- Son of Marlene Rogers and David Green



- Siblings are Makayla Green, C.J. Rogers, and Christian Rogers
- Major is psychology

**Darren Says**

- His nickname is "D"
- He chose Kentucky because it was close to home with great fans and atmosphere, and he could get a great education
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a mental health therapist
- One word to describe him on the field is "quick"
- If he could only eat three foods for the rest of his life he would choose boneless wings, burritos, and chicken Alfredo



31

MAXWELL  
HAIRSTON

DEFENSIVE BACK

6-1 • 165 • Freshman-HS  
West Bloomfield, Mich. (West Bloomfield)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Mid-year enrollee In January 2021
- Redshirt season

**High School**

- Rated a three-star prospect by 247sports
- Ranked the No. 19 prospect in Michigan and No. 65 cornerback nationally by 247sports
- A two-way player at defensive back and wide receiver for head coach Ron Bellamy at West Bloomfield
- Voted team captain as a senior
- Totaled 23 tackles, 16 pass breakups, three interceptions and three forced fumbles on defense and 500 receiving yards and eight scores on offense in 2020
- Led the Lakers to the 2020 Division I state championship title
- Named first-team All-State by the Detroit Free Press and the Detroit News
- Named to the All-Oakland Athletic Association Team in 2020
- Helped West Bloomfield to a 10-2 record as a junior in 2019
- Current UK running back Tyler Markray also hails from West Bloomfield
- Picked Kentucky over offers from Arkansas, Minnesota, Purdue, Rutgers, Virginia Tech and others due to "the coaching staff and the relationship we built."
- Also lettered in track and basketball
- Honor roll student
- Member of the school's choir

**Personal**

- Born in West Bloomfield, Michigan
- Son of Robin and Marvin Hairston

- Has three older siblings Alexandria, Madison, and Marvin
- Cousin Jaylin Bannerman played football two seasons at UK; cousin, Taiwan Jones, played football at Michigan State and with the New York Jets; cousin Lyndsey Hairston played basketball at Michigan State and later in the NBA and overseas
- Major is undecided

**Maxwell Says**

- His nickname is "Mad Max"
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a businessman or coach
- He chose Kentucky because he saw an opportunity he couldn't resist
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he can sing
- One word to describe him on the field is "greedy"



86

DEMARCUS  
HARRIS

WIDE RECEIVER

6-1 • 180 • Sophomore-1L  
Vero Beach, Fla. (Vero Beach)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has seen action in all 12 games and has one start (Vanderbilt)
- Has totaled 10 catches for 122 yards and a score this season
- Caught three passes for 37 yards, both season highs, in the win over New Mexico State ... the 37 yards were a career best
- Caught first collegiate touchdown at Mississippi State

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Started in seven of 11 games played
- Fourth on the team in receptions with 14 catches for 87 yards, averaging 6.7 yards per catch
- Tied his career high with four catches and had a career-best 33 yards vs. Vanderbilt
- Earned his first career start vs. Mississippi State
- Caught a career-high four passes for 25 yards at AU

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games (Toledo, Eastern Michigan, and UT Martin)
- Totaled a tackle on special teams vs. Toledo
- Mid-year enrollee

**High School**

- Considered one of the nation's top 150 receivers
- A three-star recruit according to 247sports.com and ESPN.com
- Became Treasure Coast's career record holder with 2,864 receiving yards
- Only Treasure Coast player to register back-to-back 1,000-yard receiving seasons

- Had 1,582 receiving yards with 73 receptions and 16 touchdowns as a senior
- Had eight games with at least 100 receiving yards, including a season-high 238 receiving yards on five catches vs. Treasure Coast High School on Oct. 12
- Averaged 131.8 receiving yards per game for the Indians in 2018, helping them finish 11-1 with the loss coming in the 8-A regional final
- Recorded 43 catches for 1,001 yards and 11 scores in 2017 and led Vero Beach to the regional finals
- Earn first-team all-area and all-state honors
- 2017 Class 8A Player of the Year candidate
- An all-around athlete who also excelled in basketball and track and field
- Chose Kentucky over Syracuse, Purdue and UCF

**Personal**

- Born in Seaford, Delaware
- Son of Marc and Takeisha Harris
- Siblings are Kyra Isler, Kourtney Harris, and Pashence Harris
- Father, Marc, played minor league baseball for the Chicago White Sox from 1991-93; Served as DeMarcus' wide receivers coach in high school
- Major is communication

**DeMarcus Says**

- His nickname is "Dee"
- The thing he's looking forward to the most this season is getting better everyday
- After his football career, he would like to be a sports commentator
- One word to describe him on the field is "explosive"
- The best advice he's ever received is "be patient and work hard"

**HARRIS' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2019	WR	3-0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	WR	11-7	14	87	6.2	0	12
2021	WR	12-1	10	122	8.7	1	17
<b>Totals</b>		<b>26-8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>

**HARRIS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	1	4	0	4
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	1	10	0	10
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	2	31	0	16
at Miss. State	2	30	1	17
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	1	10	0	10
vs. NMST	3	37	0	16
at Louisville	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>

**HARRIS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	4	25	0	12
vs. Ole Miss	1	5	0	5





### HARRIS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

vs. Mississippi St.*	1	4	0	4
at Tennessee*	1	5	0	5
at Missouri*	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	3	15	0	8
vs. Vanderbilt*	4	33	0	10
at Alabama*	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina*	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>

### HARRIS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo	0	0	0	0
vs. Eastern Mich.	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### HARRIS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Receptions:** 4, twice, last vs Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2020  
**Receiving yards:** 37, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2020 (3 receptions)  
**Receiving TDs:** 1, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021 (2 receptions)  
**Long reception:** 17, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
**Tackles:** 1, vs Toledo, Aug. 31, 2019



**69**  
 COLLIN  
**HARTMANN**  
 DEFENSIVE LINE

6-4 • 264 • Senior-SQ  
 Somerset, Ky. (Somerset)

#### 2021 - Senior

- Saw his first action of the season vs. New Mexico State

#### 2020 - Junior

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

#### 2019 - Sophomore

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin and charted a quarterback hurry

#### 2018 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

#### High School

- Rated a three-star prospect by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- Two-year starter at defensive end for head coach Robby Lucas
- Totaled 240 tackles and 25 sacks in two seasons for the Briar Jumpers
- Named AP and Courier-Journal All-State honorable mention in 2017

- Earned Kentucky Defensive Player of the Game after totaling 10 tackles and three sacks in the 2017 Best of the Bluegrass All-Star game, which matches some of Kentucky's top high school players against each other
- Also invited to play in the Kentucky/Tennessee All-Star game
- Didn't start playing football until his junior year of high school
- Chose Kentucky over Western Kentucky

#### Personal

- Born in Somerset, Kentucky
- Son of Von and Jon Mick and Randy Hartmann
- Siblings are Hadlee, Hudson, and Rachel
- Major is management

#### Collin Says

- His dream job is to be the President of the United States
- The person who has most influenced him in his life is his mother
- Most people don't know he only played football two years in high school
- Chris Hemsworth would play him in a movie about his life
- Besides football, he's also good at making TikToks



# 99

## JOSAIH HAYES

### NOSE GUARD

6-3 • 305 • Sophomore-1L  
 Horn Lake, Miss. (Horn Lake)

#### 2021 - Sophomore

- Has played in all 12 games with his first starting assignment against Vanderbilt
- Has 12 tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, 1.0 sack and a fumble recovery
- Made his first collegiate sack at Mississippi State ... Also finished with a career-high four tackles
- Charted a career-high two tackles in the win over ULM and also against No. 10/9 Florida

#### 2020 - Freshman

- Played in five games vs. Mississippi State, Tennessee, Missouri, Georgia and South Carolina
- Totaled two career tackles (vs. UT and UGA)
- Notched his first career tackle vs. the Vols

#### High School

- Four-star prospect who was regarded as the No. 2 prospect in Mississippi and a top-15 defensive tackle nationally according to Rivals.com
- Named to the 6A Coaches All-State First-Team Defense in 2019 after a second-team selection as a junior
- Totaled 26 tackles during his senior year
- Helped lead Horn Lake to its first MHSAA Class 6A state football title in 2018
- Played in the 2019 Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Game

- Coached by Brad Boyette
- Chose Kentucky over Auburn and Ole Miss

#### Personal

- Born in Cleveland, Mississippi
- Son of Thomosa Roger and Wilson Hayes
- Siblings are Nema Hendrix, Savanna Hawkins, and Isaiah Hayes
- Major is undecided

#### Josaih Says

- His nickname is "Pooh"
- He chose Kentucky because it was the best fit for him
- His sports hero is Ray Lewis because of his energy
- One word to describe him on the field is "aggressive"
- His dream job is to be a physical therapist

### HAYES' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PBU	FF	FR	QBH
2020	5-0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
2021	11-1	12	1.5-5	1.0-5	0	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17-1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1.5-5</b>	<b>1.0-5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

### HAYES' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	2	0.5-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	4	1.0-5	1.0-5	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1.5-5</b>	<b>1.0-5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### HAYES' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Mississippi St.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### HAYES' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 4, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
**Tackles for loss:** 1.0, at Mississippi State, Oct. 30, 2021  
**Sacks:** 1.0, at Mississippi State, Oct. 30, 2021  
**Fumble recovery:** 1, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021





68

KENNETH  
HORSEY

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-3 • 302 • Junior-2L  
Sanford, Fla. (Sanford Seminole)**2021 - Junior**

- Has played in 24 career games with 20 starts
- One of 11 FBS players named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team for his volunteer work with the American Heart Association
- Received the Central Kentucky American Heart Association's Finn Collier Service Award for his volunteer work in helping spread heart health awareness
- Named to the SEC Community Service Team
- Wuerffel Trophy Watch List

**2020 - Sophomore**

- One of the three winners of the 2020 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award ... Honored after having open-heart surgery in 2018 and returning to start on the offensive line for UK
- Started in all eight games played in 2020
- Earned first career start at left guard in the season opener vs. Auburn
- Did not dress vs. Vanderbilt, Florida or South Carolina

**2019 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in four games at left guard (Eastern Michigan, Vanderbilt, UT Martin and Virginia Tech)

**2018 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season

**High School**

- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals
- Ranked as the No. 58 offensive guard in the nation
- Helped lead his team to a 9-3 record and district championship as a senior
- Coached by Don Stark
- Also a two-year letter winner in the shot put
- Excelled in the classroom as he touted a 3.6 GPA and scored 1220 on his SAT
- Chose Kentucky over Mississippi State, South Florida and Central Florida

**Community Cats**

- Has become an advocate for heart health after having open heart surgery in 2018
- Participated in American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day (2020 and 2021)
- Participated in the 2021 Central Kentucky Heart Walk Digital Experience (2021)
- Coordinated and planned a hands-only CPR training for the UK Football team and staff (2021)
- Helped plan a Hands-Only CPR media availability on June 14 that promoted Hands-Only CPR awareness to the media for CPR Awareness Month (2021)

- Spoke at Central Kentucky Heart Walk kick-off event (2020)
- Spoke at UK Healthcare Heart Walk kick-off event (2020)
- Dedicated his 2020 football season to Finn Collier, a seven-year-old who lost his life to heart disease
- Volunteered at Brenda Cowan Elementary and Cassidy Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Orlando, Florida
- Son of Shari and Ken Horsey
- Siblings are Kenyse Horsey and Ora-Monet Hughes
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in communication

**Kenneth Says**

- He chose to play football at UK because he loved the school on his visit and wanted to play in the SEC
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a football coach
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he participated in martial arts for 14 years and had open-heart surgery in April of 2018
- If he had a hashtag to describe himself it would be #68wave



36

ADRIAN  
HUEY

DEFENSIVE BACK

6-0 • 180 • Freshman-HS  
Nashville, Tenn. (Hillsboro)**2021 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season

**High School**

- Three-star recruit by Rivals and 247sports
- Ranked the No. 23 player in Tennessee and the No. 72 cornerback nationally by the 247Sports Composite
- Named 2020 Preseason Second-Team All-Tennessee by MaxPreps.com
- In seven games in 2020, charted 17 total tackles, five pass breakups, and zero touchdowns allowed
- Did not allow a touchdown reception during the 2019 season
- Four-year letter winner and three-year starter at cornerback for head coach Maurice Fitzgerald
- Had offers from Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi State, South Carolina and Tennessee before selecting the Wildcats
- Also lettered in track one season as a sprinter

**Personal**

- Born in Nashville, Tennessee
- Son of Antonio Huey and La'Keyda Wakefield
- Has one brother, Kodi Crawford
- Major is art studio

**Adrian Says**

- His nickname is "Huey"
- He chose Kentucky because of the coaching staff
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he is a rapper known as "Lu Huey"
- His dream job is to be a YouTube star
- One word to describe him on the field is "aggressive"



35

RICKEY  
HYATT JR.

SAFETY

6-2 • 202 • Freshman-RS  
Columbis, Ohio (Central)**2021 - r-Freshman**

- Played in his first collegiate game vs. UTC
- Got his first career tackle vs. New Mexico State

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- One of the nation's top 40 safeties by ESPN and Rivals.com
- Rated as high as the No. 18 prospect in the state of Ohio by 247sports
- Three-year starter for head coach Brent Morrison at Westerville Central
- As a running back and defensive back in 2019, he made 28 tackles with an interception; also showed his versatility by rushing for 736 yards on 117 carries and nine touchdowns, while also catching two TDs
- Earned first-team all-district, second-team All-OCC-Buckeye Division and third-team all-state honors by the Ohio Sportswriters Association as a senior
- Helped lead the Central Warhawks to a 7-4 record and the first-round of the state playoffs in 2018
- Totaled 94 tackles, three interceptions and caused four fumbles in his junior season
- A two-sport standout as he also excelled on the track team
- Placed third in the Division I state meet in the 300 hurdles (38.15), the indoor long jump (21-8), and the indoor 60 hurdles (8.07)
- Holds Central's outdoor records in the 300 hurdles (38.01) and long jump (23-8 1/4) and helped set the program record in the 1,600 relay (3:19.18) ... Also ranks second in the 110 hurdles (14.69) in program history
- Also holds the program's indoor records in the 60 hurdles (8.07) and long jump (21-11) and helped set the program record in the 800 relay (1:28.26)
- Named a scholar athlete three straight years
- Recruiting finalists included Ohio State, Michigan State, Cincinnati and North Carolina

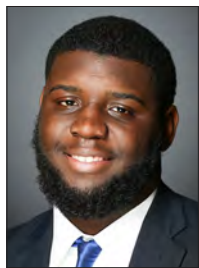


Personal

- Born in Libertyville, Illinois
- Son of Rickey and Stacy Hyatt
- Siblings are Tre and Morghan
- Sister, Morghan, ran track at Duquesne, while an uncle, Rodney Hyatt, played point guard on the basketball team at NC Chapel Hill
- Major is sociology

Rickey Says

- His nickname is "Slick Rick"
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's ambidextrous
- His dream job is to be a therapist
- One word to describe him on the field is "fast"
- The best advice he's ever received is "someone who worries about the past can't truly see what's waiting for them in the future"



56

D'ERYK JACKSON

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-1 • 241 • Sophomore-1L  
Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens)

2021 - Sophomore

- Suffered a torn achilles tendon in spring practice on April 10 ... Had surgery on April 13 and was expected to miss the entire season ... Instead, returned to full practice activity on Oct. 28 and saw his first action of the season at Vanderbilt on Nov. 13
- Charted three tackles and his first career quarterback hurry vs. New Mexico State
- In his third game back, totaled a team and career-high eight tackles in the win over Louisville

2020 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2020
- Played in nine games and totaled four tackles and one interception for a five-yard return
- Did not see action at Alabama or at Florida
- Earned his first career tackle at Auburn
- Snagged his first career interception on the final play of the game vs. Mississippi State
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- Three-star prospect by all three major recruiting services
- Rated the No. 47 inside linebacker in the country by 247Sports
- Three-time All-Region 2AAAA selection
- Led the team in tackles three straight seasons as a starter
- Tallied 129 total tackles, 12.0 tackles for loss, nine sacks, four quarterback hurries and an interception as a senior, earning Region 2AAAA Defensive Player of the Year by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution
- Had 96 tackles, 14 TFL and four sacks as a junior

- West Laurens Defensive Player of the Year as a junior
- Two-time Georgia Athletic Coaches Association Junior All-Star Game participant
- Ranked 20th in the state of Georgia among all classifications in total tackles
- Helped lead the Raiders to the Region 2AAAA championship title
- Coached by Kagan McClain
- Also played power forward on the basketball team
- Chose Kentucky over Mississippi State, Ole Miss and Purdue

Community Cats

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)
- Visited sick children at Kentucky Children's Hospital (2020)

Personal

- First name pronounced "dee-ERIC"
- Born in Dublin, Georgia
- Son of Shamika and Eric Jackson
- Has one sister, Dezhune
- Major is undecided

D'Eryk Says

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like family
- When he played football as a kid, he pretended to be Ray Lewis
- One word to describe him on the field is "physical"
- His favorite movie is *Friday*
- His sports hero is Ray Lewis

JACKSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	INT	PBU	QBH
2020	ILB	9-0	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	1-5	0	0
2021	ILB	3-0	11	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12-0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1-5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

JACKSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

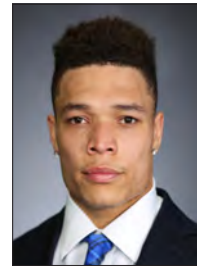
Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	PBU	Int-Yds	QBH
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0.0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
at Louisville	8	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

JACKSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL	FF/FR	PBU	Int-Yds	QBH
at Auburn	1	0-0	0.0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1-5	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Alabama				DNP			
at Florida				DNP			
vs. USC	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NC Stae	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1-5</b>	<b>0</b>

JACKSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 8, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
 Interceptions: 1, vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020  
 Quarterback hurry: 1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021



28

ZACH JOHNSON

SAFETY / KICK RETURNER

5-10 • 195 • Senior-4L  
Cincinnati, Ohio (Colerain)

2021 - \* Senior

- Elected to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Kentucky's primary kickoff returner
- Has played in 56 career games
- Has 14 kick returns for 259 yards (18.5) in 12 games this season

2020 - Senior

- Burlsworth Trophy nominee, an award given to the most outstanding football player in America who began his career as a walk-on and has shown outstanding performance on the field
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Played in 10 games
- Missed his first game since 2017 when he didn't dress vs. South Carolina due to COVID protocol
- Totaled 11 returns for 228 yards, averaging 20.7 yards per return, also had a tackle

2019 - Junior

- Saw action in all 13 games mostly as a kick returner
- Had six kickoff returns for 164 yards (27.3)
- Had a 58-yard return, the longest of his career, at Georgia ... Also had four tackles
- Got his first career PBU vs. Vanderbilt
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2018 - Sophomore

- Had eight tackles in 13 games on special teams, most of them highlight-reel worthy
- Earned a full scholarship in the 2018 fall camp
- Dean's List (Fall 2018)

2017 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in eight games on special teams
- Had two kick returns for 35 yards

2016 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

High School

- A two-year starter and three-year letter winner at Colerain for head coach Tom Bolden
- Helped the Cardinals compile a 44-8 overall record and four conference championships in his four seasons, including a 12-2 record as a senior
- Averaged 8.0 yards per carry





- Named first-team All-Conference as a senior
- Honor-roll student
- Chose UK over Georgetown Univ., Navy and Army

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Athens-Chilesburg Elementary and Rosa Parks Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Aubrey Johnson and the late Cindy Johnson
- Siblings are Brittany, Kirt, and Madison
- Got married in March of 2021 to long-time girlfriend, Sydney Fannin
- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in health promotion ... Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a master's degree in sport leadership

**Zach Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it's been his favorite school since he was young
- After football he would like to pursue a career working in a hospital
- When he played football as a kid he pretended to be Reggie Bush
- His sports hero is Marshawn Lynch because of his work ethic
- Best advice he's ever received is "remain humble and work for everything you get"

**JOHNSON'S KOR CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	KOR	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2017	2	35	17.5	0	20
2019	6	164	27.3	0	58
2020	11	228	20.7	0	33
2021	14	259	18.5	0	27
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58</b>

**JOHNSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD	Long
vs. ULM	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	0	16
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	63	0	23
at USC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	0	25
vs. LSU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	23
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	50	0	18
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	28	0	23
vs. NMST	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	42	0	27
at Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	0	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>

**JOHNSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD	Long
at Auburn	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	72	0	28
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	62	0	33
at Alabama	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	81	0	31
at Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	13
vs. USC	DNP									
vs. NC State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>

**JOHNSON'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD	Long
vs. Arkansas	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	48	0	26
at Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	58	0	58
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	19	0	19
vs. Va. Tech	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	39	0	21
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58</b>

**JOHNSON'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD	Tkls
vs. Central Mich.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
at Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Murray State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
vs. USC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
at TAMU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. MTSU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>

**JOHNSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>

**JOHNSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Kickoff returns:** 3, 3x, last vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021  
**Kickoff return yards:** 72, at Auburn, Sept 26, 2020  
**Long kickoff return:** 58, at Georgia, Oct 19, 2019  
**Tackles:** 2, vs Central Michigan, Sept 1, 2018  
**Pass breakups:** 1, vs Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019



10

JACQUEZ JONES

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-0 • 235 • Senior-Tr  
Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Ole Miss/Hillcrest)

**2021 - Senior**

- Transferred to Kentucky after playing in 33 career games with 19 starts at Ole Miss
- Totaled 182 tackles in three seasons with the Rebels
- Now has 45 career games played with 31 starting assignments and a total of 268 career tackles
- In 12 starts at Kentucky, leads the team in tackles with 86 ... Also has four pass breakups (third on the team), 3.5 tackles for loss, three quarterback hurries, an interception, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery
- Ranks 17th in the SEC in total tackles per game (7.17)
- Had a career-high 18 tackles at Mississippi State
- Named SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week and Walter Camp Foundation National Defensive Player of the Week with his defensive efforts in the win over Florida ... Had a season-high tying nine tackles, including one for loss, a quarterback hurry and a game-saving pass breakup ... His fourth-down pass breakup in the end zone with 18 seconds left preserved the victory ... Had two shared tackles for loss, one on a three-yard loss that helped force a punt and also on a one-yard loss leading up to UK's decisive game-changing blocked punt
- Had nine tackles against UTC and also broke up a pass that saved a likely Mocs TD
- Got his first collegiate INT – and UK's first takeaway of the year – vs. Missouri with an acrobatic leaping grab on the first possession of the third quarter, setting up a UK touchdown ... He added seven tackles and a career-high two pass breakups

**2020 - Junior (Ole Miss)**

- Three-year letter winner at Ole Miss
- Started in nine of the Rebels' 10 games, leading the team with 75 total tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and three quarterback hurries
- Recorded a career-high 13 tackles in the win over Indiana in the Outback Bowl

**2019 - Sophomore (Ole Miss)**

- Saw action in all 12 games with nine starts at inside linebacker, finishing second on the team with 71 tackles, including 7.5 tackles for loss and two forced fumbles

**2018 - Freshman (Ole Miss)**

- Appeared in every game as a true freshman
- Earned one starting spot vs. Southern Illinois
- Named to the SEC All-Freshman team after charting 36 tackles with 2.5 tackles for loss in his debut season





- Named to the Athletic Director's Honor Roll in the fall of 2018 for his work in the classroom

### High School

- Four-star prospect by ESPN and a three-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals
- Ranked the No. 15 player in the state of Alabama by ESPN and No. 22 by Rivals
- Rated as the No. 10 inside linebacker nationally according to ESPN.

### Personal

- Born in Decatur, Alabama
- Son of Kendrick and Lakeshia Jones
- Siblings are Chris and Shea
- Majoring in sociology with a minor in criminology

### Jacquez Says

- Nickname is "Quez"
- He chose Kentucky so he could take his game to the next level
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's terrified of snakes
- After football he would like to own a training facility
- One word to describe him on the field is "hunter"

### JA. JONES' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FF/FR	QBH	PBU	Int.
2018*	12-1	36	0.5-2	2.5-6	1/0	2	0	0
2019*	12-9	71	2.0-16	7.5-35	2/0	2	1	0
2020*	9-9	75	0-0	2.5-2	0/0	3	0	0
2021	12-12	86	0-0	3.5-9	1/1	3	4	1 (0)
<b>at UK</b>	<b>12-12</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>3.5-9</b>	<b>1/1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1 (0)</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44-31</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>2.5-18</b>	<b>16.0-52</b>	<b>4/1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1 (0)</b>

\*at Ole Miss

### JA. JONES' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME (UK)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU	Int.
vs. ULM*	4	0-0	0.0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	7	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	2	1 (0)
vs. UTC*	9	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	1	0
at USC*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
vs. Florida*	9	0-0	1.0-2	0/0	1	1	0
vs. LSU*	9	0-0	1.0-2	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	18	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	5	0-0	0.5-3	0/1	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	8	0-0	0-0	1/0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	3	0-0	1.0-2	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>3.5-9</b>	<b>1/1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1 (0)</b>

### JA. JONES' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME (OLE MISS)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Florida*	8	0-0	0.5-0	0/0	0	0
at Kentucky*	7	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Alabama			DNP			
at Arkansas*	9	0-0	1.0-1	0/0	1	0
vs. Auburn*	10	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. South Carolina*	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0

vs. Mississippi St.*	7	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
at LSU*	11	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0
vs. Indiana*	13	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2.5-2</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

### JA. JONES' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME (OLE MISS)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
at Memphis	1	0-0	1.5-8	0/0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	9	0.5-4	1.5-3	0/0	0	0
vs. SLU*	6	0-0	0-0	2/0	0	0
vs. Cal*	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Alabama*	4	0-0	0.5-1	0/0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt*	9	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	1
at Missouri*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Texas A&M	6	0-0	0.5-3	0/0	0	0
at Auburn*	6	0-0	1.0-4	0/0	0	0
vs. New Mexico St.*	7	0-0	1.0-4	0/0	1	0
vs. LSU*	8	0.5-4	0.5-4	0/0	1	0
at Mississippi St.*	9	1.0-8	1.0-8	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>2.0-16</b>	<b>7.5-35</b>	<b>2/0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

### JONES' 2018 GAME-BY-GAME (OLE MISS)

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
vs. Texas Tech	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Southern Ill.*	4	0.5-2	0.5-2	1/0	1	1
vs. Alabama	9	0-0	0.5-1	0/0	0	0
vs. Kent State	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at LSU	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. ULM	2	0-0	0.5-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Auburn	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Texas A&M	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
vs. Mississippi St.	5	0-0	0.5-0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0.5-2</b>	<b>2.5-6</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

### JA. JONES' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 18, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
**Tackles for loss:** 1.0, 3x, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
**Sacks:** 1.0, vs Mississippi State, Nov 28, 2019  
**Forced fumbles:** 2, vs SLU, Sept 14, 2019  
**Fumble recoveries:** 1, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021  
**Quarterback hurries:** 2, at LSU, Dec 19, 2020  
**Pass breakups:** 2, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
**Interceptions:** 1, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021 (0 yards)



# 72

## JOSH JONES

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 305 • Freshman-RS  
Columbus, Ga. (Central-Phenix City, Ala.)

### 2021 - r-Freshman

- Practiced with the team

### 2020 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

### High School

- Three-star prospect by all three major recruiting services
- Rated the No. 32 overall prospect in the state of Alabama for the Class of 2020
- Four-year starter who helped Central advance to the Alabama 7A state championship game in 2019 and finish with a 12-2 record
- Named to the 33rd annual Alabama-Mississippi All-Star Football Game roster
- Two-time first-team Class 7A All-State selection
- Led the Red Devils to a state title in 2018 after defeating Thompson in the Super Seven Championship game, finishing 14-0
- Coached by Jamey DuBose
- Had 14 Division I offers before choosing UK over LSU

### Personal

- Born in Columbus, Georgia
- Son of Quinnta and Deforest Jones
- Has one brother, Joseph Jones
- Major is undecided

### Josh Says

- Nickname is "Bugg"
- He chose Kentucky because of the coaching staff and it's a great place
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's quiet
- His sports hero is LeBron James
- Besides being good at football, he's also a good basketball player



# 70

**DARIAN  
KINNARD**

**OFFENSIVE LINE**

6-5 • 338 • Senior-3L  
Knoxville, Tenn. (St. Ignatius - Ohio)

### 2021 - Senior

- Consensus First-Team All-American, first offensive lineman to hold that distinction since Sam Ball in 1965 ... UK's 12th Consensus All-American
- First-Team All-America (AFCA, AP, FWAA, Walter Camp, CBS Sports, Phil Steele, Reese's Senior Bowl)
- Second-Team All-American (The Sporting News, PFF, The Athletic, USA Today Sports)
- First-Team All-SEC (AP, PFF, Coaches, Phil Steele, USA Today Network)
- 2021 Jacobs Blocking Trophy
- 2021 Rotary Lombardi Award semifinalist
- Outland Trophy semifinalist
- Has played in 45 career games with 38 consecutive starts at right tackle
- Led the "Big Blue Wall" with 30 knockdown blocks
- Pro Football Focus evaluated him as one of only three Power Five tackles to grade at 85 or better as both a run and pass blocker
- Named SEC Co-Offensive Lineman of the Week after UK's win over Vanderbilt
- Midseason Second-Team All-American (Athletic)
- Midseason All-American (Sporting News, CBS Sports)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Preseason Big Board
- Preseason First-Team All-American (Athlon, ESPN, Walter Camp, PFF, USA Today)
- Preseason Second-Team All-American (AP, Phil Steele)
- Preseason First-Team Offense All-SEC (Coaches, Media, Athlon, Phil Steele, Walter Camp)

### 2020 - Junior

- Started in all 11 games at right tackle
- Second-Team All-American (Sporting News, CBS/247sports)
- Third-Team All-American (AP)
- Fourth-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
- First-Team All-SEC (AP, Phil Steele, PFF)
- Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches)
- Graded at 87.4 percent with 47 knockdowns and 142 blocks at the point of attack
- Outland Trophy Watch List
- Preseason Second-Team Offense All-American (Athlon Sports)
- Preseason Fourth-Team All-American (Phil Steele)
- Preseason First-Team All-SEC (Athlon Sports, Coaches, Phil Steele, Pick Six Previews)

### 2019 - Sophomore

- Started in all 13 games at right tackle
- Second-team offensive tackle (Pro Football Focus)
- Had 32 knockdowns during the season
- Had only one penalty in 706 snaps

- Helped set single-season school records with 3,624 rushing yards, 36 rushing touchdowns, and 6.3 yards per carry
- Against UT Martin, graded at 93 percent in helping lead Kentucky to two single-game school records -- 462 rushing yards and 10.3 yards per rushing attempt ... Had 13 blocks at the point of attack, including four plays that were touchdown runs ... Did not allow any quarterback sacks and did not have any penalties or missed assignments

### 2018 - Freshman

- Played in nine games, starting two of the last three at left tackle
- Helped lead a Kentucky offensive line that blocked for numerous season highs vs. Louisville
- UK set season highs with 56 points, 601 yards total offense, 29 first downs and 340 rushing yards at Louisville ... Graded at 84 percent ... Had no penalties or missed assignments and did not allow any quarterback sacks ... Credited with 16 blocks at the point of attack, including three long touchdown runs -- Benny Snell's 24-yard TD, A.J. Rose's 75-yard untouched TD dash, and Kavosiey Smoke's 37-yard TD

### High School

- Rated the 101st best player in the country and No. 16 offensive tackle as a four-star recruit by 247Sports
- Rated a four-star by ESPN and a three-star by Rivals
- Rivals rated him the No. 21 recruit in prospect-laden Ohio
- 247Sports rated him one of the Top 20 offensive tackles in the country
- Played at the powerhouse St. Ignatius program in Cleveland, which has won 11 state championships and three national championships under the direction of legendary coach Chuck Kyle
- Selected to play in the U.S. Army All-American game
- All-State honoree in Ohio
- Was the first offensive lineman to join Kentucky's 2018 recruiting class
- Chose Kentucky over Penn State, UCLA and UT

### Personal

- Born in Youngstown, Ohio
- Son of Mandy Headrick
- Major is kinesiology

### Community Cats

- Frequent visitor at Lexington VA Hospital (2019)

### Darian Says

- His nickname is "D.K."
- The best part of being a Kentucky Wildcat is the love and family bonds he has with the Big Blue Nation and his teammates
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to train athletes
- If he could eat only three foods for the rest of his life he would eat steak, chicken alfredo and kettle corn
- Most people don't know that he is related to Dolly Parton



# 7

**WILL  
LEVIS**

**QUARTERBACK**

6-3 • 232 • Junior-Tr  
Madison, Conn. (Penn State/Xavier HS)

### 2021 - Junior (Team Captain)

- Elected one of eight team captains
- Davey O'Brien QB Class of 2021
- Two-time Manning Award Quarterback of the Week (ULM, Louisville)
- Started in all 12 regular-season games this season and helped lead UK to nine wins for the first time since 2018, the 10th time in school history and just the third time in the last 44 seasons (1904, 1907, 1909, 1949, 1950, 1976, 1977, 1984, 2018 and 2021) ... Also marks the first time since 1949-52 that UK has had at least eight total victories (including bowls) three times in a four-year span
- Has totaled 92 rushes for 511 yards and a team-high nine rushing touchdowns
- Has completed 216 of 325 passes for 2,593 yards (66.5) and 23 scores ... 23 touchdown passes are the most since Mike Hartline in 2010
- Ranks seventh in passing yards per game (216.08) and total offense (248.33) and sixth in total passing yards (2,593)
- Had two games this season (LSU and Tennessee) with three passing touchdowns and two rushing TDs in the same game, the only Wildcat ever to do so
- First UK quarterback with at least 30 completions against two SEC opponents (Georgia and Tennessee) in the same season since Mike Hartline in 2010
- Received The Manning Award Quarterback of the Week, the Howard Schnellenberger Award as the Most Valuable Player of the Governor's Cup game vs. Louisville and was named College Football Performance Awards National Performer of the Week honorable mention for the second time this season after completing 14 of 18 passes for 149 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions, rushing 14 times for a career-high 113 yards and a career-best four touchdowns ... The four rushing touchdowns tied the school record that has now been set by 12 players a total of 14 times and also tied the Governor's Cup record set by Lynn Bowden Jr. in 2019
- Completed 21 of 31 passes for a career-high 419 yards and a career-high-tying four touchdowns in the win over New Mexico State ... Added 11 net rushing yards and his 430 yards total offense is a career high ... 419 passing yards is the 12th-highest single-game total in school history ... Became the first 400-yard passer since Andre' Woodson threw for 430 vs. Tennessee in 2007 ... 79-yard pass to Wan'Dale Robinson marked the longest of his career and longest for UK since an 83-yard pass from Patrick Towles to Javess Blue vs. ULM in 2014.



- First UK quarterback with three 350-yard passing games in one season since Patrick Towles in 2014
- Among Kentucky QBs with at least 20 completions in a game, his 19.95 yards per completion is the highest single-game mark in school history
- Accounted for 419 yards total offense and five touchdowns vs. Tennessee ... Rushed 15 times for a net 47 yards and two TDs ... Completed 31 of 49 passes for a career-high 372 yards and three touchdowns ... Marked the most passing yards for a Wildcat since Patrick Towles threw for 390 yards vs. Mississippi State in 2014 ... Most yards total offense since Towles had 466 (390 passing, 76 rushing) vs. Mississippi State in 2014 ... First Wildcat to have at least 15 passing touchdowns and five rushing TDs in one season since Jared Lorenzen in 2003
- Completed 32 of 42 passes for 192 yards and two touchdowns at No. 1 Georgia ... His 32 completions are the most for a UK quarterback against a No. 1-ranked opponent since Tim Couch (35) vs. Tennessee in 1998 ... His 32 completions are the most for a UK quarterback in an SEC road game since Jared Lorenzen (32) at Georgia in 2001
- With starting lineups available since 1993, became the first quarterback since that time to win his first six starts
- Named the FBS National Offensive Player of the Week by the Walter Camp Football Foundation, named to the Davey O'Brien Award's Great 8 list and earned College Football Performance Awards National Performer of the Week honorable mention after accounting for Kentucky's first five touchdowns in the Wildcats' 42-21 win over LSU ... Completed 14 of 17 passes (82.4 percent) for 145 yards and three TDs ... Rushed 11 times for a net 75 yards and two TDs ... Had a 33-yard run that helped set up his own QB sneak for a score ... Led UK to 42 points, most ever for the Wildcats against LSU in a regulation-length game
- Completed 18 of 26 passes for 367 yards and four touchdowns in the season opener vs. ULM, notching career highs for completions, yards and TDs, in his first career start at Kentucky ... Marked the most passing yards for a Kentucky player in his first game as a Wildcat and the most passing yards for a UK quarterback since Patrick Towles threw for 390 in 2014 vs. Mississippi State ... UK's first 300-yard passer in a season opener since Drew Barker, 323 vs. Southern Mississippi in 2016 ... Most passing TDs since Drew Barker threw four vs. Southern Mississippi in 2016 ... Named The Manning Award Quarterback of the Week
- Graduate transfer who played three seasons at Penn State
- His 473 career rushing yards rank 10th all-time by a Penn State quarterback
- Two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection
- After this season, will have two more years of eligibility remaining

2020 - Sophomore (Penn State)

- Played in eight games with one starting assignment
- Completed 33-of-55 passes for 421 yards and a score
- On the ground, had 82 rushes for 260 yards and three touchdowns
- Completed 14-of-31 passes for a career-high 219 yards, including a 74-yard completion in his first starting assignment of the season vs. Iowa

- At Michigan, rushed for 25 yards on six carries and had a two-yard rushing TD, helping the Nittany Lions win 27-17 in "The Big House"

2019 - r-Freshman (Penn State)

- Appeared in seven games with one start
- Completed 28-of-47 passes for 223 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions
- Totaled 213 rushing yards on 51 carries with three scores
- Earned the team's High Academic Average (cumulative GPA), along with teammate Black Gillikin

2018 - Freshman (Penn State)

- Redshirt season

High School

- Three-year letter winner for head coach Andy Guyon at Xavier High School in his hometown of Madison, Connecticut
- As a senior captain, earned second-team Walter Camp All-Connecticut honors
- Selected to the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA) Top 25 list, after breaking Xavier's records for passing yards (2,793), passing touchdowns (27) and completions in a season
- Named the Hartford Courant's Offensive POY
- All-Courant first-team selection
- Earned All-Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) Tier 1 accolades
- SPARQ MVP for The Opening Elite 11 event in New Jersey in 2017
- Registered 1,972 passing yards with 19 passing touchdowns and six rushing touchdowns as a junior
- Carried a 4.0 grade-point average during his prep career, winning the Brother Celestine Academic Award
- Also chosen as an All-SCC Tier 1 academic athlete in 2017
- Member of the National Honor Society and was a Ryken Scholar
- Three-star recruit by all three major recruiting outlets - 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- Ranked as the No. 2 player in Connecticut and No. 24 pro-style quarterback by 247Sports, was the No. 35 pro-style quarterback, No. 2 recruit in Connecticut and No. 61 prospect in the region by ESPN and the No. 30 pro-style quarterback and No. 2 player in Connecticut by Rivals
- Also lettered in baseball at Xavier

Personal

- Born in Newton, Massachusetts
- Son of Michael and Beth Levis
- Siblings are Kelley, Jillian and Claire
- Comes from a family of athletes as his great-grandfather, Alva Kelley, was an All-America football player at Cornell University and won a National Championship in 1939 ... Went on to be the head football coach at Colgate University, Hobart College and Brown University ... Father, Mike, was a tight end at Denison University ... Mother, Beth Kelley Levis, was two-time All-America soccer player at Yale and has been inducted into the Connecticut Girls' Soccer Association Hall of Fame... Uncle, David Kelley, also was an Academic All-America football player at Yale

- Graduated in May of 2021 from Penn State's Smeal College of Business in three years with a degree in finance ... Currently working on a master's degree in finance from UK's Gatton School of Business and Economics

Will Says

- He chose Kentucky because he felt very connected to the coaches and their collective vision for the program, and for a chance to compete for a conference and national championship
- After football, his dream job is to be stay-at-home dad with a wife who earns six figures
- He calms butterflies before a game by going through visualization and breathing exercises as well as listening to pre-2012 Justin Bieber
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he is a very good singer, but he only sings in the shower (there are prime acoustics in the shower)
- The best advice he's ever received was from his late grandfather who would end almost every conversation with "never give up"

LEVIS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Rush	Yds	TD	Lg	Comp	Att	Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Lg
2019*	7-0	51	213	3	49	28	47	2	59.6	223	2	44
2020*	8-1	82	260	3	14	33	55	0	60.0	421	1	74
2021	12-12	92	387	9	33	216	325	12	66.5	2593	23	79
<b>UK</b>	<b>12-12</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>2593</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27-13</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>3237</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>79</b>

\*at Penn State

LEVIS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME (PSU)

Opponent	Comp.-Att.-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM*	18-26-1	367	4	62	4	-6	0	8
vs. Missouri*	10-18-1	179	1	49	11	25	1	10
vs. UTC*	23-35-2	254	2	39	3	18	0	21
at USC*	15-22-1	102	0	17	5	30	0	9
vs. Florida*	7-17-1	87	1	41	6	21	0	12
vs. LSU*	14-17-0	145	3	34	11	75	2	33
at Georgia*	32-42-0	192	2	16	10	12	0	7
at Miss. State*	17-28-3	150	1	21	3	9	0	5
vs. Tennessee*	31-49-1	372	3	31	15	47	2	16
at Vanderbilt*	14-22-1	177	2	39	6	32	0	17
vs. NMST*	21-31-1	419	4	79	4	11	0	16
at Louisville*	14-18-0	149	0	27	14	113	4	29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>216-325-12</b>	<b>2593</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>33</b>

\*started game

LEVIS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME (PSU)

Opponent	Comp.-Att.-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yds.	TD	Long
at Indiana	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	-2	0	0
vs. Ohio State	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3
at Nebraska	14-31-0	219	0	74	18	61	0	14
vs. Iowa*	13-16-0	106	0	22	15	34	0	11
at Michigan	0-0-0	0	0	0	6	25	1	6
vs. Rutgers	0-0-0	0	0	0	17	65	0	14
vs. Michigan St.	3-3-0	54	0	36	15	36	1	9
vs. Illinois	3-5-0	42	1	23	9	38	1	13





**LEVIS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME (PSU)**

Totals	33-55-0	421	1	74	82	260	3	14
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**LEVIS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME (PSU)**

Opponent	Comp.-Att.-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Idaho	11-14-0	62	1	11	5	21	0	12
vs. Buffalo	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Maryland	3-8-0	23	0	15	6	38	2	8
vs. Purdue	0-0-0	0	0	0	2	7	0	7
vs. Indiana	0-0-0	0	0	0	3	5	0	3
at Ohio State	6-11-1	57	0	22	18	34	1	10
vs. Rutgers	8-14-1	81	1	44	17	108	0	49
Totals	28-47-2	223	2	44	51	213	6	49

**LEVIS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Pass attempts: 49, twice, last vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021  
 Pass completions: 31, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021  
 Pass yards: 372, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021  
 Pass TDs: 4, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Long pass: 74, vs Nebraska, Nov 14, 2020  
 Total offense plays: 64, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (15 rush, 49 pass)  
 Total offense yards: 419, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (47 rush, 372 pass)  
 Rush attempts: 18, vs Ohio State, Nov 23, 2019  
 Rush yards: 113, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021 (14 carries)  
 Long rush: 49, vs Rutgers, Nov. 30, 2019  
 Rushing TDs: 4, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021



**37**

LUKE  
LEEPER

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 195 • Sophomore-SQ  
 Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy of Louisville)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Four-year letter winner and two-year starter at the Christian Academy of Louisville
- Helped the Centurions finish 7-5 and a spot in the Class 3A District Four final as a senior, the school's first season in Class 3A
- Caught a team-high 63 passes for 747 yards and nine touchdowns as a senior
- Earned first-team All-District as a WR and KR
- Key contributor on the 2016 and 2018 Class 2A state championship teams
- Coached by Stefan Lefors and Hunter Cantwell
- Also on the basketball team
- Kentucky was his first choice of schools

**Personal**

- Born in Paducah, Kentucky

- Son of John and Melissa Leeper
- Has one brother, Alex
- Major is kinesiology

**Luke Says**

- His nickname is "Leep"
- He chose Kentucky because it's his dream school
- After football, his dream job is to be a physical therapist
- Three words to describe him are active, patient, and hard working
- His sports hero is Adam Thielen because he went from undrafted to WR1



**89**

CHRIS  
LEWIS

WIDE RECEIVER

6-4 • 190 • Freshman-HS  
 Pleasant Grove, Ala. (Pleasant Grove)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Has seen action in three games (ULM, New Mexico State and Louisville)
- Redshirt season

**High School**

- A four-star recruit by 247sports and rated as one of Alabama's top 10 players
- Finished his senior season with 70 receptions for 1,235 yards and 19 touchdowns in helping Pleasant Grove finish 12-3 overall
- Averaged 17.6 yards per catch
- Helped lead the Spartans to back-to-back Class 5A state title games (2019 and 2020)
- Led the Spartans with six catches for 111 yards and two scores in the state title game in 2020
- Earned first-team Birmingham All-Region by AL.com
- Named a 2020 Sports Illustrated First-Team All-American
- Earned honorable mention All-State honors by the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*
- Caught four passes for 57 yards and two scores in the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Classic in 2020
- Named Birmingham Area Athlete of the Week after finishing with six catches for 84 yards and two scores in the Spartans' win over Ramsay to advance to the AHSAA 5A state championship game
- Totaled 75 catches for 1,398 yards and 20 touchdowns as a junior
- Two-year starter for head coach Darrell LeBeaux
- Also played basketball at Pleasant Grove, averaging 15 points, 11 rebounds, three blocks and three assists per game as a small forward in 2020-21
- Earned second-team All-State in basketball and was named the 2021 Birmingham Athlete of the Year by AL.com
- Inducted into the PGHS Hall of Fame which is an award voted on by teachers

- Had more than 47 offers but ultimately chose Kentucky over Texas A&M, Ole Miss and Notre Dame

**Personal**

- Born in Pleasant Grove, Alabama
- Son of Camilla and Detrick Lewis
- Siblings are Erica Johnson and Detrick Lewis II
- Major is kinesiology

**Chris Says**

- He chose Kentucky because he felt at home and wanted to help change the offense
- After football, his dream job is to be an NFL coach
- Three words to describe him are outgoing, funny, and determined
- The best part of being a Kentucky Wildcat is that he gets to play in the best conference (SEC), for the best head coach in Mark Stoops



**19**

RAHSAAN  
LEWIS

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 184 • Junior-SQ  
 Orlando, Fla. (FAU/Central Fla./Windermere Prep)

**2021 - Junior**

- Has seen action in five of 12 games, missing action due to a knee injury
- Has two catches for four yards
- Got his first collegiate reception vs. ULM

**2020 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team

**2019 - r-Freshman (at FAU)**

- Saw action in four games
- Added to the team's 41-31 Ball State victory
- Had an eight-yard kick return in the Wagner victory
- Contributed in FAU's 45-27 C-USA win over Charlotte
- Saw action in the Owls' Middle Tennessee win
- Redshirt season

**2018 - Freshman (at UCF)**

- Appeared in seven games as a defensive back and totaled four tackles
- Made his collegiate debut vs. SMU on Oct. 6
- Recorded his first collegiate tackle vs. Temple on Nov. 1

**High School**

- Helped guide Windermere Prep to the Sunshine State Championship Game as a senior in 2017, his lone season of football
- Rushed for 359 yards and six touchdowns, while recording 306 yards receiving and three scores
- Posted 154 kick return yards and 156 punt return yards with one touchdown as a senior





- Made 83 tackles with three sacks, one interception and two fumble recoveries, including a fumble recovery for a touchdown as a senior
- Took the Lakers to the state semifinals
- Two-sport athlete (football and basketball)
- Played two seasons of basketball

**Personal**

- Born in Orlando, Florida
- Son of Tatyana McCall and Ray Lewis
- Siblings are Diaymon, Ray, Rayshad, Rayven, and Ralin
- Father, Ray, played 17 seasons in the NFL and was a 13-time Pro Bowler, 10-time All-Pro, two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year, a member of the NFL 2000s All-Decade Team, two-time Super Bowl champion and Super Bowl XXXV MVP, as well as a two-time All-American at the University of Miami
- Major is community and leadership development

**Rahsaan Says**

- His nickname is "Fat"
- He chose Kentucky because it was a great opportunity
- Three words to describe him are funny, purpose-driven, and real
- His sports heroes are his dad and Kobe Bryant because of their mentality and love of the game
- The three famous people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Kobe Bryant, Bob Marley, and Steve Jobs

**LEWIS' CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
*2018	DB	7-0	4	0	0	0	0	0
#2019	WR	4-0	-	0	0	0	0	0
2020	WR	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	WR	5-0	0	2	4	2.0	0	4
<b>Totals</b>		<b>16-0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

\*at UCF

# at FAU

**LEWIS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	KR/Yds	TD	Long
vs ULM	1	4	0	0	0/0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0	0/0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0/0	0	0
vs. NMST	0	0	0	0	0/0	0	0
at Louisville	1	0	0	0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**LEWIS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME (FAU)**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	KR/Yds	TD	Long
at Ball State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0
vs. Wagner	0	0-0	0-0	0	1/8	0	8
at Charlotte	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0
vs. Middle Tenn.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**LEWIS' 2018 GAME-BY-GAME (UCF)**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH
vs. SMU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Temple	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Navy	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Cincinnati	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USF	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Memphis	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**LEWIS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 1, twice, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 4, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Long reception: 4, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Tackles: 3, vs Memphis, Dec 1, 2018  
 Kick returns: 1, vs Wagner, Sept 21, 2019  
 Kick return yards: 8, vs Wagner, Sept 21, 2019



59

CONNER LONG

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-3 • 210 • Freshman-HS  
East Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- A dual-sport standout (football and track & field) at East Lansing High School
- Two-year starter at outside linebacker for head coach Bill Feraco
- Helped the Trojans win three straight Capital Area Activities Blue Conference championship titles
- Led the conference with 65 tackles, 15 sacks and three fumble recoveries in nine games as the Trojans finished 8-1 in a COVID-shortened 2020 season
- Earned first-team All-Conference, All-Region and All-State as a senior
- Selected to play in the 2020 Xenith Senior All-Star Game and the 2021 Offense-Defense All-American Bowl
- Also an all-state performer in track in the 200-meter and 400-meter dash
- Choose to play football at UK over scholarship offers to run track
- Member of the National Society of High School Scholars and the Black Student Union
- Chose Kentucky over Michigan State

**Personal**

- Born in Lansing, Michigan
- Son of Octavis and Lynette Long
- Has one sister, Nia
- Father, Octavis, was a wide receiver at Michigan State from 1995-97, while his mother, Lynette ran track for the Spartans

- Major is political science

**Conner Says**

- He chose Kentucky because of the coaches, the fanbase and it's a great program
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a lobbyist
- Besides football, he's also good at track and public speaking
- One word to describe him on the field is "relentless"
- His sports hero is LeBron James



25

JORDAN LOVETT

SAFETY

6-2 • 200 • Freshman-HS  
Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Mid-year enrollee In January 2021
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Missouri
- Redshirt season

**High School**

- Three-star prospect by ESPN, Rivals.com and 247sports.com
- Rated as high as the No. 38 safety nationally by 247 and No. 4 prospect in the commonwealth of Kentucky
- Rangy defensive back with an interesting progression in high school
- Did not play safety until his junior season, then made 15 interceptions and 21 tackles in his first campaign at the position ... Ranked second nationally in interceptions
- Ranks second in KSHAA history for interceptions in a single season (15 in 2019)
- Tied for third in KSHAA history for interceptions in a game with four vs. Barren County (11/8/19)
- Followed that with another impressive season as a senior, totaling 60 tackles and three interceptions for 55 total yards
- Named first-team all-state, the AP, the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and Kentucky Sports Radio in 2020
- Helped take North Hardin to a 9-1 record and a berth in the state quarterfinals in 2020
- As a junior, earned first-team all-state honors from The Associated Press and *Louisville Courier-Journal*
- Helped lead North Hardin HS to a 13-1 record, reaching the state semifinals in Class AAAAAA in 2019
- High school teammates of current UK defensive lineman Octavious Oxendine and fellow signee La'Ve'll Wright
- Coached by Brent Thompson
- Also a two-year letter winner in basketball
- Named academic all-state as a junior
- Chose Kentucky over Cincinnati, Louisville, Missouri and West Virginia



### Personal

- Born in Atlanta, Georgia
- Son of Tameka Herriot and Rodney Lovett
- Mom, Tameka, is a Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army
- Siblings are Caleb Walls and Lex Lovett
- Major is undecided

### Jordan Says

- His nickname is "J Love"
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach
- He chose Kentucky because it was the best fit for him
- Besides playing football, he's also good at basketball, video games and swimming
- One word to describe him on the field is "lit"



**10**  
CHAUNCEY  
MAGWOOD

WIDE RECEIVER

6-0 • 190 • Freshman-HS  
Albany, Ga. (Lee County)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2021
- Has seen action in all 12 games this season
- Caught his first career pass vs. Tennessee, a 17-yard catch
- Had a kick return for 11 yards vs. UTC
- Got a tackle against New Mexico State

### High School

- Three-star prospect who ranks as one of the nation's top-100 receivers by ESPN and Rivals.com
- Rated as high as No. 48 in Georgia by Rivals
- Started every game in his four years at Lee County High School (58 straight), helping lead the Trojans to a 52-6 overall record with four straight 1-AAAAAA Region championship titles with three state championship appearances and two state titles
- Played wide receiver his first three seasons, switched to quarterback as a senior and guided his team to the state runner-up finish with a 12-2 record in 2020
- Named Athlete of the Year for Region 1-AAAAAA in 2020
- Earned All-State HM in 2020 as an athlete by the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* in Class 6A
- Threw for 938 yards with 12 touchdowns and only three interceptions in 2020, while rushing for 643 yards on 120 carries with six TDs
- Named a *Sports Illustrated* All-America nominee
- Spent some time at receiver, with 11 catches for 141 yards and two TDs
- First-team all-state as a sophomore, junior and senior by the Georgia Coaches Association
- Caught 53 passes for 700 yards and 10 TDs as a junior

- Sophomore season featured 68 catches for 958 yards and seven TDs in helping the Trojans win their second straight state title
- Team won state championship as a freshman when he had 33 receptions for 388 yards
- Played for head coach Dean Fabrizio
- Narrowed his choices to Arkansas, Florida State, Louisville, Nebraska and South Carolina before picking Kentucky

### Personal

- Born in Albany, Georgia
- Son of Shontay Magwood and Khamal Magwood
- Siblings are Vincent Spurling, Jala Spurling, Jalen Spurling and Kaden Magwood
- Major is pre-civil engineering

### Chauncey Says

- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be an engineer
- He chose Kentucky because he saw a better future
- If he could only eat three foods for the rest of his life he would choose burgers, hibachi grill food, and chicken
- One word to describe him on the field is "versatile"
- The best advice he's ever received is "never look back"



**32**  
TYLER  
MARKRAY

RUNNING BACK

5-10 • 223 • Junior-SQ  
West Bloomfield, Mich. (Walled Lake Central)

### 2021 - Junior

- Saw action on special teams at Georgia
- Had two carries for 10 yards vs. New Mexico St.

### 2020 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team

### 2019 - r-Freshman

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin and had two carries for 52 yards, including a 45-yard touchdown run

### 2018 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

### High School

- Transferred to Walled Lake Central in Walled Lake, Mich., for his senior season, playing both RB and LB
- In just five games, totaled 79 carries, 720 yards and 10 touchdowns before a knee injury sidelined him for the remainder of the season
- Won three state titles at St. Mary's High School
- 2017 *Detroit Free Press*' All-North honorable mention
- A three-year starter at running back
- Coached by Bob Meyer
- Chose Kentucky over Oregon

- Also a four-year letter winner in basketball as a point guard
- Honor Roll student

### Personal

- Born in Detroit, Michigan
- Son of Terri Markray and Triando Markray
- Siblings are Tiffany and T.J.
- Father, Triando, was a wide receiver at Michigan from 1983-84
- Graduated in August of 2021 with a degree in communication and is currently working on a master's degree in sport leadership

### Tyler Says

- His nickname is "Ty"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to own his own sports agency
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he used to play ice hockey
- One word to describe him on the field is "ferocious"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home



**50**  
MARQUAN  
MCCALL

NOSE GUARD

6-3 • 344 • Senior-3L  
Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)

### 2021 - Senior (Team Captain)

- Has played in 39 career games with 10 starts
- Has played in eight of 12 games this season with seven starting assignments
- Has totaled seven tackles, 3.5 tackle for loss and two quarterback hurries
- Missed a majority of the Florida game with an ankle injury on the second drive in the first quarter and did not play vs. LSU, at Georgia, at Mississippi State or vs. Tennessee
- Returned to action at Vanderbilt
- Dropped approx. 40 lbs in the off season (381 to 344)
- Preseason third-team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Preseason Blg Board

### 2020 - Junior

- Played in 10 games, starting three at nose tackle (Missouri, Georgia and South Carolina)
- Totaled 22 tackles, a TFL, a fumble recovery and a half-sack
- Made his first collegiate start at Missouri and had a career-high six tackles

### 2019 - Sophomore

- Saw action in all 13 games
- Had 21 tackles, along with 4.0 TFL, a fumble recovery, a quarterback hurry and a PBU
- Charted a career-best 2.0 TFL vs. UT Martin to go along with a career-high four tackles and a QBH



## 2018 - Freshman

- Saw action in eight games and totaled five tackles, 1.5 TFL and a forced fumble
- Totaled three tackles, a quarterback sack, another one-half tackle for loss, and a forced fumble vs. Murray State
- His QB sack caused a fumble
- Combined on a one-yard tackle for loss in a series that ended with a punt

## High School

- One of Kentucky's highest-rated recruits in the 2018 class
- A four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- Rivals rated him the No. 4 offensive guard in the nation
- 247Sports also listed him as the No. 4 offensive guard in the nation, as well as the top player in Michigan and No. 135 overall player in the Class of 2018
- Named first-team All-State by the *Detroit Free Press* and the *Associated Press*
- Helped Oak Park reach the Division 2 regional final
- All-State player and rated the No. 1 offensive guard in the Midwest
- Regarded as a tremendous technician on the offensive line
- Played for Greg Carter at Oak Park High School in Oak Park, Mich.
- Carter said "For a guy his size, 325 pounds, he's extremely quick and athletic and has great hands"
- Chose Kentucky over Michigan, Michigan State, Ole Miss, Penn State, Pitt, Wisconsin, Missouri and Minnesota

## Community Cats

- Volunteered at William Wells Brown Elementary (2020)

## Personal

- Born in Detroit, Michigan
- Son of Marenthia McCall
- Siblings are Julius, Marquezy, and Nuavia
- Major is community and leadership development

## Marquan Says

- His nickname is "Bully"
- He chose to play football at Kentucky because it felt like home from the start
- After his football career, he would like to travel
- One thing people might not know about him is that he loves dogs
- His passion in life is traveling

## MCCALL'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PBU	FF	FR	QBH
2018	8-0	5	1.5-2	1.0-1	0	1	0	0
2019	13-0	21	4.0-7	0-0	1	0	1	1
2020	10-3	22	1.0-3	0.5-2	0	0	1	0
2021	8-7	7	3.5-7	0-0	0	0	0	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39-9</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>10.0-19</b>	<b>1.5-3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

## MCCALL'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM*	2	0.5-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	2	1.0-3	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. UTC*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0

at USC*	1	1.0-4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	(Injury)	DNP						
at Georgia	(Injury)	DNP						
at Mississippi State	(Injury)	DNP						
vs. Tennessee	(Injury)	DNP						
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at Louisville*	1	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3.5-7</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

## MCCALL'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
at Auburn	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Mississippi St.			DNP					
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
at Missouri*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	2	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1.0-3</b>	<b>0.5-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## MCCALL'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Toledo	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Eastern Mich.	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	1.0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	4	2.0-5	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Louisville	2	1.0-10	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4.0-7</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

## MCCALL'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	3	1.5-2	1.0-1	0	1	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.5-2</b>	<b>1.0-1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## MCCALL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 6, at Missouri, Oct 24, 2020 (5-1)  
**Sacks:** 1.0, vs Murray State, Sept 15, 2018 (1 yard)  
**Tackles for loss:** 1.5, vs Murray State, Sept 15, 2018 (2 yards)  
**Forced fumble:** 1, vs Murray State, Sept 15, 2018  
**Fumble recovery:** 1, twice, last vs Tennessee, Oct 17, 2020  
**Pass breakups:** 1, vs. Florida, vs. Florida, Sept 14, 2019  
**Quarterback hurry:** 1, 3x, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021



# 17

## JUTAHN MCCLAINE

### RUNNING BACK

5-9 • 187 • Sophomore-1L  
Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)

## 2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in 19 career games, including eight of 12 games this season
- Has 24 rushes for 137 yards and six receptions for 42 yards and a score
- Averaging 5.7 yards per carry
- Set career highs at Vanderbilt with 10 carries for 69 yards, averaging 6.9 per carry
- Caught a season-high two passes and had a season-high four rushes at No. 1 Georgia
- Saw his first action of the season vs. Florida
- Scored his first collegiate touchdown in the win over LSU, a 25-yard TD reception in the fourth quarter

## 2020 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January, 2020
- Played in all 11 games
- Totaled 16 carries for 62 yards, also had one kick return for 26 yards and two tackles on special teams
- Had a career-high seven carries for 23 yards in the win over Tennessee
- Charted a tackle in his first collegiate game at Auburn

## High School

- Four-star prospect by ESPN
- Three-star prospect by 247Sports
- Rated the No. 8 all-purpose back by 247Sports
- In three seasons at Fairfield, rushed for 4,406 yards and 53 touchdowns while catching 48 passes for 680 yards and seven scores
- As a senior, rushed for 1,947 yards and 21 touchdowns
- Voted 2019 Offensive Player of the Year and First-Team Offense on the Division I All-Ohio team as voted on by the Ohio Prep Writers Association
- In 2018, he totaled 1,754 yards with 25 touchdowns in addition to catching 24 passes for 415 yards and five scores and returning a kick-off 92 yards for a touchdown
- Coached by Jason Krause
- Krause said, "Not only does he have that high-class level of speed that you've got to have to play in the Power Five, but he gets to that top speed







in two or three steps. He's a guy that can go the distance any time he touches it."

- Chose Kentucky over Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue, Michigan, Michigan State and Nebraska
- Also was a four-year letter winner as a sprinter and long jumper on the track team

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Brenda Cowan Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- First name pronounced "juh-TAWN"
- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Qulita Glover and Robert McClain
- Siblings are Juwan Glover, Qiersten McClain, and Jumahl McClain
- Major is undecided

**JuTahn Says**

- His nickname is "Tahn"
- He chose Kentucky because he loves it
- His hidden talent is doing back flips
- The thing he looks forward to the most this season is growing mentally, physically, and creating bonds
- One word to describe him on the field is "patient"

**MCCLAIN'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2020	11-0	16	62	3.9	0	17	0	0	0	0	0
2021	8-0	24	387	5.7	0	22	6	42	7.0	1	25
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19-0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>

**MCCLAIN'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	1	-4	0	0
vs. LSU	1	5	0	5	1	25	1	25
at Georgia	4	12	0	9	2	12	0	9
at Mississippi St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	16	0	16	1	2	0	2
at Vanderbilt	10	69	0	22	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	2	2	0	3	1	7	0	7
at Louisville	6	33	0	10	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>

**MCCLAIN'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	1	17	0	17	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	7	23	0	7	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	4	7	0	7	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	1	9	0	9	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	6	0	6	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**MCCLAIN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Rush attempts: 10, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
 Rush yards: 69, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (10 carries)  
 Long rush: 22, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
 Reception: 1, 4x, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 25, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Receiving touchdowns: 1, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Tackles: 1, twice, last vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
 Kick returns: 1, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
 Kick return yards: 26, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
 All-purpose yards: 30, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021



47

K.D.  
**MCDANIEL**

**OUTSIDE LINEBACKER**

6-2 • 225 • Sophomore-1L  
 Tifton, Ga. (Tift County)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has totaled 11 tackles and three quarterback hurries in nine games played this season
- Got all three quarterback hurries in the win over New Mexico State
- Charted a career-high three tackles at Vanderbilt

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in five games this season and totaled one tackle

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in four games (Missouri, Tennessee, UT Martin and Virginia Tech) and totaled three tackles and two quarterback hurries
- Charted a career-high two tackles and two QBH vs. UT Martin
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Missouri and charted a tackle

**High School**

- Consensus pick as one of the nation's top-40 outside linebackers and one of the top-61 players in Georgia by Rivals, 247sports and ESPN
- First-team all-region as a junior and senior
- Helped lead Tift County to the state playoff quarterfinals in Class AAAAAA (largest classification) as both a junior and senior
- Totaled 66 tackles, 7.0 TFL, two PBUs, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble as a senior
- Had 84 tackles, six sacks, three TFL and 12 QB hurries in 2017 a first-team all-region performer
- Coached by Ashley Anders
- Chose Kentucky over Ole Miss, Tennessee and South Carolina

**Personal**

- Born in Tifton, Georgia
- Son of Regina Burse
- Has one sister, Denikwa
- Major is community and leadership development

**K.D. Says**

- He chose UK because it felt like a second home

- After his football career, he would like to be a fire fighter
- His sports hero is Josh Allen because he models his game like him
- The best advice he's ever received is "be humble and be patient"
- Kevin Hart would play him in a movie about his life

**MCDANIEL'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FF/FR	QBH	PBU
2019	OLB	4-0	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	2	0
2020	OLB	5-0	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0
2021	OLB	9-0	11	0-0	0-0	0/0	3	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>OLB</b>	<b>18-0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>

**MCDANIEL'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH
vs. ULM	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

**MCDANIEL'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH
vs. Mississippi St.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**MCDANIEL'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
vs. Virginia Tech	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**MCDANIEL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 3, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
 Quarterback hurries: 3, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021





87

TRE'VON MORGAN

WIDE RECEIVER

6-6 • 218 • Sophomore-TR  
Massillon, Ohio  
(Michigan State/Massillon Washington)

2021 - Sophomore

- Transfer from Michigan State
- Has four seasons of eligibility remaining as each student-athlete was granted an extra year due to COVID-19
- Has not seen action this season battling hamstring injuries in both legs

2020 - r-Freshman (Michigan State)

- Saw action in three of Michigan State's seven games during a COVID-shortened 2020 season
- Totaled two catches for 46 yards and a score, his first collegiate catch coming on a 26-yard TD at Penn State

2019 - Freshman (Michigan State)

- Redshirted in 2019

High School

- Ranked as the No. 1 wide receiver in the state of Ohio by Rivals.com and ESPN.com coming out of Massillon Washington High School in 2018
- Listed among the top wide receivers in the nation by Rivals.com (No. 44) and 247Sports (No. 73) and ranked one of the best overall prospects in Ohio by Rivals.com (No. 9), 247Sports (No. 23) and ESPN.com (No. 27)
- As a senior under head coach Nate Moore, helped lead Massillon Washington post an impressive 14-1 overall record and average 44.7 points per game and 416.3 yards of total offense
- Led Tigers to a berth in the Ohio Division II state championship game vs. Akron Archbishop Hoban, in which he hauled in two receptions for 29 yards, including a 25-yard catch
- Had 37 catches for 691 yards and 12 touchdowns on the season and totaled 12 punt returns for 147 yards and one TD on special teams
- Defensively, charted nine tackles, including one for a 1-yard loss
- Named to the 2018 Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association All-State Third Team in Division II
- Named the North Offensive Player of the Game after snagging five catches for 93 yards and a touchdown in the annual Ohio North-South All-Star Classic on April 27, 2018
- Collected 36 receptions for 489 yards and two TDs as a junior in 2017
- Helped Massillon Washington to a 10-4 record in 2017 and a berth in the Ohio Division II state semifinals
- Caught a season-best five passes for 49 yards in the regional title game victory over New Albany, Washington's first regional championship since 2009

Personal

- Born in Massillon, Ohio
- Son of Eboni Richardson and Christian Morgan
- Siblings are Kennedy, Kingston, Knia, Shantel, and Brooklyn
- Cousin, Brandon Jackson, was an offensive lineman at Kentucky from 1994-95
- Major is pre-communication

Tre'Von Says

- His nickname is "T-Mo"
- His dream job is to be a sports analyst
- Three words to describe him are tough, happy, and outgoing
- The person he most admires is his mom because of her strength
- Meditating helps calm butterflies before a game

MORGAN'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2020*	WR	3-0	2	46	23.0	1	26
<b>Totals</b>		<b>3-0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>

\* at Michigan State

MORGAN'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Michigan	0	0	0	0
vs. Ohio State	0	0	0	0
at Penn State	2	46	1	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>

MORGAN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 2, at Penn State, Dec 12, 2020  
 Receiving yards: 46, at Penn State, Dec 12, 2020 (2 receptions)  
 Receiving touchdowns: 1, at Penn State, Dec 12, 2020  
 Long reception: 26, at Penn State, Dec. 12, 2020



54

JORDAN MORROW

LONG SNAPPER

6-1 • 226 • Junior-SQ  
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier HS)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Sophomore

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

High School

- Versatile player who saw action at linebacker, H-back, tight end and long snapper

- Lettered two years and was the team's starting starting long snapper as a junior and senior
- Helped the Tigers total a 38-14 overall record during his prep career, including a 12-3 mark as a junior
- Played for head coach Kevin Wallace
- Won a regional Emmy award by the Ohio Valley Broadcasting Association for broadcasting with a public service announcement on texting and driving
- Chose Kentucky over Louisville and Central Michigan

Community Cats

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of Jeff and Julie Morrow
- Dad, Jeff, played football at Kent State and is the current director of player personnel for the Carolina Panthers
- Major is communication

Jordan Says

- He chose Kentucky because it was home away from home and the best fit for him
- His dream job is to work in an NFL front office
- Three words to describe him are reliable, respectful, and loyal
- The best advice he's ever received is "you can't control how tall you are or how fast you are but you can control your attitude, effort, and preparation"
- The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Walter Camp, Luke Kuechly, and Emilia Clarke



21

QUANDRE MOSELY

DEFENSIVE BACK

6-2 • 192 • Senior-2L  
Brunswick, Ga.  
(Glynn Academy/Eastern Arizona CC)

2021 - Senior\*

- Elected to return as a "Super Senior," taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Has seen action in 35 career games with three starts
- This season, has played in all 12 games with one start vs. New Mexico State
- Has 21 tackles, 2.0 TFL, an interception for a touchdown and five pass breakups
- Charted a 38-yard interception return for a touchdown in the first quarter vs. New Mexico State, his first collegiate touchdown
- Got a season-best four tackles and a tackle for loss at No. 1 Georgia



- Charted a career-high three pass breakups in the win over LSU

**2020 - Senior**

- Played in 10 games in 2020 and had 19 tackles and two pass breakups
- Had a career-high six tackles at Alabama along with a career-best two PBUs

**2019 - Junior**

- Played in all 13 games with two starts vs. Miss. State and South Carolina
- Totaled 24 tackles with three PBUs, one sack, one tackle for loss and one interception
- Had a career-best five tackles in the wins over Arkansas and UT Martin
- Earned his first career start at Mississippi State ... Made his first UK interception in the second quarter, with a 39-yard return
- Mid-year enrollee

**Junior College**

- Signed with Eastern Arizona Community College out of high school in 2017
- As a sophomore in 2018, totaled 50 tackles, a league-high six interceptions, one for a touchdown, and a fumble recovery as a safety for the Monsters
- Earned 2017 All-WSFL All-League honors
- Helped Eastern Arizona win the Salt City Bowl game
- Chose Kentucky over Utah and Oregon

**High School**

- Former wide receiver in high school
- Helped Glynn Academy go 11-2 as a senior in 2017, including undefeated in region play
- Named GHSA Region 2-6A All-State Honorable Mention as a wide receiver
- Played for head coach Rocky Hidalgo

**Personal**

- First name pronounced "QUAN-dray"
- Born in Brunswick, Georgia
- Son of Karen and Andre Mosely
- Siblings are Shae Culpepper, Amiya Mosely, Andre Mosely and Antonio Mosely
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in community and leadership development

**Quandre Says**

- His nickname is "Q"
- He chose Kentucky because it was the best fit for him to become a man
- The thing he's looking forward to the most this season is playing and fulfilling his dreams
- After his football career, he would like to help kids have a better life
- If he had a hashtag to describe himself it would be #DontSleepOnQ
- His sports heroes are Michael Vick and Cam Newton

MOSELY'S CAREER STATISTICS										
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	FF/FR	QBH	PBU	INT	
2019	DB	13-2	24	1.0-1	1.0-1	0/0	0	3	1-39	
2020	DB	10-0	19	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	2	0	
2021	DB	12-1	22	2.0-5	0-0	0/0	0	5	1-38	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>DB</b>	<b>35-3</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>3.0-6</b>	<b>1.0-1</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2-77</b>	

MOSELY'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME										
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH		
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Missouri	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. UTC	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. LSU	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3	0	
at Georgia	4	1.0-4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Tennessee	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. NMST*	1	0-0	0-0	1-38	0	0	0	1	0	
at Louisville	2	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2.0-5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1-38</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	

MOSELY'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME										
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH		
at Auburn	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Ole Miss	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Mississippi St.	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Missouri			DNP							
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Alabama	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2	0	
at Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. South Carolina	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. NC State	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	

MOSELY'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME										
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	INT	FF	FR	PBU	QBH		
vs. Toledo	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Eastern Mich.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Miss. State*	4	0-0	0-0	1-39	0	0	0	0	0	
at South Carolina*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
vs. Arkansas	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. UT Martin	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Louisville	2	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
vs. Virginia Tech	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.0-1</b>	<b>1.0-1</b>	<b>1-39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	

MOSELY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS										
<b>Tackles:</b>	6, at Alabama, Nov 21, 2020									
<b>Interceptions:</b>	1, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021									
<b>Touchdown:</b>	1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021 (INT return)									
<b>Pass breakups:</b>	3, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021									
<b>Sacks:</b>	1.0, vs Louisville, Nov 30, 2019									
<b>Tackles for loss:</b>	1.0, 3x, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021									



38

WILLIAM NALTY

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-0 • 222 • Senior-1L  
Metairie, La. (Metairie Park Country Day)

**2021 - \* Senior**

- Elected to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Has seen action in all 12 games this season, 15 in his career
- Got a fumble recovery vs. New Mexico State and his first career tackle at Louisville

**2020 - Senior**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - Junior**

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. UT Martin
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2017 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- Three-year letter winner and starter at linebacker for head coach Joe Chango at Metairie Park Country Day
- Totaled 63 tackles, including 10 sacks as a senior, helping the Cajuns compile a 9-4 overall record
- Also had one forced fumble and a fumble recovery
- Earned All-District honors
- Member of the United States Saddle Seat Team who captured the Gold Medal in the 2014 US Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup
- Also a member of the junior team from 2012-13
- Competed in his first equestrian show at the age of five
- Chose UK over North Carolina

**Personal**

- Born in Metairie, Louisiana
- Son of Donald J. Nalty Jr. (dad) and Holly (mom); and James Nichols (stepdad)
- Dad, Donald, played football at Tulane from 1982-86
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degrees in marketing and management

**William Says**

- His nickname is "Nalty"
- He chose Kentucky because it's a great area with great people
- When he's not on the field he enjoys riding horses and meeting new people





- One word to describe him on the field is "determined"
- The best advice he's ever received is "don't count the days, make the days count"



22

CHRIS OATS

LINEBACKER

6-3 • 232 • Senior-2L  
Cincinnati, Ohio (Winton Woods)

2021 - Senior

- Missed the season due to a medical issue
- Please visit 22oatsstrong.org for more information

2020 - Junior

- Missed the season due to a medical issue

2019 - Sophomore

- Played in 12 of UK's 13 games, with two starting assignments (Miss. State and Missouri)
- Did not see action vs. UT Martin
- Totaled 46 tackles (fifth on the team)
- Also had 2.5 tackles for loss, one PBU and one forced fumble
- Had five tackles, including two for loss (a career high), in the win over Virginia Tech in the Belk Bowl
- Led the team with eight tackles (six solo) and also caused a crucial fumble in Kentucky's 29-7 win over Missouri
- Spearheaded a defense that held Missouri to season lows of seven points and 289 yards total offense ... On 4th-and-1 from the UK 49, Oats' tackle knocked loose a fumble that was recovered by the Wildcats ... Two of his eight tackles came on third down, one forcing a punt and the other preceding a UK stop on fourth down
- Also totaled a career-high eight tackles at South Carolina
- Had seven tackles and 0.5 TFL at Georgia
- Started vs. Mississippi State and had five tackles
- Had five tackles in the season opener vs. Toledo
- Sat out the first half of the Eastern Michigan game ... Had one tackle in the second half

2018 - Freshman

- Totaled 27 tackles, 3.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks, a forced fumble and two fumble recoveries in 13 career games
- Posted a career-high five tackles and had his second quarterback sack of the season at Louisville
- Earned his first collegiate start at Texas A&M, charting his first collegiate sack in the second quarter ... Ended the game with four tackles, including 1.5 for loss
- Also had four tackles in the win over South Carolina
- Made the game-clinching fumble recovery on the final play of the VRBO Citrus Bowl win over Penn State

- Recorded his first career tackle in the win over No. 14 Mississippi State

High School

- Four-star linebacker by all the major recruiting services
- Ranked the No. 22 outside linebacker in the 2018 class by 247sports
- Led Winton Woods to a 13-2 overall record and an appearance in the Division II state championship game as a senior
- Coached by Andre Parker
- Named the Division II Defensive Player of the Year and first-team All-Ohio by the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association
- Totaled 79 tackles during the regular season and in five playoff games, had 60 tackles, including three interceptions and two touchdowns
- Also a four-year letter winner in basketball as a center
- Chose Kentucky over Ole Miss, Oklahoma, Michigan State and Ohio State

Personal

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Kemberly Gamble
- Siblings are Aliyah, Ke'airra, Kelain, Willie and Mikele
- Major is community and leadership development

Chris Says

- His nickname is "Deuce Deuce"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a sports analyst
- Three words to describe him are kind-hearted, hardworking, and determined
- One thing people might not know is he likes to play the piano
- One sentence to describe Coach Stoops is "he wants the best out of his players"

OATS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PBU	FF/FR	QBH
2018	LB	13-1	27	3.0-11	2.0-9	0	1/2	0
2019	LB	12-2	46	2.5-4	0-0	1	1/0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25-3</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>5.5-15</b>	<b>2.0-9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2/2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

OATS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. Toledo	5	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. EMU	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at USC	8	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	7	0.5-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	8	0-0	0-0	0	1/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	1	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin			DNP					
vs. Louisville	4	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Va. Tech	5	2.0-4	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2.5-4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

OATS' 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. Central Mich.	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	4	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at TAMU*	4	1.5-3	1.0-2	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	3	0.5-1	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	4	0-0	0-0	0	1/1	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Louisville	5	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	3	0-0	0-0	0	0/1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3.0-11</b>	<b>2.0-9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

OATS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 8, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 27, 2019  
 Tackles for loss: 2.0, vs Virginia Tech, Dec 31, 2019 (4 yards)  
 Sacks: 1.0, twice, last at Louisville, Nov 24, 2018 (7 yards)  
 Forced fumble: 1, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 26, 2019  
 Fumble recovery: 1, twice, last vs Penn State, Jan 1, 2019  
 Pass breakups: 1, vs Tennessee, Nov 9, 2019



8

OCTAVIOUS OXENDINE

DEFENSIVE LINE

6-1 • 302 • Sophomore-1L  
Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)

2021 - Sophomore

- Played in six games with three starts before a knee injury vs. LSU sidelined him for the remainder of the season
- Named SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week after charting three tackles, including the first two quarterback sacks of his career (-16 yards), in Kentucky's 42-21 win over LSU
- Totaled 15 tackles, 3.5 tackle for loss, 2.0 sacks and quarterback hurry in six games
- Made three tackles, including the first two quarterback sacks of his career, good for 16 yards of loss, in the win over LSU
- Made his first collegiate start at South Carolina and had two tackles
- Also started against Florida and had three tackles and a tackle for loss in the win
- Charted a career-high five tackles and one tackle for loss in the season opener vs. ULM
- Got his first quarterback hurry vs. UTC

2020 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2020
- Redshirt season
- Played in three games (Mississippi State, Tennessee and Alabama)





**High School**

- Four-star prospect by Rivals
- Considered one of the top recruits from Kentucky and a top-25 defensive tackle in the country for the class of 2020
- Named to the Kentucky All-State first team
- Named to the 2019 Class of the Commonwealth by the Lexington Herald-Leader
- Produced 62 tackles, including 17 tackles for loss
- Also recovered two fumbles, one for a 25-yard touchdown during his senior season
- Important piece of North Hardin's defense, who finished the season 13-1 and won the region and district championship before advancing to the KHSAA Class 6-A state semifinals
- Played for head coach Brent Thompson
- High school teammates with fellow Wildcats Isaiah Beasley and Darren Green
- Picked the Wildcats over Tennessee and Texas

**Community Cats**

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)
- Volunteered at LexCity Church (2020)
- Volunteered to pack food for God's Pantry (2020)
- Volunteered at William Wells Brown Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Fort Polk, Louisiana
- Son of Mary and Kirk Oxendine
- Dad, Kirk, is a retired U.S. Army Sergeant First Class
- Major is pre-social work

**Octavious Says**

- His nickname is "Ox" or "Double O"
- He chose Kentucky because it's a great school and he loves the people
- His hidden talent is drawing
- His dream job is to be a NFL business owner
- Hobbies are drawing and fishing

**OXENDINE'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PBU	FF/FR	QBH
2020	DE	3-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0
2021	DE	6-3	15	3.5-21	2.0-16	0	0/0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>9-3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3.5-21</b>	<b>2.0-16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>

**OXENDINE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	5	1.0-5	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	1
at USC*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	3	.5-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	3	2.0-16	2.0-16	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3.5-21</b>	<b>2.0-16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**OXENDINE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Alabama	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**OXENDINE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 5, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
 Tackles for loss: 1.0, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (5 yards)  
 Quarterback hurries: 1, vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021



**58**

LUCAS  
**PADGETT**

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-4 • 320 • Freshman-HS  
Birmingham, Ala. (La Cueva - N.M.)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team

**High School**

- Moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico for his senior season but only played in three games due to a COVID-shortened 2020
- Prior to moving to New Mexico, was a two-year starter at center for head coach Ben Bergusen at Homewood High School in Birmingham, Alabama
- Rated one of the top 10 centers in Alabama for the spring of 2020 by Playmakers Elite Sports
- Named second-team 6A All-State in 2019 by the Alabama Sports Writers Association
- Earned a spot on the 2019 All-South Metro Team
- Named to the Over The Mountain Journal's All-OTM High School Football Team in 2019
- Participated in the 2021 Blue-Grey All-American Bowl
- An all-around athlete who also lettered in basketball (center) and track & field (shot put)
- National Honor Society

**Personal**

- Born in Salt Lake City, Utah
- Son of Scott and Cynthia Padgett
- Siblings are Logan and Layla
- Comes from a family of athletes as father, Scott, played basketball at Kentucky from 1995-99, helping the Wildcats advance to two Final Fours, including a national title in 1998 ... Went on to play eight years in the pros ... Mom, Cynthia, was a four-year letter winner on UK's volleyball team from 1994-97 ... Older brother, Logan, currently plays basketball at Shelton State Community College
- Major is undecided

**Lucas Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it has great academic programs and he likes the culture around the entire athletic department
- After football, his dream job is to be a coach
- Three words to describe him are smart, funny, and calm
- The best advice he's ever received is "don't change who you are to impress others"
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's a huge superhero fan

**4**

JOSHUA  
**PASCHAL**

DEFENSIVE LINE



6-3 • 275 • Senior-3L  
Prince George's County, Md.  
(Our Lady of Good Counsel)

**2021 - Senior (Team Captain)**

- Fourth-team All-American (Phil Steele)
- First-team All-SEC (AP, Phil Steele)
- Second-Team All-SEC (PFF)
- Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year finalist (winner announced Feb. 17)
- "The most underappreciated defensive player in the SEC" as described by SEC Network analyst Gene Chizik
- Only three-time full-season captain in school history
- Has played in 52 career games with 37 starts
- Has totaled 139 career tackles, 37.0 tackles for loss, 13.5 sacks, 12 quarterback hurries, three forced fumbles and three blocked kicks
- His 37.0 tackles for loss in his career, ranks tied for third in UK history
- After 12 games this season, has 53 tackles, a team-high 15.5 tackles for loss, 5.5 sacks, a team-high eight quarterback hurries, one forced fumble and a blocked kick
- Ranks second in the SEC and 16th nationally in tackles for loss (15.5)
- Has a TFL in 10 of 12 games, and eight in a row
- Has six or more tackles in six games
- Had seven tackles, including a career-high two sacks (-12 yards), in UK's win at Vanderbilt
- Named SEC Co-Special Teams Player of the Week and Reese's Senior Bowl Defensive Player of the Week after his defensive performance in the win over No. 10/9 Florida ... Totaled seven tackles, including 2.5 for loss (-6 yards), plus the game-changing blocked field goal ... His TFL for a four-yard loss in the second quarter forced a punt ... His blocked field goal in the third quarter was returned for a touchdown, giving UK a lead that they did not relinquish
- Preseason Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches, Media and Athlon)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Preseason Blg Board
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team

**2020 - Junior (Team Captain)**

- All-SEC Honorable Mention (PFF)
- Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Semifinalist for Witten Collegiate Man of Year Award
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team
- Played in all 11 games with 10 starting assignments
- Totaled 32 tackles, 6.5 TFL, 1.0 sacks, one QBH and one INT
- Has 21.5 career TFL





- Made his first career interception in the second quarter with Mississippi State threatening to score and returned it 76 yards to the two-yard line, setting up Chris Rodriguez' two-yard TD
- Marked the longest interception return by a Kentucky player since Josh Forrest on Nov. 28, 2015 against UofL, which was 81 ... Kentucky's longest interception return at home against an SEC opponent in Kroger Field history (since 1973)
- Career-high seven tackles and at TFL vs. Ole Miss
- Elected as one of 10 team captains, his second straight season to be named a captain by his peers

2019 - r-Sophomore (Team Captain)

- Named to the inaugural 2019 Uplifting-Athletes Rare Disease Champion Team
- One of six who were named honorable mention for CoSIDA's 2019 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award
- FWAA-Orange Bowl Courage Award nominee
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)
- Named N4A's Student-Athlete of the Month for February
- Started in all 13 games
- Totaled 34 tackles (eighth on the team), including 9.5 tackles for loss (tied for second on the team with Calvin Taylor Jr.), 3.5 sacks (third on the team), one PBU, two forced fumbles, one PBU and one blocked kick (vs. UT)
- Totaled a career-high two tackles for loss in the win over Louisville and Eastern Michigan

2018 - Sophomore

- Redshirt season
- Dean's List (Spring 2019)
- Named to the SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Played in three games with one starting assignment vs. Middle Tennessee
- In July of 2018, was diagnosed with malignant melanoma ... underwent three surgeries, followed by ongoing monthly immunotherapy treatments
- Recovered sufficiently to play against Middle Tennessee ... started the game and saw occasional action throughout
- In the second quarter, made a tackle on a third down play that forced a punt ... When his name was called as the tackler, the Kroger Field crowd gave him a rousing ovation while his teammates swarmed him with congratulations
- Named SEC co-Defensive POW (11/19)
- Had two tackles and a TFL at Louisville

2017 - Freshman

- Played in all 13 games with one start
- Earned his first career start vs. Northwestern in the Music City Bowl
- Totaled 17 tackles, 4.5 TFL, 3.5 sacks, 3 QBH and 1 blocked kick
- Named SEC Special Teams Player of the week for his game-changing blocked punt vs. EMU
- First UK player to block a punt since Josh Forrest vs. Alabama State in 2013
- With UK clinging to a 17-14 lead in the fourth quarter, Paschal deftly broke through the line and punter shield, also deducing the correct place and time to block a running rugby punt
- The blocked punt went for an 18-yard loss back to the EMU 12-yard line, setting up Benny Snell's 12-yard TD run on the next play

- Athlon Sports Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Community Cats

- Frequent speaker at local churches, sharing his faith and how it helped him overcome cancer (2018-2021)
- Volunteered at Winburn Middle School (2020)
- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

Personal

- Born in Washington, D.C.
- Son of Clayton and LaTauna Paschal
- Has one sister, Kristian, and an older brother, Travaughn, who was a linebacker for the Wildcats from 2011-14
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in family science and a minor in health promotion ... Currently working on a second degree in communication
- One of three representatives for UK football on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and is UK's rep on the SEC's Football Leadership Council
- Completed a year-long immunotherapy treatment plan for melanoma found on the bottom of his right foot on Aug. 7, 2018

Josh Says

- Nickname is "J.P."
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach or counselor
- The last time he was starstruck was when he saw Jennifer Lopez in person at the Today Show
- His passion in life is serving others
- Three word to describe him are vibe, quiet and thoughtful

PASCHAL'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	Blks	Int	FF/FR	QBH
2017	LB	13-1	17	4.5-26	3.5-23	0	1	0	0/0	3
2018	LB	3-1	3	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0/0	0
2019	LB	13-13	34	9.5-36	3.5-18	1	1	0	2/0	0
2020	DE	11-10	32	6.5-25	1.0-6	0	0	1-76	0/0	1
2021	DE	12-12	53	15.5-64	5.5-39	0	1	0	1/0	8
<b>Totals</b>		<b>52-37</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>37.0-153</b>	<b>13.5-86</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1-76</b>	<b>3/0</b>	<b>12</b>

PASCHAL'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int	QBH
vs. ULM*	8	2.5-17	1.5-13	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	2
vs. UTC*	2	1.5-2	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	3
at USC*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. Florida*	7	2.5-6	0-0	0	0/0	1	0	0
vs. LSU*	3	1.0-6	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	6	1.0-2	0-0	0	1/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	6	2.0-2	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	1	0.5-2	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	7	2.0-12	2.0-12	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	6	1.5-7	1.0-5	0	0/0	0	0	1
at Louisville*	2	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	0/0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>15.5-64</b>	<b>5.5-39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>

PASCHAL'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int	QBH
at Auburn*	4	1.5-10	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	7	0.5-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	1-76	0
at Tennessee*	1	0.5-1	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Missouri*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	4	1.0-1	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt*	3	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Florida*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. USC*	2	2.0-7	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. NC State*	4	0.5-4	0.5-4	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6.5-25</b>	<b>1.0-6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1-76</b>	<b>1</b>

PASCHAL'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int	QBH
vs. Toledo*	4	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	1/0	0	0	0
vs. EMU*	5	2.0-7	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	1	0-0	0-0	1	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	4	1.0-4	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at USC*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas*	2	1.0-3	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	3	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	1	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin*	2	1.5-7	1.5-7	0	1/0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	3	2.0-4	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9.5-36</b>	<b>3.5-18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

PASCHAL'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int	QBH
vs. MTSU*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Louisville	2	1.0-2	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.0-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

PASCHAL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int	QBH
at Southern Miss	1	1.0-3	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. ECU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0/0	1	0	1
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	3	0.5-3	0.5-3	0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern*	3	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	0/0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4.5-26</b>	<b>3.5-23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>



### PASCHAL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 8, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021  
**Sacks:** 2.0, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
**Tackles for loss:** 2.5, twice, last vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021 (6 yards)  
**Quarterback hurry:** 3, vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021  
**Blocks:** 3, last vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021 (field goal)  
**PBU's:** 1, vs Florida, Sept 14, 2019  
**Forced fumble:** 1, 3x, last at Georgia, Oct 16, 2021  
**Interceptions:** 1, vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020



# 55

CLAY  
PERRY

LONG SNAPPER

6-0 • 187 • Sophomore-Sq  
Upton, Ky. (Central Hardin)

#### 2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in all 12 games this season

#### 2020 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team

#### High School

- Three-year starter at Central Hardin High School for head coach Tom Mattingly as a long snapper and outside linebacker
- Finished with 45 tackles, including 6.0 tackles for loss, in helping Central Hardin go 9-3 and finish in the second round of the 2019 Class 6A playoffs
- Earned first-team All-District as a senior
- Excellent in the classroom as an honor roll student all four years of high school
- Also on the track and field team
- Earned Ray Guy Prokicker.com Top Prospect Award as a long snapper

#### Personal

- Born in Elizabethtown, Kentucky
- Son of Ginger and Matthew Perry
- Comes from a family of athletes as father, Matthew, played football at Western Kentucky, uncle, Mark Perry, played football at Northwestern, uncle, Todd Perry, is a former Wildcat who played from 1988-92 and went on to an 11-year career in the NFL with the Chicago Bears (eight years) and the Miami Dolphins (three years) as a guard
- Major is pre-civil engineering

#### Clay Says

- He chose Kentucky because it's close to home, it has an amazing campus and college life, and his family members attended UK
- After football, his dream job is to be a surveyor
- One thing most people don't know about him is that his first name is Remington
- Three words to describe him are hard-working, dedicated, and witty
- Besides playing football he also loves to fish



# 37

ANDRU  
PHILLIPS

DEFENSIVE BACK

6-0 • 182 • Freshman-RS  
Mauldin, S.C. (Mauldin)

#### 2021 - r-Freshman

- Has seen action in eight games and has two tackles (vs. Georgia and New Mexico State)

#### 2020 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee
- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Mississippi State and also played vs. Vanderbilt, Florida and South Carolina
- Got his first career tackle vs. the Gamecocks

#### High School

- Three-star recruit who has been rated the No. 8 overall player in South Carolina by 247Sports and Rivals
- As a senior, had 38 total tackles, eight pass breakups, two interceptions and a fumble recovery under head coach Harris Cabaniss
- Earned 5A first-team All-State by the South Carolina Football Coaches Association
- Selected to the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas
- Also a three-year letter winner in track and field as a triple jumper, ranking No. 1 nationally in 2020
- Two-time All-State and three-time All-Region selection for the triple jump
- Won the 2019 spring state championship title with a jump of 49'4"
- Picked Kentucky over Tennessee, Virginia Tech, Louisville, N.C. State and Georgia

#### Community Cats

- Volunteered at Catholic Action Center (2020)
- Volunteered to pack food at God's Pantry (2020)
- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

#### Personal

- Born in Birmingham, Alabama
- Son of Carlos and LaTonya Phillips
- Siblings are C.J., Ben and Shelby
- Comes from a family of athletes as father, Carlos, played linebacker at Kentucky under Jerry Claiborne; mom, LaTonya, was a standout athlete at Danville High School; brother, C.J., played football at Morehead State in 2015
- Originally from Louisville, Kentucky
- Major is pre-integrated strategic communication

#### Andru Says

- His nickname is "Dru"
- He chose Kentucky because it's felt like home
- One word to describe him on the field is "explosive"

- When he played football as a kid, he pretended to be Tyrann Mathieu
- The thing he looks forward to the most this season is making plays



# 12

CHARLEY "CHANCE"  
POORE

KICKER

6-2 • 219 • Junior-2L  
Anderson, S.C. (Westside High School)

#### 2021 - Junior

- Handled kickoffs for the Wildcats
- Has a streak of three straight made FGs

#### 2020 - Sophomore

- Named Special Teams Player of the Week after his performance vs. Vanderbilt ... Enjoyed a perfect day, making a 28-yard field goal on the final play of the first half, along with all five extra points
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

#### 2019 - r-Freshman

- Hit 5-of-9 field goals with a career long of 46 vs. Toledo
- Hit 24-of-26 extra points
- Totalled 39 points
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

#### 2018 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games, his first collegiate game was at Missouri
- Hit 2-of-4 field goal attempts

#### High School

- Rated as the No. 1 punter/kicker in the 2018 class by Prokicker.com
- Named South Carolina 5A Specialist of the Year after hitting 8 of 11 field goals and 26 of 27 PATs as a senior
- Prokicker.com's Rick Sang said "A very talented athlete who dominates his position and has shown great work ethic. He is already capable of launching NFL caliber kickoffs and punts"
- As a junior, converted 16 of 20 field goals with a long of 48, made all 44 extra-point attempts and had 63 percent of his kickoffs go for touchbacks
- Earned the top prospect award for 2017 at the Ray Guy Prokicker.com Kicking Camp
- Selected to play in the prestigious Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas game, pitting the top seniors from North and South Carolina against one another
- Member of two regional title teams coached by Scott Earley
- Also a lettered in soccer and tennis
- Picked Kentucky early and never really considered other offers



Community Cats

- Volunteer speaker at Cardinal Valley Rehabilitation Hospital (2020)

Personal

- Born in Anderson, South Carolina
- Son of Lewis and Jodi Poore
- Siblings are Kara Poore and Kinsley Bailey
- Major is consumer economics and family financial counseling

Chance Says

- Nickname is "Chance"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a mortgage broker
- The person who has most influenced him in life is his dad because he pushed him to be the man he is today
- The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are LeBron James, Alex Caruso and Adam Sandler
- His sports hero is Chandler Catanzaro

POORE'S CAREER STATISTICS

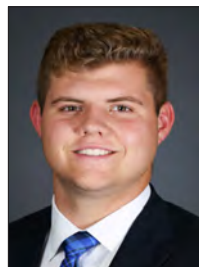
Year	FG	Points	Long FG
2018	2-4	9	34
2019	5-9	39	46
2020	1-1	8	28
Totals	8-14	56	46

POORE'S FIELD GOALS BY DISTANCE

Year	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total	Long
2018	0-0	0-0	2-3	0-0	0-1	2-4	34
2019	0-0	1-1	1-2	4-6	0-0	6-10	46
Totals	0-0	1-1	3-5	4-6	0-1	8-14	46

POORE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Points scored: 8, 3x, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2020  
 Points by kicking: 8, 3x, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2020  
 Field goals made: 1, 8x, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2020  
 Field goal attempts: 2, 3x, last at Mississippi State, Sept 21, 2019  
 Longest field goal: 46, vs Toledo, Aug 31, 2019  
 Consecutive FGs made: 3, Nov. 9 vs. Tennessee - Present



76

JAKE POPE

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-7 • 301 • Sophomore-Sq  
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (St. Thomas Aquinas)

2021 (Sophomore)

- Did not play during the regular season with injury

2020 (r-Freshman)

- Practiced with the team

2019 (Freshman)

- Redshirt season

- Practiced with the team

High School

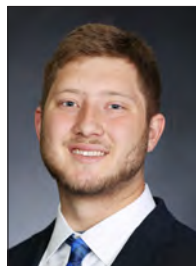
- A three-star tackle by the major recruiting services
- Listed as one of Florida's top 100 players
- Helped lead perennial powerhouse St. Thomas Aquinas to a 13-2 overall record, a district championship and the 7A state championship runner-up title in 2018
- Selected to play in the Blue-Grey All American Bowl on Jan. 5, 2019 in Tampa, Florida
- Didn't start playing football until his freshman year of high school
- Coached by Roger Harriott
- Chose Kentucky over Florida State, Louisville, Pittsburgh, Purdue and Virginia

Personal

- Born in Plantation, Florida
- Son of John and Michelle Pope
- Has one sister, Madelyne
- Major is pre-finance

Jake Says

- His nickname is "Jake" as his real name is John, like his dad
- He chose Kentucky because he truly loves it
- One thing people might not know about him is he loves the ocean and fishing
- One word to describe him on the field is "determined"
- His hidden talent is spearfishing



83

JUSTIN RIGG

TIGHT END

6-6 • 261 • Senior-3L  
Springboro, Ohio (Springboro)

2021 - Senior \*

- Elected to return for a sixth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Has played in a school-record 62 career games with 34 starts, including 15 in a row
- Career totals include 48 catches for 536 yards and five scores, averaging 11.2 yards per catch
- In 12 starts this season, has 18 receptions (third on the team) for 178 yards (9.9) and four scores
- Celebrated Senior Day with two catches for 34 yards and a career-high two TDs in the win over New Mexico State ... First time a UK tight end had multiple TDs in a game since C.J. Conrad caught three touchdowns vs. New Mexico State in 2016
- Caught a season-high four passes for 24 yards, including a one-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter at No. 1 Georgia

2020 - Senior

- Played in nine games with eight starts

- Fifth on the team in receptions with 12 for 145 yards and a score ... Averaged 12.1 yards per catch
- Caught three passes for a career-high 79 yards in the win over South Carolina on Senior Day
- Caught a 15-yard TD pass on UK's first offensive possession vs. Vanderbilt, his first career TD reception ... It was his second career TD after a fumble recovery for a score in 2019

2019 - Junior

- Started in 12 of 13 games played
- Had at least one catch in six games, totaling 11 catches for 128 yards
- Integral blocker for UK's explosive running game which led the SEC and ranked fourth nationally with 278.8 rushing yards per game
- Had a career-high five receptions for 50 yards vs. UF
- Scored his first collegiate touchdown on a fumble recovery in the end zone vs. Toledo

2018 - Sophomore

- Played in all 13 games with two starts vs. MTSU and Louisville
- Had four catches for 45 yards
- Earned his first career start vs. MTSU

2017 - r-Freshman

- Played in all 13 games
- Caught three passes for 40 yards, including a career-high two catches for 34 yards vs. Northwestern in the Music City Bowl

2016 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Played in two games before suffering a rib injury during the third week of the season
- Returned to practice for the bowl game but did not see action
- SEC First-year Academic Honor Roll (2016-17)

High School

- A 3-star tight end rated the No. 47 tight end and No. 43 player in Ohio by 247sports
- Voted team captain as a senior and hauled in 35 catches for 394 yards and a touchdown
- Helped Springboro finish 11-3 and advance to the second round of the Division I, Region 2 playoffs
- Named Greater Western Ohio All-Conference
- Earned an invitation to the 2016 Ohio High Football Coaches Assoc. North-South All-Star Classic
- Coached by Ryan Wilhite
- Also a letter winner and team captain on the basketball team, averaging 9.4 points and 8.0 rebounds per game as a senior
- Excelled in the classroom as he was a three-time Basketball Scholar Athlete and earned the United States Marine Corps' Distinguished Athlete Award
- Picked UK over Bowling Green, Cincinnati, West Virginia, Eastern Michigan, Miami (Ohio), Ohio, Pittsburgh, Toledo and Wake Forest

Personal

- Born in Dayton, Ohio
- Son of Jay and Robin Rigg
- Has two brothers, Jake and Jordan
- Grandfather, Joe Miko, played football at Ohio, while brother, Jordan, played at Miami (Ohio) and brother, Jake, played at Walsh University
- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in agricultural economics ... Graduated with a second degree in communication on December 17, 2021







**Justin Says**

- His nickname is "Rigg"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like family
- When he played football as a kid he pretended to be Shaun Alexander
- One word to describe him on the field is "focused"
- His hidden talent is card tricks

**RIGG'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2016	TE	2-0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	TE	13-0	3	40	13.3	0	18
2018	TE	13-2	4	45	11.2	0	29
2019	TE	13-12	11	128	11.6	1*	31
2020	TE	9-8	12	145	12.1	1	36
2021	TE	12-12	18	178	9.9	4	34
<b>Totals</b>		<b>62-34</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>

\* TD in 2019 was a fumble recovery in the end zone

**RIGG'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM*	1	5	0	5
vs. Missouri*	1	28	0	28
vs. UTC*	3	18	0	8
at USC*	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	1	34	0	34
at Georgia*	4	24	1	12
at Miss. State*	1	4	0	4
vs. Tennessee*	3	20	1	14
at Vanderbilt*	1	7	0	7
vs. NMST*	2	24	2	32
at Louisville	1	4	0	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>34</b>

**RIGG'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn*	1	3	0	3
vs. Ole Miss*	2	20	0	14
vs. Miss. State*	1	12	0	12
at Tennessee*	1	8	0	8
at Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	2	7	0	5
vs. Vanderbilt*	1	15	1	15
at Alabama		DNP		
at Florida		DNP		
vs. South Carolina*	3	72	0	36
vs. NC State*	1	8	0	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>

**RIGG'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo*	0	0	1	0
vs. Eastern Mich.	1	9	0	9
vs. Florida*	5	50	0	23
at Miss. State*	0	0	0	0
at USC*	1	5	0	0
vs. Arkansas*	2	43	0	31

at Georgia*	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	1	5	0	5
at Vanderbilt*	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin*	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech*	1	16	0	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>

**RIGG'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Central Michigan	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	1	5	0	5
vs. Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0	0	0
at TAMU	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	1	7	0	7
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. MTSU*	1	29	0	29
at Louisville*	1	4	0	4
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>

**RIGG'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	0	0	0	0
vs. ECU	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern	2	34	0	18
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>

**RIGG'S 2016 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
Southern Miss	0	0	0	0
New Mexico State	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**RIGG'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Receptions: 5, vs Florida, Sept 14, 2019  
 Receiving yards: 72, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020 (3 receptions)  
 Long reception: 36, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
 Touchdowns: 2, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021



9

DAVONTE  
**ROBINSON**

**SAFETY**

6-2 • 210 • Senior-3L  
 Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)

**2021 - Senior \***

- Elected to return for a sixth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Has played in 49 career games with 19 starting assignments
- Has played in all 12 games with 11 starting assignments this season
- Career totals include 131 tackles, 9.0 tackles for loss, 1.0 sacks, five pass breakups, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble
- Has 43 tackles, 4.0 tackles for loss, 1.0 sacks, a pass breakup and a forced fumble
- Got his first career sack and forced fumble in the win at Vanderbilt
- Had a season-high tying six tackles in the win over Florida along with a tackle for loss

**2020 - Senior**

- Played in all 11 games with five starts
- Totaled 27 tackles and 2.0 TFL
- Had a season-high six tackles in the win over South Carolina

**2019 - Junior**

- Missed the season with a quadriceps injury

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Saw action in all 13 games with three starts at safety
- Totaled 42 tackles, 3.0 TFL, four PBUs and two fumble recoveries
- Recorded a career-best nine tackles vs. Georgia, including a two-yard tackle for loss
- Had three tackles and a PBU in the win over No. 14 Mississippi State
- Recovered a Feleipe Franks fumble after he was sacked by Josh Allen and returned it 30 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the game at Florida sealing the win

**2017 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in all 13 games
- Totaled 19 tackles, including a career-high five tackles in the win over Vanderbilt

**2016 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season

**High School**

- On top of being one of the best cornerbacks in the state as a senior, he also was a running back, using his speed to score seven touchdowns (four rushing, two receiving and one 91-yard kickoff return)





- Led the team in tackles three straight seasons, including a team-high 100 tackles and one interception in 2015
- Named Defensive Player of the Year and first-team all-city by the *Lexington Herald-Leader* as a senior
- A 2015 *Herald-Leader* "Class of Commonwealth" honoree
- Helped the Blue Devils advance to the second round of the playoffs with a 7-5 record in 2015
- Four-year letter winner in track, helping the Blue Devils win the 2015 and 2016 state title
- Class 3A state track champion in the 100 meters (10.85) as a sophomore
- Finished second in the state in 2015 in the 4x400 relay
- Winner of the 400-meter dash and second in the 100 meters at the 2015 Fayette County Public Schools Track and Field Championships
- Picked UK over Georgia, Louisville, Notre Dame and Ohio State

### Personal

- Born in Lexington, Kentucky
- Son of Tara Lancaster and Derek Robinson
- Siblings are Brandon, Derek Jr., Delmar, Dequan, Destiny, Deteria and Dorian
- Grandfather, Tony Lancaster, played football at Murray State
- Graduated in August of 2021 with a degree in health promotion

### Davonte Says

- His nickname is "D-Rob."
- He chose Kentucky because it's in his hometown and he bleeds blue
- One word to describe him on the field is "fearless"
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach and real estate investor
- The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Will Smith, Ed Reed, and Kevin Hart

### D. ROBINSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PD	FF	FR	QBH
2017	13-0	19	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
2018	13-3	42	3.0-5	0-0	4	0	2	0
2020	11-5	27	2.0-3	0-0	0	0	0	0
2021	12-11	43	4.0-8	1.0-3	1	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>49-19</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>9.0-13</b>	<b>1.0-3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

### D. ROBINSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks	PBU	FR	FF	QBH
vs. ULM*	6	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	5	0-5	0-0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	6	.5-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	5	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	1.0-3	1.0-3	0	0	1	0
vs. NMST*	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
at Louisville*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>4.0-8</b>	<b>1.0-3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

### D. ROBINSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks	PBU	FR	FF	QBH
at Auburn	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State*	2	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2.0-3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### D. ROBINSON'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks	PBU	FR	FF	QBH
vs. Central Mich.	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	1-30	0	0
vs. Murray State	1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at TAMU	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	7	1.0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0
at Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	9	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee*	4	1.0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	5	0-0	0-0	0	1-0	0	0
at Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3.0-5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2-30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### D. ROBINSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks	PBU	FR	FF	QBH
at Southern Miss	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. ECU	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Northwestern	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### D. ROBINSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 9, vs Georgia, Nov 3, 2018 (5-4)  
 Tackles for loss: 1.0, 8x, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (3)  
 Sacks: 1.0, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (3)  
 Fumble forced: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
 Fumble recovery: 1, twice, last vs MTSU, Nov 17, 2018 (0 yds)  
 Touchdowns: 1, at Florida, Sept 8, 2018 (FR)  
 Pass breakups: 1, 5x times, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021



# 1

## WAN'DALE ROBINSON

### WIDE RECEIVER

5-10 • 183 • Junior-Tr  
 Frankfort, Ky. (Nebraska/Western Hills)

### 2021 - Junior

- Paul Hornung Award Watch List (nation's most versatile player)
- Biletnikoff Award Watch List (nation's top receiver)
- Second-Team All-American (PFF)
- First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele, PFF)
- Second-Team All-SEC (AP, Coaches)
- Returned to his home state after playing two seasons at Nebraska
- Career totals include 141 carries for 691 rushing yards, 185 receptions for 2,078 receiving yards and 3,020 all-purpose yards
- Ranks sixth nationally and second in the SEC in receptions per game (7.8)
- Ranks 18th nationally and second in the SEC in total receiving yards (1,164)
- Ranks 17th nationally and second in the SEC in receiving yards per game (97.0)
- Ranks ninth in the SEC in receiving TDs (7)
- Ranks seventh in the SEC in all-purpose yards per game (107.92)
- His 94 catches is a school record ... Broke James Whalen's single-season record who had 90 catches in 1999
- Just the sixth player in UK history to reach the millennium mark in one season ... Now has 1,164 receiving yards, second in UK single-season history ... Needs 147 more yards to tie Craig Yeast's single-season record (1,311 receiving yards in 1998)
- One of only two players in school history (Randall Cobb) to have multiple games of at least 12 receptions
- In 12 games at UK, leads the team in receptions (94), receiving yards (1,164) and receiving TDs (7)
- Has five 100-yard games this season which ties with James Whalen (1999) for second place on the UK single-season list
- Has caught at least four passes in 12 straight games for the Wildcats
- Caught eight passes for a career-best 181 yards in the win over New Mexico State ... 181 yards is the fourth-highest single-game total in school history and most since Craig Yeast's school-record 269 vs. Vanderbilt in 1998 ... Caught a career-long 79-yard pass in the second quarter



- Had nine-plus catches in three straight games (Georgia, Miss. State, Tennessee), the first UK player to do that since since Anthony White in 1998
- Set career highs vs. Tennessee with 13 receptions for 166 yards, including a touchdown ... 13 catches ties for second-most in a game in UK history, most since Lynn Bowden Jr. at Missouri in 2018
- Caught a team-high 12 passes for 39 yards at No. 1 Georgia, including a one-yard touchdown catch ... His 12 receptions are the most for a UK player vs. a No. 1-ranked opponent in school history
- Led the receivers with eight catches for 60 yards and one touchdown in the win over LSU
- Led the receivers with four catches for 65 yards and a touchdown in the win over No. 10/9 Florida ... In the first quarter, caught a wide receiver screen, and with the help of a springing block by Kavosiey Smoke, weaved his way through traffic for a 41-yard touchdown
- Led the receivers with seven catches for 65 yards in the road win over South Carolina
- Caught eight passes for 111 yards vs. UTC, becoming the first Wildcat to have three-straight 100-yard receiving games since Derek Abney in 2001 ... Also the first Wildcat to have three-straight 100-yard receiving games to begin a season
- Caught five passes for 101 yards vs. Missouri ... Also had a career-long 64-yard run on the first possession, setting up a touchdown pass to Chris Rodriguez ... Finished with three carries for 73 rushing yards ... Became the first Wildcat to have back-to-back 100-yard receiving games since Jeff Badet in 2016 ... Also first Wildcat to have 100-yard receiving games in the first two games of a season since Craig Yeast in 1998
- First Cat with a 100-yard receiving game in an SEC opener since Garrett Johnson at Florida in 2014
- Had five receptions for a career-high 125 yards and tied his career high for touchdowns with two (also at Illinois in 2019) in the season opener vs. ULM ... Marked the most receiving yards for any Wildcat in his first game at UK
- After this season, will have two seasons of eligibility remaining
- Chose Kentucky over Alabama, Ohio State, and Purdue
- Preseason Third-Team Offense All-SEC (Athlon, Phil Steele)

**2020 - Sophomore (Nebraska)**

- Started in all eight games played
- Led the Huskers with 51 catches and 461 receiving yards despite playing only eight games and splitting duties at running back
- Led Nebraska with 696 all-purpose yards
- Fourth on the team with 240 rushing yards
- Named to the Paul Hornung Award Watch List for the nation's most versatile athlete
- Earned honorable-mention All-Big Ten honors from the conference coaches
- Ranked fourth in the Big Ten and 23rd nationally with 6.4 receptions per game, the fourth-highest average in the country for an underclassman

**2019 - Freshman (Nebraska)**

- Played in 10 games with four starting assignments
- Key member of the Husker offense, playing in 10 games and earning three starting assignments at receiver and one at running back

- Named a second-team freshman All-American, an honorable-mention All-Big Ten selection, and was a two-time Big Ten Freshman of the Week
- One of four national finalists for the Paul Hornung Award, given to the nation's most versatile player
- Caught 40 passes for 443 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 340 yards and three scores ... 40 catches and 443 receiving yards were the most by any true freshman in Nebraska history
- Ranked second on the team in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns, while ranking third in carries, rushing yards and rushing touchdowns
- Totaled 1,029 all-purpose yards as a true freshman, which ranked second on the team and was the third-highest total ever by a Husker true freshman
- Ranked fourth nationally among all FBS freshmen in all-purpose yards per game in 2019 with the second-highest total among Power Five freshmen
- One of only two FBS players to total 400 receiving yards, 300 rushing yards and 200 kickoff return yards in 2019

**High School**

- State's consensus top player as a senior at Western Hills High School in Frankfort, Kentucky
- Totaled career 8,582 yards from scrimmage with 118 offensive touchdowns
- Gained 6,795 yards, averaging more than 11 yards per carry while scoring 97 rushing touchdowns
- Caught 102 passes in his career for 1,787 yards and 21 touchdowns
- Totaled 781 career points, which ranks No. 2 all-time in Kentucky history
- Won the Paul Hornung Award, as the state's player of the year
- Kentucky's Mr. Football
- Gatorade Kentucky Player of the Year
- One of five finalists for the 2019 All-American Bowl Player-of-the-Year award, which is presented annually to the nation's most outstanding high school senior
- A consensus four-star recruit coming out of high school, ranked as the nation's No. 2 all-purpose back and was the top player in Kentucky by 247Sports
- Played for head coach Don Miller

**Personal**

- Born in Frankfort, Kentucky
- Son of Victoria Davis and Dale Robinson
- Dad, Dale, played football at Western Kentucky
- Has one younger sister, Eliza
- Major is communication

**Wan'Dale Says**

- His nickname is "Dale"
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to work for himself
- He chose Kentucky to get closer to home and closer to his dream
- The best advice he's ever received is "do what's best for you"
- One word to describe him on the field is "electric"
- The best thing about being a Kentucky Wildcat is being back home to play in front of friends and family

**W. ROBINSON'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	Att	Yds.	Long	TD
2019*	10-4	40	453	11.3	2	49	88	340	42	3
2020*	8-8	51	461	9.0	1	38	46	240	47	1
2021	12-12	94	1164	12.4	7	79	7	111	64	0
at UK	12-12	94	1164	12.4	7	79	7	111	64	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30-24</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>2078</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>4</b>

\* at Nebraska

**CAREER ALL-PURPOSE STATISTICS**

Year	Rush	Rec.	PR	KR	IR	Total	Avg.
2019*	340	453	0	236	0	1029	102.9
2020*	240	461	-5	0	0	696	87.0
2021	111	1164	20	0	0	1295	107.9
at UK	111	1164	20	0	0	1295	107.9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>2078</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3020</b>	<b>100.7</b>

\* at Nebraska

**W. ROBINSON'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds	TD	Long	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg
vs. ULM*	5	125	2	62	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	5	101	0	49	3	73	0	64	24.3
vs. UTC*	8	111	0	39	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	7	65	0	17	1	5	0	5	5.0
vs. Florida*	4	65	1	41	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	8	60	1	16	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	12	39	1	14	1	6	0	6	6.0
at MSU*	9	79	0	21	1	4	0	4	4.0
vs. Tennessee*	13	166	1	31	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	6	75	1	39	1	23	0	23	23.0
vs. NMST*	8	181	0	70	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	9	97	0	27	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1164</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>15.9</b>

\* started game

**W. ROBINSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME (AT NEB)**

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg.
at Ohio State	6	49	0	21	-	-	-	-	-
at Northwestern	4	32	0	14	-	-	-	-	-
vs. Penn State	5	11	0	5	16	60	0	14	3.75
vs. Illinois	6	60	0	31	7	60	0	32	8.57
at Iowa	9	75	0	28	6	42	0	13	7.00
at Purdue	9	114	0	25	2	5	0	4	2.50
vs. Minnesota	6	41	0	10	8	58	0	47	6.12
at Rutgers	6	79	1	38	7	24	1	8	3.43
<b>Totals</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5.22</b>

**W. ROBINSON'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME CONT.**

Opponent	PR	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
at Ohio State	0	0	0	0	0
at Northwestern	0	-5	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Illinois	0	0	0	0	0
at Iowa	0	0	0	0	0
at Purdue	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Minnesota	0	0	0	0	0
at Rutgers	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>





W. ROBINSON'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME (AT NEB)

Table with columns: Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long, Att, Yds, TD, Long, Avg. Rows include games vs. South Alabama, Colorado, Northern Ill., Illinois, Ohio State, Northwestern, Minnesota, Indiana, Purdue, Wisconsin, Maryland, Iowa.

W. ROBINSON'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME CONT.

Table with columns: Opponent, KR, Yds., Avg., Long, TD. Rows include games vs. South Alabama, Colorado, Northern Ill., Illinois, Ohio State, Northwestern, Minnesota, Indiana, Purdue, Iowa.

W. ROBINSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 13, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021
Receiving yards: 181 vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021 (8 receptions)
Receiving touchdowns: 2, twice, last vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021
Long reception: 79, vs. New Mexico State, Sept 20, 2021
Rush attempts: 22, vs. Indiana, Oct 26, 2019
Rush yards: 89, at Illinois, Sept 21, 2019
Rush touchdowns: 1, 3X, last at Rutgers, Dec 18, 2020
Punt Returns: 3, twice, last vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021
Long rush: 47, vs Minnesota, Dec 12, 2020
Kickoff return yards: 77, vs South Alabama, Aug 31, 2019
Long kickoff return: 39, vs South Alabama, Aug 31, 2019



24

CHRIS RODRIGUEZ JR.

RUNNING BACK

5-11 • 224 • Junior-2L
McDonough, Ga. (Ola)

2021 - Junior (Team Captain)

- Maxwell Award Watch List
Doak Walker Award Watch List
First-Team All-SEC (AP, USA Today Network)
Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches, Phil Steele)
Third-Team All-SEC (PFF)
SEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week (Week 2)
CFPA Honorable Mention (Week 2)
On3's SEC Player of the Week (Week 2)
College Sports Madness Offensive SEC Player of the Week (Week 2)
Ranks 12th nationally and second in the SEC in rushing yards (1,272)
Ranks 12th nationally and second in the SEC in rushing yards per game (106.0)
Ranks 15th nationally and second in the SEC in rushing yards per carry (6.20)
Ranks sixth in the SEC in all-purpose yards per game (110.67)
Became the 10th player in school history to have 2,000 or more rushing yards
Has 2,633 career rushing yards which ranks seventh on UK's career rushing list ... Needs 15 more to tie George Adams (2,648 from 1981-84) at No. 6
Has 1,272 yards this season, seventh on UK's single-season list ... Needs six more to move up to No. 6 with Mark Higgs (1,278 in 1987) and 61 yards to jump two spots and tie Benny Snell Jr., at No. 5 (1,333 in 2017)
Has 14 100-yard games in his career, tied for third in school history ... Needs four more 100-yard games to tie Sonny Collins at No. 2 with 18 (1972-75)
Has a school-record tying eight 100-yard games this season, also Artose Pinner in 2002
Became just the 10th player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in a season and the 14th total time a Wildcat has accomplished that feat
Has eight rushing TDs this season and 25 in his career ... Just the 10th player in school history with at least 20 rushing touchdowns (24)
His 25 career rushing TDs are tied for fourth in school history ... Needs one more to move up to No. 2 with Moe Williams and Sonny Collins
Rushed 16 times for 121 yards and one touchdown in the win at Louisville
Rushed 16 times for 114 yards and one touchdown in the win over Vanderbilt, averaging 7.1 yards per carry ... He played less than three quarters of the game
Caught a career-high four passes at No. 1 Georgia
Rushed 16 times for 147 yards and UK's final touchdown in the win over LSU ... Averaged 9.2 yards per carry ... Also caught a three-yard

touchdown pass on UK's first offensive possession, his second receiving TD of the season ... Marked the most rushing yards for a Wildcat vs. LSU since Al Baker (159) in 1990

- Rushed 19 times for 99 yards and one touchdown in the win over No. 10/9 Florida ... It is the most rushing yards for a Wildcat vs. Florida in Lexington since Moe Williams in 1993 (109 yards)
Had a streak of five consecutive games with a rushing TD, the second-longest streak in school history
First player since Benny Snell Jr. in 2018 to rush for 100 yards in each of the first two games
Rushed 27 times for 206 yards vs. Missouri - both career highs ... Had three rushing TDs and also caught a five-yard touchdown pass on the first possession, his first collegiate receiving TD
Preseason Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches, Media and Athlon)
Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
Preseason All-America Honorable Mention (PFF)

2020 - Sophomore

- First-Team All-SEC (Pro Football Focus)
Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
Played in nine of 11 games
Team's leading rusher with 785 yards on 119 carries along with a team-high 11 touchdowns
Averaged an SEC-high 6.6 yards per carry (17th nationally)
Ranked fifth in the SEC in rushing (87.2 ypg)
Had four 100-yard games with a career-best 149 yards vs. Vanderbilt
Carried the ball 17 times for 84 yards, including both of UK's touchdowns, in the win over NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
Rushed 14 times for 139 yards and a career-high three touchdowns in the win over South Carolina ... His 79-yard touchdown run clinched the game in the fourth quarter and marked his career long run and the fifth-longest run in school history against an SEC opponent
Became just the second player in school history, also Mark Higgs, to have two runs of at least 74 yards in the same season (had a 74-yard run vs. Vanderbilt)
Also had a career-high 151 all-purpose yards vs. South Carolina
Rushed 13 times for a career-high 149 yards and a career-high-tying two touchdowns vs. Vanderbilt
Averaged 11.5 yards per attempt, best for a UK rusher against an SEC opponent (min. 10 carries) since Randall Cobb averaged 17 yards (10 for 170) vs. Vanderbilt in 2010
Rushed a career-high 20 times for 108 yards vs. No. 5 Georgia
Led the Wildcats on the ground in the win over Tennessee with 13 carries for 73 yards, including a two-yard touchdown run that closed the scoring

2019 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in all 13 games
Totaled 71 carries for 533 yards and six scores, ranking fourth on the team in all categories
Averaged 7.5 yards per carry (second on the team behind Lynn Bowden's school record 7.9 ypc)
His 41.0 yards per game average ranked ninth among SEC freshmen
Ranked tied for eighth with teammate Kavosiey Smoke in scoring (TDs) among SEC freshmen (2.8)



- Had two 100-yard rushing games
- Rushed six times for 18 yards in the Belk Bowl win over Virginia Tech ... Had a two-yard TD run late in the second quarter, his sixth TD of the year
- Rushed nine times for 125 yards, including a career-long 64-yard touchdown in UK's 45-13 win over Louisville
- Rushed 15 times for a career-high 129 yards and two touchdowns in the win over Vanderbilt

**2018 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games
- Appeared in his first collegiate game vs. Murray State and bulldozed two carries for 43 yards

**High School**

- A three-star prospect by all the major recruiting services
- Played on both sides of the ball as a running back and strong safety
- Ran for 1,669 yards on 233 carries with 25 touchdowns as a senior
- Averaged 7.2 yards per carry
- Named Henry County Offensive Player of the Week in November after running for 236 yards and five touchdowns in a win over Union Grove
- Rushed for 1,401 yards and 15 touchdowns with eight separate games of 100-plus yards rushing as a sophomore
- Increased his numbers to 1,660 yards rushing and 26 touchdowns as a junior
- Earned All-State, All-Region and All-County honors
- Named the Ola 2015 Player of the Year by MaxPreps
- Coached by Jared Zito
- Also lettered in basketball and track
- Chose UK over offers from Ole Miss and Mississippi State

**Personal**

- Born in Riverdale, Georgia
- Son of Stephanie Thornton and Chris Rodriguez
- Siblings are Chyna Thornton and Gabbi Rodriguez
- Major is community and leadership development

**Chris Says**

- His nickname is "C-Rod"
- Most people don't know he likes country music
- The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Chance the Rapper, Drake, and Odell Beckham Jr.
- When he played football as a kid he pretended to be Marshawn Lynch
- Michael B. Jordan would play him a movie about his life

**RODRIGUEZ'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2018	3-0	2	43	21.5	0	27	0	0	0	0	0
2019	13-0	71	533	7.5	6	64	1	2	2.0	0	6
2020	9-0	119	785	6.6	11	79	1	12	12.0	0	12
2021	12-11	205	1272	6.2	8	41	12	56	4.7	2	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37-11</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>

**RODRIGUEZ'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM*	19	125	1	31	2	10	0	5
vs. Missouri*	27	207	2	31	1	5	1	5
vs. UTC*	13	46	0	9	0	0	0	0
at USC*	26	144	0	13	2	5	0	4
vs. Florida*	19	99	1	16	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	16	147	1	22	1	3	1	3
at Georgia*	7	7	0	4	4	10	0	11
at Miss. State*	8	34	0	15	2	23	0	12
vs. Tennessee	22	109	0	18	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	16	114	1	30	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	16	119	1	29	0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	16	121	1	41	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>

**RODRIGUEZ'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	9	13	0	5	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	17	133	2	22	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	7	38	1	12	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	13	73	1	25	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	9	48	0	17	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	20	108	0	23	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	13	149	2	74	0	0	0	0
at Alabama					DNP			
at Florida					DNP			
vs. South Carolina	14	139	3	79	1	12	0	12
vs. NCState	17	84	2	26	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>

**RODRIGUEZ'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo	5	34	0	21	1	2	0	6
vs. EMU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC	6	65	1	44	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	6	19	0	6	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	6	13	0	4	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	12	81	0	23	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	15	129	2	27	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	6	49	1	26	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	9	125	1	64	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech	6	18	1	6	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

**RODRIGUEZ'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Murray State	2	43	0	27	0	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**RODRIGUEZ'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Rush attempts: 27, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
 Rush yards: 206, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021 (27 carries)  
 Long rush: 79, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
 Rushing TDs: 3, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
 Total TDs: 3, twice, last vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
 Receptions: 4, at Georgia, Oct 16, 2021  
 Receiving yards: 23, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
 Long reception: 12, twice, last at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
 Receiving TDs: 1, twice, last vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Kickoff returns: 1, vs Toledo, Aug 31, 2019  
 Kickoff return yards: 20, vs Toledo, Aug 31, 2019  
 Long kick return: 20, vs Toledo, Aug 31, 2019  
 All-purpose yards: 211, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021



67

PAUL  
RODRIGUEZ

OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

6-5 • 330 • Freshman-HS  
Mason, Ohio (William Mason)

**2021- Freshman**

- Redshirt season

**High School**

- A three-star recruit, who is considered a top-60 offensive tackle nationally by 247sports and Rivals
- Touts a 100.25-inch standing reach and an 81-inch wingspan
- Three-year letterwinner and starter for head coach Brian Castner at William Mason
- Helped lead the Comets to a 5-3 overall record, including a 4-2 mark in the Greater Miami Conference (GMC) in 2020
- Also played on the d-line as a defensive tackle
- Named first-team All-Conference by the GMC
- Earned a spot on the Enquirer's Greater Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky 2020 Fall Sports All-Stars First Team
- Named a preseason All-America candidate by *Sports Illustrated*
- Earned 2020 Preseason All-TriState Football First-Team Offense recognition
- Chose Kentucky over Duke, Iowa State, Purdue, and Maryland

**Personal**

- Born in Lebanon, Missouri
- Son of Wendy Rodriguez and the late Abel Rodriguez
- Siblings are Nick, Victoria, Abel Jr. and Maria
- Mother, Wendy, played softball and basketball at Davis & Elkins College from 1985-89
- Majoring in natural resources and environmental sciences

**Paul Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home and he would have the opportunity to play in the SEC
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he lost his dad when he was in the eighth grade
- Three words to describe him are loving, hardworking, and friendly





- In one sentence he would describe Coach Stoops as "one of the nicest people I've ever met and real with me and my family"
- The Rock would play him in a movie about his life



52

JUSTIN ROGERS

NOSE GUARD

6-3 • 328 • Sophomore-1L  
Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has seen action in all 12 games this season with four starting assignments
- Has 16 tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks this season
- Made a career-high four tackles, including a nine-yard quarterback sack and a one-yard tackle for loss in the win over Vanderbilt
- Totaled three tackles in the win over Florida and also had three at Georgia and vs. Mississippi State

2020 - Freshman

- Saw action in seven games and totaled nine tackles and a TFL
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Mississippi State and charted two tackles in his debut
- Recorded a career-high three tackles at Alabama
- Got his first career TFL in the win over South Carolina

High School

- Elite five-star prospect and the No. 10 overall prospect by Rivals
- Ranked the No. 1 player in the state of Michigan by 247Sports Composite
- Considered the second-best defensive tackle in the 2020 class by Rivals
- Four-year starter who dominated both sides of the ball — offensive tackle and defensive end - for head coach Greg Carter
- As a senior, did not give up a sack offensively, while defensively he charted six sacks, forced three fumbles and recovered two fumbles
- Named to the Detroit News Football Dream Team and the All-North Football Team in 2019
- Totaled 22 TFL, seven sacks and four forced fumbles to help Oak Park win the OAA White Division championship as a junior
- One of seven boys in his family
- Played high school football with Marquan McCall
- His first college offer came from Kentucky when he was in the eighth grade
- Picked Kentucky over Georgia, LSU Michigan, Tennessee

Personal

- Born in Detroit
- Son of Joya Townsel
- Siblings are Jeremiah Townsel and Raychard White
- Major is undecided

Justin Says

- He chose Kentucky because he felt an instant connection
- The person he most admires is his mom because of her strength and how she deals with five sons
- Besides being good at football, he's also a good cook
- Three words to describe him are team player, reliable, and trustworthy
- In one sentence he would describe Coach Stoops as "an amazing person who has a heart of gold for his players"

ROGERS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	PBU	FF	FR	QBH
2020	7-0	9	1.0-2	1.0-2	0	0	0	0
2021	12-4	16	2.5-10	1.5-9	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19-4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3.5-12</b>	<b>2.5-11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

ROGERS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	4	2.0-10	1.0-9	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0.5-0	0.5-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2.5-10</b>	<b>1.5-9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

ROGERS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Mississippi St.	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina*	1	1.0-2	1.0-2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.0-2</b>	<b>1.0-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

ROGERS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 4, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021  
 Sacks: 1.0, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (1 yards)  
 Tackles for loss: 2.0, at Vanderbilt, Nov 13, 2021 (9 yards)



51

DARE ROSENTHAL

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-7 • 327 • Junior-Tr  
Ferriday, La. (Ferriday)

2021 - Junior

- Has started in all 12 games at left tackle
- All-SEC Third Team (PFF)

2020 - Sophomore (LSU)

- Played in seven of LSU's 10 SEC-only games with five starting assignments vs. Mississippi State, Missouri, Alabama, Florida and Ole Miss

2019 - r-Freshman (LSU)

- Appeared in five games with three starting nods
- Helped the Tigers go undefeated at 15-0 and win the CFP National Championship
- Started at left guard in wins over Northwestern State, Utah State and Mississippi State
- Played a total of 229 snaps with career-high 92 snaps coming against Utah State
- In the three games he started, the Tigers outscored their opponents 143-33

2018 - Freshman (LSU)

- Redshirt season

High School

- Top-rated defensive tackle prospect in Louisiana
- Nation's No. 18 overall defensive tackle
- Consensus four-star recruit who helped lead his team to the semifinals of the 2A state playoffs as a senior in 2017
- A two-way player who also played on the offensive line for head coach Stanley Smith at Ferriday High School
- Senior season totals were eye-popping as he charted 60 tackles, 30 tackles for loss, six sacks, five quarterback hurries, recovered four fumbles (two for TDs), blocked a field goal and registered an interception
- Participated in the New Orleans Regional for The Opening in both 2016 and 2017
- First-team All-State selection for Class 2A by the Louisiana Football Coaches Association as a senior

Personal

- Born in Ferriday, Louisiana
- Son of Latasha Rosenthal and Chad Ellis
- Siblings are Zamarion Rosenthal, Chasity Ellis, Chad Ellis, Tristan Ellis and Cydney Ellis
- Major is community and leadership development

Dare Says

- He chose Kentucky because it was the best opportunity to get to the next level and improve as a man off the field
- Three words to describe him are honest, kind, and respectful



- After football, his dream job is to host a talk show
- One word to describe him on the field is "nasty"
- The best advice he's ever received is "don't ever give up, always keep pushing"



96

MATT RUFFOLO

KICKER

5-11 • 210 • Senior-2L  
Centerville, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)

**2021 - Senior \***

- Elected to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA's ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Lou Groza Award Watch List (nation's top place kicker)
- Burlsworth Trophy nominee (award presented annually to the most outstanding player who began his career as a walk-on)
- CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team
- Career totals include 24-of-30 field goals and 92-of-97 extra points for 164 total points
- Has hit 8-of-11 field goals this season and 52-of-53 extra points for 76 points
- His 52 extra points set a new single-season school record, previously held by Lones Seiber (51 in 2007)
- Has a streak of three consecutive field goals, dating back to Nov. 13 at Vanderbilt (2-2 vs. Vandy, 1-1 at Louisville)

**2020 - Senior**

- Hit 22-of-23 extra points and 12-of-14 field goal attempts, totaling 58 points, UK's second-leading scorer
- Set a UK bowl record with three field goals, from 25, 26 and 20 yards, in the win over NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
- Made all of his kicks in the win over South Carolina, including field goals of 22 and 41 yards, along with all five extra points
- Connected a 50-yard field goal in the second quarter at Missouri, tying his career long set last season vs. Arkansas
- Scored 10 points in Kentucky's 34-7 win at No. 18/17-ranked Tennessee ... Made a then-career-high 2-of-2 field goals, from 30 and 27 yards ... Also made all four extra points
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - Junior**

- Hit 4-of-5 field goals and 18-of-20 PATS
- Totaled 30 points
- Nailed a career-long 50-yard field goal in Kentucky's 24-20 win over Arkansas
- His field goal came on the first drive of the second half, keeping UK's momentum going after trailing 13-0 early in the game ... Also made all three extra points
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)

**2018 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2017 - Freshman**

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2017)

**High School**

- Two-year starter and letter winner at kicker for Archbishop Alter
- Coached by Ed Domsitz
- Did not miss an extra point for two straight seasons (2016 and 2015)
- Ranks second all-time in Ohio for consecutive PATS made with 103
- Hit 4 of 5 field goals, 79 of 79 PATS, 73 of 85 kicks were touchbacks and averaged 40.0 yards per punt as a senior
- Helped the Knights finish as conference champs and state runner-up with a 13-1 record in 2016
- Named to the All-Greater Catholic League First Team and was named to the Miami Valley Football Coaches Association (MVFCA) All-Star Team
- Honorable mention Southwest Ohio
- Member of the National Honors Society, graduating with honors
- Member of the Student Council, Key Club, University Club and German Club
- Chose UK over Dayton, Ball State and Toledo

**Personal**

- Born in Dayton, Ohio
- Son of John and Susie Ruffolo
- Sister, Kara, played soccer at Loyola, while brother, Michael, was a kicker at Dayton
- Graduated in May of 2021 with a degree in finance .. Currently working on his MBA at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics

**Matt Says**

- His nickname is "Big Foot"
- Other than playing for the NFL, his dream job is to be a CFO of a company
- The three people he would invite to his fantasy dinner are Peyton Manning, Donald Trump and Pat McAfee
- If he could create a holiday he would call it "National Spicy Italian Meatball Day" and everyone would eat meatballs

RUFFOLO'S CAREER STATISTICS				
Year	FG	Long FG	PAT	Points
2019	4-5	50	18-20	30
2020	12-14	50	22-23	58
2021	8-11	45	52-53	76
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24-30</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>92-97</b>	<b>164</b>

RUFFOLO'S FIELD GOALS BY DISTANCE							
Year	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total	Long
2019	0-0	1-1	0-0	2-3	1-1	4-5	50
2020	0-0	6-6	4-4	1-3	1-1	12-14	50
2021	0-0	3-3	1-3	4-4	0-1	8-11	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>10-10</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>7-10</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>24-30</b>	<b>50</b>

**RUFFOLO'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Points scored: 11, twice, last vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
 Points by kicking: 11, twice, last vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021  
 Field goals made: 3, twice, last at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021  
 Field goal attempts: 3, twice, last at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021  
 Longest field goal: 50, twice, last at Missouri, Oct 24, 2020  
 Consecutive FGs made: 7 - Florida, Nov 28, 2020 - Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021



90

TRE'VONN RYBKA

DEFENSIVE LINE

6-4 • 301 • Freshman-RS  
Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County)

**2021 - r-Freshman**

- Has 11 tackles and two quarterback hurries in 11 games played
- Had a career-best three tackles in the win over LSU

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Mississippi State

**High School**

- Highly recruited defensive lineman who drew national attention
- Consensus top-50 defensive tackle recruit, as high as No. 28 by Rivals.com
- Four-star recruit by Rivals, which listed him the No. 10 recruit in Tennessee
- 247sports has him as the No. 40 defensive tackle in the US, ESPN has him at No. 44
- Totaled 170 tackles, including 25 for loss, during his career at Dickson County HS
- Named to the 2019 All-Dickson County football team by *The Dickson Post* and was on the Region 6-6A All-Region team
- Played in the Tennessee East-West All-Star game and tied for the team lead with eight total tackles, including five solo tackles, and a fumble recovery
- Also participated in track and field in the shot put
- Four-year starter for head coach Randy Murphree
- Decided on Kentucky over Oregon

**Personal**

- First name pronounced "TREY-vee-on"
- Born in Nashville, Tennessee
- Son of Ricky and Elaine Newsom
- Siblings are Maya Rybka, Toni Dunn, Malachi Rybka, Nehemiah Joiner, Nazare Battiste
- A cousin, Demonta Daniel, played football at Memphis and Tennessee Martin
- Major is undecided

**Tre'Vonn Says**

- His nickname is "Chunky"
- He chose Kentucky because he loved the atmosphere and the vibe of the coaching staff
- Other than playing for the NFL, his dream job is to be a collegiate football coach





- One thing most people may not know about him is that he was adopted by his grandparents
- Besides football he's also good at tennis, fishing and longboarding

### RYBKA'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2020	DT	1-0	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2021	DT	11-0	11	0-0	0-0	0/0	2	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12-0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### RYBKA'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. UTC	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. LSU	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee			DNP					
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

### RYBKA'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### RYBKA'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 3, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Quarterback hurry: 1, twice, last vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021



# 13

## EARNEST SANDERS IV

### WIDE RECEIVER

6-1 • 218 • Freshman-RS  
 Beecher, Mich. (Beecher)

#### 2021 - r-Freshman

- Practiced with the team

#### 2020 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Saw his first collegiate action at Auburn and also saw action vs. Vanderbilt
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

#### High School

- Explosive, all-round athlete who excelled in football, basketball and track

- One of the top 20 recruits in Michigan as evaluated by ESPN and 247sports
- Also one of the nation's top-100 wide receivers by the same two services
- First-team all-state as a senior by The Associated Press and Detroit News after catching 19 passes for 522 yards and seven touchdowns
- Also first-team all-state as a junior when he caught 42 passes for 1,047 yards and 15 touchdowns, rushed for six touchdowns, returned two kickoffs and one punt for TDs
- A four-year starter who helped lead Beecher HS to state playoff berths each of his last two seasons
- Coached by Courtney Hawkins
- Also a two-time all-state basketball player as a junior and senior
- Averaged a double-double in 2019 with 15.5 points and 10.2 rebounds per game ... Added 3.3 assists and 3.3 steals per game
- Averaged 17.5 points and 11 rebounds per game for a team that advanced to the final eight of the state tourney
- Candidate for Michigan Mr. Basketball
- Competed in the 200-meter dash, high jump and long jump for the track team, earning All-State honors
- Chose Kentucky over Michigan State

#### Personal

- Born in Flint, Michigan
- Son of Danielle Kelly and Ernest Sanders III
- His seven siblings are JaQualyn Kelly, Malik Wilbanks, Jacoby Sanders, Emiyah Sanders, Jamari Sanders, Emelia Sanders and JaCaylah Sanders
- Father, Earnest, played football as a strong safety at Michigan (1993-95)
- Major is undecided

#### Ernest Says

- His nickname is "E"
- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home and UK was a place he could better himself as a person and as a student-athlete
- Three words to describe him are fun, cool, and loving
- One thing most people may not know about him is that he can't swim
- After football his dream is to be his own boss and run his own business



# 92

## KAHLIL SAUNDERS

### DEFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 270 • Freshman-HS  
 Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom)

#### 2021 - Freshman

- Has played in three games (ULM, NMST, Louisville)
- Got his first career tackle for loss at Louisville
- Redshirt season

#### High School

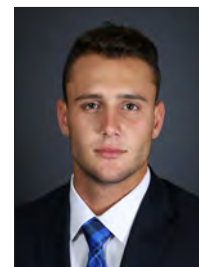
- A three-star recruit by all the major recruiting services
- Considered a top 50 strong-side defensive end by 247sports
- A two-way player at Grissom High School also playing on the offensive line
- A three-year starter for head coach Chip English
- Totaled 80 tackles, including 14.0 tackles for loss, 8.0 sacks and 17 quarterback hurries as a senior at Grissom
- Helped lead Grissom to the AHSAA High School Football Class 7A playoffs for the first time since 2004
- Named to the 2020 Alabama Sports Writers Association All-State football Class 7A Second Team
- Earned 7A Region 4 first-team honors ... Also an all-city first-team member
- Named a preseason All-America candidate by Sports Illustrated
- Chose Kentucky over Indiana, Virginia, and Virginia Tech

#### Personal

- Born in Huntsville, Alabama
- Son of Toshiba Burton
- Major is undecided

#### Kahlil Says

- He chose Kentucky because it would give him the best opportunity to go to the NFL
- After football his dream is to be an exotic animal veterinarian
- Three words to describe him are chill, goofy, and competitive
- The person he admires the most is his mom because she's a strong, independent woman
- One thing most people may not know about him is that he draw



# 16

## NIK SCALZO

### QUARTERBACK

6-0 • 195 • Sohomore-Sq  
 Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Cardinal Gibbons)

#### 2021 - Sophomore

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. New Mexico State

#### 2020 - r-Freshman

- Practiced with the team

#### 2019 - Freshman

- Redshirt season
- Did not see action in any games due to a torn ACL suffered in fall camp
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll







### High School

- A three-star prospect by all of the major recruiting services
- Rated one of Florida's top-10 quarterbacks
- A dual-threat passer who led Cardinal Gibbons to a combined 32-6 record in his three seasons as a starter
- Completed 59.6 percent of his passes (522 for 876) for 6,471 yards with 74 touchdowns to only 23 interceptions in three seasons
- Also rushed for 613 yards on 147 carries with four scores in his career
- Helped lead the Chiefs to their first Florida 5A state championship as a senior, completing 173-of-279 passes for 2,185 yards and 24 touchdowns before injury sidelined him in the regional semifinal
- Earned first-team All-State and first-team All-County honors by the *Sun Sentinel*
- As a junior, completed 175-of-307 passes for 2,065 yards and 23 touchdowns in leading the Chiefs to an 11-2 overall record and his second straight FHSAA Class 5A playoff appearance
- As a sophomore, threw for 2,221 yards and 27 touchdowns in leading the Chiefs' Air-Raid offense to a 9-2 season and regional semifinal appearance
- High school teammate of fellow signee Nik Ogenovic
- The pair teamed together to win the Adidas 7-on-7 National Championship with South Florida Express in the spring of 2018
- Coached by Matt DuBuc
- Chose Kentucky over Harvard and Georgia State

### Community Cats

- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

### Personal

- Born in Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Son of Amber and Jerry Scalzo
- Has one sister, Jensen, who is a sophomore on the Arkansas gymnastics team
- Dad, Jerry, was a wide receiver at Clemson in 1993
- Major is pre-marketing

### Nik Says

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home the minute he stepped on campus
- Most people don't know he's a dare devil
- When he played football as a kid he pretended to be Johnny Manziel
- One word to describe him on the field is "leader"
- His sports hero is Baker Mayfield because he paved the way for smaller quarterbacks



12

KAIYA  
SHERON

QUARTERBACK

6-3 • 203 • Freshman-HS  
Somerset, Ky. (Somerset)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee in January 2021
- Redshirt season

### High School

- Three-star prospect who ranked as one of the top-10 players in the commonwealth as evaluated by 247, Rivals.com and ESPN
- Ranked as the nation's No. 21 pro-style quarterback by 247sports.com
- A four-year letterwinner and three-year starter for head coach Robbie Lucas at Somerset
- Guided team to a 9-3 record as a senior and the second round of the state playoffs
- Completed 111 passes for 2,016 yards and threw 15 touchdown passes ... Also rushed for 465 yards and scored 10 rushing touchdowns
- Two-time Class AA Player of the Year as chosen by the Kentucky Football Coaches Association (2019 and 2020)
- First-team all-state by Kentucky Sports Radio, named to the *Lexington Herald-Leader* "Class of the Commonwealth" list of the top seniors in Kentucky
- Named 2020 *Commonwealth Journal* Offensive Player of the Year
- Nominated for the *Lexington Herald-Leader's* 2020 Kentucky Sports Figure of the Year
- AP All-State honorable mention
- As a junior, led Somerset (Ky.) High School to a 14-1 record and the 2019 state championship in Class AA
- Most Valuable Player of the state title game as he guided the Briar Jumpers on a five-play, 86-yard TD drive in the game's final 28 seconds
- Overall, threw for 3,218 yards and 28 touchdowns while rushing for 959 yards and nine TDs
- Named second-team all-state by The Associated Press and honorable mention by the *Louisville Courier-Journal*
- 2019 *Commonwealth Journal* Football Player of the Year
- Strong arm paired with good mobility
- Also played basketball, earning three letters
- Member of the student council
- An early commitment to Kentucky, he selected the Wildcats over Arizona State and Cincinnati

### Personal

- Name is pronounced "Ki-yah Sharon"
- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Melissa and Kevin Sheron
- Has one sister, Kallie Sheron
- Major is pre-communication

### Kaiya Says

- His nickname is "K.B."
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he throws with his right hand but kicks with his left foot
- Besides playing football, he's also good at ping pong
- The best advice he's ever received is "nothing good happens after midnight"



0

KAVOSIEY  
SMOKE

RUNNING BACK

5-9 • 202 • Junior-2L  
Wetumpka, Ala. (Wetumpka)

### 2021 - Junior

- Has seen action in 34 career games with one start
- Has played in all 12 games this season and earned his first career start at Mississippi State
- Has 1,306 career rushing yards, 30th place on the UK career rushing list.
- Rushed eight times for 31 yards and one touchdown in the win over Louisville
- Rushed 12 times for a career-high 104 yards, averaging 8.7 per attempt in the win over LSU
- Switched jersey numbers from 20 to 0 in fall camp

### 2020 - Sophomore

- Played in seven of 11 games
- Had 47 carries for 229 yards and one score ... Also had five receptions for 25 yards
- Totaled 45 yards on nine attempts in the win over NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
- Led the Wildcats with seven carries for 62 yards, including a 35-yard touchdown run on UK's first possession at Auburn
- Had five carries for 29 yards vs. Ole Miss before leaving the game with injury

### 2019 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in all 13 games
- UK's third-leading rusher with 616 yards on 101 attempts and six scores
- Averaged 6.1 yards per attempt
- Had two receptions for 26 yards
- Ranked in the top 10 among SEC freshman leaders in the following categories: fifth in rushing (47.47), ninth in all-purpose yards (50.7) and 10th in total offense (47.4) and scoring (2.8)
- Rushed twice for 75 yards in UK's 45-13 win over Louisville
- Ran 15 times for a career-high 95 yards in the win over Vanderbilt

### 2018 - Freshman

- Redshirt season



- Saw action in two games vs. Louisville and Penn State and totaled four carries for 45 yards and a score
- Got his first collegiate carries at Louisville, rushing four times for 45 yards, including a 37-yard scoring dash

### High School

- A three-star recruit by all the major recruiting services ... Ranked the 29th-best running back in the nation by Rivals
- Four-year starter for the Indians
- Selected to play in the 31st annual Alabama-Mississippi Football All-Star Classic
- Helped Wetumpka advance to the 6A Alabama state championship game for the first time in the school's 115-year history
- Finished his senior season with 1,508 rushing yards and 28 touchdowns
- Earned Class 6A second-team All-State honors by the Alabama Sports Writers Association
- Chose UK over offers from South Carolina, Auburn, North Carolina, Georgia Tech, Missouri, Florida and Virginia Tech
- Also a four-year starter as a small forward/power forward on the basketball team
- Coached by Tim Perry

### Personal

- Name is pronounced "kah-VAH-see-ay"
- Born in Montgomery, Alabama
- Son of Helen Smoke
- Siblings are Iesha, Miranda, Nadia and Tay
- Major is community and leadership development

### Kavosiey Says

- His nickname is "Smoke"
- Most people don't know he's part Native American
- He chose to play football at Kentucky because it felt like home
- After his football career, he would like to be a coach
- His sports hero is Bo Jackson

### SMOKE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2018	2-0	4	45	11.2	1	37	0	0	0	0	0
2019	13-0	101	616	6.1	6	70	2	26	13.0	0	28
2020	7-0	47	229	4.9	1	35	5	25	5.0	0	9
2021	12-1	81	416	5.1	4	32	1	17	17.0	0	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34-1</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>1306</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>

### SMOKE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	5	26	0	8	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	8	39	0	14	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC	7	27	0	11	0	0	0	0
at USC	9	50	1	15	1	3	0	3
vs. Florida	4	17	0	8	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	12	104	0	32	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	5	14	0	9	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	8	19	0	6	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	11	53	1	18	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	3	35	1	23	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	8	31	1	13	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

### SMOKE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	7	62	1	35	2	10	0	8
vs. Ole Miss	5	29	0	19	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. St.				DNP				
at Tennessee				DNP				
at Missouri				DNP				
vs. Georgia	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	6
vs. Vandy	3	20	0	15	1	9	0	9
at Alabama	9	26	0	8	1	0	0	0
at Florida	14	47	0	13	0	0	0	0
vs. USC				DNP				
vs. NC State	9	47	0	18	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

### SMOKE'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo	7	78	1	40	0	0	0	0
vs. EMU	11	92	1	32	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	16	81	0	16	1	-2	0	0
at Miss. State	10	25	1	12	0	0	0	0
at USC	2	7	0	7	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	11	45	0	25	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	3	8	1	4	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	8	58	1	22	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	15	95	1	21	1	28	0	28
vs. UT Martin	11	40	0	9	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	2	75	0	70	0	0	0	0
vs. Va. Tech	4	7	0	5	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>

### SMOKE'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Louisville	4	45	1	37	0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### SMOKE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Rush attempts: 16, twice, last vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Rush yards: 104, vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021 (16 carries)  
 Long rush: 70, vs Louisville, Nov 30, 2019  
 Rushing TDs: 1, 12x, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
 Receptions: 2, at Auburn, Sept 26, 2020  
 Receiving yards: 28, at Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019  
 Long reception: 28, at Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019  
 All-purpose yards: 123, at Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019



# 5

## DEANDRE SQUARE

### INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-1 • 221 • Senior-3L  
Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)

### 2021 - Senior (Team Captain)

- Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Elected two-time team captain
- Has played in 48 career games with 34 starting assignments
- Second on the team behind Jacquiez Jones (86) in total tackles (74)
- Third on the team behind Josh Paschal (15.0) and J.J. Weaver (10.0) in tackles for loss (9.0)
- Also has 3.0 sacks (third on the team), one pass breakup, three quarterback hurries and a forced fumble in 12 games this season
- Made 12 tackles, including one for loss, at Mississippi State, his second double-figure tackle game of the season (13 vs. Florida)
- Had eight tackles, including a quarterback sack in the win over LSU ... His sack in the first quarter caused a fumble, recovered by Josaih Hayes, setting up a TD drive
- Had a career-high 13 tackles in the win over No. 10/9 Florida, the second double-figure tackle game of his career (also vs. Toledo in 2019)
- Led the Cats with eight tackles in Kentucky's 16-10 win at South Carolina ... In the second quarter, with USC at the Kentucky 47-yard line, he made consecutive stops for no gain on 3rd-and-1 and 4th-and-1 to turn the ball over on downs ... In the fourth quarter, he made a third-down tackle that set up another fourth-down stop by the UK defense
- Had six tackles, including a career-high 3.5 TFL (-7 yards) in the opener vs. ULM ... Included in the TFL was a one-yard sack
- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC (Athlon)
- Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

### 2020 - Junior (Team Captain)

- Started in 10 of 11 games played
- Third on the team in total tackles with 60, second with four QBH
- Also had 2.5 TFL, a pass breakup and a fumble recovery
- Had a season-high nine tackles vs. Mississippi State
- Had six tackles and shared a one-yard tackle for loss at Florida ... His fumble recovery in the second





- quarter on the UF 38 set up a UK touchdown drive ... It was the first recovery of his career
- Elected one of 10 team captains

**2019 - Sophomore**

- Started in 12 games
- Second on the team in tackles with 69
- Also had 4.0 TFL, 1.5 sacks, three QBHs, a PBU, an interception and a forced fumble
- Had a career-best 11 tackles and had his first career interception in his first career start vs. Toledo in the season opener
- First UK player with at least 10 tackles, a half sack, 1 TFL and an interception since Josh Forrest vs. Louisiana on Sept. 5, 2015

**2018 - Freshman**

- Played in all 13 games with one start vs. Penn State
- Earned Freshman All-SEC honors by the league coaches after totaling 35 tackles, 3.5 TFL, three QBHs, one PBU and one forced fumble
- In his first collegiate start vs. Penn State in the VRBO Citrus Bowl, tied his career-high of six tackles, including a six-yard quarterback sack
- Charted three tackles in his collegiate debut

**High School**

- A hard-hitting linebacker at powerhouse Cass Tech
- Rated a four-star player and No. 20 outside linebacker nationally
- Played both sides for head coach Thomas Wilcher
- Had 94 tackles, two interceptions and forced four fumbles to help Cass Tech advance to the Division 1 state semifinals as a senior
- Named first-team All-State by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association and the AP
- Played in the Offensive-Defense All-American Bowl in New Orleans, charting eight tackles
- Helped his team capture the Division I state title with a perfect 14-0 record in 2016, the first undefeated season in program history
- Won the 2014 and 2016 conference championship
- Chose Kentucky after considering LSU, Michigan State, Purdue, Wisconsin and Cincinnati

**Personal**

- Born in Detroit, Michigan
- Son of Florence Square and Tyrone and Miranda Square
- Siblings are Brian Linley, Andrea Square, Pamela Square and Tyler Square
- Majoring in health promotion

**DeAndre Says**

- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach or athletic trainer
- He chose UK because it was the best place for him to play and he loved the atmosphere and the fans
- The person he admires most is his mom because she works so hard
- Three words to describe him are quiet, shy, and funny

**SQUARE'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2018	LB	13-0	35	1.0-6	3.5-10	1/0	3	0	1
2019	LB	12-12	69	1.5-13	4.0-23	1/0	3	1-3	1
2020	LB	11-10	60	0-0	2.5-4	0/1	4	0	1
2021	LB	12-12	74	3.0-14	9.0-30	1/0	3	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>48-34</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>5.5-33</b>	<b>19.0-67</b>	<b>3/1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>4</b>

**SQUARE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM*	6	3.5-7	1.0-1	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
vs. UTC*	5	2.0-5	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
at USC*	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	13	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	8	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	1	0	0	0
at Georgia*	4	1.0-4	1.0-4	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	12	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST*	4	0.5-3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>9.0-30</b>	<b>3.0-14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

**SQUARE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
at Auburn*	5	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Ole Miss*	7	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State*	9	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
at Tennessee*	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri*	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
vs. Georgia*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	6	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
vs. South Carolina*	4	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2.5-4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

**SQUARE'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Toledo*	11	1.5-6	1.5-4	0	0	0	1-3	0
vs. EMU*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Florida*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at Miss. State*	9	1.5-10	1.0-9	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	4	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
vs. Arkansas*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	9	1.0-7	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	3	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin		DNP	(Injury)					
vs. Louisville*	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>4.0-23</b>	<b>1.5-13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>3</b>

**SQUARE'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Central Mich.	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	2	0.5-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at TAMU	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	5	1.0-2	0-0	0	1	0	0	0
vs. MTSU	2	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	9	0
vs. Penn State*	6	1.0-6	1.0-6	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3.5-10</b>	<b>1.0-6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

**SQUARE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 13, vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021 (5-8)  
 Tackles for loss: 3.5, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (17 yards)  
 Sacks: 1.5, vs ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (1 yard)  
 Pass breakups: 1, 4x, last vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020  
 Quarterback hurry: 2, twice, last vs UTC, Sept 18, 2021  
 Forced fumbles: 1, 3x, last vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
 Fumble recovery: 1, at Florida, Nov 28, 2020  
 Interceptions: 1, vs Toledo, Aug 31, 2019



**18**

CLEWAN  
**THOMAS JR.**

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 190 • Senior-2L  
Miami, Fla. (Charles W. Flanagan)

**2021 - Senior**

- Has seen action in 29 games with eight starting nods
- Rehabbing from a torn ACL suffered in spring practice and did not action this season

**2020 - Junior**

- Saw action in four games with one start in the season opener at Auburn
- Caught one pass for three yards vs. Ole Miss
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - r-Sophomore**

- Saw action in all 13 games, starting in seven straight
- Had 11 catches (tied for fourth on the team) for 99 yards (fifth on the team) and a score
- Had at least one catch in nine of the last 10 games
- Caught two passes for 45 yards in the win over Vanderbilt, including a 40-yarder that tied the longest reception of his career
- Made his first collegiate start vs. Arkansas and caught two passes for 10 yards and his first collegiate touchdown
- SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll





### 2018 - Sophomore

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games early
- Caught two passes for a career-high 51 yards vs. Murray State
- Dean's List (Spring 2019)
- SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

### 2017 - Freshman

- Saw action in nine games
- One of seven true freshmen to see action in the opening game vs. Southern Miss and had his first career catch for four yards
- Graduated a semester early and enrolled at Kentucky in January of 2017

### High School

- Three-star recruit who ranked as one of the nation's top 100 receivers by every major scouting service
- Contributed at several positions for the District 12-8A champions and regional semifinalist Falcons, playing defensive back, wide receiver and tight end
- Named to the Broward Football 8A-6A Offense First Team as a receiver
- Caught nine TD passes as a junior in helping lead the Falcons win the 2015 Class 8A state championship
- A three-year letter winner and starter for coach Stanford Samuels Jr.
- Chose UK over Michigan, Louisville and Syracuse

### Community Cats

- Participated in the Read Across America event at Fayette Mall (2017)

### Personal

- Born in Miami, Florida
- Son of Yera and Clevan Thomas
- Father, Clevan Thomas, was a defensive back at Florida State from 1997-2000; Inducted into the AFL Hall of Fame in 2012
- Has two sisters, Infinity and Destiny
- Graduated in May of 2020 with a degree in community and leadership development ... Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a master's degree in sport leadership

### Clevan Says

- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be in the FBI
- One word to describe him on the field is "physical"
- If he had a hashtag to describe himself it would be #GodFirst
- His sports hero is his dad, who he grew up watching and learning from
- Most people don't know he can draw

### THOMAS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long
2017	WR	9-0	1	4	4.0	0	4	0	0	0	0
2018	WR	3-0	3	63	21.0	0	40	0	0	0	0
2019	WR	13-7	11	99	9.0	1	40	3	-1	0	4
2020	WR	4-1	1	3	3.0	0	3	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>29-8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

### THOMAS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### THOMAS' 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. EMU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	1	8	0	8	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas*	2	10	1	10	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	1	8	0	8	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	1	9	0	9	2	-5	0	1
vs. Tennessee	1	8	0	8	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	2	45	0	40	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech*	1	5	0	5	1	4	0	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

### THOMAS' 2018 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Central Mich.	1	12	0	12
at Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. Murray State	2	51	0	40
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>

### THOMAS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	1	4	0	4
vs. ECU	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

### THOMAS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Receptions:** 2, twice, last vs Arkansas, Oct 12, 2019  
**Receiving yards:** 51, vs. Murray State, Sept 15, 2018 (2 receptions)  
**Receiving TDs:** 1, vs Arkansas, Oct 12, 2019  
**Long reception:** 40, twice, last vs Vanderbilt, Nov 16, 2019  
**Rush attempts:** 2, vs Missouri, Oct 26, 2019  
**Rush yards:** 4, vs Virginia Tech, Dec 31, 2019  
**Long rush:** 4, vs Virginia Tech, Dec 31, 2019



# 44

## MARTEZ THROWER

### INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-2 • 212 • Freshman-HS  
Rochelle, Ga. (Wilcox County)

### 2021 - Freshman

- Has seen action in seven games and has five tackles and a quarterback hurry
- Totaled a career-high three tackles at Mississippi State
- Charted his first career tackle and a quarterback hurry in his collegiate debut vs. ULM

### High School

- Three-star prospect by the major scouting services
- Rated the No. 38 outside linebacker nationally and No. 54 overall prospect in Georgia by the 247Sports Composite
- Totaled 120 tackles, including 92 solo, 9.5 tackles for loss, four forced fumbles and one fumble recovery for a touchdown as a senior
- Named first-team All-State by the AJC
- Earned a spot on the Class A South defensive team by the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association
- Named to the 2020 Class 1A Public All-State First Team by the GHSF Daily
- "Martez is an explosive hitter. He brings the hammer. He broke three facemasks in one game. Long story short, the guy will hit you. He will light you up," Wilcox County coach Rob Stowe said
- Named the 2020 Atlanta Journal-Constitution Preseason Player of the Year for Class A
- Named a preseason All-America candidate by Sports Illustrated
- Picked Kentucky over Arkansas and Nebraska

### Personal

- Born in Hawkinsville, Georgia
- Son of Norma Brown
- Siblings are Deauntay Legrier, Britney Legrier and Shaina Legrier
- Major is kinesiology

### Martez Says

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home
- One word to describe him on the field is "determined"
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he likes to fish and hunt
- The person he admires most is his brother because he leads him the right way
- His passion in life is to be the best person he can be

### THROWER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2021	ILB	7-0	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>7-0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



**THROWER'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**THROWER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Tackles: 3, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021 (0-3)



**33**

**TRAVIS  
TISDALE**

**RUNNING BACK**

**5-9 • 180 • Sophomore-1L  
Valdosta, Ga. (Lowndes)**

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Had one rush for four yards vs. ULM

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in seven games
- Totaled six carries for 21 yards
- Also had three kick returns for 42 yards
- Recorded three carries for five yards at Alabama
- Also had three carries for 16 yards in the win over Tennessee

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Played in two games (Vanderbilt and UT Martin)
- Rushed four times for 60 yards vs. UT Martin, including a 53-yard run ... Also scored his first collegiate touchdown on a one-yard run
- Saw his first collegiate action at Vanderbilt and had one carry

**High School**

- A four-star recruit and one of the nation's top-300 players by ESPN
- Ranked the nation's No. 18 running back by ESPN and the No. 11 all-purpose back nationally by Rivals
- Rated as high as the No. 33 prospect in Georgia
- Region Player of the Year as a senior as he rushed for 1,903 yards and 21 touchdowns
- Led Lowndes HS to a 10-4 record and a berth in the Class AAAAAA (largest classification) state playoff semifinals
- Named to the 2018-19 Georgia Athletic Coaches Association Class 7A All-State team and the 2018 *Atlanta Journal Constitution* All-State team
- Senior season was highlighted by 413 yards and six rushing touchdowns – both of which are school

records – against crosstown rival Valdosta High School

- Also a 1,000-yard rusher as a sophomore with 1,029 yards
- Set the LHS career record for rushing touchdowns with 46, breaking Darriet Perry's previous career record of 40
- Coached by Randy McPherson
- Chose Kentucky over Nebraska, Ole Miss and Penn State

**Personal**

- Born in Andrews, South Carolina
- Son of Emmanuel and Jeniker McBride
- Dad serves in United States Air Force
- Siblings are Qusha Jackson, Emyriah McBride, and Emya McBride
- Major is community and leadership development

**Travis Says**

- His nickname is "Tizzy"
- Three words to describe him are fun, quiet and smooth
- His dream job is to be a little league football coach
- The person he admires most is his mom because she pushes him to be great
- The best advice he's ever received is "you can do or be whatever you want in life"

**T. TISDALE'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2019	2-0	5	57	11.4	1	53	0	0	0	0	0
2020	7-0	6	21	3.5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
2021	1-0	1	4	4.0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10-0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**T. TISDALE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	KR	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**T. TISDALE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	KR	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	13
at Tennessee	3	16	0	6	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	3	5	0	4	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. USC	0	0	0	0	2	29	0	22
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>

**T. TISDALE'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Vandy	1	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	4	60	1	53	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>

**T. TISDALE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

Rush attempts: 5, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 Rush yards: 60, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 Long rush: 53, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 Rushing TDs: 1, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 All-purpose yards: 60, vs UT Martin, Nov 23, 2019  
 Kick returns: 3, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
 Kick return yards: 42, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
 Long return: 22, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020



**7**

**VITO  
TISDALE**

**NICKELBACK**

**6-1 • 188 • Sophomore-1L  
Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green)**

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has played in eight games and got first career start vs. Vanderbilt
- Has totaled 18 tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, a pass breakup and a quarterback hurry
- Led the Wildcats in tackles with six vs. Tennessee
- Had his first career sack and first career pass breakup at Mississippi State ... Also finished with a season-high five tackles

**2020 - Freshman**

- Had 20 tackles, and 0.5 TFL in 10 games played
- Totaled a career-high six tackles in the win over NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl

**High School**

- Ranked the No. 3 Kentucky prospect and a top-20 safety in the class of 2020 by 247sports
- Announced his decision during the U.S. Army All-American game in San Antonio, Texas
- Named a U.S. Army All-American and first-team All-State member after totaling 88 total tackles (26 solo), four interceptions and two fumble recoveries during his senior season
- Named honorable mention for the 2019 Class of the Commonwealth by the Lexington Herald-Leader
- Four-year starter for head coach Mark Spader at Bowling Green High School
- Also returned kicks
- His defensive prowess helped lead the Purples to a 9-4 record and a semifinal appearance in the Class 5A playoffs in 2019
- Also participated in track at BGHS
- Chose UK over Alabama, Georgia and Texas A&M

**Personal**

- Born in Bowling Green, Kentucky





- Son of Vito Tisdale and Erica Cherry
- Siblings are Napoleon, Sydney, Blue, and Meadow
- Major is undecided

### Vito Says

- He chose Kentucky because it's home
- Three words to describe him are chill, calm, and sweet
- One word to describe him on the field is "dangerous"
- If he could eat one thing for the rest of his life he would eat tacos
- His sports hero is Sean Taylor

### V. TISDALE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2020	S	10-0	20	0-0	0.5-1	0/0	0	0	0
2021	S	8-1	18	1.0-7	1.5-8	0/0	1	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>18-1</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1.0-7</b>	<b>2.0-9</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

### V. TISDALE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	5	1.0-7	1.0-7	1	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	6	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1.5-8</b>	<b>1.0-7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

### V. TISDALE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
at Auburn			DNP					
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	3	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### V. TISDALE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 6, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021 (3-3)  
**Tackles for loss:** 1.0, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021 (7 yards)  
**Sacks:** 1.0, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021 (7 yards)  
**Pass breakup:** 1, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021 (7 yards)  
**Quarterback hurry:** 1, at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021



# 88

## KEATON UPSHAW

TIGHT END

6-6 • 250 • Junior-2L  
Lima, Ohio (Lima Senior)

### 2021 - Junior

- Suffered a season-ending injury during fall camp

### 2020 - Sophomore

- Saw action in all 11 games, with four starting assignments
- Totaled 16 catches for 193 yards and three scores
- Caught a career-high tying three passes for 28 yards, including a four-yard touchdown in the second quarter at Florida
- Also caught three passes for 44 yards at Alabama, both were career highs
- Had a 21-yard touchdown reception in the second quarter vs. Vanderbilt
- Had a 12-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter vs. Mississippi State

### 2019 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in all 13 games with two starts (South Carolina and Tennessee)
- Made his first collegiate start at South Carolina and totaled seven catches for 78 yards and a score
- Got his first collegiate touchdown with a 13-yard catch in the third quarter vs. Florida
- Charted his first collegiate pass receptions vs. Toledo with two catches for 19 yards
- Critical blocker for UK's impressive run game which ranked fourth nationally with 278.8 yards per game

### 2018 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

### High School

- A three-star tight end in most of the major recruiting services
- Rated as the 25th-best tight end in the 2018 class
- A three-year starter who earned first-team All-Northwest Ohio District and second-team All-State honors by Three Rivers Athletic Conference after totaling 786 receiving yards on 46 catches with four touchdowns as a senior
- Also was a third-team Division II Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association (OPSWA) All-Ohio selection
- Caught 48 passes for 758 yards and four touchdowns as a junior, earning him a spot on the All-Northwest Ohio and TRAC first team
- Also named second-team All-Ohio
- Coached by Andre Griffin
- Also an excellent basketball player, lettering three seasons as a power forward
- Lettered one season in track & field, participating in the 4x400, 4x200 and the high jump
- Picked Kentucky over offers from Louisville, West Virginia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Auburn

### Personal

- Born in Lima, Ohio
- Son of Jessica Kahle
- Siblings are Aaron Godsey, Kearre Upshaw, and Teysha Upshaw
- Major is community and leadership development

### Keaton Says

- His nickname is "Keat"
- His hidden talent is bowling
- The most influential person in his life is his mother because she pushes him everyday
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be a personal trainer
- Three words to describe him are funny, chill and hardworking

### UPSHAW'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2019	TE	13-2	7	78	11.1	1	19
2020	TE	11-4	16	198	12.4	3	23
<b>Totals</b>		<b>24-6</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>

### UPSHAW'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Auburn	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	5	0	5
vs. Mississippi State	1	12	1	12
at Tennessee	2	22	0	18
at Missouri*	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	1	10	0	10
vs. Vanderbilt	2	41	1	21
at Alabama*	3	44	0	17
at Florida*	3	28	1	13
vs. South Carolina	1	11	0	11
vs. NC State	2	25	0	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>

### UPSHAW'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. Toledo	2	19	0	17
vs. EMU	2	19	0	10
vs. Florida	1	13	1	13
at Miss. State	1	19	0	19
at South Carolina*	0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	8	0	8
vs. UT Martin	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0	0	0
vs. Virginia Tech	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>

### UPSHAW'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Receptions:** 3, twice, last at Florida, Nov 28, 2020  
**Receiving yards:** 44, at Alabama, Nov 21, 2020 (3 receptions)  
**Receiving TDs:** 1, 4x, last at Florida, Nov 28, 2020  
**Long reception:** 23, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021



14

CARRINGTON  
VALENTINE

DEFENSIVE BACK

6-0 • 188 • Sophomore-1L  
Cincinnati, Ohio (Moeller)

2021 - Sophomore

- Has played in 22 career games with 12 starting assignments
- Has started in 11 of 12 games played this season
- Ranks fourth on the team with 59 tackles ... Also has one sack, 1.5 tackles for loss, five pass breakups (tied for second on the team) and a QBH
- Had the second-most tackles on the team in the win at Louisville with seven
- Had eight tackles and a tackle for loss in the win over No. 10/9 Florida
- Made four tackles, including a seven-yard quarterback sack that forced a punt in the road win at South Carolina ... Marked the first sack of his career
- Totaled a career-high 11 tackles vs. UTC

2020 - Freshman

- Saw action in 10 games with one starting assignment vs. NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
- Totaled 10 tackles, a PBU and a forced fumble
- Made a career-best six tackles and caused a fumble in the win over NC State
- Got his first career PBU in the win at Tennessee and his first tackle in the win over Vanderbilt
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- One of nation's top-100 cornerbacks as rated by Rivals.com, 247sports.com and ESPN
- Rated as high as No. 23 in the state of Ohio by Rivals
- A versatile athlete, he began his career as a wide receiver before moving to cornerback as a junior
- Named first-team All-Southwest Ohio as a senior by area coaches
- Made 32 tackles, had five pass breakups and blocked two kicks
- Speed showed on his kickoff returns, averaging 31.7 per runback, including two for touchdowns
- Played at Moeller High School for Coach Todd Naumann, John Rodenberg, and Doug Rosfeld
- Also an outstanding basketball player, winning a state championship in 2019
- Fielded many offers, narrowing his choices to Kentucky, Michigan State and Pittsburgh before tabbing the Wildcats

Personal

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Ericka and Jerry Valentine
- Siblings are Shala, Jerry, and Jerrick

- Sister, Shala, played basketball at UMass Lowell and brother, Jerrick, played soccer at Bellermine
- Major is pre-journalism

Carrington Says

- His nickname is "Carri"
- He chose Kentucky because he wanted to be developed
- One thing most people don't know about him is before coming to UK, he only played the defensive back position for one year
- The person he admires the most is his mom because she pushes him to reach his goals
- Three words to describe him are athlete, respectful, and funny

VALENTINE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2020	DB	10-1	10	0-0	0-0	1/0	0	0	1
2021	DB	12-11	59	1.0-7	1.5-8	0/0	1	0	5
<b>Totals</b>		<b>22-12</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1.0-7</b>	<b>1.5-8</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

VALENTINE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

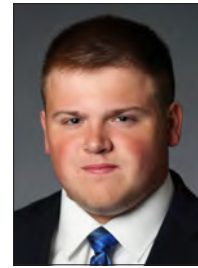
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	4	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	8	0.5-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	7	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
at Louisville*	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1.5-8</b>	<b>1.0-7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

VALENTINE'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
at Auburn	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
at Missouri			DNP					
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NC State*	6	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

VALENTINE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**Tackles:** 11, vs UTC, Sept 19, 2021 (7-4)  
**Sacks:** 1.0, at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021 (7 yards)  
**Tackles for loss:** 1.0, at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021 (7 yards)  
**Pass breakup:** 1, 6x, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
**Quarterback hurries:** 1, vs. New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Forced fumble:** 1, vs NC State, Jan 2, 2021



48

JACK  
VARGA

FULLBACK

5-11 • 235 • Junior-SQ  
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Sophomore

- Saw his first collegiate action vs. Vanderbilt
- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

2019 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)

High School

- Played three different positions during his prep career, including offensive lineman as a freshman, fullback during his sophomore and junior seasons and defensive lineman as a senior
- Three-year letter winner and two-year starter for head coach Will Wolford and Kevin Wallace
- Helped lead the Tigers to three straight district championship titles
- Averaged 4.0 tackles per game as a senior
- Earned the Grey Horton Award for character as a senior at St. Xavier
- Also a two-year letter winner on the lacrosse team
- Excellent in the classroom, earning a spot on the Principal's List as a senior ... Also won the Optimist Essay Award
- Active in community service for St. Xavier, volunteering to give blood five times
- Chose UK over Centre College

Personal

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of John and Tracy Varga
- Comes from a tennis family as dad, John, uncle Andrew Varga, uncles Paul and Andrew Varga, and aunt, Julie Hale, all played tennis at UK
- Double major in finance and marketing

Jack Says

- His nickname is "Meat"
- He chose Kentucky because it is his dream school and has a strong family tradition
- Besides playing football, he's also enjoys golf, video games, horse racing and movies
- If he could create a holiday he would call it "Mandatory Beach Day"
- The person he admires most is his dad because of his work ethic and dedication to excellence in everything he does





97

GRAHAM WALD

KICKER

6-0 • 176 • Sophomore-SQ  
Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)

2021 - Junior

- Practiced with the team

2020 - Freshman

- Practiced with the team
- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

High School

- Three-year starting kicker at Henry Clay High School for head coach Sam Simpson
- Three-time first-team All-City kicker (2017-19)
- Named first-team All-State in 2018 by the *Courier-Journal*
- Earned special teams Player of the Year at Henry Clay and was a second-team kickoff All-American in 2017
- As a junior, led the state with nine made field goals on 11 attempts, with his longest being from 36 yards ... Converted 27 of 30 extra-point attempts
- Also served as the Blue Devils' punter (34.7-yard average) and had 23 touchbacks on 49 kickoffs
- Also a member of the soccer team
- An excellent student with a 4.2 weighted GPA
- Chose Kentucky over Louisville

Personal

- Born in Lexington, Kentucky
- Son of Darrin and Anne Wald; Julia and Brian Hunt
- Siblings are Laine and Grace
- Major is pre-finance

Graham Says

- His nickname is "Tilo"
- He chose Kentucky because it's in his hometown, has excellent academic programs, and he loves the football program and coaching staff
- After football his dream job is to be a financial advisor
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he has broken both collarbones
- Three words to describe him are amiable, considerate, and hardworking



32

TREVIN WALLACE

INSIDE LINEBACKER

6-2 • 220 • Freshman-HS  
Jesup, Ga. (Wayne County)

2021 - Freshman

- Named to All-SEC Freshman Team
- Has seen action in all 12 games this season with one starting assignment at Mississippi State
- Has recorded 32 total tackles with 4.0 tackles for loss, two sacks, a forced fumble, a pass breakup and a quarterback hurry this season
- Named SEC Freshman of the Week after charting a career-high 12 tackles, including 2.0 for loss, in his first collegiate start at outside linebacker at Mississippi State
- Scored the game-changing touchdown, off a blocked field goal, in UK's 20-13 win over No. 10/9-ranked Florida ... With UK trailing 10-7 in the third quarter, he caught a blocked field goal, weaved his way through traffic, then sprinted for a 76-yard touchdown ... His first collegiate score put UK in the lead and the Wildcats never trailed again ... Also made two tackles during the game

High School

- A four-star prospect by all of the national recruiting analysts
- Ranked as the nation's 35 overall prospect and No. 2 inside linebacker by 247Sports
- Rated as the state of Georgia's No. 6 overall player
- A two-way difference-maker and four-year letter winner for head coach Ken Cribb at Wayne County High School
- Saw action at receiver, running back, quarterback, and multiple linebacker spots, plus had reps as a kick and punt returner during his prep career
- Totaled 96 tackles, 12.0 tackles for loss, 5.0 sacks, three forced fumbles and an interception on defense as a senior
- Had 78 rushes for 910 yards and seven touchdowns and 10 catches for 79 receiving yards playing on the offensive side of the ball
- Had an incredible performance in his final high school game, rushing 28 times for 382 yards and three touchdowns
- Also played every snap at OLB in the game
- Earned WCHS Varsity Offensive Player of the Week for his performance in the playoffs
- Named the Gibson Animal Clinic Defensive Player of the Year in 2020
- Named a *Sports Illustrated* All-American
- Played in only four games as a junior due to injury
- Also a four-year letter winner on the track team for the Yellow Jackets in the 100- and 200-meter dashes, 110m hurdles, high jump, long jump, and shot put
- Broke the WCHS long jump record with a jump of 23' 4.25", a record that stood for 44 years

- Won the state weightlifting championship with a power clean of 335 pounds
- Chose Kentucky over Auburn and Ole Miss

Personal

- Born in Jesup, Georgia
- Son of Adrian and Trevor Wallace
- Siblings are Kolby, Tionne, Tavion, and Titus
- Uncle, Robert Bryant, was a linebacker at Oklahoma from 2009-11
- Major is animal sciences

Trevin Says

- His nickname is "Dooda"
- He chose Kentucky because of its great academic programs
- After football his dream job is to be a veterinarian
- The last time he was starstruck was when he saw his sister when she came home from the military
- Three words to describe him are calm, cool, and collected

WALLACE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls.	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	QBH	Int.	PBU
2021	ILB	12-1	32	2.0-5	4.0-11	1/0	1	0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12-1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2.0-5</b>	<b>4.0-11</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

WALLACE'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. UTC	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	1	1.0-3	1.0-3	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	12	2.0-6	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	5	1.0-4	1.0-4	1	1	0	0	0
at Louisville	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4.0-13</b>	<b>2.0-7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

WALLACE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 12, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
Tackle for loss: 2.0, 12, at Mississippi State, Oct 30, 2021  
Sacks: 1.0, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
Quarterback hurries: 1, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
Pass breakups: 1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
Forced fumbles: 1, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
Special teams touchdown: 1, vs Florida, Oct 2, 2021 (picked up blocked field goal)





66

NAASIR  
WATKINS

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-5 • 300 • Senior-3L  
Laurel, Md. (Our Lady of Good Counsel)

**2021 - Senior**

- Practiced with the team

**2020 - Junior**

- Saw action in only one game (Tennessee) due to a knee injury

**2019 - Sophomore**

- Saw action in all 13 games
- Valuable reserve who was the backup for both the left and right tackle positions all season
- Had 12 knockdown blocks and allowed only one quarterback sack
- Helped UK set single-season school records with 3,624 rushing yards, 36 rushing touchdowns, and 6.3 yards per carry

**2018 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in 11 games and earned his first career start at left tackle in the season opener vs. Central Michigan
- Missed the Texas A&M game with injury

**2017 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season

**High School**

- A three-star offensive line prospect by all four major recruiting services
- Played tackle and tight end in high school as he possessed an uncommon level of athleticism for a high school lineman
- Ranked as the No. 19 recruit in the state of Maryland and the No. 92 overall offensive tackle in his class according to 247 Sports
- ESPN.com listed him as the 94th-best OT nationally
- Second-team All-Sentinel by *The Sentinel*
- Named second-team All-Conference defense by the WCAC
- Coached by Bill Milloy
- Chose UK over offers from Baylor, Temple and Old Dominion
- High school teammate of fellow 2017 signee Josh Paschal

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Kentucky Children's Hospital (2020)
- Volunteered at Deep Springs Elementary

**Personal**

- Name pronounced "Naasir (nah-SEAR)"
- Born in Bowie, Maryland
- Son of Michelle Owens and Kevin Watkins
- Siblings are Taajwar and Aubrey

- Father, Kevin, played football at Norfolk State, while an uncle, Bryan Watkins, played at Pitt and another uncle, Randal Henry, played at Navy
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in economics

**Naasir Says**

- His nickname is "Nas"
- He chose Kentucky because of the hospitality and the competition
- Most people don't know his middle name is Aakbar
- One word to describe him on the field is "smooth"
- The best advice he's ever received is "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars."



13

J.J.  
WEAVER

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-5 • 231 • Sophomore-1L  
Louisville, Ky. (Moore Traditional)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Named one of the three award winners for the 2021 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year
- Capital One Orange Bowl Courage Award nominee
- Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Has seen action in 24 career games with seven career starts, including five straight
- Has played in all 12 games this season with six starts
- Has 73 career tackles, including 16.5 tackles for loss and 6.5 sacks in just 24 games played ... Also has two interceptions
- This season, has 34 tackles, 10.0 tackles for loss, a team-high 6.0 sacks, four quarterback hurries, two interception, one forced fumble and one pass breakup
- Has made at least one TFL in eight of 12 games
- Had four tackles, including a career-high 2.5 sacks vs. Tennessee
- Made his first career interception in the fourth quarter in the win over No. 10/9 Florida and returned it 20 yards ... Also had two tackles, including a shared tackle for loss, and a quarterback hurry
- Had a crucial eight-yard sack on Missouri's final possession of the game ... Also had a three-yard tackle for loss and caused a fumble in the win
- In his first game since returning from a torn ACL, totaled two tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss and a career-high 1.5 sacks in the season opener vs. ULM

**2020 - r-Freshman**

- All-SEC Freshman Team (Coaches)
- Suffered a torn ACL in his right knee at Florida (11/28) and missed the final two games of the season

- In nine games, had 33 tackles, 6.5 TFL, 0.5 sacks, two quarterback hurries and a pass breakup
- Totaled a career-high tying six tackles in his first collegiate start at Florida
- Earned SEC Freshman of the Week after totaling a career-high six tackles in Kentucky's 34-7 win at No. 18/17-ranked Tennessee ... Made two tackles for loss, totaling -8 yards ... Had a three-yard TFL in the third quarter, helping force a punt that preceded a UK touchdown drive on the ensuing possession
- FWAA Freshman All-America Team Watch List

**2019 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Saw action in three games (Missouri, Vanderbilt and Louisville)
- Had six tackles, two PBUs and a quarterback hurry
- Totaled five tackles, along with a tackle for loss and a QBH in the win over Vanderbilt
- Made his collegiate debut vs. Missouri and totaled a tackle and a PBU

**High School**

- One of the nation's best linebacker prospects, ranking as the 213th best player in the nation according to Rivals
- The site also has Weaver as the 14th best player in the class at his position and the fourth-best prospect in the state of Kentucky
- Rated as a four-star prospect by Rivals and 247sports
- Recorded 70 tackles, 10 sacks, three interceptions and a fumble recovery as a senior
- His strong performance helped Moore win 11 games and advance to the quarterfinals of the state championships
- Also played tight end in high school and caught six passes for 102 yards and three touchdowns in 2018
- Was named to the 2018 *Lexington Herald-Leader* Class of the Commonwealth
- An all-state honoree
- Coached by Carlo Stallings
- Chose Kentucky over Louisville, Miami and Purdue

**Personal**

- Born in Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Son of Stacey Sherrell and the late Terrance Weaver
- Brothers are Terrance Weaver and Bruce Sherrell
- Born with six fingers on his right hand
- Majoring in community leadership and development

**J.J. Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like home
- One word to describe him on the field is "motor"
- After football, his dream job is to be a football coach
- One sentence to describe Coach Stoops is "he's a father figure more than a coach"
- The best advice he's ever received is "just be yourself"



**WEAVER'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FF/FR	PBU	QBH	INT
2019	OLB	3-0	6	1.0-1	0-0	0/0	2	1	0
2020	OLB	9-1	33	6.5-14	0.5-1	0/0	1	2	0
2021	OLB	12-6	34	9.0-43	6.0-39	1/0	1	4	2-21
<b>Totals</b>		<b>24-7</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>16.5-58</b>	<b>6.5-40</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2-21</b>

**WEAVER'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FF	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH
vs. ULM	2	1.5-14	1.5-14	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	3	2.0-11	1.0-8	1	0	0	0	0
vs. UTC*	4	1.0-3	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at USC	2	1.0-5	1.0-5	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	2	0.5-0	0-0	0	0	1-20	0	1
vs. LSU	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	6	0.5-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	4	2.5-12	2.5-12	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	3	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. NMST*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	1
at Louisville*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1-1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9.0-43</b>	<b>6.0-39</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2-21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

**WEAVER'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

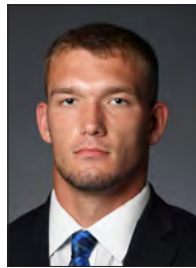
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FF	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH
at Auburn	1	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Ole Miss	1	0.5-1	0.5-1	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0
at Tennessee	6	2.0-8	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	4	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	4	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at Alabama	3	1.0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. USC			DNP					
vs. NC State			DNP					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6.5-14</b>	<b>0.5-1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

**WEAVER'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FF	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0
at Vanderbilt	5	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1.0-1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

**WEAVER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Tackles:** 6, twice, last at Florida, Nov 28, 2020 (3-3)  
**Sacks:** 2.5, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (12 yards)  
**Tackles for loss:** 2.5, vs Tennessee, Nov 6, 2021 (12 yards)  
**Pass breakups:** 1, 4x, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Quarterback hurry:** 1, 7x, last vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Forced fumble:** 1, vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
**Interceptions:** 1, twice, last at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021 (1 yards)



**39**  
**DILLON**  
**WHEATLEY**

**FULLBACK**

**6-1 • 201 • Senior-SQ**  
**Richmond, Ky. (Pikeville/Lexington Christian)**

**2021 - Senior**

- Saw his first collegiate action on Senior Day vs. New Mexico State

**2020 - Junior**

- Practiced with the team
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll

**2019 - Sophomore**

- Practiced with the team
- Transferred to Kentucky after playing one season at Pikeville College in Pikeville, Kentucky

**2018 - Freshman (Pikeville)**

- As a running back, played in eight games and had 23 carries for 142 yards and three scores

**High School**

- A four-year letter winner at Lexington Christian Academy for head coach Ethan Atchley
- Was part of the first team in school history that went undefeated in the regular season (2016) and was part of three straight region finalists
- Had a fantastic prep career statistically, finishing sixth all-time in KHSAA history with 107 career TDs, (101 rushing), 11th in points scored with 614 and 20th in rushing yards with 6,204 ... Also had 161 career tackles as a linebacker
- As a senior in 2017, compiled 1,747 yards rushing with 31 rushing touchdowns, helping LCA go 11-2
- 2017 Lexington Player of the Year and "Class of the Commonwealth" by the *Lexington Herald-Leader*
- Named one of the Commonwealth's top 36 players in 2017 by BluegrassPreps.com
- Earned offensive MVP in the Best of the Bluegrass game vs. Louisville
- Three-time All-State and four-time All-City selection by the *Herald-Leader*
- Also a three-year letter winner as a sprinter on the track team ... Helped LCA win the 2016-17 Class A Track championship
- Finished second in the state in the 100-meters
- Member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes

**Personal**

- Born in Lexington, Kentucky
- Son of Dwayne and Tracy Wheatley
- Has two brothers, Dalton and Dustin
- Major is agricultural economics

**Dillon Says**

- He chose to play football at Kentucky because his dad is a Kentucky alumnus and it was his favorite school growing up
- After football, his dream job is to be in an engineer

- Three words to describe him are humble, driven, and hard-nosed
- Best advice he's ever received is from his high school football coach, Ethan Atchley, "no one cares" aka, "no excuses"
- Hobbies include fishing, hunting, and riding four-wheelers



**36**  
**JAI**  
**WILLIAMS**

**TIGHT END**

**6-5 • 195 • Freshman-HS**  
**Lake Forest, Ill. (Lake Forest)**

**2021 - Freshman**

- 2020-21 First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll

**High School**

- Two-year starter for head coach Chuck Spagnoli
- A two-way player who lined up at linebacker and tight end and was a member of all four special teams units
- Lake Forest's 2020 season was postponed to the Spring of 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Voted a senior co-captain
- As a junior, helped Lake Forest finish 7-5 and reach the Class 6A state quarterfinals
- Earned All-North Suburban Conference honors as a junior
- Selected to play in the 2019 Illinois High School All-Star Shrine football game in Bloomington
- Also on the wrestling and rugby teams at LFHS
- Three-time All-State wrestler (2017, 2018, 2019)
- Chose Kentucky over Tennessee and Western Michigan

**Personal**

- Name is pronounced "Ji"
- Born in Lake Forest, Illinois
- Son of Joi Artis and James Williams
- Dad, James, also known as "Big Cat," played 12 seasons (1991-2003), mostly as an offensive tackle, with the Chicago Bears and is known as one of the "100 Greatest Bears of All-Time"
- Has one younger sister, Jia
- Major is architecture

**Jai Says**

- He chose Kentucky because of its architecture program and top-tier football program
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be an architect
- Besides playing football, he's also good at dodge ball and snowboarding
- If he could have dinner with three famous people, living or dead, he would choose Michael Jackson, Elvis Presley, and Bob Marley
- The best advice he's ever received is "bet on yourself"



27

JOEL  
WILLIAMS

NICKELBACK

6-1 • 213 • Sophomore-1L  
Baton Rouge, La. (Madison Prep Academy)

**2021 - Sophomore**

- Has season action in seven games and has two tackles (in the win over Florida and vs. New Mexico State)

**2020 - Freshman**

- Mid-year enrollee
- Played in nine games and had three tackles
- Charted his first career tackle in the win over Tennessee

**High School**

- Four-star recruit by all of the major recruiting services
- Ranked as the No. 26 safety nationally by Rivals
- Ability to play both sides of the ball, as he spent time at wide receiver in high school and totaled 988 receiving yards
- Had five interceptions and helped lead the Chargers to an 13-2 record and an appearance in the 3A playoffs as a senior
- Earned first-team All-State, All-Metro and All-District
- Had 10 TD catches, 35 tackles, 13 pass break-ups and three interceptions as a junior
- Three-year starter for coach Landry Williams
- Ran the 4x100-meter, 4x200-meter and 4x400-meter relays, and competed in the high jump as a junior on the track and field team
- Picked Kentucky over Alabama, Auburn, LSU, Florida, and Georgia

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at LexCity Church (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Son of Tangi and Joseph Williams
- Siblings are Italy Hayes, Avril Holmes, Megan Justine, Ariel Williams, Jeremy Williams, Joseph Williams Jr., and Joshua Williams
- Dad, Joseph, was a tight end at Grambling State from 1983-86 and went on to play with the Pittsburgh Steelers for two seasons
- Major is undecided

**Joel Says**

- His nickname is "Joe"
- He chose Kentucky because it is the best school and the people care
- One thing people may not know about him is that he never quits
- When he played football as a kid, he pretended to be Troy Polamalu

- The thing he looks forward to the most this season is taking over

WILLIAMS' CAREER STATISTICS									
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls	TFL-Yds	Sacks-Yds	FF/FR	PBU	QBH	INT
2020	CB	9-0	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
2021	CB	7-0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>16-0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

WILLIAMS' 2021 GAME-BY-GAME									
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds	Sacks-Yds	FF	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH	
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. LSU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

WILLIAMS' 2020 GAME-BY-GAME									
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds	Sacks-Yds	FF	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH	
at Auburn	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Alabama	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

WILLIAMS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS	
Tackles:	2, at Alabama, Nov 21, 2020



60

QUINTIN  
WILSON

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-1 • 296 • Junior-2L  
Cincinnati, Ohio (Turpin)

**2021 - Junior**

- Has seen action in eight of 12 games
- Named to CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team

**2020 - Sophomore**

- Played in five games
- Saw his first action of the season vs. Vanderbilt and also saw action at Alabama, at Florida, vs. South Carolina and vs. NC State
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)

- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Named to CoSIDA Academic All-District Team

**2019 - r-Freshman**

- Saw action in five games
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Dean's List (Fall 2019)

**2018 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Dean's List (Fall 2018)
- Dean's List (Spring 2019)
- First-Year SEC Academic Honor Roll
- Played in one game vs. Louisville

**High School**

- Considered one of the top OL prospects in Ohio
- Rated as the nation's No. 5 center by Rivals and No. 9 center by 247sports in the Class of 2018
- A three-star prospect by all the major recruiting services
- Played three seasons at Walnut Hills High School before transferring to Turpin his senior season
- Earned first-team Division II OPSWA All-Ohio honors in 2017
- Coached by Kent McCullough at Turpin
- Excelled in the classroom, graduating cum laude and as a Ohio All-Academic First Team member
- Chose Kentucky over offers from Virginia, Boston College, Cincinnati, Minnesota and Duke

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at Deep Springs Elementary (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Son of Terri and Lloyd Johnson and Ken Wilson
- Has one sister, Calais Pitman
- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in management ... Completed his bachelor's degree in two and one-half years with the help of advanced placement credits earned in high school ... Currently working on his MBA at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics
- One of three representatives for UK football on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

**Quintin Says**

- His nickname is "Q"
- He chose to play football at Kentucky because it's a family environment
- Other than playing in the NFL, his dream job is to be in sports management
- Most people would be surprised to know he didn't start playing football until his freshman year of high school
- One word to describe him on the field is "smart"





74

DAVID  
WOHLABAUGH JR.

OFFENSIVE LINE

6-6 • 283 • Freshman-HS  
Stow, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)

2021 - Freshman

- Mid-year enrollee In January 2021
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. ULM and also played at Mississippi State
- Redshirt season

High School

- Three-start recruit by all of the major recruiting services
- Rated the nation's No. 53 offensive guard by ESPN, the No. 67 tackle by 247sports and the No. 69 tackle by Rivals.com
- The No. 25 player in Ohio by 247, No. 30 by ESPN and No. 31 by Rivals
- First-team all-state as a senior by the Ohio Sportswriters Association
- Helped lead Walsh Jesuit High School to a 5-2 record and the second round of the Division II state playoffs
- His size is enhanced by the ability he has shown to make blocks in space
- Coached by Nick Alexander
- Also lettered two seasons in ice hockey
- Chose Kentucky over Arizona State, Penn State and West Virginia

Personal

- Named is pronounced "WUL-uh-bah"
- Born in Cleveland, Ohio
- Son of Dave and Virginia Wohlabaugh
- Comes from a football family, as his father, Dave, played at Syracuse and went on to a nine-year NFL career with New England (1995-98), Cleveland (1999-2002) and St. Louis (2003) ... The elder Wohlabaugh was a member of the 1995 All-Rookie Team, played in the 1997 Super Bowl, and started all 128 games of his NFL career ... Dad was a teammate with former Kentucky quarterback Tim Couch with the Cleveland Browns ... Brother, Jack, is currently a center at Duke
- Major is pre-management

David Says

- He chose Kentucky because it felt like family
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he's red-green color blind
- Besides playing football, he's also good at spike ball
- The person he admires most is his dad because he's a great role model
- If he could eat only three foods for the rest of his life he would choose chicken, bacon, and waffles



15

JORDAN  
WRIGHT

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-5 • 225 • Senior-3L  
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard)

2021 - Senior

- Has played in 41 career games with 11 starts
- Has 96 career tackles with 14.5 TFL and 7.5 sacks ... Also has 11 pass breakups, four forced fumbles, four fumble recoveries and six quarterback hurries
- Played in 18 of 12 games this season, missing three games of the last four with injury
- Has 20 tackles, 3.0 tackles for loss, a sack and five pass breakups this season
- Went out of the game late in the first half at Mississippi State with injury and did not return until the Louisville game on Nov. 27
- Had a career-high tying two PBUs in the road win over South Carolina
- Had six tackles, with a career-high-tying two tackles for loss (-9), an eight-yard sack and a pass breakup, vs. ULM in the season opener
- Preseason fourth-team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

2020 - Junior

- Started in 11 games in 2020
- Named SEC Defensive Player of the Week for win over Mississippi State
- Totaled 45 tackles, 5.5 TFL, 3.5 sacks, four PBUs, two QBHs, three forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and an interception
- Named to SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll
- Had five tackles, including a 12-yard sack, and caused a fumble in the win over NC State in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
- Made four tackles, caused a fumble, recovered two fumbles, had two pass breakups and a quarterback hurry in Kentucky's 41-18 win over South Carolina ... His two turnover plays helped produce 10 Kentucky points ... In the first quarter, he snatched the ball away from a Gamecock receiver and returned it four yards, setting up the first touchdown of the game ... Recovered a fumble in the second quarter, setting up a field goal
- Recorded a career-high seven tackles vs. Georgia
- Was a key part of the Kentucky defense that held Mississippi State without an offensive score in UK's 24-2 win ... Game totals featured a pass interception returned for a touchdown; career-high tying six tackles; career-best two tackles for loss (-9 yards), including a quarterback sack; and a pass breakup

2019 - Sophomore

- Played in all 13 games
- Totaled 27 tackles, 6.0 TFL (tied for third on the team), 3.0 sacks (fourth on the team), team-high tying two fumble recoveries one which resulted in a touchdown, one forced fumble, one PBU and a quarterback hurry

- Put the icing on the cake in the win over Virginia Tech in the Belk Bowl with a 28-yard fumble return for a TD on the game's final play ... Also had three tackles, including one for loss, and a pass breakup
- Totaled a career-best six tackles and a tackle for loss in the season opener vs. Toledo

2018 - r-Freshman

- Saw action in nine games, totaling four tackles
- Charted a career-high three tackles vs. Murray State, along with a pass breakup and QBH
- Also had a QBH in the win over Vanderbilt

2017 - Freshman

- Redshirt season

High School

- Dual-sport standout in football and basketball
- A three-star football recruit
- Rivals ranked him as the 25th-best defensive end and the 80th-best prospect in Florida, while 247Sports had him as the No. 28 weakside defensive end in the country and the No. 67 player in the state of Florida
- The 46th-best DE in the class of 2017 by ESPN
- Coached by Lorenzo Davis
- Compiled 25 sacks as a senior
- Doubled as a tight end in the red zone, catching six touchdowns, including a critical score against Boynton Beach in the District 15-6A three-team tiebreaker to lead Dillard to the district title
- Earned *Sun Sentinel's* All-Broward first-team defensive honors
- As a shooting guard, was a back-to-back preseason Fab Five selection and was an All-County pick
- Led the Panthers' hoops team to a Class 6A state title as a junior
- Named Mr. Dillard High School
- Chose Kentucky over Miami, Arkansas and Florida

Personal

- Born in Lauderhill, Florida
- Son of Wanda Burns-Wright and Louis Wright
- Has one sister, Kayla
- Comes from an athletic family as older sister, Kayla, played basketball at Nova Southeastern, while cousin, RaiQuan Gray, currently plays basketball at Florida State, and another cousin, Kenneth Ruff, was a defensive lineman at Syracuse
- Graduated on December 17, 2021 with a degree in community and leadership development

Jordan Says

- His nickname is "Jay Dub"
- He chose Kentucky because it was a perfect fit for himself and his family, and it felt like home
- His sports heroes are his parents because they push him to be the best he can be
- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a sports trainer
- One word to describe him on the field is "beast"

J. WRIGHT'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	QBH
2018	OLB	9-0	4	0-0	0-0	1	0/0	2
2019	OLB	13-0	27	6.0-33	3.0-25	1	1/2	1
2020	OLB	11-5	45	5.5-39	3.5-30	4	3/2	2
2021	OLB	8-6	20	3.0-9	1.0-8	5	0/0	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>41-11</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>14.5-81</b>	<b>7.5-63</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4/4</b>	<b>6</b>



**J. WRIGHT'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. ULM*	6	1.0-8	2.5-9	0/0	1	0	0
vs. Missouri*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
vs. UTC		(Injury)	DNP				
at USC*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	2	0	0
vs. Florida*	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. LSU*	6	0-0	1.0-0	0/0	1	0	1
at Georgia*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee		(Injury)	DNP				
at Vanderbilt		(Injury)	DNP				
vs. NMST		(Injury)	DNP				
at Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1.0-8</b>	<b>3.0-9</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**J. WRIGHT'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Auburn	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. St.	6	1.0-4	2.0-9	0/0	1	1-8	0
at UT*	3	1.0-9	1.0-9	0/0	0	0	0
at Missouri*	4	0-0	1.0-4	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia*	7	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vandy*	6	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Alabama*	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
at Florida	4	0.5-5	0.5-5	1/0	0	0	0
vs. USC	4	0-0	0-0	1/2	2	0	1
vs. NC State	5	1.0-12	1.0-12	1/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3.5-30</b>	<b>5.5-39</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1-8</b>	<b>2</b>

**J. WRIGHT'S 2019 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks-Y	TFL-Y	FF/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. Toledo	6	0-0	1.0-3	0/0	0	0	0
vs. EMU	2	1.0-13	1.0-13	0/0	0	0	1
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at USC	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Arkansas	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	2	1.0-8	1.0-8	1/1	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. UT Martin	3	1.0-4	1.0-4	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	5	0-0	1.0-1	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Va. Tech	3	0-0	1.0-4	0/1*	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3.0-25</b>	<b>6.0-33</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**J. WRIGHT'S 2018 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FR/FC	PBU	Int.	QBH
vs. Murray State	3	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	1
vs. Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at TAMU	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	1
at Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0

at Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Penn State	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**J. WRIGHT'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Tackles:** 7, vs Georgia, Oct 31, 2020  
**Sacks:** 1.5, vs. ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (13 yards)  
**Tackles for loss:** 2.5, ULM, Sept 4, 2021 (17 yards)  
**Pass breakups:** 2, twice, last at South Carolina, Sept 25, 2021  
**Quarterback hurry:** 1, 6x, last vs LSU, Oct 9, 2021  
**Forced fumbles:** 1, 5x, last vs Missouri, Sept 11, 2021  
**Fumble recovery:** 2, vs South Carolina, Dec 5, 2020  
**Fumble return for a touchdown:** 1, vs Virginia Tech, Dec 31, 2019  
**Interceptions:** 1, vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020  
**Interception return for TD:** 1, vs Mississippi State, Oct 10, 2020



**29**

LA'VELL  
**WRIGHT**

**RUNNING BACK**

**6-0 • 195 • Freshman-HS**  
Louisville, Ky. (North Hardin)

**2021 - Freshman**

- Mid-year enrollee In January 2021
- Saw his first collegiate action vs. ULM and has played in three games this season
- Has nine carries for 118 yards and one score ... Also has a tackle
- Got his first collegiate carries in the win over New Mexico State, carrying six times for 75 yards, including a 52-yard jaunt
- Rushed three times for 43 yards in the win over Louisville, including a 41-yard jaunt for his first collegiate touchdown
- Redshirt season

**High School**

- A three-star prospect who ranked as the No. 12 all-purpose back nationally by Rivals.com and the No. 6 player in Kentucky
- Rated the No. 7 player in Kentucky and No. 51 running back nationally in the 247Sports Composite
- A four-year starter who rushed for 4,396 yards and 56 touchdowns at North Hardin for head coach Brent Thompson
- Also proved to be a quality pass catcher with 1,260 receiving yards and six receiving TDs during his career
- As a senior, rushed for 884 yards on 127 carries (6.96 yards per carry) with 11 touchdowns in seven games
- Named Class 6A Player of the Year by the Kentucky Football Coaches Association
- Was a second-team All-State selection by the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and the AP in 2019 and 2020
- Chosen for the *Lexington Herald-Leader* "Class of the Commonwealth" listing of the top seniors in Kentucky

- In 2019, rushed for 1,819 yards and 25 touchdowns while averaging 7.0 yards per carry
- In 2018, rushed for 1,316 yards and 17 scores
- High school teammates of current UK defensive lineman Octavious Oxendine and fellow signee Jordan Lovett
- Opted to stay home and play for the Wildcats over Maryland, Northwestern, and West Virginia

**Personal**

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of Latarsha Wright and Theodore Wright
- Major is undecided

**La'Ve'll Says**

- Other than play in the NFL, his dream job is to be a coach
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he has a pet lizard, Dash
- Besides playing football, he's also good at drawing
- Three words to describe him are quiet, funny, and chill
- If he could eat only three foods for the rest of his life he would choose salmon croquettes, Fruity Pebbles, and gumbo

**WRIGHT'S CAREER STATISTICS**

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2021	3-0	9	118	13.1	1	52	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**WRIGHT'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME**

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
vs. ULM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. NMST	6	75	0	52	0	0	0	0
at Louisville	3	43	1	41	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**WRIGHT'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS**

**Rush attempts:** 6, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Rush yards:** 75, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021 (6 carries)  
**Long rush:** 52, vs New Mexico State, Nov 20, 2021  
**Rushing touchdowns:** 1, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021  
**Tackles:** 1, at Louisville, Nov 27, 2021



**71**

JOHN  
**YOUNG**

**OFFENSIVE LINE**

**6-6 • 296 • Freshman-RS**  
Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy)

**2021 - r-Freshman**

- Has seen action in all 12 games this season on special teams

**2020 - Freshman**

- Redshirt season
- Dean's List (Fall 2020)
- Mid-year enrollee





**High School**

- Four-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals
- Rated the No. 14 OT in the nation by Rivals
- Ranked the No. 4 player in Kentucky
- Coached by Stefan Lefors
- Helped lead Christian Academy to a 7-5 record in 2019 and an appearance in the Class 3-A District Four final
- A consensus first-team All-State member
- Named 2019 Class of the Commonwealth HM by the *Lexington Herald-Leader*
- Earned second-team All-State by the Associated Press after the 2018 season
- Picked Kentucky over Auburn, Georgia, Florida State, Louisville and others
- Also a four-year letter winner in track and field, earning All-State honors in the shot put

**Community Cats**

- Volunteered at LexCity Church (2020)
- Volunteered to pack food for God's Pantry (2020)
- Participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athlete's Men's Conference at Southland Christian (2020)

**Personal**

- Born in Louisville, Kentucky
- Son of Jill and Lawrence Young
- Has one sister, Sarah
- Major is pre-management

**John Says**

- He chose Kentucky because it was his favorite school growing up
- His dream job is to own a sandwich shop
- His hidden talent is sewing
- When he played football as a kid, he pretended to be Marshawn Lynch
- The best advice he's ever received is "pride comes before the fall"



# 2021 DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

### Left Tackle

51 Dare Rosenthal, 6-7, 327, Jr-Tr  
 56 Deondre Buford, 6-3, 290, Fr-RS

### Left Guard

68 Kenneth Horsey, 6-3, 302, Jr-2L  
 61 Austin Dotson, 6-6, 321, Sr-3L

### Center

79 Luke Fortner, 6-6, 297, %Sr-4L  
 60 Quintin Wilson, 6-1, 296, Jr-2L

### Right Guard

61 Austin Dotson, 6-6, 321, Sr-3L  
 62 Jager Burton, 6-4, 302, Fr-HS

### Right Tackle

70 Darian Kinnard, 6-5, 338, Sr-3L  
 77 Jeremy Flax, 6-6, 338, So-RS

### Tight End

83 Justin Rigg, 6-6, 261, %Sr-3L  
 80 Brenden Bates, 6-5, 255, Jr-2L  
 84 Izayah Cummings, 6-3, 230, So-1L

### Tight End

80 Brenden Bates, 6-5, 255, Jr-2L  
 83 Justin Rigg, 6-6, 261, %Sr-3L  
 84 Izayah Cummings, 6-3, 230, So-1L

### Wide Receiver (Z)

1 Wan'Dale Robinson, 5-10, 183, Jr-T  
 10 Chauncey Magwood, 6-0, 190, Fr-HS

### Wide Receiver (X)

86 DeMarcus Harris, 6-1, 180, So-1L  
 81 Isaiah Epps, 6-2, 188, Sr-3L

### Quarterback

7 Will Levis, 6-3, 232, Jr-Tr  
 11 Beau Allen, 6-2, 208, So-1L

### Running Back

24 Chris Rodriguez Jr., 5-11, 224, Jr-2L  
 0 Kavosiey Smoke, 5-9, 202, Jr-2L

## SPECIALISTS

### Kicker

96 Matt Ruffolo, 5-11, 210, %Sr-2L  
 12 Chance Poore, 6-2, 219, Jr-2L

### Punter

93 Wilson Berry, 6-4, 193, Fr-HS  
 or 94 Colin Goodfellow, 6-2, 233, %Sr-1L

### Long Snapper

46 Cade Degraw, 5-11, 206, Jr-1L  
 55 Clay Perry, 6-0, 187, So-Sq

### Punt Return

1 Wan'Dale Robinson, 5-10, 183, Jr-Tr  
 or 6 Josh Ali, 6-0, 190, %Sr-4L

### Kickoff Return

28 Zach Johnson, 5-10, 195, %Sr-4L  
 1 Wan'Dale Robinson, 5-10, 183, Jr-Tr

### Holder

12 Chance Poore, 6-2, 219, Jr-2L  
 94 Colin Goodfellow, 6-2, 233, %Sr-1L

## DEFENSE

### Jack Linebacker

15 Jordan Wright, 6-5, 225, Sr-3L  
 13 J.J. Weaver, 6-5, 231, So-1L

### Defensive End

4 Joshua Paschal, 6-3, 275, Sr-3L  
 90 Tre'vonn Rybka, 6-4, 301, Fr-RS

### Nose Guard

50 Marquan McCall, 6-3, 344, Sr-3L  
 52 Justin Rogers, 6-3, 328, So-1L

### Defensive Tackle

94 Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald, 6-6, 303, Sr-2L  
 92 Kahlil Saunders, 6-5, 270, Fr-HS

### Middle Linebacker

10 Jacquez Jones, 6-0, 235, Sr-Tr  
 32 Trevin Wallace, 6-2, 220, Fr-HS

### Weakside Linebacker

5 DeAndre Square, 6-1, 221, Sr-3L  
 6 Jared Casey, 6-3, 217, So-1L  
 or 44 Martez Thrower, 6-2, 212, Fr-HS

### Nickelback/Sam Linebacker

9 Davonte Robinson, 6-2, 210, %Sr-3L  
 7 Vito Tisdale, 6-1, 188, So-1L

### Cornerback

3 Cedrick Dort Jr., 5-11, 188, Sr-3L  
 37 Andru Phillips, 6-0, 182, Fr-RS

### Cornerback

14 Carrington Valentine, 6-0, 188, So-1L  
 21 Quandre Mosely, 6-2, 192, %Sr-2L

### Strong Safety

23 Tyrell Ajian, 6-0, 190, Sr-3L  
 34 Jalen Geiger, 6-1, 200, So-1L

### Free Safety

29 Yusuf Corker, 6-0, 204, Sr-3L  
 30 Taj Dodson, 6-1, 194, So-1L  
 11 Moses Douglass, 6-2, 203, So-1L

*% - Super Seniors returning for an extra year of eligibility in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020*



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Game Results  
All games

Team Results

	Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	Conf	Time	Attend
	09/04/2021	ULM	W	45-10	1-0	0-0	3:11	47693
*	09/11/2021	Missouri	W	35-28	2-0	1-0	3:23	58437
	09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W	28-23	3-0	1-0	3:09	55214
*	09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W	16-10	4-0	2-0	3:01	77559
*	10/02/2021	Florida	W	20-13	5-0	3-0	3:27	61632
*	10/09/2021	LSU	W	42-21	6-0	4-0	3:14	61690
*	10/16/2021	at Georgia	L	13-30	6-1	4-1	3:15	92746
*	10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L	17-31	6-2	4-2	3:17	49487
*	11/06/2021	Tennessee	L	42-45	6-3	4-3	3:38	61690
*	11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W	34-17	7-3	5-3	3:06	25798
	11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W	56-16	8-3	5-3	3:22	47749
	11/27/2021	at Louisville	W	52-21	9-3	5-3	3:21	55018





**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Team Game-by-Game  
All games**

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off		
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds		td	lg
09/04/2021	ULM	34	145	2	31	22	419	4	62	22	33	1	419	4	62	2	28	0	16	3	9	0	5	564
09/11/2021	Missouri	52	341	4	64	10	179	1	49	10	18	1	179	1	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	520
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	27	102	1	21	23	254	2	39	23	35	2	254	2	39	5	93	0	23	1	4	0	4	356
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	44	230	1	18	15	102	0	17	15	22	1	102	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	332
10/02/2021	Florida	30	137	1	16	7	87	1	41	7	17	1	87	1	41	1	25	0	25	1	6	0	6	224
10/09/2021	LSU	45	330	3	33	14	145	3	34	14	17	0	145	3	34	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	4	475
10/16/2021	at Georgia	27	51	0	9	32	192	2	16	32	42	0	192	2	16	1	23	0	23	0	0	0	0	244
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	20	66	0	15	17	150	1	21	17	28	3	150	1	21	3	50	0	18	2	77	1	74	216
11/06/2021	Tennessee	49	225	3	18	32	387	3	31	32	50	1	387	3	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	612
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	36	236	1	30	14	177	2	39	14	22	1	177	2	39	2	28	0	23	2	28	0	25	413
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	36	248	3	52	24	459	4	79	24	35	1	459	4	79	2	42	0	27	5	32	0	12	707
11/27/2021	at Louisville	49	362	7	41	15	149	0	27	15	19	0	149	0	27	1	12	0	12	1	5	0	5	511
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>449</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>5174</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>371</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4037</b>

**Kentucky Averages**

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
12	5.5	12.0	149.0	16.7	10.3	485.3	431.2

Date	Opponent	ua	Tackles			Sacks no-yds	Fumble		Pass Defense			bkld kick	PAT attempts			off		
			a	total	tfl-yds		ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
09/04/2021	ULM	36	30	66	14.0-63	6-43	0	0-0	0-0	2	3	0	6-6	0	0	0	0	45
09/11/2021	Missouri	44	14	58	3.0-14	1-8	1	0-0	1-0	6	6	0	5-5	0	0	0	7	35
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	33	26	59	5.0-10	0-0	0	0-0	1-95	9	3	0	4-4	0	0	0	7	28
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	38	10	48	5.0-25	2-12	0	0-0	0-0	2	3	0	1-1	0	0	0	0	16
10/02/2021	Florida	42	40	82	6.0-11	0-0	0	0-0	1-20	3	3	1	2-3	0	0	0	13	20
10/09/2021	LSU	33	32	65	9.0-39	4-28	1	1-0	0-0	1	6	0	6-6	0	0	0	7	42
10/16/2021	at Georgia	26	20	46	4.0-13	1-4	1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	1-2	0	0	0	0	13
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	28	80	108	8.0-24	2-12	0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	17
11/06/2021	Tennessee	27	8	35	6.0-23	5-21	1	1-0	0-0	0	1	0	6-6	0	0	0	7	42
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	36	24	60	6.0-26	4-24	1	0-0	1-31	1	1	0	4-4	0	0	0	7	34
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	36	20	56	5.0-18	3-10	2	1-0	1-38	11	6	0	8-8	0	0	0	7	56
11/27/2021	at Louisville	36	22	58	6.0-16	1-9	0	0-0	1-1	2	1	0	7-7	0	0	0	7	52
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>415</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>77.0-282</b>	<b>29-171</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52-54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>441</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>50.0-184</b>	<b>18-117</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10-2</b>	<b>12-161</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29-30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>265</b>

Date	Opponent	Punting							Field Goals			Kickoffs						
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
09/04/2021	ULM	2	71	35.5	39	0	0	2	0	1	1-1	45	0	8	512	64.0	7	1
09/11/2021	Missouri	2	77	38.5	39	0	0	2	0	0	0-1	0	1	6	390	65.0	5	0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	4	202	50.5	59	0	2	1	2	2	0-0	0	0	5	232	46.4	4	1
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	3	122	40.7	42	0	0	2	0	1	3-3	43	0	4	260	65.0	3	0
10/02/2021	Florida	6	255	42.5	47	0	1	1	0	3	0-0	0	0	4	260	65.0	4	0
10/09/2021	LSU	3	137	45.7	48	0	0	2	0	2	0-0	0	0	7	455	65.0	7	0
10/16/2021	at Georgia	7	358	51.1	70	0	2	0	4	1	0-1	0	1	3	167	55.7	2	0
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	3	161	53.7	70	0	0	1	2	1	1-1	41	0	4	250	62.5	3	0
11/06/2021	Tennessee	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-1	0	0	7	433	61.9	4	0
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	2	91	45.5	51	0	0	1	1	1	2-2	32	0	7	451	64.4	3	0
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	2	67	33.5	34	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	9	567	63.0	4	0
11/27/2021	at Louisville	1	33	33.0	33	0	0	0	0	0	1-1	43	0	9	583	64.8	7	0
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>4560</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>2462</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>3405</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Opponents Game-by-Game  
All games

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off		
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds		td	lg
09/04/2021	ULM	43	17	1	14	11	70	0	15	11-20-0	70	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87
09/11/2021	Missouri	24	104	0	14	34	294	4	24	34-52-1	294	4	24	1	25	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	398	
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	28	171	1	48	21	168	1	25	21-35-1	168	1	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	339	
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	26	58	0	10	17	158	1	30	17-25-0	158	1	30	1	19	0	19	1	7	0	7	7	216	
10/02/2021	Florida	39	171	0	16	24	211	1	22	24-32-1	211	1	22	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	13	13	382	
10/09/2021	LSU	35	147	2	30	22	261	1	41	22-38-0	261	1	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	408	
10/16/2021	at Georgia	27	166	1	35	14	250	3	27	14-20-0	250	3	27	1	-2	0	0	4	11	0	12	12	416	
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	35	94	3	12	36	344	1	29	36-39-0	344	1	29	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	11	11	438	
11/06/2021	Tennessee	27	145	1	37	15	316	4	75	15-20-0	316	4	75	2	64	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	461	
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	30	96	0	37	20	170	2	25	20-29-1	170	2	25	1	23	0	23	1	5	0	5	5	266	
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	26	93	0	22	16	181	0	41	16-35-1	181	0	41	3	62	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	274	
11/27/2021	at Louisville	31	144	2	29	19	208	1	28	19-28-1	208	1	28	2	55	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	352	
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>371</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>249-373-6</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4037</b>	
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>449</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>225-338-12</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>5174</b>	

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
12	3.8	10.6	139.6	22.4	5.9	374.3	336.4

Date	Opponent	Tackles			Sacks no-yds	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd kick	PAT attempts			off			
		ua	a	total		tfl-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh		brup	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
09/04/2021	ULM	35	36	71	4.0-24	4-24	2	2-2	1-0	3	2	0	1-1	0	0	0	10	10
09/11/2021	Missouri	41	24	65	5.0-15	2-11	2	1-0	1-9	1	3	1	4-4	0	0	0	7	28
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	41	20	61	5.0-14	1-8	2	1-0	2-16	1	4	0	2-2	0	0	0	6	23
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	37	32	69	3.0-10	0-0	4	2-0	1-1	3	3	0	1-1	0	0	0	0	10
10/02/2021	Florida	22	30	52	4.0-19	2-13	0	0-0	1-26	1	2	1	1-1	0	0	0	0	13
10/09/2021	LSU	34	36	70	3.0-15	1-6	0	0-0	0-0	2	1	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	21
10/16/2021	at Georgia	32	46	78	8.0-27	3-14	0	0-0	0-0	0	3	2	3-4	0	0	0	6	30
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	24	26	50	1.0-1	0-0	0	1-0	3-6	3	3	0	4-4	0	0	0	14	31
11/06/2021	Tennessee	52	44	96	3.0-25	3-25	0	0-0	1-56	2	8	0	6-6	0	0	0	7	45
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	39	12	51	4.0-16	1-9	0	0-0	1-49	0	2	0	0-0	0	1	0	0	17
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	42	26	68	3.0-10	1-7	2	3-0	1-0	5	5	0	1-1	0	0	0	7	16
11/27/2021	at Louisville	42	28	70	7.0-8	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	21
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>441</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>50.0-184</b>	<b>18-117</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10-2</b>	<b>12-161</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29-30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>415</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>77.0-282</b>	<b>29-171</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52-54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>400</b>

Date	Opponent	Punting							Field Goals			Kickoffs						
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
09/04/2021	ULM	10	421	42.1	49	0	1	2	0	1	1-1	29	0	3	175	58.3	1	0
09/11/2021	Missouri	5	196	39.2	43	0	0	4	0	4	0-0	0	0	5	325	65.0	5	0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	5	234	46.8	51	0	0	1	2	2	3-3	43	0	6	304	50.7	0	0
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	5	214	42.8	56	0	0	3	2	4	1-1	54	0	3	195	65.0	3	0
10/02/2021	Florida	5	214	42.8	58	0	1	1	2	1	2-3	51	1	5	255	51.0	2	0
10/09/2021	LSU	3	160	53.3	55	0	0	1	3	2	0-0	0	0	4	204	51.0	3	0
10/16/2021	at Georgia	4	189	47.3	63	0	1	0	2	1	1-1	26	0	6	369	61.5	2	1
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	3	111	37.0	50	0	0	0	1	0	1-2	27	0	6	376	62.7	3	0
11/06/2021	Tennessee	1	52	52.0	52	0	0	1	1	0	1-2	43	0	7	455	65.0	7	0
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	4	153	38.3	49	0	0	1	0	1	1-1	48	0	4	246	61.5	2	0
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	10	408	40.8	52	0	0	3	2	3	3-3	50	0	4	248	62.0	1	0
11/27/2021	at Louisville	3	110	36.7	40	0	0	1	0	0	0-1	0	0	4	253	63.3	2	0
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>2462</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>3405</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Kentucky</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>4560</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>2</b>



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Overall Team Statistics  
All games

Team Statistics

	UK	OPP
<b>Scoring</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>265</b>
Points per game	33.3	22.1
Points Off Turnovers	62	57
<b>First Downs</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>222</b>
Rushing	129	76
Passing	127	126
Penalty	17	20
<b>Rushing Yardage</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>1406</b>
Yards gained rushing	2679	1675
Yards lost rushing	206	269
Rushing attempts	449	371
Average per rush	5.5	3.8
Average per game	206.1	117.2
TDs Rushing	26	11
<b>Passing Yardage</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>2631</b>
Comp-Att-Int	225-338-12	249-373-6
Average per pass	8.0	7.1
Average per catch	12.0	10.6
Average per game	225.1	219.3
TDs Passing	23	19
<b>Total offense</b>	<b>5174</b>	<b>4037</b>
Total plays	787	744
Average per play	6.6	5.4
Average per game	431.2	336.4
<b>Kick returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>18-301</b>	<b>11-246</b>
<b>Punt returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>16-165</b>	<b>8-47</b>
<b>Int returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>12-161</b>
<b>Kick return average</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>22.4</b>
<b>Punt return average</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<b>Int return average</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Fumbles-Lost</b>	<b>18-10</b>	<b>11-3</b>
<b>Penalties-Yards</b>	<b>60-528</b>	<b>74-563</b>
Average per game	44.0	46.9
<b>Punts-Yards</b>	<b>35-1574</b>	<b>58-2462</b>
Average per punt	45.0	42.4
Net punt average	40.8	38.6
<b>Kickoffs-Yards</b>	<b>73-4560</b>	<b>57-3405</b>
Average per kick	62.5	59.7
Net kick average	39.4	38.1
<b>Time of possession / game</b>	<b>32:09</b>	<b>27:50</b>
<b>3rd-down conversion</b>	<b>70/137</b>	<b>60/155</b>
3rd-down pct	51%	39%
<b>4rd-down conversion</b>	<b>6/14</b>	<b>5/17</b>



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Overall Team Statistics  
All games

	<b>UK</b>	<b>OPP</b>
4rd-down pct	43%	29%
<b>Sacks by-Yards</b>	<b>29-171</b>	<b>18-117</b>
<b>Misc Yards</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Touchdowns scored</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Field goals - attempts</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>14-18</b>
<b>On-Side kicks</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>
<b>Red-zone scores</b>	<b>(42-50) 84%</b>	<b>(32-35) 91%</b>
<b>Red-zone touchdowns</b>	<b>(37-50) 74%</b>	<b>(24-35) 69%</b>
<b>PAT-attempts</b>	<b>(52-54) 96%</b>	<b>(30-32) 94%</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>394105</b>	<b>300608</b>
Games / Avg per game	7/56301	5/60122
Neutral site games	-	0/0

**Score by Periods**

<b>Team</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>OT</b>	<b>TOT</b>
Kentucky	112	110	75	103	0	400
Opponents	59	60	73	73	0	265



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Overall Defense Statistics  
All games**

**Team Defense**

#	Player	gp	Tackles				tfl/yds	Sacks no-yds	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	no-yds			int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
10	Jacquez Jones	12	40	46	86	3.5-9	0.5-3	1-0	4	3	1-0	1	.	.	
5	DeAndre Square	12	39	35	74	9-30	3-14	.	1	3	.	1	.	.	
29	Yusuf Corker	12	41	32	73	3.5-13	1-7	.	8	1	.	.	.	.	
14	Carrington Valentine	12	44	15	59	1.5-8	1-7	.	5	1	.	.	.	.	
4	Joshua Paschal	12	24	29	53	15.5-64	5.5-39	.	.	8	.	1	1	.	
9	Davonte Robinson	12	26	17	43	4-8	1-3	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	
23	Tyrell Ajian	12	23	16	39	.	.	1-95	3	.	.	.	.	.	
13	J.J. Weaver	12	19	15	34	10-46	6-39	2-21	1	4	.	1	.	.	
32	Trevin Wallace	12	16	16	32	4-13	2-7	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	
21	Quandre Mosely	12	17	5	22	2-5	.	1-38	5	.	.	.	.	.	
15	Jordan Wright	8	11	9	20	3-9	1-8	.	5	1	.	.	.	.	
7	Vito Tisdale	8	11	7	18	1.5-8	1-7	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	
3	Cedrick Dort Jr.	12	12	5	17	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
52	Justin Rogers	12	5	11	16	2.5-10	1.5-9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
34	Jalen Geiger	12	11	5	16	1-6	.	1-31	.	1	.	.	.	.	
8	Octavious Oxendine	6	6	9	15	3.5-21	2-16	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
99	Josaih Hayes	12	3	9	12	1.5-5	1-5	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.	
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	11	6	5	11	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	
56	D'Eryk Jackson	3	10	1	11	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
47	K.D. McDaniel	9	6	5	11	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	
94	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	11	5	5	10	2.5-7	2.5-7	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	
42	Marquez Bembry	12	4	5	9	1-4	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
6	Jared Casey	11	3	5	8	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
50	Marquan McCall	8	4	3	7	3.5-7	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	
30	Taj Dodson	10	5	1	6	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	
44	Martez Thrower	7	1	4	5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
96	Isaiah Gibson	6	1	3	4	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
11	Moses Douglass	3	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
37	Andru Phillips	8	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
28	Zach Johnson	12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
0	Kavosiey Smoke	12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
27	Joel Williams	7	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
91	Sam Anaele	2	1	1	2	1-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
92	Kahlil Saunders	4	2	.	2	2-4	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
1	Wan'Dale Robinson	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
61	Austin Dotson	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
24	Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
95	Jamarius Dinkins	3	.	1	1	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
29	La'Veil Wright	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
84	Izayah Cummings	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
55	Justice Dingle	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Overall Defense Statistics  
All games

##	Player	gp	Tackles				tfl/yds	Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	no-yds		int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf	
70	Darian Kinnard	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
35	Ricky Hyatt	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
38	William Nalty	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.	
10	Chauncey Magwood	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
24	Zac Berezowitz	9	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
12	Chance Poore	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
25	Jordan Lovett	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>77-282</b>	<b>29-171</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	
Opponents		12	441	360	801	50-184	18-117	12-161	36	23	10-2	12	4	0	



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Team Game Highs  
All games

**Kentucky - Game Highs**

<b>RUSHES</b>	52	Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	362	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>YARDS PER RUSH</b>	7.4	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	7	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	50	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	32	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	32	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	459	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PASS</b>	13.1	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	4	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	4	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>TOTAL PLAYS</b>	99	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>TOTAL OFFENSE</b>	707	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PLAY</b>	10.0	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>POINTS</b>	56	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>SACKS BY</b>	6	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>FIRST DOWNS</b>	35	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PENALTIES</b>	8	Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
<b>PENALTY YARDS</b>	69	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>TURNOVERS</b>	4	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	4	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	7	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	53.7	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	70	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	70	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	3	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	74	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Opponent Match Highs  
All games

**Opponent - Game Highs**

<b>RUSHES</b>	43	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	171	Florida (10/02/2021)
	171	Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
<b>YARDS PER RUSH</b>	6.1	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	3	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	52	Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	36	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	344	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PASS</b>	15.8	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	4	Missouri (09/11/2021)
	4	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>TOTAL PLAYS</b>	76	Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>TOTAL OFFENSE</b>	461	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PLAY</b>	9.8	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>POINTS</b>	45	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>SACKS BY</b>	4	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>FIRST DOWNS</b>	27	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>PENALTIES</b>	15	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>PENALTY YARDS</b>	115	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>TURNOVERS</b>	2	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	10	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	10	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	53.3	LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	63	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	4	Missouri (09/11/2021)
	4	at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	13	Florida (10/02/2021)





**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Team Match Lows  
All games**

**Kentucky - Game Lows**

<b>RUSHES</b>	20	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	51	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>YARDS PER RUSH</b>	1.9	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	0 0	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021) at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	17 17	LSU (10/09/2021) Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	7	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	87	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PASS</b>	4.6	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	0 0	at South Carolina (09/25/2021) at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>TOTAL PLAYS</b>	47	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>TOTAL OFFENSE</b>	216	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PLAY</b>	3.5	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>POINTS</b>	13	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>SACKS BY</b>	0 0	Florida (10/02/2021) Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
<b>FIRST DOWNS</b>	13	Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>PENALTIES</b>	3 3 3	LSU (10/09/2021) at Georgia (10/16/2021) Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>PENALTY YARDS</b>	15	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>INTERCEPTIONS BY</b>	0 0 0 0 0 0	Tennessee (11/06/2021) at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021) at Georgia (10/16/2021) LSU (10/09/2021) at South Carolina (09/25/2021) ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	0	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	0.0	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	0	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	0 0 0 0	at Louisville (11/27/2021) New Mexico St. (11/20/2021) Tennessee (11/06/2021) Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	0 0 0 0	Tennessee (11/06/2021) at Georgia (10/16/2021) at South Carolina (09/25/2021) Missouri (09/11/2021)



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Opponent Match Lows  
All games**

**Opponent - Game Lows**

<b>RUSHES</b>	24	Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	17	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>YARDS PER RUSH</b>	0.4	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	0	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	0	at Vanderbilt (11/13/2021)
	0	Florida (10/02/2021)
	0	at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
	0	Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	20	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	20	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
	20	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	11	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	70	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PASS</b>	3.5	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	0	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	0	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>TOTAL PLAYS</b>	47	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	47	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>TOTAL OFFENSE</b>	87	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>YARDS PER PLAY</b>	1.4	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>POINTS</b>	10	at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
	10	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>SACKS BY</b>	0	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
	0	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	0	at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
<b>FIRST DOWNS</b>	12	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PENALTIES</b>	3	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
	3	ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PENALTY YARDS</b>	18	LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>INTERCEPTIONS BY</b>	0	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
	0	at Georgia (10/16/2021)
	0	LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	1	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	36.7	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	40	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	0	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
	0	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	0	at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	0	at Louisville (11/27/2021)
	0	New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	0	Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	0	LSU (10/09/2021)
	0	Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
	0	Missouri (09/11/2021)
	0	ULM (09/04/2021)



**2021-22 Kentucky Football**  
**Individual Game Highs**  
**All games**

**Kentucky - Individual Game Highs**

<b>RUSHES</b>	27	Christopher Rodriguez Jr. vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	207	Christopher Rodriguez Jr. vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	4	Will Levis at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>LONG RUSH</b>	64	Wan'Dale Robinson vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	49	Will Levis vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	32	Will Levis at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	419	Will Levis vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	4	Will Levis vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	4	Will Levis vs ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>LONG PASS</b>	79	Will Levis vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>RECEPTIONS</b>	13	Wan'Dale Robinson vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>YARDS RECEIVING</b>	181	Wan'Dale Robinson vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>TD RECEPTIONS</b>	2	Justin Rigg vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	2	Josh Ali vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	2	Wan'Dale Robinson vs ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>LONG RECEPTION</b>	79	Wan'Dale Robinson vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	7	Colin Goodfellow at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	53.7	Colin Goodfellow at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	70	Colin Goodfellow at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	70	Colin Goodfellow at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	3	Colin Goodfellow vs Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	74	Josh Ali at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>LONG KICKOFF RETURN</b>	27	Zach Johnson vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
<b>TACKLES</b>	18	Jacquez Jones at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>SACKS</b>	2.5	J.J. Weaver vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>TACKLES FOR LOSS</b>	3.5	DeAndre Square vs ULM (09/04/2021)



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Opponent Individual Match Highs  
All games**

**Opponent - Individual Game Highs**

<b>RUSHES</b>	22	Tyrion Davis-Price vs LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>YARDS RUSHING</b>	147	Tyrion Davis-Price vs LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>TD RUSHES</b>	2	Dillon Johnson at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	2	Tyrion Davis-Price vs LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>LONG RUSH</b>	48	Ailym Ford vs Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
<b>PASS ATTEMPTS</b>	51	Connor Bazalak vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>PASS COMPLETIONS</b>	36	Will Rogers at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>YARDS PASSING</b>	344	Will Rogers at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
<b>TD PASSES</b>	4	Hendon Hooker vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	4	Connor Bazalak vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>LONG PASS</b>	75	Hendon Hooker vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>RECEPTIONS</b>	10	Tyler Badie vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>YARDS RECEIVING</b>	101	Brock Bowers at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>TD RECEPTIONS</b>	2	Brock Bowers at Georgia (10/16/2021)
	2	Daniel Parker vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>LONG RECEPTION</b>	75	JaVonta Payton vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>FIELD GOALS</b>	3	Ethan Albertson vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	3	Aaron Sears vs Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
<b>LONG FIELD GOALS</b>	54	Parker White at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
<b>PUNTS</b>	10	Josh Carlson vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	10	Devyn McCormick vs ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>PUNTING AVG</b>	53.3	Avery Atkins vs LSU (10/09/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT</b>	63	Jake Camarda at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>PUNTS INSIDE 20</b>	4	Kai Kroeger at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
	4	Grant McKinniss vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
<b>LONG PUNT RETURN</b>	13	Xzavier Henderson vs Florida (10/02/2021)
<b>LONG KICKOFF RETURN</b>	33	Jimmy Holiday vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
<b>TACKLES</b>	15	Qwynnterio Cole at Louisville (11/27/2021)
<b>SACKS</b>	2	Byron Young vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	2	Ty Shelby vs ULM (09/04/2021)
<b>TACKLES FOR LOSS</b>	2.5	Jalen Carter at Georgia (10/16/2021)
<b>INTERCEPTIONS</b>	1	J.J. Dervil vs New Mexico St. (11/20/2021)
	1	Chris Pierce at Vanderbilt (11/13/2021)
	1	Alontae Taylor vs Tennessee (11/06/2021)
	1	Shawn Preston Jr. at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	1	Cameron Young at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	1	Jalen Green at Mississippi St. (10/30/2021)
	1	Tre'Vez Johnson vs Florida (10/02/2021)
	1	Jaylan Foster at South Carolina (09/25/2021)
	1	Rashun Freeman vs Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
	1	CaMiron Smith vs Chattanooga (09/18/2021)
	1	Jaylon Carlies vs Missouri (09/11/2021)
	1	Jabari Johnson vs ULM (09/04/2021)



## 2021-22 Kentucky Football Combined Team Statistics All games

### Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
09/04/2021	ULM	W	45-10	47693
* 09/11/2021	Missouri	W	35-28	58437
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W	28-23	55214
* 09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W	16-10	77559
* 10/02/2021	Florida	W	20-13	61632
* 10/09/2021	LSU	W	42-21	61690
* 10/16/2021	at Georgia	L	13-30	92746
* 10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L	17-31	49487
* 11/06/2021	Tennessee	L	42-45	61690
* 11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W	34-17	25798
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W	56-16	47749
11/27/2021	at Louisville	W	52-21	55018

### Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	205	1284	12	1272	6.2	8	41	106.0
Kavosiey Smoke	12	81	429	13	416	5.1	4	32	34.7
Will Levis	12	92	511	124	387	4.2	9	33	32.3
JuTahn McClain	8	24	144	7	137	5.7	0	22	17.1
La'Veil Wright	3	9	119	1	118	13.1	1	52	39.3
Wan'Dale Robinson	12	7	111	0	111	15.9	0	64	9.3
Mike Drennen	6	7	21	4	17	2.4	1	9	2.8
Josh Ali	10	3	20	7	13	4.3	1	11	1.3
Tyler Markray	1	2	10	0	10	5.0	0	8	10.0
Beau Allen	3	4	26	17	9	2.3	1	23	3.0
Travis Tisdale	1	1	4	0	4	4.0	0	4	4.0
Team	12	14	0	21	-21	-1.5	0	0	-1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>2679</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>206.1</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>1675</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>117.2</b>

### Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Will Levis	12	149.5	216-325-12	66.5	2594	23	79	216.2
Beau Allen	3	131.1	8-12-0	66.7	92	0	31	30.7
Chauncey Magwood	12	226.0	1-1-0	100.0	15	0	15	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>149.0</b>	<b>225-338-12</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>225.1</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>139.6</b>	<b>249-373-6</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>219.3</b>

### Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Wan'Dale Robinson	12	94	1164	12.4	7	79	97.0
Josh Ali	10	41	601	14.7	3	62	60.1
Justin Rigg	12	18	178	9.9	4	34	14.8
Izayah Cummings	12	13	182	14.0	3	31	15.2
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	12	56	4.7	2	12	4.7
Isaiah Epps	11	11	171	15.5	1	57	15.5
DeMarcus Harris	12	10	122	12.2	1	17	10.2
Brenden Bates	12	10	64	6.4	1	15	5.3
JuTahn McClain	8	6	42	7.0	1	25	5.3
Rahsaan Lewis	5	2	4	2.0	0	4	0.8
Mike Drennen	6	2	3	1.5	0	8	0.5
Jordan Dingle	4	2	54	27.0	0	31	13.5
Kavosiey Smoke	12	1	17	17.0	0	14	1.4
Tae Tae Crumes	4	1	10	10.0	0	10	2.5
Will Levis	12	1	15	15.0	0	15	1.3
Chauncey Magwood	12	1	17	17.0	0	17	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>225.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>219.3</b>

### Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	9-3	6-1	3-2	0-0
CONFERENCE	5-3	3-1	2-2	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	4-0	3-0	1-0	0-0

### Team Statistics

	UK	OPP
<b>First Downs</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>222</b>
Rushing	129	76
Passing	127	126
Penalty	17	20
<b>Rushing Yardage</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>1406</b>
Rushing attempts	449	371
Average per rush	5.5	3.8
Average per game	206.1	117.2
TDs Rushing	26	11
<b>Passing Yardage</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>2631</b>
Comp-Att-Int	225-338-12	249-373-6
Average per pass	8.0	7.1
Average per catch	12.0	10.6
Average per game	225.1	219.3
TDs Passing	23	19
<b>Total offense</b>	<b>5174</b>	<b>4037</b>
Average per play	6.6	5.4
Average per game	431.2	336.4
<b>Kick returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>18-301</b>	<b>11-246</b>
<b>Punt returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>16-165</b>	<b>8-47</b>
<b>Int returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>12-161</b>
<b>Fumbles-Lost</b>	<b>18-10</b>	<b>11-3</b>
<b>Penalties-Yards</b>	<b>60-528</b>	<b>74-563</b>
<b>Punts-Avg</b>	<b>35-45.0</b>	<b>58-42.4</b>
<b>Time of possession / game</b>	<b>32:09</b>	<b>27:50</b>
<b>3rd-down conversion</b>	<b>70/137</b>	<b>60/155</b>
<b>4rd-down conversion</b>	<b>6/14</b>	<b>5/17</b>

### Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
J.J. Weaver	2	21	10.5	0	20
Quandre Mosely	1	38	38.0	1	38
Jalen Geiger	1	31	31.0	1	31
Tyrell Ajjan	1	95	95.0	1	95
Jacquez Jones	1	0	0.0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>



## 2021-22 Kentucky Football Combined Team Statistics All games

### Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Matt Ruffolo	8-11	72.7	0-0	3-3	1-3	4-4	0-1	45	2
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>3-6</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1</b>

### Scoring

Player	td	fg	PAT						pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	
Matt Ruffolo	-	8-11	52-54	-	-	-	-	-	76
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
Will Levis	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Wan'Dale Robinson	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Josh Ali	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Kavosiey Smoke	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Justin Rigg	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Izayah Cummings	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
JuTahn McClain	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
La'Ve'll Wright	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Beau Allen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Mike Drennen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Isaiah Epps	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Brenden Bates	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tyrell Ajian	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jalen Geiger	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
DeMarcus Harris	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Eli Cox	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Quandre Mosely	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Trevin Wallace	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>52-54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>29-30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>265</b>

### Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Kentucky	112	110	75	103	0	400
Opponents	59	60	73	73	0	265

### Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Colin Goodfellow	31	1426	46.0	70	5	8	11	9	0
Wilson Berry	4	148	37.0	39	0	4	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2462</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>

### Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Josh Ali	9	133	14.8	1	74
Wan'Dale Robinson	6	20	3.3	0	5
Rahsaan Lewis	1	12	12.0	0	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>

### Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Zach Johnson	14	259	18.5	0	27
Kavosiey Smoke	2	31	15.5	0	19
Justin Rigg	1	0	0.0	0	0
Chauncey Magwood	1	11	11.0	0	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>

### All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	1272	56	0	0	0	1328	110.7
Wan'Dale Robinson	12	111	1164	20	0	0	1295	107.9
Josh Ali	10	13	601	133	0	0	747	74.7
Kavosiey Smoke	12	416	17	0	31	0	464	38.7
Will Levis	12	387	15	0	0	0	402	33.5
Zach Johnson	12	0	0	0	259	0	259	21.6
Izayah Cummings	12	0	182	0	0	0	182	15.2
JuTahn McClain	8	137	42	0	0	0	179	22.4
Justin Rigg	12	0	178	0	0	0	178	14.8
Isaiah Epps	11	0	171	0	0	0	171	15.5
DeMarcus Harris	12	0	122	0	0	0	122	10.2
La'Ve'll Wright	3	118	0	0	0	0	118	39.3
Tyrell Ajian	12	0	0	0	95	95	95	7.9
Brenden Bates	12	0	64	0	0	0	64	5.3
Jordan Dingle	4	0	54	0	0	0	54	13.5
Quandre Mosely	12	0	0	0	0	38	38	3.2
Jalen Geiger	12	0	0	0	0	31	31	2.6
Chauncey Magwood	12	0	17	0	11	0	28	2.3
J.J. Weaver	12	0	0	0	0	21	21	1.8
Mike Drennen	6	17	3	0	0	0	20	3.3
Rahsaan Lewis	5	0	4	12	0	0	16	3.2
Tyler Markray	1	10	0	0	0	0	10	10.0
Tae Tae Crumes	4	0	10	0	0	0	10	2.5
Beau Allen	3	9	0	0	0	0	9	3.0
Travis Tisdale	1	4	0	0	0	0	4	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>5824</b>	<b>485.3</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>4491</b>	<b>374.3</b>

### Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Will Levis	12	417	387	2594	2981	248.4
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	205	1272	0	1272	106.0
Kavosiey Smoke	12	81	416	0	416	34.7
JuTahn McClain	8	24	137	0	137	17.1
La'Ve'll Wright	3	9	118	0	118	39.3
Wan'Dale Robinson	12	7	111	0	111	9.3
Beau Allen	3	16	9	92	101	33.7
Mike Drennen	6	7	17	0	17	2.8
Chauncey Magwood	12	1	0	15	15	1.3
Josh Ali	10	3	13	0	13	1.3
Tyler Markray	1	2	10	0	10	10.0
Travis Tisdale	1	1	4	0	4	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>2473</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>5174</b>	<b>431.2</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>4037</b>	<b>336.4</b>

### Team Defense

#	Player	gp	Tackles			tfl/yds	Sacks	Pass defense		Fumbles	blkd			
			ua	a	tot			brup	qbh					
10	Jacquez Jones	12	40	46	86	3.5-9	0.5-3	1-0	4	3	1-0	1	.	.



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Combined Team Statistics  
All games**

##	Player	gp	Tackles				tfl/yds	Sacks no-yds	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot				int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
5	DeAndre Square	12	39	35	74	9-30	3-14	.	1	3	.	1	.	.	
29	Yusuf Corker	12	41	32	73	3.5-13	1-7	.	8	1	.	.	.	.	
14	Carrington Valentine	12	44	15	59	1.5-8	1-7	.	5	1	.	.	.	.	
4	Joshua Paschal	12	24	29	53	15.5-64	5.5-39	.	.	8	.	1	1	.	
9	Davonte Robinson	12	26	17	43	4-8	1-3	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	
23	Tyrell Ajian	12	23	16	39	.	.	1-95	3	.	.	.	.	.	
13	J.J. Weaver	12	19	15	34	10-46	6-39	2-21	1	4	.	1	.	.	
32	Trevin Wallace	12	16	16	32	4-13	2-7	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	
21	Quandre Mosely	12	17	5	22	2-5	.	1-38	5	.	.	.	.	.	
15	Jordan Wright	8	11	9	20	3-9	1-8	.	5	1	.	.	.	.	
7	Vito Tisdale	8	11	7	18	1.5-8	1-7	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	
3	Cedrick Dort Jr.	12	12	5	17	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
52	Justin Rogers	12	5	11	16	2.5-10	1.5-9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
34	Jalen Geiger	12	11	5	16	1-6	.	1-31	.	1	.	.	.	.	
8	Octavious Oxendine	6	6	9	15	3.5-21	2-16	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
99	Josaih Hayes	12	3	9	12	1.5-5	1-5	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.	
47	K.D. McDaniel	9	6	5	11	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	
56	D'Eryk Jackson	3	10	1	11	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	11	6	5	11	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	
94	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	11	5	5	10	2.5-7	2.5-7	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	
42	Marquez Bemby	12	4	5	9	1-4	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
6	Jared Casey	11	3	5	8	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
50	Marquan McCall	8	4	3	7	3.5-7	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	
30	Taj Dodson	10	5	1	6	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	
44	Martez Thrower	7	1	4	5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
11	Moses Douglass	3	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
96	Isaiah Gibson	6	1	3	4	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
27	Joel Williams	7	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
91	Sam Anaele	2	1	1	2	1-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
37	Andru Phillips	8	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
28	Zach Johnson	12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
92	Kahlil Saunders	4	2	.	2	2-4	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	
0	Kavosiey Smoke	12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
10	Chauncey Magwood	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
25	Jordan Lovett	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
29	La'Vell Wright	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
95	Jamarius Dinkins	3	.	1	1	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
1	Wan'Dale Robinson	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
24	Zac Berezowitz	9	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
84	Izayah Cummings	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
35	Ricky Hyatt	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
70	Darian Kinnard	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
 Combined Team Statistics  
 All games

##	Player	gp	Tackles				tfl/yds	Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	no-yds		int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf	
55	Justice Dingle	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
12	Chance Poore	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
38	William Nalty	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.	
61	Austin Dotson	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
24	Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
96	Matt Ruffolo	12	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>77-282</b>	<b>29-171</b>	<b>6-185</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	
Opponents		12	441	360	801	50-184	18-117	12-161	36	23	10-2	12	4	0	





**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Total Tackles Game-by-Game  
All games**

**Total Tackles**

Player	S-A	Total	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Jacquez Jones	40-46	86	2-2	4-3	5-4	2-2	2-7	7-2	3-1	3-15	3-2	3-3	4-4	2-1
DeAndre Square	39-35	74	4-2	5-0	4-1	5-3	5-8	5-3	3-1	1-11	2-1	3-2	2-2	0-1
Yusuf Corker	41-32	73	1-3	5-1	4-2	3-1	3-5	3-4	2-2	4-7	3-1	6-2	4-3	3-1
Carrington Valentine	44-15	59	0-1	4-1	7-4	4-0	6-2	6-1	1-2	3-1	2-0	4-1	2-0	5-2
Joshua Paschal	24-29	53	6-2	0-2	1-1	2-1	4-3	1-2	4-2	1-5	0-1	2-5	2-4	1-1
Davonte Robinson	26-17	43	2-4	5-0	3-2	2-0	5-1	1-4	0-2	2-1	-	2-1	2-0	2-2
Tyrell Ajian	23-16	39	1-2	6-2	0-3	4-0	7-1	0-2	1-1	1-4	-	0-1	1-0	2-0
J.J. Weaver	19-15	34	1-1	3-0	2-2	2-0	2-2	1-1	0-3	1-5	3-1	3-0	-	1-0
Trevin Wallace	16-16	32	-	-	2-0	1-0	0-2	1-0	2-0	3-9	1-1	2-0	3-2	1-2
Quandre Mosely	17-5	22	1-0	2-1	-	1-0	2-0	1-1	4-0	0-2	3-0	1-0	1-0	1-1
Jordan Wright	11-9	20	5-1	1-2	DNP	2-1	1-1	2-4	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-
Vito Tisdale	11-7	18	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	1-1	-	2-3	5-1	2-0	0-1	1-1
Cedrick Dort Jr.	12-5	17	-	4-0	-	2-0	1-0	0-2	1-1	1-2	-	2-0	1-0	-
Jalen Geiger	11-5	16	1-0	1-0	1-0	2-0	-	-	0-1	1-1	1-0	3-0	-	1-3
Justin Rogers	5-11	16	-	-	-	-	1-2	0-1	1-2	0-3	-	3-1	0-1	0-1
Octavious Oxendine	6-9	15	3-2	-	0-2	1-1	0-3	2-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Josaih Hayes	3-9	12	1-1	-	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-1	-	2-2	-	0-1	-	-
D'Eryk Jackson	10-1	11	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	3-0	7-1
Tre'vonn Rybka	6-5	11	0-1	0-1	1-0	-	1-1	2-1	-	-	DNP	0-1	2-0	-
K.D. McDaniel	6-5	11	2-0	-	1-1	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	0-1	-	0-3	2-0	1-0
Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	5-5	10	2-1	-	-	-	DNP	0-1	0-1	1-0	2-0	-	0-2	-
Marquez Bemby	4-5	9	0-1	-	1-0	1-0	-	-	-	1-2	1-0	-	-	0-2
Jared Casey	3-5	8	0-1	1-0	0-2	-	-	-	-	0-2	DNP	-	1-0	1-0
Marquan McCall	4-3	7	1-1	1-1	0-1	1-0	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	1-0
Taj Dodson	5-1	6	-	DNP	DNP	1-0	-	-	1-0	0-1	-	-	1-0	2-0
Martez Thrower	1-4	5	0-1	1-0	DNP	DNP	-	-	-	0-3	-	DNP	DNP	DNP
Moses Douglass	4-0	4	3-0	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-0
Isaiah Gibson	1-3	4	0-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	0-1	DNP	1-0	0-1	-	-
Kahlil Saunders	2-0	2	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-0	1-0
Kavosiey Smoke	2-0	2	-	1-0	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zach Johnson	2-0	2	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-
Andru Phillips	2-0	2	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	1-0	-
Joel Williams	1-1	2	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-0	-	-	-	DNP	-	0-1	-
Sam Anaele	1-1	2	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-1
La'Veil Wright	1-0	1	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	1-0
Chance Poore	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-
Ricky Hyatt	1-0	1	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-0	DNP
Wan'Dale Robinson	1-0	1	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Justice Dingle	1-0	1	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-0	-
Chauncey Magwood	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-0	-
Austin Dotson	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-
Izayah Cummings	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jamarius Dinkins	0-1	1	0-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP
William Nalty	0-1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0-1
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	0-1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0-1	-	-
Zac Berezowitz	0-1	1	-	-	-	-	-	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	-	-	0-1
Jordan Lovett	0-1	1	0-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Darian Kinnard	0-1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0-1	-	-



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Rushing/Receiving Game-by-Game  
All games**

**Rushing**

Player	No-Yds/TD	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	205-1272/8	19-125/1	27-207/2	13-46/0	26-144/0	19-99/1	16-147/1	7-7/0	8-34/0	22-109/0	16-114/1	16-119/1	16-121/1
Will Levis	92-387/9	4-6/0	11-25/1	3-18/0	5-30/0	6-21/0	11-75/2	10-12/0	3-9/0	15-47/2	6-32/0	4-11/0	14-113/4
Kavosiey Smoke	81-416/4	5-26/0	8-39/0	7-27/0	9-50/1	4-17/0	12-104/0	5-14/0	8-19/0	11-53/1	1-1/0	3-35/1	8-31/1
JuTahn McClain	24-137/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	1-5/0	4-12/0	-	1-16/0	10-69/0	2-2/0	6-33/0
La'Vell Wright	9-118/1	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	6-75/0	3-43/1
Wan'Dale Robinson	7-111/0	-	3-73/0	-	1-5/0	-	-	1-6/0	1-4/0	-	1-23/0	-	-
Mike Drennen	7-17/1	3-16/1	-	1-1/0	-	-	3-0/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Beau Allen	4-9/1	1--10/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	2--4/1	1-23/0
Josh Ali	3-13/1	-	-	1-11/1	2-2/0	-	DNP	DNP	-	-	-	-	-
Tyler Markray	2-10/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	2-10/0	DNP
Travis Tisdale	1-4/0	1-4/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP

**Receiving**

Player	No-Yds/TD	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Wan'Dale Robinson	94-1164/7	5-125/2	5-101/0	8-111/0	7-65/0	4-65/1	8-60/1	12-39/1	9-79/0	13-166/1	6-75/1	8-181/0	9-97/0
Josh Ali	41-601/3	5-136/1	2-30/0	5-53/0	4-14/0	1-15/0	DNP	DNP	2-9/0	7-74/0	4-58/0	7-164/2	4-48/0
Justin Rigg	18-178/4	1-5/0	1-28/0	3-18/0	-	-	1-34/0	4-24/1	1-4/0	3-20/1	1-7/0	2-34/2	1-4/0
Izayah Cummings	13-182/3	1-7/0	1-15/0	1-31/1	-	-	-	3-22/0	1-5/0	4-75/1	2-27/1	-	-
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12-56/2	2-10/0	1-5/1	-	2-5/0	-	1-3/1	4-10/0	2-23/0	-	-	-	-
Isaiah Epps	11-171/1	3-83/0	-	2-21/1	-	-	2-28/0	3-27/0	-	DNP	-	1-12/0	-
DeMarcus Harris	10-122/1	1-4/0	-	1-10/0	-	-	-	2-31/0	2-30/1	-	1-10/0	3-37/0	-
Brenden Bates	10-64/1	1-4/1	-	2-2/0	1-15/0	1-11/0	-	2-13/0	-	2-18/0	-	1-1/0	-
JuTahn McClain	6-42/1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1--4/0	1-25/1	2-12/0	-	1-2/0	-	1-7/0	-
Jordan Dingle	2-54/0	1-31/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	-	1-23/0	DNP
Rahsaan Lewis	2-4/0	1-4/0	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	1-0/0
Mike Drennen	2-3/0	-	-	1-8/0	-	-	1--5/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Kavosiey Smoke	1-17/0	-	-	-	1-3/0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chauncey Magwood	1-17/0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-17/0	-	-	-
Will Levis	1-15/0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-15/0	-	-	-
Tae Tae Crumes	1-10/0	1-10/0	-	DNP	DNP	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Returns Game-by-Game  
All games**

**Punt Returns**

Player	No-Yds	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Josh Ali	9-133	-	-	-	-	1-6	DNP	DNP	1-74	-	2-28	4-20	1-5
Wan'Dale Robinson	6-20	3-9	-	1-4	-	-	1-4	-	1-3	-	-	-	-
Rahsaan Lewis	1-12	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	1-12	-

**Kick Returns**

Player	No-Yds	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Zach Johnson	14-259	1-16	-	3-63	-	1-25	-	1-23	3-50	-	2-28	2-42	1-12
Kavosiey Smoke	2-31	1-12	-	1-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chauncey Magwood	1-11	-	-	1-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Justin Rigg	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Interceptions Returns**

Player	No-Yds	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
J.J. Weaver	2-21	-	-	-	-	1-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-1
Tyrell Ajian	1-95	-	-	1-95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quandre Mosely	1-38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-38	-
Jalen Geiger	1-31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-31	-	-
Jacquez Jones	1-0	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Fumble Returns**

Player	No-Yds	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
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2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Sacks Game-by-Game  
All games

Player	UA-A	Total	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
J.J. Weaver	5-2	6	1.5-14	1-8	-	1-5	-	-	-	-	2.5-12	-	-	-
Joshua Paschal	5-1	5.5	1.5-13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2-12	1-5	1-9
DeAndre Square	3-0	3	1-1	-	-	-	-	1-9	1-4	-	-	-	-	-
Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	2-1	2.5	-	-	-	-	DNP	-	-	-	2-6	-	0.5-1	-
Octavious Oxendine	2-0	2	-	-	-	-	-	2-16	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Trevin Wallace	2-0	2	-	-	-	-	-	1-3	-	-	-	-	1-4	-
Justin Rogers	1-1	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-9	0.5-0	-
Vito Tisdale	1-0	1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	-	1-7	-	-	-	-
Davonte Robinson	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-3	-	-
Carrington Valentine	1-0	1	-	-	-	1-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jordan Wright	1-0	1	1-8	-	DNP	-	-	-	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-
Yusuf Corker	1-0	1	1-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Josaih Hayes	1-0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-5	-	-	-	-
Jacquez Jones	0-1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5-3	-	-	-



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Tackles For Loss Game-by-Game  
All games**

Player	UA-A	Total	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Joshua Paschal	12-7	15.5	2.5-17	-	1.5-2	-	2.5-6	1.0-6	1.0-2	2.0-2	0.5-1	2.0-12	1.5-7	1.0-9
J.J. Weaver	8-4	10.0	1.5-14	2.0-11	1.0-3	1.0-5	0.5-0	-	-	0.5-0	2.5-12	1.0-1	-	-
DeAndre Square	7-4	9.0	3.5-7	-	2.0-5	-	-	1.0-9	1.0-4	1.0-2	-	-	0.5-3	-
Trevin Wallace	3-2	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.0-3	-	2.0-6	-	-	1.0-4	-
Davonte Robinson	2-4	4.0	1.0-1	-	0.5-0	-	0.5-2	1.0-2	-	-	-	1.0-3	-	-
Marquan McCall	3-1	3.5	0.5-0	1.0-3	-	1.0-3	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	1.0-1
Octavious Oxendine	3-1	3.5	1.0-5	-	-	-	0.5-0	2.0-16	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Yusuf Corker	3-1	3.5	1.0-7	-	-	-	-	1.0-1	1.0-3	0.5-2	-	-	-	-
Jacquez Jones	2-3	3.5	-	-	-	-	1.0-2	1.0-2	-	-	0.5-3	-	-	1.0-2
Jordan Wright	2-2	3.0	2.0-9	-	DNP	-	-	1.0-0	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-
Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	2-1	2.5	-	-	-	-	DNP	-	-	-	2.0-6	-	0.5-1	-
Justin Rogers	2-1	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.0-10	0.5-0	-
Quandre Mosely	2-0	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0-4	-	-	-	-	1.0-1
Kahlil Saunders	2-0	2.0	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1.0-3	1.0-1
Josaih Hayes	1-1	1.5	-	-	-	-	0.5-0	-	-	1.0-5	-	-	-	-
Vito Tisdale	1-1	1.5	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-	-	1.0-7	0.5-1	-	-	-
Carrington Valentine	1-1	1.5	-	-	-	1.0-7	0.5-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jalen Geiger	1-0	1.0	-	-	-	1.0-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sam Anaele	1-0	1.0	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1.0-2
Marquez Bemby	1-0	1.0	-	-	-	1.0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jamarius Dinkins	0-1	0.5	0.5-2	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP
Isaiah Gibson	0-1	0.5	0.5-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	-	-	-	-



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Fumbles Game-by-Game  
All games**

**Fumbles**

Player	No-Lost	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	6-3	-	2-1	-	2-0	-	-	-	1-1	-	-	1-1	-
Will Levis	3-1	-	-	2-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-1	-
Josh Ali	2-2	-	-	-	2-2	-	DNP	DNP	-	-	-	-	-
Kavosiey Smoke	1-1	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Beau Allen	1-0	1-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	-
Tyler Markray	1-1	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	1-1	DNP

**Fumbles Forced**

Player	Number	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Joshua Paschal	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
DeAndre Square	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Davonte Robinson	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Jacquez Jones	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
J.J. Weaver	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trevin Wallace	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	1	-	-	-	-	DNP	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

**Fumbles Recovered**

Player	Number	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Jacquez Jones	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
William Nalty	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Josaih Hayes	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
 Passing Game-by-Game  
 All games

#7 Will Levis	Comp	Att	Int	Pct	Yards	TD	Long	Sacked	Effic.
ULM	18	26	1	69.2	367	4	62	3-14	230.9
Missouri	10	18	1	55.6	179	1	49	2-11	146.3
Chattanooga	23	35	2	65.7	254	2	39	1-8	134.1
South Carolina	15	22	1	68.2	102	0	17	0-0	98.0
Florida	7	17	1	41.2	87	1	41	2-13	91.8
LSU	14	17	0	82.4	145	3	34	1-6	212.2
Georgia	32	42	0	76.2	193	2	16	3-14	130.5
Mississippi St.	17	28	3	60.7	150	1	21	0-0	96.1
Tennessee	31	49	1	63.3	372	3	31	3-25	143.2
Vanderbilt	14	22	1	63.6	177	2	39	1-9	152.1
New Mexico St.	21	31	1	67.7	419	4	79	0-0	217.4
Louisville	14	18	0	77.8	149	0	27	0-0	147.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>2594</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>16-100</b>	<b>149.5</b>

#10 Chauncey Magwood	Comp	Att	Int	Pct	Yards	TD	Long	Sacked	Effic.
Tennessee	1	1	0	100.0	15	0	15	0-0	226.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>226.0</b>

#11 Beau Allen	Comp	Att	Int	Pct	Yards	TD	Long	Sacked	Effic.
ULM	4	7	0	57.1	52	0	31	1-10	119.5
New Mexico St.	3	4	0	75.0	40	0	23	1-7	159.0
Louisville	1	1	0	100.0	0	0	0	0-0	100.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2-17</b>	<b>131.1</b>



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Red-Zone Results  
All games

Kentucky Inside Opponent Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total	Rush			Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ				
			In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
09/04/2021	ULM	W 45-10	5	5	31	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/11/2021	Missouri	W 35-28	7	5	35	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W 28-23	2	2	14	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W 16-10	3	3	13	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
10/02/2021	Florida	W 20-13	1	1	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/09/2021	LSU	W 42-21	5	5	35	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/16/2021	at Georgia	L 13-30	3	2	13	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L 17-31	2	1	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
11/06/2021	Tennessee	L 42-45	5	5	35	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W 34-17	5	4	20	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	1
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W 56-16	7	4	28	4	2	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
11/27/2021	at Louisville	W 52-21	5	5	35	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals 42 of 50 (84.0%)</b>			<b>50</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Opponents Inside Kentucky Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total	Rush			Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ				
			In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
09/04/2021	ULM	W 45-10	2	2	10	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/11/2021	Missouri	W 35-28	4	4	28	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W 28-23	4	4	20	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
09/25/2021	South Carolina	W 16-10	1	1	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/02/2021	Florida	W 20-13	3	2	10	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
10/09/2021	LSU	W 42-21	2	2	14	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/16/2021	Georgia	L 13-30	3	3	16	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
10/30/2021	Mississippi St.	L 17-31	6	5	31	4	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
11/06/2021	Tennessee	L 42-45	3	2	14	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
11/13/2021	Vanderbilt	W 34-17	2	2	14	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W 56-16	2	2	6	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
11/27/2021	Louisville	W 52-21	3	3	21	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals 32 of 35 (91.4%)</b>			<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>





**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Tackles Breakdown  
All games**

**All Tackles**

Player	Total	Rush	Pass	Sack	KO	Punt	Int	Fumb	FF	Other
Jacquez Jones	86	0	0	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	82.5
DeAndre Square	74	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	65
Yusuf Corker	73	0	0	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	69.5
Carrington Valentine	59	0	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	57.5
Joshua Paschal	53	0	0	15.5	0	0	0	0	0	37.5
Davonte Robinson	43	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	39
Tyrell Ajian	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
J.J. Weaver	34	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	24
Trevin Wallace	32	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	28
Quandre Mosely	22	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	20
Jordan Wright	20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	17
Vito Tisdale	18	0	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	16.5
Cedrick Dort Jr.	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Justin Rogers	16	0	0	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	13.5
Jalen Geiger	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	15
Octavious Oxendine	15	0	0	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	11.5
Josaih Hayes	12	0	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	10.5
D'Eryk Jackson	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
K.D. McDaniel	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Tre'vonn Rybka	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	10	0	0	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	7.5
Marquez Bembry	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Jared Casey	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Marquan McCall	7	0	0	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	3.5
Taj Dodson	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Martez Thrower	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Moses Douglass	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Isaiah Gibson	4	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	3.5
Kahlil Saunders	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kavosiey Smoke	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Zach Johnson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Joel Williams	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Andru Phillips	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sam Anaele	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chauncey Magwood	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jordan Lovett	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
La'Veil Wright	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wan'Dale Robinson	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Zac Berezowitz	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Izayah Cummings	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ricky Hyatt	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Darian Kinnard	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Justice Dingle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chance Poore	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
William Nalty	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Austin Dotson	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jamarius Dinkins	1	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>664</b>



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Tackles Breakdown  
All games

**Rushing Tackles**

Player	No.
Total	0

**Passing Tackles**

Player	No.
Total	0

**Special Teams Tackles**

Player	Total	KO	Punt
Total	0	0	0

**Kickoff return Tackles**

Player	No.
Total	0

**Punt Return Tackles**

Player	No.
Total	0



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
By Quarter Statistics  
All games**

**3rd-Down Conversions**

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
09/04/2021	ULM	W 45-10	6-11	54.5	0-1	0.0	2-3	66.7	2-4	50.0	2-3	66.7	0-0	0.0
09/11/2021	Missouri	W 35-28	8-12	66.7	3-3	100.0	3-3	100.0	0-2	0.0	2-4	50.0	0-0	0.0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W 28-23	5-11	45.5	2-3	66.7	1-5	20.0	1-2	50.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W 16-10	6-12	50.0	3-4	75.0	1-4	25.0	1-2	50.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
10/02/2021	Florida	W 20-13	1-9	11.1	0-2	0.0	0-2	0.0	0-3	0.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
10/09/2021	LSU	W 42-21	2-7	28.6	1-2	50.0	0-3	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
10/16/2021	at Georgia	L 13-30	9-19	47.4	1-4	25.0	3-5	60.0	1-4	25.0	4-6	66.7	0-0	0.0
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L 17-31	6-11	54.5	2-3	66.7	2-5	40.0	1-1	100.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
11/06/2021	Tennessee	L 42-45	12-17	70.6	3-3	100.0	4-6	66.7	3-3	100.0	2-5	40.0	0-0	0.0
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W 34-17	3-9	33.3	0-0	0.0	0-2	0.0	3-4	75.0	0-3	0.0	0-0	0.0
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W 56-16	6-9	66.7	1-2	50.0	1-1	100.0	3-4	75.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
11/27/2021	at Louisville	W 52-21	6-10	60.0	3-3	100.0	3-6	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
<b>Kentucky</b>			<b>70-137</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>19-30</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>20-45</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>15-29</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>16-33</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>60-155</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>18-37</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>11-42</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>15-36</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>16-40</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**4th-Down Conversions**

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
09/04/2021	ULM	W 45-10	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/11/2021	Missouri	W 35-28	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W 28-23	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W 16-10	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
10/02/2021	Florida	W 20-13	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
10/09/2021	LSU	W 42-21	1-1	100.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
10/16/2021	at Georgia	L 13-30	2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L 17-31	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
11/06/2021	Tennessee	L 42-45	1-4	25.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-3	33.3	0-0	0.0
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W 34-17	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W 56-16	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
11/27/2021	at Louisville	W 52-21	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
<b>Kentucky</b>			<b>6-14</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4-9</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>5-17</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>3-11</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Time of Possession**

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
09/04/2021	ULM	W 45-10	31:47	03:55	13:01	05:34	09:17	00:00
09/11/2021	Missouri	W 35-28	32:48	07:40	10:41	04:58	09:29	00:00
09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W 28-23	28:18	08:16	09:14	06:19	04:29	00:00
09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W 16-10	35:36	08:56	09:33	07:18	09:49	00:00
10/02/2021	Florida	W 20-13	23:48	07:26	05:20	03:07	07:55	00:00
10/09/2021	LSU	W 42-21	32:12	04:55	10:01	09:40	07:36	00:00
10/16/2021	at Georgia	L 13-30	37:47	09:01	10:34	06:49	11:23	00:00
10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L 17-31	18:50	03:47	09:21	00:49	04:53	00:00
11/06/2021	Tennessee	L 42-45	46:08	08:36	15:30	12:55	09:07	00:00
11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W 34-17	29:46	05:37	07:35	03:16	13:18	00:00



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
By Quarter Statistics  
All games

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W	56-16	33:53	09:48	05:22	10:02	08:41	00:00
11/27/2021	at Louisville	W	52-21	34:58	08:50	12:06	08:16	05:46	00:00
<b>Kentucky</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>385:51</b>	<b>86:47</b>	<b>118:18</b>	<b>79:03</b>	<b>101:43</b>	<b>00:00</b>
			<b>Avg.</b>	<b>32:09</b>	<b>07:14</b>	<b>09:51</b>	<b>06:35</b>	<b>08:29</b>	<b>00:00</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>334:03</b>	<b>71:52</b>	<b>83:09</b>	<b>78:20</b>	<b>100:42</b>	<b>00:00</b>
			<b>Avg.</b>	<b>27:50</b>	<b>05:59</b>	<b>06:56</b>	<b>06:32</b>	<b>08:24</b>	<b>00:00</b>



## 2021-22 Kentucky Football Team Game-by-Game Comparison All games

Opponent	Score	First Downs				Pen	Rushing Number-Yards	Passing		Yards	Total Offense Plays-Yards	Return Yards	Turn- Overs
		Total	Rush	Pass	Comp-Att.-Int								
ULM	45-10	24 / 12	7 / 4	14 / 5	3 / 3	34-145 / 43-17	22-33-1 / 11-20-0	419 / 70	67-564 / 63-87	37 / 2	3 / 0		
Missouri	35-28	26 / 25	16 / 8	8 / 15	2 / 2	52-341 / 24-104	10-18-1 / 34-52-1	179 / 294	70-520 / 76-398	0 / 34	2 / 1		
Chattanooga	28-23	20 / 16	7 / 6	12 / 9	1 / 1	27-102 / 28-171	23-35-2 / 21-35-1	254 / 168	62-356 / 63-339	192 / 16	3 / 1		
South Carolina	16-10	21 / 13	13 / 2	7 / 9	1 / 2	44-230 / 26-58	15-22-1 / 17-25-0	102 / 158	66-332 / 51-216	0 / 25	3 / 0		
Florida	20-13	13 / 21	7 / 6	5 / 13	1 / 2	30-137 / 39-171	7-17-1 / 24-32-1	87 / 211	47-224 / 71-382	51 / 39	1 / 1		
LSU	42-21	24 / 22	16 / 10	7 / 11	1 / 1	45-330 / 35-147	14-17-0 / 22-38-0	145 / 261	62-475 / 73-408	4 / 0	0 / 1		
Georgia	13-30	16 / 20	4 / 7	11 / 13	1 / 0	27-51 / 27-166	32-42-0 / 14-20-0	193 / 250	69-244 / 47-416	23 / 9	0 / 0		
Mississippi St.	17-31	14 / 27	5 / 7	8 / 15	1 / 5	20-66 / 35-94	17-28-3 / 36-39-0	150 / 344	48-216 / 74-438	127 / 17	4 / 0		
Tennessee	42-45	35 / 17	14 / 7	20 / 9	1 / 1	49-225 / 27-145	32-50-1 / 15-20-0	387 / 316	99-612 / 47-461	0 / 120	1 / 1		
Vanderbilt	34-17	22 / 15	11 / 7	9 / 8	2 / 0	36-236 / 30-96	14-22-1 / 20-29-1	177 / 170	58-413 / 59-266	87 / 77	1 / 1		
New Mexico St.	56-16	29 / 13	11 / 5	16 / 7	2 / 1	36-248 / 26-93	24-35-1 / 16-35-1	459 / 181	71-707 / 61-274	112 / 62	4 / 2		
Louisville	52-21	29 / 21	18 / 7	10 / 12	1 / 2	49-362 / 31-144	15-19-0 / 19-28-1	149 / 208	68-511 / 59-352	18 / 55	0 / 1		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>400-265</b>	<b>273 / 222</b>	<b>129 / 76</b>	<b>127 / 126</b>	<b>17 / 20</b>	<b>449-2473 / 371-1406</b>	<b>225-338-12 / 249-373-6</b>	<b>2701 / 2631</b>	<b>787-5174 / 744-4037</b>	<b>651 / 456</b>	<b>22 / 9</b>		

Opponents	3rd Down Conversion	4th Down Conversion	Time of Possession	TOP Margin	Avg Yds/Rush	Avg Yds/Pass	Avg Yds/Play	Punting Number-Avg	Penalties Number-Yards	Sacks
ULM	6-11 / 6-19	0-1 / 1-1	31:47 / 28:13	03:34	4.3 / 0.4	12.7 / 3.5	8.4 / 1.4	2-35.5 / 10-42.1	7-65.0 / 3-25.0	6 / 4
Missouri	8-12 / 9-15	0-0 / 0-1	32:48 / 27:12	05:36	6.6 / 4.3	9.9 / 5.7	7.4 / 5.2	2-38.5 / 5-39.2	3-35.0 / 7-65.0	1 / 2
Chattanooga	5-11 / 7-15	0-1 / 0-0	28:18 / 31:42	-03:24	3.8 / 6.1	7.3 / 4.8	5.7 / 5.4	4-50.5 / 5-46.8	8-60.0 / 5-40.0	0 / 1
South Carolina	6-12 / 3-12	0-0 / 0-3	35:36 / 24:24	11:12	5.2 / 2.2	4.6 / 6.3	5.0 / 4.2	3-40.7 / 5-42.8	4-29.0 / 5-45.0	2 / 0
Florida	1-9 / 4-13	0-1 / 0-1	23:48 / 36:18	-12:30	4.6 / 4.4	5.1 / 6.6	4.8 / 5.4	6-42.5 / 5-42.8	4-30.0 / 15-115.0	0 / 2
LSU	2-7 / 7-15	1-1 / 2-5	32:12 / 27:48	04:24	7.3 / 4.2	8.5 / 6.9	7.7 / 5.6	3-45.7 / 3-53.3	3-25.0 / 4-18.0	4 / 1
Georgia	9-19 / 2-7	2-2 / 0-0	37:47 / 22:13	15:34	1.9 / 6.1	4.6 / 12.5	3.5 / 8.9	7-51.1 / 4-47.3	3-15.0 / 5-32.0	1 / 3
Mississippi St.	6-11 / 7-12	0-0 / 0-0	18:50 / 41:04	-22:14	3.3 / 2.7	5.4 / 8.8	4.5 / 5.9	3-53.7 / 3-37.0	6-68.0 / 11-88.0	2 / 0
Tennessee	12-17 / 3-8	1-4 / 0-1	46:08 / 13:52	32:16	4.6 / 5.4	7.7 / 15.8	6.2 / 9.8	0-0.0 / 1-52.0	7-58.0 / 6-40.0	5 / 3
Vanderbilt	3-9 / 5-13	1-2 / 2-3	29:46 / 30:14	-00:28	6.6 / 3.2	8.0 / 5.9	7.1 / 4.5	2-45.5 / 4-38.3	4-45.0 / 6-31.0	4 / 1
New Mexico St.	6-9 / 4-16	0-1 / 0-0	33:53 / 26:07	07:46	6.9 / 3.6	13.1 / 5.2	10.0 / 4.5	2-33.5 / 10-40.8	7-69.0 / 4-40.0	3 / 1
Louisville	6-10 / 3-10	1-1 / 0-2	34:58 / 24:56	10:02	7.4 / 4.6	7.8 / 7.4	7.5 / 6.0	1-33.0 / 3-36.7	4-29.0 / 3-24.0	1 / 0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70-137 / 60-155</b>	<b>6-14 / 5-17</b>	<b>385:51 / 334:03</b>	<b>51:48</b>	<b>5.5 / 3.8</b>	<b>8.0 / 7.1</b>	<b>6.6 / 5.4</b>	<b>35-45.0 / 58-42.4</b>	<b>60-528.0 / 74-563.0</b>	<b>29 / 18</b>

Note: Game totals are displayed in the format TEAM/OPPONENT for each category



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Results and Comparison  
All games**

	Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	Conf	Time	Attend
	09/04/2021	ULM	W	45-10	1-0	0-0	3:11	47693
*	09/11/2021	Missouri	W	35-28	2-0	1-0	3:23	58437
	09/18/2021	Chattanooga	W	28-23	3-0	1-0	3:09	55214
*	09/25/2021	at South Carolina	W	16-10	4-0	2-0	3:01	77559
*	10/02/2021	Florida	W	20-13	5-0	3-0	3:27	61632
*	10/09/2021	LSU	W	42-21	6-0	4-0	3:14	61690
*	10/16/2021	at Georgia	L	13-30	6-1	4-1	3:15	92746
*	10/30/2021	at Mississippi St.	L	17-31	6-2	4-2	3:17	49487
*	11/06/2021	Tennessee	L	42-45	6-3	4-3	3:38	61690
*	11/13/2021	at Vanderbilt	W	34-17	7-3	5-3	3:06	25798
	11/20/2021	New Mexico St.	W	56-16	8-3	5-3	3:22	47749
	11/27/2021	at Louisville	W	52-21	9-3	5-3	3:21	55018

Opponent	Score	First Downs				Pen	Rushing Number-Yards	Passing		Total Offense Plays-Yards	Return Yards	Turn- Overs
		Total	Rush	Pass	Comp-Att.-Int			Yards				
ULM	45-10	24 / 12	7 / 4	14 / 5	3 / 3	34-145 / 43-17	22-33-1 / 11-20-0	419 / 70	67-564 / 63-87	37 / 2	3 / 0	
Missouri	35-28	26 / 25	16 / 8	8 / 15	2 / 2	52-341 / 24-104	10-18-1 / 34-52-1	179 / 294	70-520 / 76-398	0 / 34	2 / 1	
Chattanooga	28-23	20 / 16	7 / 6	12 / 9	1 / 1	27-102 / 28-171	23-35-2 / 21-35-1	254 / 168	62-356 / 63-339	192 / 16	3 / 1	
South Carolina	16-10	21 / 13	13 / 2	7 / 9	1 / 2	44-230 / 26-58	15-22-1 / 17-25-0	102 / 158	66-332 / 51-216	0 / 25	3 / 0	
Florida	20-13	13 / 21	7 / 6	5 / 13	1 / 2	30-137 / 39-171	7-17-1 / 24-32-1	87 / 211	47-224 / 71-382	51 / 39	1 / 1	
LSU	42-21	24 / 22	16 / 10	7 / 11	1 / 1	45-330 / 35-147	14-17-0 / 22-38-0	145 / 261	62-475 / 73-408	4 / 0	0 / 1	
Georgia	13-30	16 / 20	4 / 7	11 / 13	1 / 0	27-51 / 27-166	32-42-0 / 14-20-0	193 / 250	69-244 / 47-416	23 / 9	0 / 0	
Mississippi St.	17-31	14 / 27	5 / 7	8 / 15	1 / 5	20-66 / 35-94	17-28-3 / 36-39-0	150 / 344	48-216 / 74-438	127 / 17	4 / 0	
Tennessee	42-45	35 / 17	14 / 7	20 / 9	1 / 1	49-225 / 27-145	32-50-1 / 15-20-0	387 / 316	99-612 / 47-461	0 / 120	1 / 1	
Vanderbilt	34-17	22 / 15	11 / 7	9 / 8	2 / 0	36-236 / 30-96	14-22-1 / 20-29-1	177 / 170	58-413 / 59-266	87 / 77	1 / 1	
New Mexico St.	56-16	29 / 13	11 / 5	16 / 7	2 / 1	36-248 / 26-93	24-35-1 / 16-35-1	459 / 181	71-707 / 61-274	112 / 62	4 / 2	
Louisville	52-21	29 / 21	18 / 7	10 / 12	1 / 2	49-362 / 31-144	15-19-0 / 19-28-1	149 / 208	68-511 / 59-352	18 / 55	0 / 1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>400-265</b>	<b>273 / 222</b>	<b>129 / 76</b>	<b>127 / 126</b>	<b>17 / 20</b>	<b>449-2473 / 371-1406</b>	<b>225-338-12 / 249-373-6</b>	<b>2701 / 2631</b>	<b>787-5174 / 744-4037</b>	<b>651 / 456</b>	<b>22 / 9</b>	



**2021-22 Kentucky Football  
All-Purpose Yards Game-by-Game  
All games**

Player	Total	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	1328	135	212	46	149	99	150	17	57	109	114	119	121
Wan'Dale Robinson	1295	134	174	115	70	65	64	45	86	166	98	181	97
Josh Ali	747	136	30	64	16	21	DNP	DNP	83	74	86	184	53
Kavosiey Smoke	464	38	39	46	53	17	104	28	19	53	1	35	31
Will Levis	402	-6	25	18	30	21	75	12	9	62	32	11	113
Zach Johnson	259	16	-	63	-	25	-	23	50	-	28	42	12
Izayah Cummings	182	7	15	31	-	-	-	22	5	75	27	-	-
JuTahn McClain	179	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-4	30	24	-	18	69	9	33
Justin Rigg	178	5	28	18	-	-	34	24	4	20	7	34	4
Isaiah Epps	171	83	-	21	-	-	28	27	-	DNP	-	12	-
DeMarcus Harris	122	4	-	10	-	-	-	31	30	-	10	37	-
La'Veell Wright	118	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	75	43
Tyrell Ajian	95	-	-	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brenden Bates	64	4	-	2	15	11	-	13	-	18	-	1	-
Jordan Dingle	54	31	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	DNP	-	23	DNP
Quandre Mosely	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	-
Jalen Geiger	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-
Chauncey Magwood	28	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-
J.J. Weaver	21	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mike Drennen	20	16	-	9	-	-	-5	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Rahsaan Lewis	16	4	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-	12	-
Tyler Markray	10	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	10	DNP
Tae Tae Crumes	10	10	-	DNP	DNP	-	-	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Beau Allen	9	-10	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	-4	23
Travis Tisdale	4	4	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP



## 2021-22 Kentucky Football Games Played All games

##	Player	GP-GS	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
0	Kavosiey Smoke	12/1	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
1	Wan'Dale Robinson	12/11	START	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
3	Cedrick Dort Jr.	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
3	Dekel Crowdus	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Joshua Paschal	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
5	DeAndre Square	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
5	Mike Drennen	6/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Jared Casey	11/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
6	Josh Ali	10/10	START	START	START	START	START	...	...	START	START	START	START	START
7	Vito Tisdale	8/1	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX
7	Will Levis	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
8	Octavious Oxendine	6/3	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	START	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Davonte Robinson	12/11	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	START	START
10	Jacquez Jones	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
10	Chauncey Magwood	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
11	Moses Douglass	3/0	XXX	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX
11	Beau Allen	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
12	Chance Poore	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
12	Kaiya Sheron	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	J.J. Weaver	12/6	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	START	START	START
13	Earnest Sanders	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	Carrington Valentine	12/11	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	START
14	Patrick Delahunty	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	Jordan Wright	8/6	START	START	...	START	START	START	START	XXX	...	...	...	XXX
16	Nik Scalzo	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
17	JuTahn McClain	8/0	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
18	Clevan Thomas Jr.	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Rahsaan Lewis	5/0	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
21	Quandre Mosely	12/1	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX
22	Chris Oats	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Tyrell Ajian	12/10	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	START	XXX
24	Christopher Rodriguez Jr.	12/11	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	START	START	START	START
24	Zac Berezowitz	9/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
25	Jordan Lovett	1/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26	Torrance Davis	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27	Joel Williams	7/0	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
27	Devonte Ross	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28	Zach Johnson	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
29	Yusuf Corker	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
29	La'Veil Wright	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
30	Taj Dodson	10/0	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
31	Darren Edmond	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
31	Maxwell Hairston	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32	Tyler Markray	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
32	Trevin Wallace	12/1	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
33	Travis Tisdale	1/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33	Ben Drake	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34	Jalen Geiger	12/2	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	START
34	Trey Dennis	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	Ricky Hyatt	2/0	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
35	Kaleb Cheek	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36	Adrian Huey	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36	Jai Williams	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37	Andru Phillips	8/0	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
37	Luke Leeper	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38	William Nalty	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
39	Dillon Wheatley	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
39	Austin Gough	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40	Luke Fulton	9/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	...
42	Marquez Bembry	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX





## 2021-22 Kentucky Football Games Played All games

##	Player	GP-GS	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
43	Darren Green	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
44	Martez Thrower	7/0	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	...
45	Jase Bruner	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	Parker Estes	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46	Cade Degraw	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
46	Braxton Eiserman	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47	K.D. McDaniel	9/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
48	Jack Varga	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
48	Cody Goatley	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
49	Shawn Lawson	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	Marquan McCall	8/7	START	START	START	START	START	...	...	...	...	XXX	START	START
51	Dare Rosenthal	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
52	Justin Rogers	12/4	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	START	START	XXX	XXX	XXX
53	R.J. Adams	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
54	Jordan Morrow	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	Justice Dingle	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
55	Clay Perry	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
56	Deondre Buford	2/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
56	D'Eryk Jackson	3/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
57	Jonathan Berry	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
58	Lucas Padgett	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
59	Connor Long	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
60	Quintin Wilson	9/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
61	Austin Dotson	12/3	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	START
62	Jager Burton	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
63	Alex Bascom	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
64	Richard Bascom	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
66	Naasir Watkins	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
67	Paul Rodriguez	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
68	Kenneth Horsey	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
69	Collin Hartmann	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...
70	Darian Kinnard	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
71	John Young	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
72	Josh Jones	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
73	Matthew Napier	2/0	XXX	...	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
74	David Wohlabaugh Jr.	1/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75	Eli Cox	9/9	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	...	...
76	Jake Pope	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
77	Jeremy Flax	10/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
79	Luke Fortner	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
80	Brenden Bates	12/6	START	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	START	START
81	Isaiah Epps	11/6	XXX	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
82	Tae Tae Crumes	4/0	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...
83	Justin Rigg	12/12	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
84	Izayah Cummings	12/2	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
85	Jordan Dingle	4/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	...
86	DeMarcus Harris	12/1	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX
87	Tre'Von Morgan	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
88	Keaton Upshaw	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
89	Chris Lewis	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	11/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
91	Sam Anaele	2/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX
92	Kahlil Saunders	4/0	XXX	...	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
93	Wilson Berry	2/0	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
94	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald	11/8	START	START	START	XXX	...	XXX	START	XXX	START	START	START	START
94	Colin Goodfellow	9/0	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX
95	Jamarius Dinkins	3/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	XXX	...
96	Isaiah Gibson	6/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
96	Matt Ruffolo	12/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
97	Graham Wald	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



2021-22 Kentucky Football  
Games Played  
All games

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##	Player	GP-GS	ULM	Mizzou	UTC	USC	UF	LSU	UGa	MSU	UT	Vandy	NMSU	LOU
98	Isaiah Beasley	0/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
99	Josaih Hayes	12/1	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	XXX

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## Grab the syrup, because Kentucky football lineman Darian Kinnard is all about his pancakes

By Tim Sullivan  
Louisville Courier Journal  
August 6, 2021

There's nothing dainty about Darian Kinnard. Kentucky's senior left tackle is part blocker, part bulldozer, 345 pounds of relentless, unrepentant power.

He's not trying to trick anyone. He is out to grind opponents into the ground. He said as much Friday during Kentucky's football media day.

"Personally," he said, "I feel like just run the ball down the other team's throats."

Ranked as the nation's top run-blocking tackle by Pro Football Focus, Kinnard claims to have performed 42 "pancake" blocks last season — almost four per game — and he is aiming for 50 this fall. A pancake is to an offensive lineman what a quarterback sack is to a pass rusher, an instance of domination that ends with the flattening of one's foe.

"He be pancaking people like he's about to eat breakfast," UK running back Chris Rodriguez said. "That dude is a great athlete. He is going to get his every game. It doesn't matter: You can be the No. 1 player in the nation, but you better be ready every play. He's not going to take a play off."

If the Wildcats' offense was dangerously one-dimensional last season, blame it on their ability to push 'em back, push 'em back, waaaay back. When your team averages five yards per rushing attempt, and your coaches see ball control as an equalizer against more explosive opponents, the temptation to run the ball down the other team's throats can be overwhelming. When your lead blocker creates as much daylight as does Darian Kinnard, strategy and savagery can be synonymous.

"Everything I've seen so far, he's a

great football player," said Eric Wolford, UK's new offensive line coach. "He has some things he's going to want to improve, but he has the kind of mentality that says, 'I'm just going to get better every day at one or two things.'"

"He's obviously very, very strong. But he's a gifted athlete, too. When you're 340-plus pounds and able to move and change direction like that — are very rarely on the ground — that's the sign of an athlete."

A standout shot putter and discus thrower between football seasons at Cleveland's St. Ignatius High School, Kinnard's brute force is something to behold. He remembers being startled to find himself in the end zone last season while blocking downfield on a long touchdown run. Yet he would prefer to be known for his precision and his preparation; for the subtle clues he picks up while studying video of his opponents and his ability to take advantage of a defender telegraphing a favorite move.

"They usually have tells with the weight of their hand, which hand is down," he said. "Sometimes, depending on what move they like the most, they'll shift their weight to a certain degree. And you can kind of pick up on that if you're watching film."

It helps, of course, to be big, strong and nimble enough to flatten or detour quicker defenders, but Kinnard is wary of being typecast. Much as he relishes shoving the ball down throats, he is quick to add, "I've always been a guy who focused more on technique than power to win my battles."

A scouting report published last month on Profootballnetwork.com said Kinnard "has the reach to swallow up opposing defenders in pass protection," "surprising mobility," and the strength to "drive defenders out of plays with relative ease."

"He has some definite mauler moments where he puts players in the dirt," Ian Cummings wrote.

That he returned to Kentucky for his senior year rather than enter the NFL Draft speaks to shortcomings in need of shoring up, specifically his hand placement and a tendency to play too upright.

"There's a lot of things you can work on when you're an offensive lineman," Wolford said. "There's no such thing as, 'I got it.'"

Pancakes notwithstanding, Darian Kinnard's steady diet is heavy on humble pie.

"Ego," he said, "is for people who want (stuff) to go wrong."

## Other schools wanted 'super senior' Josh Ali. He believes in Kentucky.

By Josh Moore  
Lexington Herald-Leader  
August 9, 2021

The first University of Kentucky football player to publicly announce an endorsement deal wasn't All-America offensive tackle Darian Kinnard, hometown hero Wan'Dale Robinson or master public speaker Josh Paschal.

That distinction went to Josh Ali, the Wildcat who led UK in pass targets last year and the only receiver on UK's roster who has caught more than a single touchdown as a Wildcat (he has four to date, good for 25 percent of the total receiving touchdowns Kentucky has scored over the last two seasons).

Ali is the official "face" of Keen Water, an Atlanta-based hydration business co-founded by Faheem Ali, Josh's father. If things go as planned under new offensive coordinator Liam Coen, he'll also be one of the faces for a revamped attack that should boost the Wildcats' standing in the Southeastern Conference passing rankings.

Any level of progress would be an improvement from where UK has been in that department — the program ranked last in passing each of the last three seasons — but no

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

individual on Kentucky's roster stands to gain more from the December staff shake-up than Ali, a "super senior" who chose to return for an extra year of eligibility under the NCAA's COVID-19 waiver instead of pursuing a professional career, in football or elsewhere.

That he's even playing another year for the Wildcats is a testament to Mark Stoops' belief in Ali as a talent, and his own belief in what they can achieve this season. A number of receivers left the team this off-season, including Ali's former high school teammate Akeem Hayes, who departed about a year after another Chaminade-Madonna (Fla.) product, B.J. Alexander, transferred. Outside of Robinson — a prolific addition from Nebraska via the transfer portal — Ali is the only pass-catcher on UK's roster deserving of the "proven commodity" label.

Ali is eager to deliver.

"I have goals and dreams," he told the Herald-Leader in a recent sitdown, "and I'm not going to let anybody stop that."

## FAMILY

Faheem Ali was fresh off his latest tour in the Arena Football League and working in Houston, Texas, when Josh's mother, Katrina Gray, reached out for help raising Josh when he was 5 years old. Faheem submitted his two-week notice and moved to Miami, where most of the Alis still reside.

"I just did what I'm supposed to do as a dad," Faheem said in a phone interview. "He's my son."

Having his father in the picture was transformative for Josh, who still spent weekends with his mom and remains close with her to this day, but was perhaps even more so for Faheem. The former Louisiana Tech receiver grew up alongside his oldest son as the more hands-on version of fatherhood tested him more than any

defensive back ever could.

Faheem introduced Josh to football. He was a natural, his father says, which is believable; you don't earn offers to play wide receiver in college without having a knack for catching the football.

UK was the only Southeastern Conference school to offer Josh, who coming out of his junior year had few notable offers of which to speak. He transferred to Chaminade-Madonna Prep, along with his teammate Henry Colombi (who started games at quarterback for Texas Tech last season) for his final season, and suddenly offers started rolling in. At the end of his recruitment, he signed with Kentucky over Central Florida and Utah, two schools that during Ali's college tenure have considerably outclassed UK as far as passing the ball is concerned.

Multiple schools were ready to welcome Josh with open arms had he opted to transfer after UK's Gator Bowl win over North Carolina State in December, his father said, including at least one Power Five program. Faheem over the last couple of years wondered aloud if his son should seek greener pastures, and would have endorsed a move had he wanted to make one.

"Josh has really been loyal to Kentucky," Faheem said. "It was different with me. I went to three different schools, you know? I commend him on that. He stood firm and his belief was in the BBN and the University of Kentucky. ... It was a good feeling for me, because it's like, he's really grown up and making his own decisions. I can't play for him. It's something that he has to live with, and I respect it."

## GROWTH

Mark Stoops' decision to fire Eddie Gran and Darin Hinshaw, who together helped lead UK to five straight bowl games, didn't only readjust the outlook for UK's offense. It assured UK's returning players and incoming

recruits that the man for whom they signed up to play was willing to do whatever is necessary to keep the Wildcats on the come-up.

It sure opened Josh Ali's eyes.

"It made me realize he's really serious about this season and the guys that we have now," Ali said. "He really wants to win. The changes that he's made? Those were his friends. Coach Gran and Coach Hinshaw, they are close friends. That takes a lot, to let your friends go their separate ways. That shows as a coach, 'This is something that isn't working and I gotta change it because I want to win.' I feel like now he wants to win more than ever."

As the only returning receiver with any meaningful production under his belt, the expectation is for Ali to be a leader on and off the field. The addition of Robinson via the transfer portal has eased the load of those responsibilities, particularly on the field, where the speedster's presence opens things along the sidelines more for the most experienced Wildcats pass-catcher.

Some No. 1 receivers would scoff at a player of Robinson's caliber butting into their picture. Ali understands that if he's ever going to play in the NFL, he has to be ready to compete with teammates as much as opponents. He's embraced the ex-Husker.

"We're gonna open it up for each other," Ali said. "Wan'Dale's a great player, man. He can stretch the field, he's great with the ball in his hands. I feel like me and him on the field at the same time is scary. People gotta see the first game. Nobody knows what we have right now. After the first game, I think people will realize the power we have on offense."

Ali since the season ended has graduated (with a degree in community and leadership development), and is now working on a second bachelor's degree in communication. He's lifted the burden of becoming a college graduate and can focus a little

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

bit more on improving his body and technique.

When his football career comes to an end, Ali wants to help his grandmother Hanan, who owns and operates an early childhood and K-8 school in Ocala, Fla. He wants to follow in her footsteps and those of his mother, who herself graduated from college a few months before Josh and is now a social worker.

"She loves helping people," he said. "That's something I really value, too. If it was up to her, she would — and this is something I want to do, too — have her own group home for old people. She wants to take care of old people. She loves it."

Both Faheem and Josh referred to each other as their "best friend." In spite of his frustrations with UK's offense in the past, Faheem has had the privilege of watching his son play college football and graduate, things his own father wasn't alive to see. He admires the commitments Josh has made, and kept, to his teammates and himself.

UK's leading receiver says his dad doesn't say it out loud, but he knows he's made him proud. Unprompted, he went on the record.

"He's seen a lot through me, the growth, and I've seen the growth in him as well," Faheem said. "I think both of us, we're proud of each other."

## **Eric Wolford's task: Keeping the 'Big Blue Wall' strong without John Schlarman**

**By Mark Story**

**Lexington Herald-Leader**

**August 7, 2021**

Eric Wolford and Mark Stoops are not strangers to sharing a big challenge.

In the 1990s, Stoops worked as South Florida defensive backs coach and Wolford as the Bulls offensive line coach while then-USF head man Jim Leavitt started the school's football program from scratch.

"We weren't making any money, I can tell you that right now. We were living in the dorm," Wolford recalled Friday at Kentucky Wildcats football Media Day. "I think our first-year salary was \$12,000 a year."

That did not go a long way in Tampa. To make ends meet, Stoops and Wolford would hire themselves out at night to remodel and paint apartments.

"We were sub-contracted out by a guy named 'Tex' — he was from Texas," Wolford says. "That's what we did for extra spending money."

This fall, Wolford and Stoops will be reunited in taking on a far more visible "remodeling" job.

After the death of beloved Kentucky offensive line coach John Schlarman last November at age 45 from cancer, Stoops called on his former painting partner to assume the delicate task of following him.

If that weren't daunting enough, Wolford, 50, is inheriting responsibility for Kentucky's offensive front in the first season in which the installation of a new offensive system is going to require the UK line to fundamentally alter the way it plays.

During UK's current five-year bowl streak, the four primary foundation pieces that allowed the Kentucky program to ascend have been Benny Snell, Josh Allen, Lynn Bowden — and The Big Blue Wall.

Wolford says he would rather come into a program with a recent track record of offensive line success than inherit a front that needs to be built from the ground up.

"It gives me a lot of confidence," Wolford says. "Coach Schlarman set a very high standard here. He did a wonderful job. ... We're going to embrace everything (Schlarman) did here with these players, this university and this community. We are going to keep a high standard."

Returning Kentucky offensive linemen say Wolford has so far deftly handled the emotionally fraught task

of succeeding Schlarman.

The coaching transition "wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. It wasn't as rough," says UK senior left tackle Darian Kinnard. "Coach Wolf came in and understood he wasn't going to be a replacement (for Schlarman). He just told us, 'I'm not here to replace John. I just want to come in and help you guys get better.' And he's kept his word."

Says sixth-year senior center Luke Fortner: "We all miss John Schlarman. We think about him every day. (Wolford's) got big shoes to fill. And, so far, he has filled them."

With Eddie Gran and Darin Hinshaw running the Kentucky offense the past five years, UK primarily employed an inside-zone rushing scheme. To over-simplify, that required the offensive linemen to primarily block straight ahead and the backs to run between the tackles.

Now that former Los Angeles Rams assistant Liam Coen has been brought in to diversify the ground-hugging Kentucky attack, the Wildcats are installing an outside-zone rushing attack.

Again to over-simplify, in the wide zone, the back probes the perimeter looking for a lane while the offensive linemen are required to move side-to-side and make more blocks in space.

"It's definitely a big adjustment. It takes a different skill set," Fortner says. "The angles you take, the 'get offs' you have and just the way you are working together is a lot different."

Wolford says he expects a veteran Kentucky offensive line used to a different style of play to need adjustment time.

"When you run the wide zone, that is your primary bread-and-butter play," Wolford said. "It takes a lot of work (to master). It's something you've got to learn. It's not something you just instill and learn it overnight."

Besides South Florida, Stoops and Wolford also coached together for one

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

season (2000) at Houston and three seasons (2004-06) at Arizona.

Wolford has also been offensive line coach at North Texas, Illinois and in two separate stints (2009 and 2017-20) at South Carolina, as well as assistant offensive line coach with the San Francisco 49ers.

From 2010-14, Wolford was head coach at Youngstown State, producing four winning seasons and going 31-26 overall.

Though both are Youngstown, Ohio, natives, Wolford says he got to know Stoops, who is four years older, at Kansas State University in 1995.

At the time, Wolford was serving as a graduate assistant on the same KSU staff where Bob Stoops was the defensive coordinator. When Mark Stoops, then working as a high school athletics director in Ohio, came to Manhattan, Kan., to visit his older brother, Bob introduced him to Wolford.

"I took (Mark Stoops) out and we kind of connected," Wolford says.

That relationship eventually led to the Stoops/Wolford apartment painting and remodeling service as two young college football assistants tried to keep the bills paid in Tampa.

Says Wolford: "Those kind of experiences make you appreciate working hard, doing things right and not being afraid to roll your sleeves up and get things done."

That sounds like the ethos that will be required to keep the Big Blue Wall standing strong.

## **Rahsaan Lewis, son of Ray Lewis, hoping to jump into playing time with Kentucky football**

**By Hayes Gardner  
Louisville Courier Journal  
August 11, 2021**

There's a crowd of fresh faces vying for playing time at wide receiver for Kentucky football, and Rahsaan Lewis — the son of NFL Hall of Famer Ray Lewis — jumped into the conversation with a couple of terrific catches during an open

practice in front of fans Saturday.

He leapt and twisted his body mid-air for two long catches in 11-on-11 drills during UK Fan Day, which generated buzz among fans about the junior walk-on. His father, who was named to 13 Pro Bowls and won two Super Bowls during his 17 seasons with the Baltimore Ravens, also took notice of the videos, the younger Lewis said.

"Competition is how I've always grown up, it's how my dad's raised me, that mentality he has. So I love it. We're all fighting for the same position, and whoever has it, has it," Lewis said.

Fifth-year senior Josh Ali and star transfer Wan-Dale Robinson, who was named Mr. Football at Western Hills and earned honorable mention all-Big Ten last year at Nebraska, figure to be the team's top receiving targets, but a slew of others are seeking the remainder of the snaps at receiver.

"He's showing up quite a bit, which is really good," coach Mark Stoops said of Lewis. "That's a position that we need somebody to show up and make plays, he's doing that, he's been consistent."

The 5-foot-11 receiver played just one season of football in high school and was primarily a basketball player, averaging 18 points, five assists, four steals and six rebounds per game as a senior point guard. He was so dominant for Windermere Prep (FL) on the hardwood that a regional opponent played a diamond-and-one defense in an effort to slow him down.

Lewis said his vertical leap as a high school junior was an impressive 45 inches — for reference, only two players have ever jumped that high in NBA Draft combine history.

He hasn't recently tested his vertical, so he added a caveat on the eve of his 21st birthday this week: "I've gained some weight, I've got a little older, (my) body's not as fresh as it used to be."

Regardless, his leaping ability has still been noticeable.

"Rahsaan's a savvy football player who has unbelievable ball skills," offensive coordinator Liam Cohen said. "And he has like a 40-inch vertical. He can jump through the roof."

Lewis was also a two-way football standout during his senior year of high school and began his college career at Central Florida, playing defensive back for a season before transferring to Florida Atlantic. After coach Lane Kiffin left for Ole Miss, Lewis again transferred, this time to UK to join his older brother Rayshad, who had previously played at Utah State under Jovon Bouknight, now the Wildcats' wide receivers coach.

"It's been a rough college career for me, transferring a couple of times, all the injuries and everything," Rahsaan Lewis said, "so (my goals are) mainly just doing my part, no matter what it is: catching the ball, making a block, making a play."

Lewis was slowed by injuries in 2020, but if Saturday's performance is any indication, he could very well see the field this season, once again wowing fans; among them may even be his father, the NFL's all-time leading tackler, who Lewis said will attend some games this season.

"I feel that I'm just a playmaker," Lewis said. "Whether it's a deep ball, I'm gonna go make a play. Whether you give me the ball on a screen or something short, I'm always trying to make a play."

## **Dad was a UK basketball standout. Son is trying to make a name with the football Cats.**

**By Mark Story  
Lexington Herald-Leader  
August 12, 2021**

His dad was a clutch-shooting stalwart for "The Comeback Cats," Kentucky's 1998 men's NCAA basketball champions.

His mom left a notable UK athletics legacy of her own.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Reed Sheppard?

Sure.

But the North Laurel High School junior-to-be boys' basketball star — the son of ex-Wildcats basketball luminaries Jeff Sheppard and Stacey Reed — is not the only rising athlete with University of Kentucky ties for whom the above biography fits.

Lucas Padgett was born to be a Wildcat.

A true freshman offensive lineman on the 2021 UK football roster, the preferred walk-on is the middle of three children of ex-Wildcats power forward Scott Padgett and his wife, former Kentucky volleyball outside hitter Cynthia Dozier.

In the summer of 1994, Lucas Padgett's parents first met as incoming UK freshmen when each turned up in the Memorial Coliseum training room seeking aid for an injured shoulder.

Scott Padgett and Dozier would soon become a couple. They have been one ever since.

From that starting point, Lucas Padgett thinks he was destined to one day wear Kentucky blue and white. "It definitely feels like that," the 6-foot-4, 328-pound offensive lineman said last week at UK football Media Day. "It's been a dream my whole life to be here."

Yet if the college destination of Lucas Padgett feels preordained, the path he took to Lexington — disrupted by a cross-country move and the coronavirus pandemic — was unconventional.

While his dad was working as head men's hoops coach at Samford University (2014-2020) in Birmingham, Ala., Lucas was developing on the gridiron.

By the end of his junior year at Homewood High School, Lucas Padgett had shown enough promise competing in Class 6A Alabama football to attract recruiting interest from Conference-USA programs. He had also demonstrated enough prowess in the classroom that Ivy League schools

were interested.

Padgett's football future was thrown into confusion, however, when his family moved some 1,265 miles west from Birmingham to Albuquerque, N.M. Cut loose as Samford head man, Scott Padgett had taken an assistant coaching job for 2020-21 at New Mexico.

If moving cross country before one's senior year weren't challenging enough, Lucas Padgett made that move amid a global pandemic. His new home, New Mexico, then adopted some of the more stringent COVID-19 containment policies of any state.

In The Land of Enchantment, high school football was shut down last fall.

As it turned out, Padgett earned his degree from La Cueva High School without ever stepping foot in a classroom. "I went the full (school) year online," he says. "The school I graduated from, I never went to in person."

Meanwhile, in the state he'd left behind, "Alabama, basically, got to play a full (high school football) season," Lucas Padgett says. "(College) recruiting was a little more normal there than it would have been in New Mexico."

As first the December and then the February college football signing periods came and went, Padgett was caught across the country from where he had built recruiting credibility — and with no senior-year video highlights to show colleges.

(This past April, New Mexico played an abbreviated high school football schedule).

That combined to leave Lucas Padgett in a bind as far as determining his football future.

In response to the uncertainty, a family conference was called.

"Cynthia and I, we sat down with Lucas and were like, 'If you could go anywhere, where would you go?'" Scott Padgett recalls. "He didn't even think; he said 'Kentucky.'"

So the elder Padgett placed a phone call to UK Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart.

"I just said, 'Hey, listen, my son is a really good football player,'" Scott Padgett recalls. "If it weren't for (moving because of) my situation and COVID, I think he was, at a minimum, a Conference-USA scholarship player, if not more."

Barnhart put the Padgetts in contact with the UK football recruiting apparatus.

Eventually, Kentucky offered Lucas Padgett a preferred walk-on opportunity.

"As soon as they said it, Lucas wanted to do it," Scott Padgett says. "He said, 'I'd love to bet on myself.'" Thanks to Lucas Padgett's strong resume in the classroom, he qualified for academic scholarship money at UK. "His being smart is helping my pocket," says Scott Padgett.

Obviously, it's difficult for a walk-on to make a competitive impact on a Southeastern Conference football program.

At Kentucky, the offensive line has become the program's signature position group in recent years. If the recruiting geeks are correct about the potential of the o-linemen Mark Stoops, Eric Wolford and crew are bringing in, "The Big Blue Wall" should continue to stand strong in coming years.

Against those odds, Lucas Padgett brings impeccable Big Blue bloodlines and an overflowing desire to be a relevant Kentucky Wildcats athlete to the task of carving out a meaningful role at UK during his career,

"I know this isn't going to be easy. It's a great offensive line," Lucas Padgett says. "But I've ended up at the school I've dreamed of my whole life. Now, the goal is to come in, work my butt off and be able to crack (the playing rotation)."

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## **Kentucky's Davonte Robinson has a message for everyone: 'I'm still here'**

**By Josh Moore**  
**Lexington Herald-Leader**  
**August 16, 2021**

Two years removed from a torn quad that sidelined him in 2019, Davonte Robinson feels more like himself going into the 2021 season.

The former Henry Clay High School standout was able to play in every game last year for the University of Kentucky, and he started five of them, but he at times seemed a step slower than he should have been and never left the kind of in-game impression expected of a senior who, prior to his injury, looked on track for stardom. The most electrifying play of his career — a 30-yard fumble recovery in the waning seconds of UK's streak-busting victory at Florida in 2018 — seems like a distant memory.

Robinson's now a "super senior" — parlance for an individual opting into the extra year of eligibility granted by the NCAA under its COVID-19 waiver — and eager to show how much more he has left to give the Cats after two full years of recovery.

Robinson's now a "super senior" — parlance for an individual opting into the extra year of eligibility granted by the NCAA under its COVID-19 waiver — and eager to show how much more he has left to give the Cats after two full years of recovery.

"Being hurt, a lot of people forgot about me," Robinson said. "Just know: I'm still here and I still have a lot to prove. I'm just ready to be out there with my brothers."

Kentucky's secondary has become one of its most reliable units in terms of year-over-year performance. Fears stemming from the exodus of NFL types like Mike Edwards and Lonnie Johnson were misplaced, it turns out, since the younger guys under them were emulating their work habits and taking to heart the things their seniors

preached on and away from the field.

Their advice and encouragement has extended beyond their time on campus. Darius West, who suffered a similar injury to Robinson's in 2016, reached out to his former teammate soon after he tore his quad and has helped him stay level-headed through his rehab.

"Taking all that time off and not really ever playing football, getting back into it, I was nervous, I was scared," Robinson said. "It was more mental than anything."

Robinson's now in the unique spot of being a seasoned vet in the DB room — its grayest member, in fact, as a member of the 2016 signing class — who feels a pressure to perform similar to what a newcomer trying to earn their stripes would experience. Defensive coordinator Brad White can recognize Robinson's improvement from last year to this year, and he expects him to deliver accordingly in 2021.

"He looks so much better, and you can tell with the confidence level he's playing with right now," White said. "That's encouraging to see. He's making plays, and with every play that he makes it's adding to that confidence level."

Robinson was recruited to UK as a cornerback but has most often appeared as the extra DB in UK's nickel coverage schemes. Kentucky hasn't shied away from making frequent use of its nickel packages, and could deploy it even more this fall depending on how the health and depth of its outside linebacking group progresses through camp and the early part of the season.

That would give Robinson ample opportunity to show just how far he has come.

"So much about that position is just building the confidence back," White said. "He's going to have to be a big contributor for us, there's no doubt about that."

Chris Collins, in his first year coach-

ing Kentucky's defensive backs following the departure of Steve Clinkscale for Michigan, said he "can't say for sure" if Robinson is where he wants to be two weeks into fall camp, but he's displaying progress during a time of year that can be monotonous, especially for a guy who has been through his fair share of fall conditioning.

Robinson has enjoyed going up against a revamped offense that has kept UK's secondary more on its toes. They're having to stay more active in 11-on-11 drills than in recent years, and they are getting a truer feel for where they're at in terms of their reaction timing and speed as a defense.

Safety Yusuf Corker, a threat for all-Southeastern Conference recognition this year, said Robinson can go toe-for-toe with anyone on the team in a foot race. That's as good an endorsement a guy can get after having one of the largest muscle groups in his body compromised, and it's a testament to UK's strength-and-conditioning and nutrition staff, who've helped Robinson shed pandemic weight that he packed on prior to last season.

The old man in the room is as spry as he has been in a while and eager to make people remember: "I'm still here."

"It's been a long road," Robinson said. "I'm just really excited to get back out there and put that blue and white on for one last season."

## **'He won the job.' Will Levis' presence, big arm made him UK's clear choice at QB.**

**By Josh Moore**  
**Lexington Herald-Leader**  
**August 16, 2021**

He has only been in Lexington a few months, but Will Levis is officially the big man on campus.

University of Kentucky football head coach Mark Stoops officially announced Levis as the starting quarterback during an impromptu Sunday news conference, announced minutes



# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

after reports surfaced that he had addressed the team to inform them of the decision.

Levis' efficiency in running UK's offense through two weeks of camp, including the team's first scrimmage on Saturday, was a difference-maker. Stoops said he's completed 74 percent of his passes on what he called "gradable snaps" and that he threw a 65-yard touchdown pass on his first live play in Saturday's scrimmage.

"He has a lot of talent," Stoops said. "He's been doing some things really good. He's been very efficient. He's got unbelievable arm strength. He's a big, strong guy. He won the job."

Levis' performance in Saturday's scrimmage left quite an impression on Stoops, who said all three quarterbacks vying for the starting job — Levis, junior Joey Gatewood and sophomore Beau Allen — had done well in camp. It was "clear," though, following the Cats' first scrimmage, who should get the ball when UK hosts Louisiana Monroe on Sept. 4.

Stoops lauded Levis' presence in the locker room, which was thought by some to be a potential road block to him being named the starter since he'd only been around since May.

"I feel very clear on this decision," Stoops said.

Stoops up until Sunday had been coy about sharing details with media about the quarterback battle — he joked around Saturday afternoon about keeping assistant coach Vince Marrow away from the mics after glowing comments he made about Levis earlier in the week — but says he treats the decision more seriously than he often comes across.

"I want to be very clear on that," Stoops said. "When you're dealing with these young people's lives, I take that very serious. These guys work their entire life to have an opportunity to be a starting quarterback at a Power Five program, and they all are very vested in what they do."

Stoops also shared that Gatewood

intended to enter his name into the NCAA's transfer portal, which he did do on Monday. Giving a player like Gatewood a window in which to transfer before officially enrolling in fall classes was part of the decision to name a starter now.

It also affords Levis more time to develop rapport with receivers and running backs within the offense. Stoops wants to see the operation of the offense improve in the coming weeks, and naming a starter should make that go more smoothly.

He mentioned during his Saturday news conference that were a few instances in the scrimmage that, if it'd been a live game, he would have had to call for a timeout to avoid a pre-snap penalty.

"We huddle, and that's very different in college football right now," Stoops said. "But we still have a great sense of urgency. We still operate fast. I love the approach that (offensive coordinator) Liam (Coen) has and the different tempos that we can go with. But that takes some time, just terminology alone. ... I want to feel 100 percent confidence when we walk off the field next Saturday after the next scrimmage that we're game-ready."

With Allen as the presumptive No. 2 quarterback, pending Gatewood's transfer, that leaves true freshman Kaiya Sheron and sophomore Nik Scalzo competing for the No. 3 spot on UK's depth chart. Stoops was complimentary of both on Sunday.

## **Will Levis has the arm, but can he lead? Kentucky's new quarterback is working on it.**

**By John Clay  
Lexington Herald-Leader  
August 17, 2021**

There's more to playing quarterback than a strong arm.

Will Levis can spin it. No doubt about that. Kentucky's new starting quarterback has the arm talent college coaches crave. He has been

working on his mechanics, fine-tuning the touch on his intermediate and short throws, and putting in the time in front of the video screen.

But when Levis was asked Tuesday about what he needs to work on, now that he has been officially named the Wildcats' No. 1 quarterback, the Penn State transfer pointed to a facet of the job description that has little to do with out routes.

"Being a leader for this team," Levis said. "And learning how to connect with all the guys the best way possible. Everybody is going to be led effectively differently. Obviously, since I'm new here, I've spent these last few months getting to know these guys. It's going to take a lot of effort to really get their trust and show that I can lead them effectively in whatever situation we find ourselves in."

Like it or not, the quarterback is the face of the program. And QB1 should be player No. 1 when it comes to leadership. He should have command of not just the playbook, but the locker room, and in a way that translates for public consumption.

As Mark Stoops has often said, there are position battles all over the roster during a team's training camp, but the quarterback battle always draws the most interest. "It is what it is," Stoops said Sunday. "We understand that."

That's especially true when a team is making a scheme change on offense. And Kentucky is making just such a change this fall. The Cats ran the football 64.2 percent of the time last season, by far the most of any team in the SEC. (Arkansas was second at 58.2 percent.) The growth strategy is to be more balanced under new offensive coordinator Liam Coen. The run game will still be the foundation piece, but the pass game will occupy a higher spot on the call sheet.

There have been social media posts of Levis playing golf with his teammates, flexing with them in the weight room, just hanging out.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

“Coming in here to play football, everyone is here for business,” Levis said. “It’s really where you get to know someone is off the field, and who they really are as a person.”

He is also answering the questions inquiring minds want to know.

“I wasn’t really a person to throw my whole life out there on social media, but now it’s kind of turned into a necessity,” he said. “Build your brand. Get content out there and give people insight into your lifestyle, your sense of humor and your friends. I’ve been blessed to be able to do that this summer.”

Prime example: There’s a viral video of Levis eating a very, very brown banana. Banana peel and all. Post caption: “I don’t fear the brown spots on bananas. They fear me. #menace-tosociety.”

“If anyone is asking, ‘Do you eat a banana like that every time?’ I do. That’s how I eat bananas,” said Levis on Tuesday with a straight face before adding, “No, I’m kidding.”

The backstory?

“That just kind of came to me,” Levis said. “I saw someone else do it on social media and people were over-reacting to it. And I thought that probably wouldn’t be too bad. One day, I was at my girlfriend’s place and there were some bananas they were about to throw out. I said, ‘Hold on, let me get some content out there.’”

How was it?

“It tasted like banana bread,” he said. “It was pretty good.”

The Cats hope Levis is better than “pretty good.” On the field. And off.

## **One of Kentucky football's most hyped recruits making an early impact in preseason camp**

**By Jon Hale**

**Louisville Courier Journal**

**August 17, 2021**

Trevin Wallace can start his collegiate career with even a fraction of the success he had in his final high school game, the Kentucky freshman

might end up as one of the best linebackers in program history.

Playing against Jones County in the Georgia 5A playoffs, Wallace played every defensive snap of the game for Wayne County, but his biggest contributions came with in the ball in his hands. Wallace gained 382 yards and three touchdowns on 28 carries, falling just short of a game-winning touchdown with officials ruled he lost a fumble just outside the end zone.

“Best single performance of a high school player in my career, 34 years,” Wayne County coach Ken Cribb told the Courier Journal. “It was flat-out amazing. He played linebacker, he played quarterback. ... Really won the game, even though it said he lost it at the 1-inch line, whatever.”

A consensus four-star prospect, Wallace is the second-highest-rated defensive recruit to sign with Kentucky in the Mark Stoops era.

After injuries and NFL draft decisions decimated Kentucky’s depth at middle linebacker, at one point early in the spring Wallace looked like he might immediately compete for a starting spot in the heart of the Wildcats’ defense. The June addition of Ole Miss transfer Jacquez Jones at middle linebacker lessened the pressure for Wallace to make an immediate impact.

Early returns from Kentucky’s preseason practice suggest he might make one anyway.

“There’s a difference between understanding it in the classroom and applying it to the field, but in the classroom, extremely impressive,” UK inside linebackers coach Jon Sumrall said. “He’s a very sharp kid. He’s busted his butt to get ready. He’s been around the facility doing stuff on his own all the time. He’ll walk by my office, and I’m like, ‘Hey man, what are you doing here?’ He is just working his tail off.”

Wallace is splitting his early practice time between the two inside linebacker positions in Kentucky’s 3-4 base

defense.

Perhaps most important for his development is the presence of Jones, the projected starter at middle linebacker, and senior DeAndre Square, a team captain and the returning starter at weakside linebacker.

“They teach me everything, and I’m just all ears to learn,” Wallace said at UK’s preseason media day. “They’ve both been in the game longer than me.”

Wallace’s willingness to learn from his peers has impressed Kentucky coaches and teammates.

Along with fellow freshman linebacker Martez Thrower, Wallace is competing with former Trinity and Ballard star Jared Casey and Michigan State transfer Luke Fulton for the primary backup spots behind Jones and Square.

During his first week of preseason practices there has been a predictable learning curve as Wallace works to master Kentucky’s defensive calls, but his ability to tackle in open space has already been evident, Stoops said. Sumrall generally prefers to let his linebackers master one of the two inside positions before worrying about cross-training at both spots, but Wallace’s willingness to learn has allowed him to already accelerate that process.

None of that praise comes as a surprise to Cribb.

“He has a good football IQ, so the football part of it, making the transition is going to go better than most,” Cribb said. “He understands the game and he’s got great vision. Very coachable. Like a sponge, so he’s going to take in everything his coaches tell him. He’s going to learn it pretty quick.”

Jones and Square provide Kentucky a veteran presence at the heart of the defense with a combine 69 games played, 41 starts and 346 tackles. Sumrall reported significant progress from Casey, who can play both inside linebacker positions, after his first year in the program.

The presence of that trio may have

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

decreased the pressure on Wallace and Thrower to play early this season, but any list of freshmen who could play important roles for the Wildcats this fall has to include Wallace.

"He's going to be a player," Square said of Wallace. "I like everything about him. I like his size, his confidence. He listens to everything. He's not a guy that thinks he knows it all at a young age. He listens to everything. He wants to improve. I think he'll be an important part of this defense this year and years on because he's a hard worker."

## **How his father's death spurred former Moore star J.J. Weaver in return from torn ACL**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

August 24, 2021

The countdown is on for Kentucky outside linebacker J.J. Weaver to make his return from a torn ACL.

But the Moore High School graduate's path back from the injury that ended his 2020 season after the two best performances of his young career is only the start of the story.

A major injury is a difficult hurdle for any player to overcome. For Weaver, it was an especially devastating blow because it came five months after his father, Terrance Weaver, was killed in a shooting in Albany, Georgia.

"Last season before I got hurt, I was playing for him," Weaver told the Courier Journal. "Then I got hurt, that really hurt me. Losing my dad, I don't know how to explain it. That's just a heartbreaking moment for my family and everybody. Me, still playing football, he's in me. I feel like he's playing football now."

Terrance Weaver was killed in the early hours of June 17, 2020, according to media reports. Four teenagers were later arrested in connection with the crime. One was charged with murder. Albany police told reporters they believed robbery was the motive

for the shooting.

At the time of his father's death, J.J., who lives in Louisville with his mother, was preparing for his second season at Kentucky. The former four-star recruit had signed with the program as one of the crown jewels in Mark Stoops' 2019 recruiting class but played in just three games as a freshman.

Weaver's 2020 season started slowly with just two tackles in the first two games, but his production began to pickup with four tackles and one pass breakup in week three against Mississippi State. In the second half of the 10-game, SEC-only season, Weaver began to force his way into a larger role.

While Kentucky was embarrassed as a team against No. 1 Alabama on Nov. 21, Weaver acquitted himself well with three tackles and one tackle for loss. A week later, he made his first career start and tied a career high with six tackles against Florida before tearing the ACL in his right knee in the second half.

"When he got hurt, he was a dominant force on that football field," Kentucky defensive coordinator and outside linebackers coach Brad White said. "Nobody looks at the score, but if you just look at the film, when J.J. played in that Alabama game and when J.J. played in that Florida game, he was as dominant a football player as anybody on that football field."

Weaver missed just two games after the injury, including the Gator Bowl win over NC State, but questions immediately rose about whether he would be ready for the start of the 2021 season. The normal rehabilitation process for a torn ACL can take up to a full calendar year.

Suddenly Weaver's projected ascension to the starting outside linebacker spot vacated by senior Jamar "Boogie" Watson was in jeopardy. Unsurprisingly, the 6-foot-5, 231-pound Weaver took the injury news hard.

"No parent wants to see their child,

not only physically but emotionally, mentally hurt," Weaver's mother, Stacey Sherrell, told the Courier Journal. "But I have faith. I come from a spiritual background. It's just a bump in a road. I had to continue to mentor him and let him know it's OK. This is just God's way of kind of settling you down, making you humble because once you do reach your destination, you appreciate it.

"Those type of talks I had to have. Then, once I closed my door, I'm boo-hoo crying like a little girl. It was hard, but we got through it."

His rehab is 'elite level'

The days immediately following his surgery were the most difficult for Weaver as he spent a couple of weeks at home for the initial steps of his rehabilitation. Once Weaver returned to UK, able to finally sleep through the night without waking up in pain, Sherrell began to see the light come back on for her son.

It should come as no surprise that being around his teammates again helped Weaver boost his spirits. It's the same factor he credits in working through his initial grief after his father's death.

"My father got killed, so I couldn't really sleep or nothing," Weaver said. "I had memories playing back and forth. Just coming back out here, playing football, working out, that helped me. ... I don't want to say take off. It's nothing you move past from, but it most definitely matured me, made me grow up faster, made me be a man now."

Weaver is the second-oldest of his father's 13 children. Since his father's death, he has felt a growing responsibility to help take care of his younger brothers and sisters.

That drive has helped Weaver stay focused throughout his rehabilitation.

UK coaches report Weaver is ahead of schedule on his path back to the field. He has participated in non-contact portions of preseason practice. On Saturday, UK coach Mark Stoops

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

said he expects Weaver to see the field in the Wildcats' Sept. 4 opener against Louisiana Monroe and be back to full strength at some point in the first month of the season.

"What he does, the time that he puts in, the commitment in his rehab is elite level," White said. "When the time comes for him to come back from that, he is going to come back as good and better long-term than he was last year."

For a Kentucky defense that ranked 113th nationally in sacks per game last season, Weaver's return could be a key factor in its ability to establish a more consistent pass rush.

Weaver was recruited to Kentucky with the hope he could follow in the footsteps of 2018 National Defensive Player of the Year Josh Allen. This season marks Weaver's third year on campus, the same year Allen began to first gain national attention for his status as an NFL draft prospect.

It will be impossible to predict Weaver's future until seeing how he returns from the injury, but Kentucky coaches remain high on his long-term potential.

The biggest challenge may be resisting the temptation to risk that future for an immediate return.

"Now that he's back and he's healthy, he thinks he's 100%, he wants to go full throttle," Sherrell said. "It's like, 'J.J., calm down. It's OK. You're going to get there. It's all right. This is you. You've got it.' But yeah, it's every day I have to talk him off that ledge."

Sherrell credits Terrance and J.J.'s grandfather for helping J.J. first find his love for football. During the months of Weaver's rehab, he has remembered the message delivered to him by his father: Be great.

Weaver looked well on his way to accomplishing that goal before the injury. No one in Kentucky's program is betting against him still reaching it once he returns to the field.

For Weaver, the stakes of his return are higher than winning games.

Football helped him deal with the loss of his father. Now, he hopes the sport can help him fill the hole left by Terrance for his younger siblings.

"I call him my gentle giant because he thinks he can save the world," Sherrell said. "He always had the love for people. He's so compassionate. He has a big heart. He'll do anything and everything anyone asks him to do. ... His duty is to take care."

"I tell him all the time: 'Son, we're not broke. We're not rich, but we're not broke. Don't worry about us.' I want J.J. to be happy. Taking care of his family is what makes him happy."

## **Kentucky celebrates former coach, player John Schlarman with Kroger Field poster**

**By Josh Moore**  
**Lexington Herald Leader**  
**August 24, 2021**

The University of Kentucky on Tuesday unveiled a large poster honoring former offensive line coach and football player John Schlarman.

The poster, displayed in the Gate 12 plaza of Kroger Field, facing the Joe Craft Indoor Training Facility, features 12 lines of text with the phrase "Schlarman Strong," which became a mantra for the football team the last couple of seasons while Schlarman was battling cancer. Schlarman's jersey number, 65, is displayed in large font with a quote from Schlarman — "You come together, nobody can stop you." — printed in front of two images; one shows Schlarman on the sideline coaching, another shows him celebrating with the team following its win last season at Tennessee, Kentucky's first in Knoxville since the 1980s.

A logo for "The Big Blue Wall," the name by which UK's nationally recognized offensive line came to be known under Schlarman, is displayed in the left corner. The unveiling was attended by members of his family, including his wife LeeAnne, and UK's football team.

In a social media post announcing the new display, the UK football program called it "a first step in honoring the legacy of Coach Schlarman."

Schlarman was part of Mark Stoops' original staff at Kentucky in 2013, and remained the offensive line coach under Stoops until his death last November following a battle with a rare form of liver cancer. He received the diagnosis in 2018.

UK football over the summer renamed its annual golf scramble in Schlarman's honor, and plans to allow players to continue rotating his jersey number with their own in games this season for as long as the Southeastern Conference permits it to do so. Other tributes are in the planning stages.

"We will find the right way to honor him and do that," Stoops said in June. "Believe me, we love him."

Schlarman, a Fort Thomas native, was an offensive lineman at UK from 1993-1997. He was a graduate assistant at the school from 2000-2002 before local high school coaching stints at Campbell County (2003-2004) and Newport (2005-2006). He was the offensive line coach at Troy University from 2007-2012.

## **The long way home could lead to a memorable 2021 for UK's Wan'Dale Robinson**

**By Joe Cox**  
**Saturday Down South**  
**August 25, 2021**

Wan'Dale Robinson was going to be a Kentucky Wildcat.

A national top 100 player, Robinson was an all-purpose star at Frankfort Western Hills High. He rushed for over 2,000 yards in his sophomore and junior seasons of high school, and missed a three-peat in his senior year by 27 yards. He caught 102 passes, and also went 15-for-22 on passing attempts. We're not even mentioning defense, where his high school coach Don Miller says his improvement was one of the team's keys to success.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

"In high school he played safety, linebacker, receiver, quarterback, running back, punt returner, kickoff returner, and probably even more that I don't remember," laughs Miller.

Robinson was a walking, talking SportsCenter top plays candidate.

He did the steady, he did the spectacular. And he was going to stay home and be a Kentucky Wildcat. Robinson committed on Nov. 1, 2018. While coaches cannot comment on unsigned players, a video of the UK staff bursting into high-fives and backslaps circulated — a video that was understood to be of them watching Robinson's commitment announcement to Kentucky.

It seemed like a match made in Heaven.

It lasted about 35 days.

A few days after winning Kentucky's Mr. Football award, the rumor mill on Robinson ramped to a crescendo. Seems he reconsidered that commitment. On Dec. 5, 2018, he decommitted from Kentucky and committed to Nebraska. Two weeks later, he signed with the Cornhuskers. Hints and understandings were given. Mark Stoops' ball-control offense didn't offer a ton of opportunities for a 5-10 jitterbug of a receiver. And it was Kentucky versus Nebraska. Tradition, winning, etc.

"I wasn't surprised," Miller said of the flip. "I believe he felt that Scott Frost's offense would ultimately help him reach his goal of playing in the NFL."

Two years in, things had changed. Kentucky had come to the end of the line with ground-and-pound ball under Eddie Gran and brought in NFL wunderkind Liam Coen to sort out this new-fangled forward passing business. Nebraska had been very, well, un-Nebraska. In the 2 seasons since Robinson's commitment, even without any kind of downfield passing game, Kentucky went 13-11 while Nebraska was 8-12. Kentucky won the Belk Bowl and Gator Bowl, and Nebraska hadn't

made a bowl appearance.

For Robinson, Nebraska did use him, albeit somewhat erratically. Two seasons netted 134 rushing attempts, 91 receptions, 11 kickoff returns and a punt return. Robinson showed big-play capabilities, rushing for 580 yards and 4 touchdowns and adding 914 yards and 3 touchdowns on receptions. He was among the most productive receivers in the Big Ten as a sophomore, and as a true freshman, was 1 of only 2 Nebraska players to reach 1,000 all-purpose yards in their initial season.

But uncertainty with his role (Nebraska bounced him around as a back/receiver), continued mediocrity under Scott Frost and a new approach in Lexington suddenly brought the old Wan'Dale rumor mill abuzz again.

Wan'Dale Robinson would be a Kentucky Wildcat. And if it took 2 years to get here, this time, it was for keeps.

### Another happy Kentuckian

Plenty of people are excited to see Robinson wear the blue and white of his homestate Wildcats, among them coach Miller back at Western Hills. Miller's relationship with Robinson goes way back.

"I actually knew of Wan'Dale when he was playing youth league football," Miller said. "He was already making a name for himself at such a young age."

Miller quickly understood the talent he had in Robinson.

"It wasn't until his freshman year that we understood what an impact player he would be," says Miller.

"I can still remember our student section chanting, 'He's a freshman!' every time he made a big play."

Miller clearly enjoyed coaching Robinson, and when asked about what makes him special, he zeroed in on a surprising element.

"He is truly happy when those

around him are successful as well," Miller said. "He finds true joy in the success of his teammates and has an understanding that individual successes lead to ultimate team success."

And what will he bring to Kentucky this fall?

"Wan'Dale's speed and quickness, as well as his lateral movement and field vision reminds me of Tyreek Hill," Miller said. "But I feel like his versatility and ability to do whatever is needed to help his team be successful is similar to Randall Cobb when he was a Wildcat."

### In Lexington ... finally

On the field, Robinson fills out of Kentucky's immediate needs — somebody to catch the passes that Coen will call this fall. Veteran Josh Ali returned to Kentucky, and his 54 receptions for 473 yards in 2020 demonstrate his experience and potential. But after Ali, it got thin fast, particularly with a significant camp injury to tight end Keaton Upshaw, who was the 2nd leading returning receiver for UK.

Enter Robinson, who will be a slot receiver this fall.

Kentucky coaches have been somewhat understated about Robinson, but it's hard to mistake the elation for first-year OC Coen, and the stick-to-it duo of Stoops and Vince Marrow, who just missed on Robinson in 2018 only to reel him back in for 2020.

"We recruited him extremely hard and tried to do all the right things and make it very difficult for him to say no to us, and that's our job," Stoops said recently. "It didn't work out that way the first go-round, but it came back the second time, and very grateful to have him in our program."

When Robinson's name pops up, Stoops acknowledges his potential impact.

"He's a difference-maker," Stoops said at SEC Media Days. "He's a guy that was electric this spring, and you could feel his presence on the

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

field. Very excited to have him on our team.”

“He’s so dynamic,” Coen raved in the spring. “He’s not just a gadget guy. He can really get the ball down the field.”

Coen continued, “The thing I love about Wan’Dale is he loves to play the game and he loves to learn the game.”

It’s not just Kentucky’s coaches who have noted Robinson’s potential impact. Phil Steele and Athlon both named him an All-SEC third-team pick before he ever played a snap in the league. A 247sports survey of transfers ranked Robinson as the 4th-best transfer in the nation. Expectations are sky-high.

For Robinson’s part, he professes happiness to be back in his old Kentucky home.

“I’m super excited,” he said at Kentucky’s Media Day. “I’m just glad to be back home.”

Robinson addressed his return to Lexington, noting, “I wanted to keep my eyes open a little bit, but I knew I was really eyeing coming back here ... it was a really easy choice to come back home.”

For Wan’Dale Robinson, coming home sets up nicely for a memorable 2021 season.

## **The stealth recruiter who is helping UK football burrow into the Deep South**

**By Mark Story**  
**Lexington Herald Leader**  
**August 26, 2021**

With productive work on the recruiting trails largely in Ohio and, lately, in Kentucky, Vince Marrow has more than earned his reputation as UK football’s ace recruiter.

But even a “Big Dog” needs help.

Since Mark Stoops brought Jon Sumrall back to his college alma mater as Kentucky’s inside linebackers coach in 2019, the former UK player has produced consistent recruiting success in an area, the Deep South, that has long

confounded Wildcats recruiters.

Working often in an “under the radar” manner, the former Kentucky linebacker has brought at least eight players combined from the states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi to Lexington in the prior two recruiting cycles.

According to the Rivals.com recruiting database, seven of those eight players picked UK over other SEC offers.

“Sometimes in the Deep South, you try to keep some of the guys quiet that you are in on because there are so many guys under the radar down there who have high talent,” Sumrall says. “And I just don’t like to publicize what we are doing. I think, sometimes, (other) schools ‘copycat recruit.’”

If you have followed “the scuttlebutt” emanating from Kentucky’s mostly closed practices this pre-season, many of the young players receiving positive buzz are prospects Sumrall lured north from Dixie:

A 6-foot-3, 305-pound nose guard from Horn Lake, Miss., Josaih Hayes was one of the big national surprises on signing day for the class of 2020 when he picked Kentucky over a litany of traditional SEC powers.

Sumrall, a former Mississippi assistant, won out in an intense recruiting battle with Ole Miss for the four-star defensive lineman. Alabama, Auburn, Georgia and LSU had also offered Hayes.

Reviews on Hayes’ play coming from Kentucky’s camp this month have grown increasingly bullish.

From the class of 2021, Chauncey Magwood, a 6-foot, 190-pound wide-out from Albany, Ga., seems to have a viable chance to crack Kentucky’s receiving rotation as a true freshman.

Sumrall beat out Arkansas, Florida State, Georgia Tech, Louisville, Miami, Michigan, Mississippi and Mississippi State for Magwood.

Wide receiver Chris Lewis turned down Arkansas, Louisville, Ole Miss,

Nebraska, Notre Dame, South Carolina, Tennessee, UCLA and West Virginia to choose Kentucky.

The 6-4, 190-pound product of Pleasant Grove, Ala., may need time to build strength; in time, he could give UK the kind of big, athletic outside receiver the Wildcats play against in the SEC.

Kahlil Saunders, a 6-5, 270-pound defensive lineman out of Sumrall’s alma mater, Grissom High School in Huntsville, Ala., was an “off the beaten path” recruit — his only other Power Five offers came from Kansas and Virginia Tech.

Nevertheless, there has been a consistent, positive buzz about Saunders coming out of UK practices.

A 6-2, 212-pound product of Rochelle, Ga., linebacker Martez Thrower picked Kentucky over Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia Tech, Michigan State, Minnesota, Mississippi State, Nebraska, Tennessee and Wisconsin, among others.

With injuries creating opportunity, Thrower might play meaningful snaps this fall.

If the recruiting geeks are correct, Trevin Wallace, a 6-2, 220-pound product of Jesup, Ga., is the jewel of Sumrall’s efforts so far in the Deep South.

With Ole Miss transfer Jacquez Jones (another Sumrall recruit) battling injury, Wallace was running with the first team during a recent UK practice open to the media.

An injury that ended Wallace’s junior season in high school after only four games and an early commitment to Boston College froze his recruitment.

Sumrall, Wallace reports, never relented in recruiting him even after he committed to Boston College.

“He never left the game. He still kept recruiting me,” Wallace says.

After Wallace de-committed from BC, he says he probably would have chosen Auburn, except the Tigers changed coaching staffs.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

“Getting to know a new coaching staff in a short amount of time, that was going to be difficult,” Wallace says. “So my mind switched to Kentucky. I knew Coach Sumrall. He’s the type you want on your side. He gives off good energy.”

Besides growing up in Alabama, Sumrall has coached at Ole Miss, Tulane and Troy.

“I’m fortunate, in the Deep South, I know the lay of the land pretty well,” he says. “I know a lot of the high school coaches really well.”

When defensive backs coach Steve Clinkscale departed UK for a job at Michigan this offseason, it was a significant blow to Kentucky recruiting. Clinkscale had opened an effective recruiting pipeline into the state of Michigan for UK. With his absence, it seems unlikely Kentucky can sustain that.

That raises the value to UK of Sumrall’s ability to get quality recruits from the heart of SEC country.

Yet when things go the way the former Kentucky linebacker likes it, you won’t know about his efforts until a player signs.

“The publicity part of recruiting is great,” Sumrall says. “But what really is my job is to find the best fit for the University of Kentucky. And a lot of times, that’s done best under the radar, just laying low.”

## **What is a super senior? This Kentucky football player could make history in opener**

**By Jon Hale**

**Louisville Courier Journal**

**August 27, 2021**

College football rosters this fall may look like something out of the Avengers.

Generally, it is not difficult to classify what class a college athlete is in. First-year players are freshmen. For the purposes of NCAA eligibility, second-year players are sophomores or redshirt freshmen depending on how

many games they played in during their debut season. From there, players make take the typical progression from sophomores to juniors to seniors.

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered that system for the next four years.

Spring sports athletes were granted an extra year of eligibility after the 2020 season was cut short by the start of the pandemic. Recognizing the uncertainty surrounding the 2020-21 academic year, the NCAA extended that same concession to fall and winter sports athletes last season.

Kentucky is listing its football players based on their normal year of eligibility depending on how many games they played in during the 2020 season.

But what do we call athletes who played as seniors last season and elected to return to school for the extra year of eligibility? The college sports world has coalesced around the Avengers-esque term, “super seniors,” a phrase previously used to describe any student who took longer than four years to graduate from high school or college.

“I’ve never used that term, but it’s a great term, super seniors, for the guys that decided to come back,” Kentucky football coach Mark Stoops said this summer. “We greatly appreciate having that experience.”

Stoops’ squad will include nine super seniors: wide receiver Josh Ali, center Luke Fortner, punter Colin Goodfellow, kickoff returner Zach Johnson, cornerback Quandre Mosely, linebacker William Nalty, tight end Justin Rigg, safety Davonte Robinson and kicker Matt Ruffolo.

Of that group, Fortner, Johnson, Rigg and Robinson are entering their sixth season at Kentucky. The other Wildcat super seniors are entering year No. 5 of college football as they previously had not used a redshirt season.

The Associated Press reported in

February more than 1,000 2020 seniors were expected to take advantage of the extra year of eligibility this fall, but even among that group Rigg might be in a class of his own.

Almost all the sixth-year super seniors sat on the sideline for an entire redshirt season in their first five years on campus. The 6-foot-6, 261-pound Rigg will become one of only a handful of players in college football history to actually play in a game in six separate seasons next week in Kentucky’s season opener against Louisiana Monroe.

Prior to the 2018 season, players were not allowed to preserve a redshirt season if they appeared in even a single game, but athletes could be given back a year of eligibility with a medical hardship waiver if they missed the majority of a season due to injury. Rigg, who played in two games a freshman in 2016 before missing the rest of the season with a rib injury, fell into that category.

Even before the COVID-19 waivers were announced, the NCAA did allow for rare circumstances for an athlete to have his or her eligibility clock extended to a sixth year, but those scenarios only came into play when the athlete missed two full seasons due to injury.

Former Wildcat defensive lineman Phil Hoskins played the 2020 season under the sixth-year waiver. While Hoskins elected to enter the NFL draft rather than use the extra COVID-19 year, some players in his situation (like Minnesota defensive lineman Micah Dew-Treadway) did choose to return to college for a seventh season.

Due to the NCAA’s pre-2018 redshirt rules, they did not play at all in at least one of their first six years on campus though.

After his injury-shortened freshman season, Rigg played in all 39 games from 2017 to 2019. He played in 9 of 11 games in 2020, missing two games due to COVID-19 protocols. Those missed games played heavily on his

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

mind when he decided to use the extra year of eligibility.

"I love football, I love Kentucky and I want to play at the next level," Rigg said. "...With missing two games due to COVID, I felt it would be in my best interest to come back and help this team and push this team to become better. Really be a leader for my offense and the whole team. Just show the guys in my room, the younger guys, the right thing to do.

"I just felt coming back would be the best decision I could do to get to the next level."

The majority of Kentucky's super seniors return at key positions.

Fortner, the former starter at right guard, is moving to center for his last season of college football. Ali, Rigg and Ruffolo are returning starters at their positions. Robinson is a former starter who struggled in 2020 after missing all of the 2019 season with an injury.

"It was always a clear decision," Robinson said. "I just knew I had a lot more to give, a lot more to prove. I didn't want to end my year last year the way that it happened. Just in my mind, I was clear that I was coming back."

The impact of super seniors could be felt for years to come as the 2020 underclassmen decide whether or not to use their extra seasons of eligibility, but Rigg's exclusive club will likely remain small.

Do we call him a super senior after all?

"I don't even know," Rigg said with a laugh. "Super, super senior."

Now, that's a name worthy of the Avengers.

## **Marquan McCall's explosive-ness, maturity on display in fall camp**

By Jack Pilgrim

Kentucky Sports Radio

August 27, 2021

Marquan McCall's physical growth

– or shrink, rather – as a player this offseason has been well-documented. Tasked with the difficult job of replacing Quinton Bohanna as the team's anchor on the defensive line in 2021, the standout nose guard has cut 40 pounds since last season and is below 350 pounds for the first time since high school.

It's a body change that had UK defensive coordinator Brad White day-dreaming about on-field production possibilities for McCall, who he feels can be a "difference maker" on the defensive line.

"You've got a guy in Marquan McCall that has played significant snaps, played as a true freshman. Now he's in year four here and he understands this is his time," White said of McCall to open fall camp. "His body is in as good of shape as he's been since I've been here and he's been here. He's ready to take that step. ... He does have a chance to be a difference-maker for us and we need him to be that."

The on-field impact has come with the body transformation to open fall camp, but not just in terms of individual production. He's also grown as a leader, something that has caught the attention of his veteran teammates.

"He's a guy that's going to hold other guys accountable, and that's what I like to see. I like to see him hold those guys accountable on the field," senior defensive end Josh Paschal said Saturday. "He's also the type of guy to have fun the guys, as well. It's a good balance to have, being able to tell someone they need to step up, but celebrate them when they do. Marquan has that great balance."

"In offseason workouts, it used to be us telling Marquan to pick it up," senior guard Luke Fortner added. "Now it's Marquan telling us to pick it up."

In his first three years with the program, McCall has racked up 48 total tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble in 31 total games played. Early

reports are that those numbers are going to see a significant spike in year four.

It starts with his athleticism and newfound explosiveness.

"You look to your right or to your left and look at that nose and see someone you can trust and someone that's explosive," Paschal said of McCall. "I'd say he's a playmaker, you'll see him during the fall. He's a big guy that shouldn't be able to move that fast."

McCall is not only bettering himself, but those around him, a recipe for success going into 2021.

"There's not a time you go against Marquan and don't get better. Really," Fortner added. "He truly moves faster than any human his size should. He has been changing the way he works. ... The way he's approached it has been incredible. He's a hard man to block, for sure."

## **How a viral TikTok video offers hope Will Levis can end the Kentucky football QB drought**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

September 5, 2021

If Will Levis can play quarterback half as well as he TikToks, Kentucky football might have found its best quarterback in more than a decade.

Before even playing a game for the Wildcats, the Penn State transfer made national headlines for his TikTok video in which he eats a banana with the peel still on. Many Kentucky fans' first exposure to Levis came through a viral workout video posted to Twitter of him slinging passes in quick succession.

Perhaps the match between Kentucky and Levis was always destined to flourish considering even years before the Connecticut native considered playing for the Wildcats, he posted a picture to Instagram wearing a UK visor.

"I think it was my buddy's," Levis



## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

said with a laugh when asked if the post from June 2017 was some sort of foreshadowing. "He was a Kentucky basketball fan, and I was just wearing it. After I committed, I went back through my pictures and found that one. Just so happened I was wearing some Kentucky stuff way before I even ended up here. It was pretty funny."

Despite his brief stint wearing the UK visor, Levis acknowledges he knew little about the Wildcat football program before Kentucky beat Penn State in the Citrus Bowl during his freshman season.

"Always knew them more as a basketball school," Levis said. "Being from Connecticut, it was fun watching UCONN beat them in the national championship."

Basketball rooting interest aside, Levis has quickly endeared himself to Big Blue Nation with his growing social media presence. As his profile off the field has increase, hype for his performance on it has soared as well.

Levis needed just one week on campus to convince Kentucky coach Mark Stoops and offensive coordinator Liam Coen to award him the starting quarterback position. On his first throw in Kroger Field, Levis completed a 60-plus-yard touchdown pass during a preseason scrimmage.

As reporters gained a glimpse of his impressive arm strength in two open practices during camp, the idea that Levis could help return balance to a Kentucky offense that had become too run-centric in recent years became more plausible.

Kentucky coaches have done little to dampen the enthusiasm.

"I've been around a lot of quarterbacks," UK recruiting coordinator and tight ends coach Vince Marrow said. "Will is one of the strongest arms I've been around. ... Will came in the right way. He won the team over, did the little things. He was the first one in, the last one to leave. Just his leadership on the field, all guys started following him, even the defensive guys."

"I think his personality is one that guys kind of naturally follow," Coen said. "I think obviously you guys can see some of the arm strength talent and see some of the things he can do throwing the football."

Can Will Levis end Kentucky football quarterback drought?

For all the success Stoops has built at Kentucky, the Wildcats run to five consecutive bowl games has often come in spite of its quarterback play rather than because of it.

In Stoops' first eight seasons as coach, only one Kentucky quarterback has thrown for more than 2,500 yards in a season. In four of those seasons, including each of the last three, Kentucky's leading passer threw for less than 2,000 yards.

With Stephen Johnson, Terry Wilson and Lynn Bowden taking the majority of the quarterback snaps during the five bowl seasons, Kentucky averaged just less than 2,000 passing yards per year. The Wildcats have finished last in the Southeastern Conference in passing yards in each of the last three seasons.

Kentucky is one of just two SEC programs without a 3,000-yard passer during the last eight years. No UK quarterback has been named to the coaches' All-SEC team since Andre' Woodson in 2007. No Wildcat quarterback has thrown a touchdown pass in the NFL since Tim Couch in 2003.

"Not to take away nothing from Stephen Johnson, because those guys won games for us," Marrow said. "I don't think Terry Wilson gets enough credit. But I think the potential for what we're looking for, I think Will is the guy to do it. I really do. I'm very impressed with him."

Levis felt unfairly pigeonholed as a run-first quarterback at Penn State, where he rushed for 473 yards and threw for 644 across the last two seasons. His arm strength was never in doubt, but even Levis acknowledges accuracy was an issue early in his

college career.

Years of work on that aspect of his game has apparently paid off as he earned raves for his touch on deep passes in particular during camp.

When Coen went searching for a transfer quarterback after being hired by Kentucky, Levis's 2020 performance against Nebraska in which he completed 14 of 31 passes for 219 yards stood out on film.

"He had beliefs in my ability as a quarterback," Levis said. "That's what I really wanted to hear. I wanted to go to a school and play for a coach that believed I could be a great quarterback for him. That's what happened."

Levis insists no promises were made to him about the starting job while Coen and Stoops recruited him to Kentucky, but he remained confident in his ability to quickly win over his teammates and prove worthy of the position.

With incumbents Joey Gatewood and Beau Allen gaining a headstart in learning Coen's offense during spring practice while Levis was completing his degree at Penn State, Levis opened camp taking mostly second- and third-team reps.

"It wasn't like he was running with the ones and it just kind of happened," Coen said. "He had to earn it. He had to earn it, and he did it every single day. I think we saw probably what some of you guys see when he throws the football. He gives you a chance."

More than a banana video

Kentucky coaches have hailed Levis for his natural leadership qualities, but Levis knows the relationships with his teammates will need time to strengthen.

The fact that he has already made significant headway in that area in just more than a month on campus adds optimism to his ability to thrive as the face of a program.

As for the blossoming social media

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

stardom, Levis has been intentional about allowing fans an inside look at his life off the field as he looks to position himself to profit off college athlete's new name, image and likeness rights.

The infamous banana video, which was featured on the Today Show, was a spur-of-the-moment idea sparked by Levis seeing someone else attempt the trick on social media when he noticed his girlfriend was about to toss out some overly ripe bananas. His TikTok profile also features videos of golf outings, a series of celebrity look-alike photos of teammates and a clip of him hitting the goalpost crossbar with a pass from midfield on his knees that has been viewed more than 200,000 times.

For Levis to end Kentucky's quarterback drought, he will need to prove to be more than a social media star. His engaging personality must combine with his arm strength and athleticism to actually produce on the field.

Levis boasts more than 64,000 TikTok followers with more than 1.3 million likes accumulated on his videos. Now it is time to find out if he can post similarly impressive stats on the field.

"He's very authentic, which you really like about him, and he works at it," Stoops said. "He's in there a lot. He's in there watching film. A few times this summer when we've had recruits on campus, or he happened to pop in my office, just watching him interact with other people, watching him interact with recruits, parents, anybody—he handles himself like a grown man. You need that out of your quarterback."

## 'I just love it all': Wan'Dale Robinson is ready to play for Kentucky after recruiting flip

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

September 3, 2021

It is Nov. 1, 2018, and Western Hills High School football star Wan'Dale Robinson is about to announce his college choice.

During the previous summer, Robinson had recorded a commitment video with a team from the Lexington Herald-Leader. As he had not yet made his decision at the time the video was shot, Robinson recorded six different endings in which he picked each of his finalists.

After weeks of sleepless nights, the week before his scheduled commitment ceremony in the Western Hills gymnasium, Robinson told the Herald-Leader crew to use the ending where he pledged to Nebraska. But just hours before the ceremony, he called Herald-Leader's Caitlyn Stroth-Page, now the executive editor of the USA TODAY network's Athens Banner-Herald, with a change of heart.

Robinson would be committing to Kentucky instead.

"That was probably the most stressful time of my life," Robinson told The Courier Journal earlier this month. "I can remember in high school, I was up until 2, 3 o'clock in the morning just about every night worrying about where am I going to go? Worried if I was going to make the right choice."

The late change of heart before his initial commitment ceremony was not the final twist in Robinson's recruitment.

Just more than a month later, he flipped his verbal commitment back to Nebraska, writing in a note posted to his Twitter account saying he had become "overwhelmed by the pressure from outside influences, the pressure of staying home and the pressure of

trying to please everyone." The flip came just three days after he was named Mr. Football by the Kentucky Football Coaches Association.

It would not take long for Kentucky fans to realize the significance of the loss as Robinson starred for the Cornhuskers in the fall of 2019, earning second-team Freshman All-American honors as the Wildcats passing game floundered. He caught 40 passes for 453 yards and rushed 88 times for 340 yards with six total touchdowns. Robinson was named one of four finalists for the Paul Hornung Award, which goes to college football's most versatile player.

As a sophomore, Robinson caught 51 passes for 461 yards in eight games during the coronavirus-shortened 2020 season.

Shortly after the season, Robinson entered the transfer portal, citing a desire to move closer to home because his mother was dealing with ongoing health complications after being hospitalized with COVID-19. Four days later, Robinson committed to Kentucky for a second time.

'The whole state is excited he came back'

Now just less than three years after his Western Hills commitment ceremony, Robinson is set to finally play a game for the Wildcats. Against Louisiana Monroe on Saturday, Robinson will wear his No. 1 Kentucky jersey as the face of a revamped offense aiming to inject excitement back into the Kroger Field stands.

"Broke my heart two years ago, but he came back," UK recruiting coordinator Vince Marrow said. "I know the whole state is excited he came back."

Of course, the same pressure Robinson identified as a factor in his initial decision to flip to Nebraska has not gone away.

If anything, after two more years of watching an anemic passing attack, Big Blue Nation has only increased the hype for its hometown hero. The

## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

difference is Robinson is now eager to embrace that spotlight.

"I don't really feel any pressure," Robinson said. "At the end of the day, I have pressure on myself. I don't really feel anything from the outside. I always have expectations of what I should do and how I should go about things. As long as I prepare and do the things I'm supposed to, everything will fall in line."

Had new offensive coordinator Liam Coen been working for Kentucky three years ago, Robinson might have stuck with his initial commitment after all.

Instead, he was worried the run-heavy Kentucky attack that had found so much success with Benny Snell in the backfield and a vaunted offensive line paving the way might not be the best system to showcase his abilities to the NFL. Stoops, Marrow and former UK offensive coordinator Eddie Gran pitched Robinson on being used in a similar manner to Lynn Bowden as a high school recruit, but Bowden's biggest impact at Kentucky would come as a running quarterback rather than a pass-catcher.

After Kentucky ranked last in the Southeastern Conference in passing yards for a third consecutive season in 2020, Stoops decided a change was needed if he was ever going to consistently attract offensive playmakers like Robinson to Kentucky. He looked to the NFL to hire Coen, then the assistant quarterbacks coach for the Los Angeles Rams, to bring offensive balance back to Lexington.

"I got to talk to Liam before I decided," Robinson said. "The moment I talked to him, I knew I could play for him and that he'd put me in position to have success and go to the next level."

Coen viewed Robinson as Kentucky's version of Connor Kupp, the Rams slot receiver who caught more than 90 passes in each of the last two seasons. Kentucky plans to also use Robinson as a punt returner in

a search to find as many ways as possible to get the ball in his hands in space.

Despite being the focus of Big Blue Nation's and UK coaches' affection for years, when he finally arrived on campus in January, Robinson set out to prove to his new teammates he was more than a star-for-hire.

"A lot of guys with that type of talent, you'd think that they got a chip on their shoulder or they're arrogant," Marrow said. "He's a class act. ... He didn't want nothing when he came in here. We knew he was talented as a staff, but he did not want his teammates to think something was given to him, so he came in and earned it the right way."

Robinson was quickly hailed as a difference-maker during spring practices as Coen worked to teach his new offense.

Defensive end Josh Paschal labeled him "the truth." Wildcat coaches could barely contain their glee any time his name was mentioned in interviews.

Running back Chris Rodriguez, wide receiver Josh Ali and Kentucky's much-hyped offensive line will say much about the ultimate success of Coen's offense, but it will be Robinson and Penn State quarterback transfer Will Levis that represent the faces of the transformation.

During the first scrimmage of pre-season camp, Levis hit Robinson for a 60-plus-yard touchdown pass on the first pass he threw in a competitive setting in Kroger Field. It would be unfair to expect that result often, but no one around the Kentucky locker room has made much of an effort to slow the hype.

"He works very hard every day and really gets better, he improves," Stoops said of Robinson on Monday. "It's amazing to see him, the way he sharpened his skill at wide receiver. We all know he is a talented guy with the ball in his hand, but he's really

developing into a great wide receiver. He's very talented, but I love his work ethic."

Robinson's return to Kentucky coincides with the NCAA's move to allow college athletes to profit off their own name, image and likeness. While that rule change was not adopted until after Robinson enrolled at UK, he acknowledges being a hometown star has boosted his earning potential.

Even at his initial 2018 commitment ceremony in high school, Robinson pointed to the lifelong benefits that could come with being a former Kentucky football player if he returned home after his playing career ended.

The financial benefit will come earlier than expected for Robinson, but there are implications from playing for his home-state team versus Nebraska that extend beyond NIL.

In June, Frankfort posted road signs on the edge of the city highlighting its status as Robinson's hometown. At the ceremony unveiling the signs, Western Hills coach Don Miller acknowledged the real motivation for the gesture was "to welcome Wan'Dale home."

The rest of Big Blue Nation will finally get that chance Saturday.

"It's been really, really nice," Robinson said. "It's been nice I can go out to eat and somebody will recognize me, like, 'I wish you'd never left, I'm glad you're home.'"

"I just love it all. I just hope I make everybody proud and make everybody excited and show that when I came back there was good reason to be excited."

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## **Bombs away! Kentucky rolls with the deep ball in successful season opener.**

By John Clay

Lexington Herald Leader  
September 4, 2021

When Big Blue Nation hit the pillow on Friday night, surely it dreamed of new offensive coordinator Liam Coen scheming up fireworks, receiver Wan'Dale Robinson celebrating a welcome home party and new quarterback Will Levis going, well, bananas in Saturday's season opener.

Turns out, fantasy can become reality. Levis, the transfer from Penn State, threw for 367 yards and four touchdowns. Robinson, the transfer from Nebraska via Western Hills High School in Frankfort, caught five passes for 125 yards and two scores. And the Wildcats rolled over undermanned Louisiana Monroe 45-10 in the 2021 season opener.

So what did Coen think of his Big Blue debut? Well, first the former Los Angeles Rams assistant quarterbacks coach had to answer a congratulatory text message from his old boss, Sean McVay. After that, the 35-year-old Coen seemed fairly pleased with the 554 yards of total offense and six touchdowns. Fairly.

"We missed some things," said the coach.

But not too many things, at least outside of Levis' first throw when his missile for receiver Josh Ali came in high and hot, bounced off the veteran wideout's shoulder and into the hands of the Warhawks' Jabari Johnson for an interception. "We just chuckled about it," said Levis afterward, shaking his head.

Not to worry. It didn't take long for Levis to let it fly, hitting a wide-open Robinson with picture-perfect 33-yard pass for a touchdown. On UK's very next play on its very next series, Levis dialed up the long ball again, connecting with Ali for a 58-yard score right down the middle.

Tweeted former UK and current Tampa Bay Bucs safety Mike Edwards, "Imagine us having this offense my senior year." And the Cats went 10-3 with a Citrus Bowl win in 2018, his senior year.

By halftime, Levis had thrown for a third touchdown — a 15-yard slant to the 183-pound Robinson, who pinballed his way into the end zone — and was 11 of 16 for 247 yards as the Cats lead 28-7. Heady numbers for a team that never threw for more than 239 yards in a game all of the 2020 season.

That was the reason head coach Mark Stoops decided to part ways with his old friend and offensive coordinator Eddie Gran, hiring Coen to install a less run-dependent, more balanced, pro-style attack. "You guys know what I was looking for," Stoops said Saturday.

Surely he saw it, what with bullish back Chris Rodriguez rushing for 125 yards on 19 carries — C-Rod's seventh career 100-yard rushing game. In total, the Cats finished with 34 rushing plays and 33 pass plays. "That's what we're looking for," Coen said.

True, Saturday's degree of difficulty must be taken into account. Not only did ULM not win a game in 2020, the Warhawks never led. There were 62 new players on 65-year-old coach Terry Bowden's roster on Saturday. And while veteran offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez schemed up a touchdown drive on ULM's first possession, the visitors finished with measly 87 total yards on the afternoon.

"Is that correct?" Stoops asked when looking at the stat sheet. "It seemed more aggravating than that."

First games are first games, after all. Stoops wasn't happy with his team's three turnovers. (Recovering its own muffed punt kept UK from a fourth.) There were some communication issues, including one when center Luke Fortner correctly snapped the ball on the first sound when Levis was trying to correct a formation and

forgot the ball was supposed to be snapped on the first sound.

"We have a lot of things we need to clean up," Stoops said.

And the clean-up must happen in a hurry. The Missouri Tigers come to Kroger Field next Saturday night in what promises to be an important early SEC game. Mizzou spanked the Cats 20-10 last year in Columbia. But after Saturday, you might say that was a different Kentucky team, a ground-and-pound club that had yet to discover the potential joy of the forward pass.

Take it from Rodriguez, a running back, "I love this offense."

Big Blue Nation had to love what it saw Saturday.

## **Stoops on UK's downfield passing attack: 'It's obviously what I've been looking for'**

By Chris Leach

Cat's Pause

September 4, 2021

Everyone has been anxiously waiting to see Kentucky's new revamped offense the entire offseason after the additions of Liam Coen and others. On Saturday, those who waited were delivered a treat.

Kentucky's passing attack shredded ULM's defense throughout the entirety of Saturday's 45-10 victory for the Wildcats. The unit finished with 419 passing yards, the most recorded since 2014, and four aerial touchdowns — two to Wan'Dale Robinson and one each to Josh Ali and Brenden Bates.

"It's obviously what I've been looking for and very happy about that," Mark Stoops said after the game. "I talked a lot about it in the spring, that we were getting the ball completed down the field. I know Will wasn't here but just the offense in general, the receivers gaining some confidence and we built on that this summer and it was great to see him throw for — just complete the ball."

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

The most noticeable improvement in Kentucky's passing game was the deep passes. Will Levis completed 10 passes that gained at least 15 yards, three of which were gains of 50-plus yards.

The one thing that helped Levis continuously find the open man was the receivers' ability to get open. Ali, Robinson and others were able to separate themselves from defenders on almost every route ran, which made Levis' job easier and harder at the same time.

"I just think that the plays were designed for that to happen," Levis said. "Whether the separation is exactly what we expect, but it definitely make it easier for me. Actually sometimes it makes it harder. When there's a guy wide open, you kind of just want to throw it up there and you don't want to screw it up."

Robinson has the biggest game out of Kentucky's receivers. He caught five passes for 125 yards and two touchdowns, which tied his career-high from Nebraska. Robinson's 125 yards was the most from a Wildcat making his debut.

Robinson's first catch was one he'll likely never forget – a 33-yard touchdown to open up the scoring for Kentucky. He was able to get behind his defender on a corner route to the end zone, a place he long dreamed of being as a younger child growing up in the Commonwealth.

"I've grown up here. Coming to these games as a recruit, as a younger kid and things like that, and just envisioned myself scoring touchdowns here. For that to happen, especially my first game in the stadium, it was really nice," Robinson said.

Ali had a career day as well, catching five passes for 136 yards and a touchdown. His 136 yards were a new career-high, and it was the first 100-yard game of his career.

"It was a big relief, it was more fun," Ali said. "I just seen the differ-

ence in our o-line, just different vibes on the field. I like to see everybody smiling on the sidelines and that's what I seen today."

Ali and Robinson's matching 100-yard games marks the first time since 2011 that Kentucky had a pair of 100-yard receivers in a game. The duo should be a lethal combo against defenses for the rest of the season, as they both have a quick burst and good hands that make them both hard to defend individually.

Put them both on the field at the same time and it just presents even more of a challenge to the defense.

"If they on him [Robinson], then they not on me, so that gives us – they flip flop on every one of us so both of us can make plays," Ali said.

## **Mark Stoops may have chickened out of his banana bet, but he found a quarterback**

**By Jon Hale  
Louisville Courier Journal  
September 4, 2021**

Call Mark Stoops a chicken if you want, but call him a chicken with a quarterback.

After telling the SEC Network broadcast crew he would eat a banana, peel and all, like Kentucky quarterback Will Levis did in his now famous TikTok video if Levis threw for 400 yards in the Wildcats' 2021 season opener versus Louisiana Monroe, Stoops pulled his quarterback early in the fourth quarter when he was just 33 yards short of the 400-yard plateau.

"Doesn't seem like then I have to eat the banana," Stoops said with a laugh following Kentucky's 45-10 victory. "That's why I got him out of there."

There was little logical reason to leave Levis in any longer as the Penn State transfer had torched the Warhawks defense to help the Wildcats mount a 31-point lead. Kentucky's

backups were more than capable of closing out the victory, but banana talk dominated the broadcast and social media.

Stoops will surely take any playful ribbing at his decision as trade for one of the best Kentucky passing performances in his nine seasons as coach.

But for Levis, the afternoon actually could not have started much worse.

The Penn State transfer's first pass as a Wildcat bounced off the hands of super senior wide receiver Josh Ali and into the arms of a Warhawks defender for an interception that set up a short-field touchdown.

Kentucky has generally struggled against perceived lesser opponents in its season openers during the Stoops era, but this early miscue turned out to be only a temporary stumble rather than a sign of things to come.

Levis recorded his first completion on a 19-yard pass to Ali on the third play of the next drive. Two snaps later, he hit Nebraska transfer Wan'Dale Robinson, the former Mr. Kentucky football who spurned UK as a high school recruit three years ago, for a 33-yard touchdown to tie the game.

A ULM three-and-out followed before Levis hit Ali for a 58-yard touchdown on the first play of Kentucky's third drive to give the Wildcats a lead they never relinquished.

"Coach Stoops did an amazing job on Monday, catching it early, saying, 'Guys, we're going to hit adversity in this game at some point,'" offensive coordinator Liam Coen said. "How do we respond? How do we react? Do we stay the course or start to freak out? You can't have much adversity than that. On the first drive of the game, your first throw as a Wildcat, you throw a pick. Then we respond with some good drives and move the ball down the field.

"That was a huge moment for our whole team, but specifically for the offense. We didn't freak. Nobody panicked. We knew we had the play.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

It was open. He just missed the throw. That's going to happen."

The caliber of opponents was nowhere near the same league, but there likely some Penn State fans doubting the Nittany Lions coaches' use of Levis as halftime of the noon games approached.

Penn State entered the locker room of a game versus No. 12 Wisconsin deadlocked in a scoreless tie while Levis completed 11 of 17 passes for 243 yards and three touchdowns in the first half versus ULM. Those fans were likely assuaged by Penn State's 16-10 win, but it also had become quickly apparent Levis possesses the type of arm strength and downfield accuracy to make Penn State's decision to use him as a run-first quarterback laughable.

Levis left Penn State in search of a program and coach that believed in his arm talent. He found that match in Kentucky and Coen.

With Big Blue Nation waiting to learn whether the offseason hype surrounding Coen's offense would be supported when the games actually started, both men sent a message in the opener.

"I was nervous for sure," Levis said. "I've got the experience. It's not like it's my first time playing a college football game, but first time starting for a new program. Pretty high expectations. I knew a lot of people were going to be watching and seeing how the game goes."

Most of Levis' production came by targeting Robinson (five catches, 125 yards, two touchdowns) and Ali (five catches, 136 yards, one touchdown), but it was a third-quarter throw to senior Isaiah Epps that most impressed Coen.

By that point, the game was well in hand, but Levis saw a ULM cornerback drift out of position. He quickly improvised by chucking a pass down the right sideline that Epps hauled in for a 57-yard gain.

"That was not schemed up that

way, just so we're all clear," Coen said. "He made a throw. ... That's the big thing about him: You tell the wideouts you can never stop running. Can never stop running when he's playing quarterback, because he'll let it rip."

It's been sometime since Kentucky had a quarterback capable of making that throw.

Levis' 367 passing yards were second-most by a Kentucky quarterback in the Stoops era. He became the first Kentucky quarterback to throw for 300 yards since the 2016 regular-season finale and the first to throw for four touchdowns since the 2016 opener.

He hit four passes of at least 30 yards, including two of more than 50.

"It's not like when we see people running down the field we hope and hope that he's going to make the throw," Coen said. "You know he's going to score. It's just about trying to get guys open."

The level of competition will increase dramatically as Kentucky begins SEC play next week against Missouri, but confidence in the new offense is high.

Robinson likely echoed the sentiment of Kentucky fans when he said of Levis, "I'm really glad he's my quarterback," after the win. Stoops undoubtedly agrees.

Just don't expect him to join in on Levis's banana craze.

"I think he was definitely a little scared," Levis said with a smile "He didn't want to do it. ... When (the backups) are out there, I'm going to be cheering them on 100%, but it would have been nice to get those extra 40 yards."

## **From Football To Finance: The Numbers Add Up For UK's Will Levis**

**September 8, 2021**

**University of Kentucky**

When the University of Kentucky kicks off its 2021 football season against Louisiana-Monroe, the team will be led by starting quarterback Will Levis, a student in the Master of Science in Finance Program (MSF) at the Gatton College of Business and Economics.

The MSF program is a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) certified program focusing on analytics and data science related skills. The program gives students first-hand asset management experience by managing \$5 million of real money and access to real-time financial information in its state-of-the-art Seale Finance Learning Center.

"One of the things that made the University of Kentucky stand out was the opportunity to add a top shelf master's degree in finance education to my football experience," said Levis. "I look forward to learning from a great faculty and utilizing the outstanding educational facilities at the Gatton College."

UK's MSF program prepares students for a professional career in the finance and banking industries, including careers in investment banking, asset management, mutual funds, and corporate treasury departments. The program is available to all majors and professional backgrounds and offers small class sizes and individual attention.

"Student athletes bring tremendous discipline and work ethic to the MS Finance program," said Mark H. Liu, associate professor of finance and MSF program director. "We have had successful students from football, track and tennis in recent years, and they have all gone on to successful careers in finance."

Kentucky head coach Mark Stoops

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

recently announced that Levis had earned the job as UK's starting quarterback. Levis transferred to UK after graduating from Penn State's Smeal College of Business with a degree in finance.

Gatton College will also be represented on the field by three UK Football players who are students in One Year MBA program: Luke Fortner (offensive guard), Quintin Wilson (center) and Matthew Ruffolo (kicker). Fortner was recently named to the 2021 Preseason Coaches All-Southeastern Conference teams.

## **He's played football at UK for five years. Now, you might finally get to know him.**

**By Josh Moore**

**Lexington Herald-Leader  
September 8, 2021**

Somewhat lost amid the fever surrounding Kentucky football's return to the sky on Saturday was the performance of Isaiah Epps, who in one of UK's final practices leading up to the opener wore smiley face bandages on opposing fingers, one on each hand, during an interview session.

"I like to do stuff different," Epps said when asked about the decorations. "I'm not a mainstream guy. I like stepping outside the box. It's just something that I find interesting. ... Keep the mood light."

A senior who missed all of 2019 and most of 2020 due to various injuries, Epps had plenty of reason to grin in Kentucky's opener. He reeled in three catches for 83 yards, the bulk of that total coming on a throw that wasn't dialed up by the coaching staff. On a third-and-8 snap from UK's own 24-yard line in the third quarter, Will Levis heaved a ball into Epps' vicinity — about 37 yards downfield along the right sideline — and Epps caught it in stride and took it 20 yards further before getting brought down by two Louisiana Monroe defenders.

"The throw down the sideline to

Epps, that's not schemed that way, just so we're all clear," offensive coordinator Liam Coen said on Saturday. "He made a throw because he saw the corner overlap the seam, and he just flicks it. That's the thing about him, you tell the wideouts, 'You can never stop running when he's playing quarterback, 'cause he'll let it rip.'"

Coen's insight was directly about Levis, but offered a glimpse into the mentality of Epps, who before last year against Vanderbilt hadn't caught a pass in an organized football game in two years. Before the third quarter ended on Saturday he caught another long ball, for 21 yards, to put UK into ULM territory. The Wildcats scored five plays later to go up 38-7 early in the fourth quarter.

Epps didn't get into the end zone himself, but he was thrilled that he even had the opportunity to make big plays that led to two UK scores (his first bomb from Levis might have led to a touchdown, too, but a fumble later in the drive forced the Cats to settle for a field goal). His longest reception before Saturday was for 28 yards, and was made four years ago.

"It felt good," Epps said. "It's been a long time coming. I've been open on some deep balls in the past and just been unable to connect. Just Will's trust in me and the accuracy, it felt good to finally connect and make a big play."

## **SPEED**

Epps matched his career high for single-game receptions and in one game collected more yards than he has had in any single season while at UK; his best before this year was 76 yards on eight catches as a true sophomore. A broken foot, for which he underwent two surgeries, kept him off the field for all of the 2019 season. He played in UK's season opener at Auburn last year but sat out the next five games with a thumb injury. He returned for the final five contests, and

made his first career start in the Cats' Gator Bowl win over North Carolina State (in which he set his career high for catches).

Wide receivers coach Scott Woodward texted Epps after the season opener.

"I said, 'Hey man, anyone that plays for me like that, anyone that gives that amount of effort and makes those plays like that, I'm behind 'em 100 percent,'" Woodward said. "He played lights out for me and is just another guy in the room we can count on. His effort was tremendous. ... It gave us more confidence in the kid."

Speed has always been a distinguishing characteristic for Epps, who played in every game as a true freshman in 2017. He told reporters this week that he started to get "a little weary" following his second surgery to repair his broken foot, but he leaned on his faith to get through that setback.

"There's not much that I could do on my end," Epps said. "Just make sure I'm taking care of everything I can in the training room and let everything work out for itself. I just had to stay the course, really."

Kentucky can use all the speed it can muster against a Missouri squad that gave up 301 passing yards in its opener versus Central Michigan, which in 2020 averaged 100 fewer yards through the air. The Wildcats are anticipating a healthy dose of man coverage, which Epps said he prefers going against opposed to a zone scheme.

Epps says he never thought about losing his speed while rehabbing. If Saturday was any indicator, he was right not to; in the preseason he was the most evident option to be UK's "third" receiver, after Josh Ali and Wan'Dale Robinson, and as long as he's on the field, that's likely to be as low in the pecking order that he'll go.

"I know what I'm capable of and I know the work that I put in," Epps said. "I don't think I've even got close

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

to reaching my full potential. This year, not missing any practices and being able to go out there with the 1's and stuff, I'm really confident and (ready) to see it come together after this long journey."

## **This breakout performance in Kentucky football's opener could be key for rest of season**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal  
September 8, 2021

The outcome of Kentucky football's season-opening win over Louisiana Monroe was already certain when quarterback Will Levis improvised to throw a deep ball down the right sideline to senior wide receiver Isaiah Epps.

But no play in the 45-10 victory may have been more important for the future of the new-look Wildcat offense than the third-quarter heave.

"The throw down the sideline to Epps, that was not schemed up that way, just so we're all clear," offensive coordinator Liam Coen said after the game. "(Levis) made a throw. He saw the corner overlap the seam, and he throws it, just flicks it.

"That's the big thing about him. You tell the wideouts you can never stop running. Can never stop running when he's playing quarterback because he'll let it rip."

The throw might have been Levis's best of the game, but the fact that it was Epps on the other end could be even more important for Kentucky.

For as impressive as receivers Wan'Dale Robinson and Josh Ali were in the opener – the duo combined for 10 catches for 261 yards and three touchdowns – Southeastern Conference opponents will likely be better equipped than ULM to prevent Levis from focusing so heavily on his top two options. For the offense to succeed when defenses take Robinson or Ali away, other receivers need to step up.

Epps suddenly looks more than capable of filling that void.

"I'm happy for him," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops said. "Obviously he helps us, and that was a really nice play. ... The fact that he was really running and the fact that Will took that shot and saw it and had the vision to see it and the arm strength to get it out there in a cover-two defense to the field, that's rare."

Epps finished the season-opening win with three catches for 83 yards. He had never recorded more than 76 receiving yards in an entire season for Kentucky previously.

Talent has never been the question for Epps. The 6-foot-2, 188-pound Oklahoma native has been considered one of the fastest players on the roster since he arrived on campus in 2017 but has struggled to stay healthy.

After appearing in all 26 games across his first two seasons on campus, Epps missed all of the 2019 season with a foot injury that ultimately required two different surgeries. Finally recovered from the foot injury, Epps was sidelined again after just one game in 2020 due by a thumb injury.

Epps missed three games with the thumb injury. He dressed for the next two games against Missouri and Georgia but did not play.

After recording his first catch in almost two years in the win over Vanderbilt, Epps finally built some positive momentum with seven catches over the final four games of the 2020 season. He made his first career start in the Gator Bowl win over NC State, recording a career-high three catches for 23 yards.

"Whenever I had to have a second (foot) operation, it kind of got a little weary," Epps said. "But just put all my trust in God and believed in his plan. There's not much I could do on my end. Just make sure I'm taking care of everything I can in the training room and let everything work out for itself. Just had to stay the course, really."

Stoops' decision to rebuild Kentucky's offense by hiring Coen from the Los Angeles Rams invigorated a group of Wildcat receivers that had been primarily used as blockers in a run-heavy scheme in recent years, but Epps was limited again in spring practice, hurting his first opportunity to make an impression on his new offensive coordinator.

"We were trying to get him to this point," Coen said. "We're still continuing to try to do that. He was very limited in terms of like one practice on, one off. A period on, a period off. So, I really didn't get a lot to see of him at that time."

In preseason camp, Epps locked down the starting spot at the third wide receiver position alongside Ali and Robinson, but there was no guarantee his position would be on the field for the majority of plays as Kentucky's depth at running back and tight end suggested Coen would make heavy use of larger personnel groupings.

At halftime of the opener, Epps had yet to be targeted by Levis. That changed with a simple 5-yard completion to start Kentucky's first drive of the second half. The 57-yard bomb from Levis over a defender extended the Wildcats' next drive on a third-and-8 play. Levis found Epps again with a 21-yard completion that helped set up the final touchdown with the starters in the game.

"After that game I texted him on the side, I said, 'Hey man, anyone who plays for me like that, gives that effort and makes plays like that, I'm behind them 100%,'" wide receivers coach Scott Woodward said. "He played lights out for me. Just another guy in the room we can count on. His effort was tremendous. Made a couple big-time plays. Made a couple conversions for us. Just gave us more confidence in the kid. It was great to see."

Ali and Robinson will remain Levis's top targets as long as they are healthy.



# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

The tight ends and running backs will likely become more involved in the passing game in the weeks ahead.

Epps still needs to prove himself against better opponents, but Kentucky's offensive coaches now have plenty of reason to believe the offense has found a legitimate third wide receiver, as well.

"It finally all came together," Epps said. "My time is finally here."

## **Before our eyes, Stoops and troops are killing off 'the old Kentucky'**

By Mark Story

Lexington Herald-Leader  
September 12, 2021

Aided immeasurably by the exertions of "The Big Blue Wall," Kentucky star running back Christopher Rodriguez spent his Saturday evening running the ball down Missouri's throats.

Yet on a night when C-Rod powered his way to 206 rushing yards and when the Wildcats rolled up 340 rushing yards as a team, UK nevertheless came perilously close to letting down a raucous Kroger Field crowd of 58,437.

In a crucial, early-season SEC East showdown, Kentucky (2-0, 1-0 SEC) overcame Missouri (1-1, 0-1 SEC) — and itself — to earn a tense 35-28 victory.

"I thought we did so many good things. It's a shame that, you know, that (the score) had to be so close," Kentucky Coach Mark Stoops said afterward. "Because we had opportunities to pull away."

Figuratively speaking, Kentucky spent much of the game with a machine gun turned on its own feet.

▪ With UK up 14-0, what became Missouri's first touchdown drive was extended when Tyrell Ajian's interception of a Connor Bazalak pass was nullified by a pass interference call on Cedric Dort.

▪ UK was on the verge of going

ahead 28-7 late in the first half when Rodriguez lost a fumble at the Missouri 1-yard line after Mizzou safety Jaylon Carlies appeared to hit the ball head-on with his helmet.

Instead of going in at halftime up 28-7, UK instead led only 21-14 after the Wildcats defense surrendered an 80-yard scoring drive following the lost fumble.

▪ As Missouri was driving for what became the touchdown that tied the game at 28 in the fourth quarter, UK's Jalen Geiger dropped what should have been an easy interception off of a deflected pass in the end zone.

▪ Kentucky was up 35-28 with just over two minutes left in the game and had Matt Ruffolo lined up for a 37-yard field goal that would seemingly have clinched victory.

Instead, Missouri's Blaze Alldredge blocked it and Mizzou's Kris Abrams-Draine recovered it at the Tigers' 45-yard line.

Over the star-crossed history of the Kentucky football program, a game filled with so much self-afflicted hardship has oft been a recipe for disaster.

Now, right before our eyes, Stoops and troops are methodically slaying "the old Kentucky."

On the night Stoops became an overall winning head coach at UK (51-50) for the first time in his tenure, his team played like a unit that believed it was supposed to overcome adversity, not succumb.

"There's always going to be ups and downs (in a game)," Kentucky slot receiver Wan'Dale Robinson said. "At the end of the day, you've got to fight and figure out a way to win. That's what we did today."

UK bested Mizzou because Rodriguez shook off his late first-half fumble and was a battering ram when it mattered down the stretch.

Said Rodriguez: "I told everyone in that locker room (at halftime), 'I shouldn't have fumbled that ball. That's on me.' We shouldn't have ever

been in that predicament. But we were. I put that on me."

Kentucky won because Robinson, the former Western Hills High School star and Nebraska transfer, has given UK the dynamic playmaking capacity (five catches, 101 yards receiving; 73 yards rushing on three jet sweeps) in space that it lacked a season ago.

The Cats were victorious because quarterback Will Levis (10-of-18 passing for 179 yards with one TD and one interception) was patient and took what the Mizzou "D" was giving.

And on a night when Bazalak, Tyler Badie and Co. repeatedly frustrated the Cats, UK won because its defense met the challenge after the blocked field goal had given Mizzou both a short field and a last-gasp chance to steal victory.

Instead, the remarkable J.J. Weaver — remember, he is back from a torn ACL in the next-to-last game of last season — made Kentucky's only quarterback sack of the game on third-and-5 from the UK 37.

Then true freshman linebacker Trevin Wallace pressured Bazalak into a hurried pass on fourth-and-13 from the Wildcats' 45 that redshirt freshman cornerback Carrington Valentine broke up.

"We had a pressure on," Kentucky defensive coordinator Brad White said of Weaver's sack. "Every once in a while, you roll the right one. And Carrington made a big play on that fourth down. Trevin did a nice job spying the quarterback, pulling him up and forcing a tough throw."

Since the start of the 2016 season, Kentucky is now 16-8 in one-possession games.

Yet as recently as 2019, White notes, UK lost home games to Florida and Tennessee because the Cats did not make the plays at the end under game-deciding pressure.

Against Missouri on Saturday night, UK overcame its multiple miscues to dig out a big conference victory.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

“When the moment called for this crew to rise up, they rose up,” White said.

For Kentucky football, that’s becoming a new way of doing things.

## **A hat tip to Mark Stoops for achieving something rare in UK football history**

**By John Clay**

**Lexington Herald-Leader**

**September 13, 2021**

On Monday at his weekly news conference at Kroger Field, Mark Stoops did something he had never done before:

The Kentucky Wildcats head man appeared before assembled local media members to preview the pending UK game as a coach with an overall winning record.

Kentucky’s tense, 35-28 victory over Missouri on Saturday night in what was deemed as a pivotal SEC showdown for both teams left Stoops with a mark of 51-50.

For a coach who started his coaching tenure at UK by going 12-26, clawing back above .500 is no small achievement.

Jokingly, I asked Stoops if he feels smarter now that he is a coach with a winning record.

“There are a lot of things I could say here,” Stoops said, laughing. “But, I really don’t (feel smarter), I really don’t.” Turning serious, Stoops added, “I just continue to do what I know the best I can.”

As Wan’Dale Robinson, Christopher Rodriguez, Will Levis and Co. prepare to lead host Kentucky (2-0, 1-0 SEC) into battle against FCS foe Chattanooga (1-1, 0-0 Southern Conference) Saturday at noon, it feels like an appropriate time to take stock of what Stoops has achieved in what has traditionally been a career-derailing job.

Anyone with even a rudimentary knowledge of UK football history knows that no head man has left Kentucky with a winning record since

Blanton Collier (41-36-3) in 1961.

According to Corey Price, the “numbers guy” in the UK Athletics Communications Department, the last Kentucky coach with a winning record at least 50 games into his Wildcats tenure was Fran Curci — who stood 45-44-2 after suffering a 19-10 loss to Alabama on Sept. 19, 1981.

Curci went on to finish his UK career at 47-51-2, one of the nine straight Kentucky head men prior to Stoops who departed Lexington with losing records as top Cat.

That Stoops has inched above .500 so deep into his UK tenure is made more impressive by the hole he was in when he started.

The season before Stoops was hired, Kentucky went 2-10, 0-8 in the SEC, in 2012. Once Stoops accepted the task of rebuilding at UK, he lost 26 of the first 38 games he coached.

Yet from there, beginning in the third game of his fourth season, Stoops and UK have subsequently gone 39-24.

Price, the UK sports statistician, says Kentucky’s .619 winning percentage starting with that third game of 2016 until now is the best run for the Wildcats football program over a 63-game stretch since the Cats went 37-22-4 from Oct. 21, 1951, through Oct. 19, 1957, under Bear Bryant (through 1953) and then Collier.

History says a coach should not be able to dig out of a 12-26 start to build an overall winning record at Kentucky.

Asked if he takes satisfaction in defying UK-football-coaching gravity, Stoops demurred.

“You know me, (my approach is) day-to-day. It’s week-to-week. That’s how I look at it,” Stoops said. “I like my job. I like what I do. I like our team. I like where our program is right now. But it’s truly one day at a time. You know and I know how quickly this can be flipped.”

In the bigger picture, the run of relative success that has turned Stoops into a winning coach is also lifting the

Kentucky program itself back toward the plus side of the ledger.

From the second game of the 1903 season through the ninth game of 2012, no UK football team ever took the field representing a program with an overall losing record.

Alas, after 109 years, UK football lost the status of an all-time winner in 2012 when the Wildcats fell 33-10 at Missouri in Joker Phillips’ final season as UK head coach.

That lowered Kentucky’s all-time record to 579-580-44.

For a time, that hole only grew deeper.

By the second game of 2016, when Stoops and the Cats were smoked at Florida 45-7, Kentucky stood at 16 games under .500 overall.

Now, if UK beats Chattanooga on Saturday — and it will be dire and shocking if the Cats fail to tame the Mocs — UK’s all-time record as a program will return to .500 at 632-632-44.

Having entered 2021 three games under .500 all-time, Kentucky must go at least 9-4 (based off a 13-game season) to finish this year with an all-time winning mark.

Assuming Stoops stays at UK through at least the 2022 season, he seems certain to make more Kentucky coaching history — both positive and negative.

At 51-50, Stoops needs 10 more wins as UK coach to pass Bryant (60-23-5 from 1946-1953) as Kentucky’s all-time wins leader. Conversely, three more defeats will push Stoops past Bill Curry (26-52 from 1990-1996) as UK’s loss leader.

Stoops says neither the UK coaching history he has made nor the marks which could be still to come are what motivate him.

“This is not about me,” Stoops says. “It’s about our program, our kids, our staff. There’s a lot of things that go into it. I’m just the guy who is holding down the seat right now.”

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## **Eddie Gran returning to Kentucky football as a 'special assistant' to Mark Stoops**

By Josh Moore

Lexington Herald-Leader

September 17, 2021

The decision to fire Eddie Gran was a hard one for Mark Stoops to make last December. So when the opportunity presented itself to bring the former offensive coordinator back into the Kentucky football program, it stands to reason it was an easy call to make.

UK on Friday announced the addition of Gran to the football program's staff as a "special assistant to the head coach." Gran, who spent the last five seasons leading the Wildcats' offense, won't have on-field coaching responsibilities in his new role.

"Why would I come back? It's simple. I love Kentucky," Gran, 56, said in a news release. "I love working with Coach Stoops and I want to be a positive role model in these young men's lives. I am excited to have the opportunity to return to this program and help any way I can. This place is special and it's where I want to work and finish out my career."

Stoops hired Gran, along with former quarterbacks coach Darin Hinshaw, away from Cincinnati ahead of the 2016 season, which would be the first of Stoops' tenure in which UK qualified for a bowl trip. Kentucky won its third straight bowl last season, in its fifth straight appearance, but Gran and Hinshaw were relieved of their duties ahead of that game. Liam Coen was hired as UK's offensive coordinator in mid-December but Vince Marrow coordinated the offense in the Wildcats' most recent bowl.

Based on his previous contract, Gran was owed \$2.35 million through June 2022 unless he found a coaching position elsewhere. In a February interview with the Herald-Leader, Gran expressed a desire to continue

coaching but acknowledged difficulty in finding a job.

"You really find out who your friends are in this profession when you can get a call back, and, when you don't get calls back," Gran said then. "I've got my core guys and we keep in touch. So that's kind of how it happens. It's really who you know, and you get lucky and somebody gets a job. And, gosh, if you don't know him, you're really almost crud out of luck. But if there's a relationship there, then you have a chance."

Gran's offenses at Kentucky produced some of the best rushing performances in school history — the Wildcats in back-to-back games in 2019 broke the single-game rushing record, and set a season record for rushing (3,624 yards) and rushing touchdowns (36) that same year — but yielded diminishing returns in the passing game, finishing at the bottom of the Southeastern Conference in each of his final three seasons. He and Stoops, who first crossed paths a decade ago when the two were both first-time coordinators on Florida State's staff, have both described his departure from the program as a mutual decision.

"I'm grateful to have somebody with the experience of Eddie Gran rejoining our program in a different capacity," Stoops said in the news release. "Eddie has a wealth of experience in many different areas. He will be an asset to me and our program."

Hinshaw, who was owed \$750,000 through June 2022 at the time of his firing, is now a quality control assistant at Central Florida.

## **'Jalen Geiger makes strong impact in homecoming win at South Carolina**

By Jack Pilgram

KSR

September 25, 2021

Redshirt sophomore cornerback Jalen Geiger has had a relatively quiet start to his time at Kentucky. In his first two years as a Wildcat, he racked up just four tackles (three solo) and one pass deflection in eight games.

This season alone, Geiger has managed just three total tackles and one QB hit leading up to Saturday's game at South Carolina. As a role player in the secondary, that's to be expected.

Originally a three-star signee out of Columbia, S.C., Geiger returned home in Kentucky's first road matchup of the season, his first game action in his hometown as a Wildcat. And with a bump in reps, he played a crucial role in UK's 16-10 victory.

Geiger finished with two tackles, one tackle for loss, and one pass breakup on a massive fourth-down attempt by the Gamecocks in the fourth quarter. It was a performance that earned praise by head coach Mark Stoops following the win.

"It was really good for him," Stoops said of Geiger. "You can see it's a confidence thing for him. As he gets more and more reps, he's getting better and better, more comfortable. He's really a great young man, getting better and better."

"I love his ability. He's going to be a good player."

It was Geiger's late-game heroics that caught Stoops' eye, namely his ability to make open-field tackles in critical situations. It's not only a "big deal" for his personal development, but the team's growth as a whole.

"Late in the game on their last possession when they got their long field goal, he made some really good open tackles there. That's critical," Stoops added. "I talk about it all the time to

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

the defense. In a two-minute drill, it's critically important to keep everything in front of you.

"But tackling, you have to get them down, not let them get out of bounds, keep that clock running. That's a big deal for us."

After seeing his work in practice and in the film room, defensive teammate DeAndre Square says Geiger's performance this week is no surprise. And as a whole, his growth and play-making ability is what Kentucky needs to take the next step forward in the SEC.

"He's been pretty good," Square said following the win. "He works hard in practice, he's always in the film room, and he makes the plays that come to him. That's what you need in the secondary of an SEC defense.

"I'm proud of the way he played tonight. I know he's going to keep it up because he's a hard-working kid."

## **Mark Stoops is giving Kentucky exactly what he promised nine years ago**

**By Mark Story**

**Lexington Herald-Leader**

**September 26, 2021**

The logical place to start is here: How did Kentucky win that football game?

Mark Stoops and the troops traveled south for their SEC road opener Saturday night and emphatically checked the top box on the "how to lose at football" checklist.

Not once, not twice, not thrice but four times UK put the ball on the Williams-Brice Stadium turf.

By game's end, host South Carolina had collected three turnovers — two fumble recoveries and an interception — while Kentucky had forced exactly no TOs.

Yet, defying football logic, UK won a road game in the Southeastern Conference with a turnover tally of minus-3.

Continuing its recent mastery over

South Carolina, Kentucky (4-0, 2-0 SEC) pulled out a 16-10 win over the host Gamecocks (2-2, 0-2 SEC) before an announced crowd of 77,559.

UK won because its defense flat refused to allow the Cats to lose.

Kentucky stopped the hosts three times on fourth-down plays in Wildcats territory. The Cats did not surrender a single point after those three turnovers.

Winning in such a manner was "a real credit to our defense," Stoops said afterward. "I love the way our team fought."

It was Kentucky's seventh victory over SEC East-rival South Carolina in the past eight meetings. It moved Stoops (26-42) past Fran Curci (25-30) as the all-time Kentucky coaching leader in SEC victories.

That Kentucky will carry an unblemished record into Saturday's meeting with No. 11 Florida owes to the fact that Stoops has followed through on one of the vows he made when UK hired the former Florida State defensive coordinator nine years ago as its head coach.

Stoops has built a stout defensive culture at a school that had not consistently had one since the Jerry Claiborne coaching era in the 1980s.

Kentucky defensive resilience was on display everywhere Saturday night.

In the first half, with UK holding a 7-0 lead, the Wildcats "D" snuffed out a South Carolina drive when DeAndre Square and Marquan McCall combined to stop Gamecocks running back Kevin Harris for no gain on fourth-and-1 from the Cats 47.

That was only a warm-up for the crises the Kentucky defenders would have to surmount in half two.

With Kentucky clinging to a 13-7 lead, a Josh Ali fumble gave the Gamecocks the ball at the Cats' 40-yard line with 1:32 left in the third quarter.

Yet, aided by a South Carolina holding penalty, UK forced an incomplete Luke Doty pass on fourth-and-4 from the Kentucky 24 with 13:33 left in the

game.

Alas, Kentucky was not out of self-inflicted danger.

Another Ali fumble gave South Carolina the ball again, this time at the UK 47 with 11:32 left.

But on fourth-and-3 from the Kentucky 40, Wildcats safety Jalen Geiger — a product of Columbia, S.C. — broke up a pass intended for Dakereon Joyner with 9:43 left.

"We always have the mentality, if sudden change happens, we always say 'Good,'" said Square, UK's senior linebacker. "It's the mentality our whole defense has. (Defending after a turnover) is not a bad thing. We get to go out there and show our talent."

According to his Rivals.com recruiting profile, the 6-foot-1, 200-pound Geiger had scholarship offers from Power Five schools such as Boston College, North Carolina, Rutgers and Virginia, in addition to UK.

What the Spring Valley High School product did not have was an offer from hometown South Carolina.

On what became the Gamecocks' final offensive drive of the game, the sophomore again showed the home folks what they missed when he caught Harris for a 6-yard loss on a swing pass on a first-and-10 play from the UK 34.

"I was proud of the way he played tonight," Square said of Geiger.

What we can say with certainty is there were many seasons in recent decades when UK would not have had the defensive gumption to go on the road in the SEC and win a game in which the Cats were minus-three in the turnover ledger.

It happened Saturday night because Stoops has kept his word about building a winning defensive culture at Kentucky.

"I really can't say enough," Mark Stoops said, "about (the UK defense) gutting it out."

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## **Kentucky football's Wan'Dale Robinson has lived up to the hype and then some**

By John Clay

Lexington Herald-Leader  
September 28, 2021

We live in the world of the oversold and the overrated, where prospects and transfers rarely match the buildup offered by the hype train.

And then there's Wan'Dale Robinson.

You know, the Real'Deal Robinson. "The truth," Kentucky football teammate Josh Paschal called the former Western Hills High School star and wide receiver transfer from Nebraska when Robinson started sizzling in UK's practices last spring. Paschal added, "You'll see."

We've seen it alright. Robinson topped the 100-yard receiving mark in each of his first three games as a Wildcat. Through four games, he leads the SEC in receiving yards with 402. He's averaging 16.8 yards per catch on his 25 grabs.

Robinson can run the ball, too. Week two, against Missouri at Kroger Field, he took a jet sweep 64 yards on the Wildcats' second play, a tone-setter for an eventual 35-28 Kentucky victory.

And here's the icing on the cake: The kid is tough. Never mind his listed 5-foot-11, 185-pound frame, Robinson won't go down without a fight. He's shown that on the field by forcing tacklers to wrestle him to the ground. And Saturday night at South Carolina, he showed that by just being on the field after rumors he might miss the game because of a hamstring injury.

"At this point, there are nagging things with people," UK coach Mark Stoops said Monday. "It's fair to say he has something nagging him."

Nagging or not, Robinson caught seven passes for 65 yards. Five catches were responsible for first downs. Four catches came on the 13-play, 67-yard march in the third quarter that ended

with a 21-yard Matt Ruffolo field goal for a 13-7 Kentucky lead in a 16-10 UK victory.

This is what Big Blue Nation expected, or at least hoped for, when Robinson left Lincoln to return home. Still, hasn't the player who was such a coveted recruit in 2018 exceeded expectations in 2021?

"I knew he was a good player coming out of high school and you can watch the film from Nebraska and know he was a very good player," Stoops said Monday. "I don't want to use the word 'surprised.' I am extremely pleased with him and love his attitude. I love his competitive nature. He is very unselfish. He works very hard. He is all about the team and I love that part of it and yes, by the way, he is very talented."

Talented enough to take it to the next level?

"I think he's a fantastic NFL prospect!" said Emory Hunt, draft analyst for Football Gameplan and co-host of the College Draft podcast with Ross Tucker. "His versatility fits today's game. He can affect the game as a runner or receiver, and has added benefit as a return specialist. If I had a team, I'd spend a second-round pick on him easily."

**ROBINSON'S WORK ETHIC HAS IMPRESSED UK**

So far, the only knock on Robinson has been that quarterback Will Levis targets his favorite receiver perhaps a little too much. That's not much of a knock. How often have fans grumbled about UK's inability to put the ball in the hands of its best players?

"There were times I wish he was lasered in on him more," Stoops said with a smile.

One more Wan'Dale thing. The best thing. He has been nothing but a worker. No big-time attitude. No entitlement.

"I love his work ethic and also his instincts," Stoops said. "You've heard us talk about Lynn (Bowden), about that a lot, and just his football IQ and

they are different people, but both of them are intelligent on the field."

Now the expectation is Robinson's impact will be ongoing.

"I think now there's no stopping us from recruiting talented wide receivers and getting that speed," Stoops said. "Even if you may say other people have higher numbers, you can look at what we do and what we want to do and as we get better wide receivers, as we get greater skill and speed, we will open things up even more and more."

In part, because Real'Deal has lived up to the hype.

## **For UK Football Player, Nursing is the Ultimate Team Sport**

By Brad Nally, Amy Jones-Timoney, and Hilary Brown  
UK Healthcare  
October 1, 2021

Colin Goodfellow knows a thing or two about being a team player.

As the punter for the University of Kentucky football team, Goodfellow relies on his teammates to bring the Wildcats to victory. Everyone knows their position and works together. The same model, he says, applies to the dynamic between him and his fellow nurses at UK HealthCare.

"There's a lot of similarity between a nursing staff and a football team," Goodfellow says. "I can't do it without my snapper. In nursing, everyone works together because you don't know what's going to happen next."

Goodfellow graduated from the UK College of Nursing in May 2021, but he opted to return for a fifth year, taking advantage of the NCAA ruling to grant an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This semester, when he's not running drills with his teammates, he's engaged in an independent study with Dean Janie Heath. But balancing the demands of the rigorous nursing program with the schedule of the football team isn't just a unique challenge — it's unprece-

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

dented.

"I wanted to be a nurse, so I looked up the best nursing schools — UK was at the top of the list," Goodfellow said. "It's the only school in the country that let me do nursing and football at the same time. And I was the first one to do it."

Goodfellow knew from an early age that he wanted to be a nurse. His parents are both in the medical field — his father is an orthopedic surgeon, and his mother is a nurse. In middle school, Goodfellow had surgery on his ankles. He remembers waking up after the procedure to a team of nurses, cracking jokes with him and helping him feel calm and relaxed in an unfamiliar setting.

"As a sixth grader, it's tough to never have had surgery and to wake up in an environment you're not used to," Goodfellow recalled. "And to wake up to people who really care about you and want you to be safe and healthy is pretty cool."

Like everything else, Goodfellow found that managing his coursework with his practice schedule was also a team effort. His freshman year, he took advantage of the college's tutoring center to learn how to effectively take notes and to manage his time. The support staff for the football team helped him with his scheduling so that he would have enough time for his course and clinic work.

"School comes first, then football," Goodfellow said. "Luckily, UK Football was very willing to work with me and my schedule to make sure I could do both, which I'm very grateful for."

There was one unexpected challenge that no amount of support or tutoring could have prepared him for.

"Being one of four guys in the nursing program is a struggle," Goodfellow said with a laugh. "I came from an all-boys high school. So that was definitely a change of experience."

This semester, when he's not running drills with his teammates, he's

engaged in graduate level coursework where he is studying the science behind high performance brain functioning. When Goodfellow is done pulling double-duty as both an SEC punter and a registered nurse, he wants to focus on becoming a nurse anesthetist. He says nurses today, especially new nurses, are facing an extremely challenging work environment in the form of a pandemic, but he believes he and his classmates are more than equipped to meet the challenge.

"Our program does a great job on how to prevent burnout and how to keep motivation as a nurse," he said. "I couldn't have asked for a better home. UK has done a great job shaping me to be a great nurse, a great man and to be a great teammate in nursing."

Goodfellow is featured in this year's institutional television spot. This year's video shows how UK is meeting the moment — from breaking barriers in athletics and research, to educating the next generation of leaders, to vaccinating Kentuckians, to winning championships.

During the next several months, we will tell the stories of those featured in this spot.

While you only see a moment of each person on camera, stories like Goodfellow's, and the ones about UK football player Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald, Savannah Lewis and the UK volleyball team, are much more compelling and complex than a single shot in an advertisement.

Be on the lookout for more stories of the many members of the Wildcat family who are meeting the moment. This is who we are. This is what we do.

## **Wan'Dale Robinson is back in Kentucky, and his homecoming is a family story come full circle**

By Kyle Tucker

The Athletic

October 1, 2021

The scene was so familiar it sent a shudder through Dale Robinson. A long-awaited homecoming. His son's debut with a new team. First touch of the season. Boom, the kid was gone, blazing a diagonal path to the end zone while defenders trailed hopelessly behind him.

This time, it was a 33-yard reception that gave Kentucky its first touchdown of the year and instantly validated a decision by the state's 2018 Mr. Football to transfer back after two seasons at Nebraska. For Dale, it was déjà vu.

"I'm getting chills thinking about it," he says. "You couldn't write a better story."

As Dale watched that welcome-home touchdown unfold last month, he was transported back to the summer of 2015. After serving 8 ½ years in prison for dealing cocaine, he was released just in time to see Wan'Dale play his first high school football game as a freshman at Western Hills in their hometown of Frankfort, Ky. There was one problem: A sundown curfew at his court-ordered halfway house meant Dale couldn't stay to the end. He paced the sideline and stared at his watch, praying for a highlight before it was time to leave.

Per usual, Wan'Dale delivered. Letters to Dale in prison often included photos of Wan'Dale playing football because, "I wanted him to always see me scoring touchdowns," he said. And he wasn't going to miss this chance to finally show his dad in person. So the first time Wan'Dale touched the ball in high school, with only minutes to spare for Dale, he took a jet sweep to the house. There were 118 touchdowns in his Western Hills career,

## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

but that's the one father and son will never forget.

"That's my kid! That's my son! He's doing what I left him doing!" Dale remembers howling. "It was like, 'This is what I've been waiting for, eight long years, to see my son score another touchdown.' It was priceless.

"It was like God telling me, 'This is right on time. You have changed your ways, and you are ready to guide your son in the right direction.'"

Today, Dale runs his own gym, G.U.R.U. Fitness. Wan'Dale's teammates all react the same way when they see him: Bro, your dad is huge! Dale is also a motivational speaker who has authored a book about the lessons he learned in prison and the life he has built since getting out. But Dale is proudest of co-founding the Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation in 2018. It's named for his mother — Wan'Dale is a mashup of his their names — and aims to help children of incarcerated parents by providing emotional, financial and educational support.

"I went to prison and left two boys out here to fend for themselves," says Dale, who has an older son named Dalevon. "When I got out, I wanted to help kids like the ones I left behind. Our goal is to help those kids not go the route of their parents in prison. The statistics say eight of 10 kids who have parents incarcerated will go the same way. But that's always been Wan'Dale's thing: 'I'm going to break the cycle.'"

Dale started smoking marijuana in high school and loved it so much that when Jack Harbaugh announced weekly urine tests at Western Kentucky during his sophomore season, Dale quit the team instead of the weed. He gave up a scholarship and his job backing up All-American quarterback Willie Taggart to drop out of college and start selling drugs back home in Frankfort. That was the birth of what eventually became a

seven-figure empire, Dale says, but also earned him two separate bids totaling more than a dozen years in prison. He missed all but 19 months of Wan'Dale's life before high school.

Dale says all of his friends growing up are now dead or behind bars. His brother, Roni, is considered one of the greatest high school athletes Kentucky has ever seen, an all-state football and basketball star, but he spent about a decade in prison himself for robbery — only to get out and rush for more than 3,000 career yards in his late 20s at Kentucky State. Like Dale, 42-year-old Roni still looks like he could play.

"It runs in the family," Wan'Dale says of the athletic gene — and perhaps of finding trouble. "I'm just trying to be different from everybody else, different from what everybody expects. Everybody who knows my family knows the history: Somebody's always messing up, somebody's always going away. I just wanted to break that cycle, stay on the straight path and just make it. Sometimes I feel like it's a blessing that I went through what I did with my dad because I don't think I'd be the way I am now without it. It made me grow up. It made me realize what I do want and what I don't want in life."

One thing he wants is to play in the NFL, and that's looking more likely every day. Despite his stature — Robinson is listed at 5-foot-11, 185 pounds — he's a compact powerhouse with ankle-breaking moves and game-changing speed. After amassing 914 receiving yards and 580 rushing yards in two seasons at Nebraska, he has become an instant star at Kentucky. Through four games, he leads the SEC in receiving yards (402) and ranks third in receptions (25). Only one FBS player in the country has more plays of 30-plus yards from scrimmage than Robinson's six.

He is the first Wildcats player since Derek Abney 20 years ago to record

three consecutive 100-yard receiving games and the only player in program history to open a season that way. On Saturday night, he'll try to help undefeated Kentucky deliver one of the biggest wins of the Mark Stoops era when top-10 Florida comes to Kroger Field.

For the children Dale's foundation serves, "Wan'Dale is the hero," his father says. "He's proof that anything is possible. We use him and my other son, who has a criminal justice degree, to say, 'You can still make it, regardless of your circumstances, even if your parents aren't there.' We use their story and allow them to speak to kids so they can feel like, 'I'm not alone. If these guys can make it, I can make it too.'"

When Wan'Dale signed the first name, image and likeness deal between any UK athlete and a car dealership — joining Stoops and John Calipari as pitchmen for Paul Miller Ford in Lexington — he also announced that a portion of the proceeds from any of his NIL agreements will go to the Wanda J. Robinson Foundation. He plans to give his time, too, as a speaker and mentor. After all, he is the literal poster child for its mission.

"My dad realizes that there were people who surrounded me and helped while he was gone, and he just wants to be there for the kids who are going through that same situation without that same support," Wan'Dale says. "And my message to them is that they can get through it. You gotta have a dream and do everything you can to go get it."

In his book, "The Making of a Guru," Dale thanks the "mothers of my sons for tirelessly carrying the load and ensuring our boys became men." He thanks Mike and Kelley Hawkins, Wan'Dale's former coach and his wife, who frequently welcomed Dale's boys into their home and "served as their substitute families." Dale thanks his sons, writing: "I do what I do for you and kids like you. You made me want

## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

to be something different.”

When Wan’Dale was just a baby, Dale got caught on a drug run to Atlanta and served 51 months in prison. Instead of reforming inside, he plotted how to grow his illegal business even bigger and not get caught again. He ignored every warning to leave that life behind — getting shot, losing \$1.6 million, seeing his best friend killed — and squandered his second chance. He was free for about a year and a half, long enough to enroll in college and start teaching 5-year-old Wan’Dale the sport he loves.

Frankfort only offered flag football for kids that age and Dale wanted him to play tackle, so they drove 60 miles to Louisville several times per week and used a fake birth certificate to get Wan’Dale into a league for older boys: “About halfway through the season, they figured out, ‘That ain’t this kid’s name.’” In those earliest days, before spending much time on Xs and Os, Dale taught Wan’Dale what he considered the most important lesson.

“When you step on the field, who is the best player out there?” he asked regularly Wan’Dale.

“Me,” Wan’Dale was required to answer until he actually began to believe it.

“Since I was 5,” he says now, “that’s the thing I think about every time I walk onto the field. That’s what helped get me to the point I am now. It’s not even a cockiness. It’s just a mindset you need, ‘Nobody is going to be better than me today.’”

Those are happy memories, father and son bonding over football, Dale rolling in money again and buying Wan’Dale whatever he wanted to make up for lost time. It was, of course, too good to be true. On the day in 2007 when federal agents surrounded Dale, who planned to swap a duffel bag full of cocaine for \$250,000, he was supposed to pick Wan’Dale up from a summer youth program. He

called his then-wife and Wan’Dale’s mother, Victoria Davis, and asked her to break the news. She declined.

“I told Dale he had to do that. I wasn’t going to be the one,” Davis says. “I think what he’s doing now is great. He’s really turned his life around. I just wish he would’ve done it prior to going to prison. I tried. I did what I could. I voiced my opinion, but it didn’t make a difference. He had to hit the bottom before he finally got his head on.”

Here’s what the bottom looked like: Six-year-old Wan’Dale sobbing on the other side of prison glass as his father explained he was going to be gone for the better part of a decade. Worse still, the final seven years would be served at a prison in New Jersey, meaning they’d only see each other in person twice during that time.

“When I walked away from that glass, it changed my life,” Dale says. “It was crushing. It was probably the worst feeling I ever felt.”

It flipped a switch in him. This time in prison, Dale was introspective and obsessed with self-improvement. He became a voracious reader and a personal trainer — the latter by accident. A younger inmate wanted to know the secret to his shredded look and begged for lifting tips until Dale relented. He scribbled workouts on scraps of paper that he has kept for all these years since. Those crumpled notes and another inmate’s nickname for him, “The Guru,” planted the first seeds for what is now Dale’s gym in Frankfort.

He was eventually released early for good behavior, excluding one incident. Dale tried to sneak a cell phone into the prison and earned three months of solitary confinement the day before Wan’Dale was scheduled to visit for his birthday.

“Every birthday gets me closer to my dad coming home,” Wan’Dale remembers thinking. “OK, now I’m 10, just a few more years.”

The fact that Dale was allowed just 300 minutes per month on the prison phone meant he had to cut off communication with just about everyone in his life — and might explain the cell phone caper. He prioritized calls with his sons. To her eternal credit, Dale says, Wan’Dale’s mother always handed him the phone. His incarceration had made her life brutally hard as a single mother suffering from multiple sclerosis and fibromyalgia, but she knew her son needed his dad.

“I can’t believe he was gone all that time, because their relationship is great,” Davis says. “I think I’m a big part of that, too, because I didn’t try to keep them apart.”

They’re divorced now, but Robinson’s parents co-parent and travel together to watch him play. Dale is remarried with an 18-month-old daughter who is “already jacked,” he says.

Wan’Dale isn’t bitter or ashamed about his dad’s past. The overwhelming emotion, he said, is pride about the dramatic change Dale has made. He admires his father, but he worships his mother, and he doesn’t want her story to get lost here.

“She’s why I play. Everything I’m trying to get is for her,” he says. “She’s really the one who harped on me that I can’t be like the rest of them. Sometimes you have to be different. Different is good. Saying no is OK. You can’t just say yes to everything. My mom taught me that.”

Dreaming big in prison was easy. Bringing those dreams to life on the outside was harder than Dale expected. He applied to be a personal trainer at every gym in Frankfort and Lexington after he got out, but checking the “convicted felon” box on job applications was a non-starter. He took a factory job for \$7.50 an hour, 25 percent of which went to the halfway house. Then there was a janitorial gig at Kentucky State, where he skipped lunch and gave free fitness lessons during his break from mopping floors



# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

and scrubbing toilets.

That first Christmas, 14-year-old Wan'Dale only wanted one thing: a baseball bat. Dale, who once loved to spoil his son, couldn't afford it. In fact, he couldn't afford any gifts. He barely could put food on the table. As that harsh reality set in, Wan'Dale curled up beside his father and cried. "That was the moment," Dale says, that he had another epiphany. If he could build a booming illegal business (twice), surely he could build a successful legal enterprise. On Jan. 1, 2016, he posted on Facebook that he was starting G.U.R.U. Fitness. In the garage of his late mother's house.

Three people showed up. One of them was Amy Nance Snow. Fate had intervened. They grew up together in Frankfort, and she knew enough about him to not be fearful of working out in an ex-con's garage. She didn't balk when he smoothed out a tiny scrap of paper from prison to read off that day's exercise plan.

"I didn't have any hesitations. I was actually drawn to that setting. I didn't want a bunch of people looking at me. I just wanted to sweat or snort and nobody cares because we're all there to be pushed and held accountable," Snow says. "Once you meet Dale, you know instantly he's very genuine and very direct, and he brings something really irreplaceable to the table: He's an example of somebody who has completely changed his life but is not afraid to discuss his failures, his wrong decisions. There's no secrets with Dale. That kind of environment really pushes people to grow and reach their own personal success."

Today, G.U.R.U. is an actual gym, in a commercial space, with about 300 members. In the fall of 2018, with the business beginning to take flight, Dale asked Snow to meet him at Starbucks to discuss another vision he had in prison. He knew she had been a caseworker for kids in foster care, a juvenile probation officer and currently

serves as the dropout prevention coordinator for Franklin County Schools, which meant she was the perfect person to help him reach at-risk kids. Over coffee, they scratched out the mission statement for the Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation right there on a napkin.

The gist, as Dale sees it: "Help kids deal with the trauma of having their parents locked up."

It turns out, that's a cause that lots of folks wanted to get behind. Today, the foundation has a 21-member board, with Snow as its president, and supports a dozen outreach programs that impacted more than 300 children of incarcerated parents in and around Franklin County in 2019. COVID-19 has limited what the group can do since then, but in normal times that list is long.

The foundation helps facilitate in-person prison visitations and free video visitations. It has a literacy program that encourages inmates to read to their children in recorded messages. It provides financial support to families traveling long distances for visitations and offers volunteer drivers for trips within a four-hour radius. And it signs up kids for extracurricular activities and hosts family days to get peers together who are similarly impacted by incarceration.

"That's a big thing," Dale says. "Because it's really hard on a child when they go to school functions and people are always asking, 'Where's your dad?' It's hard and maybe a little embarrassing to say, 'My dad's locked up.' But when you're surrounded by other people in the same situation, it's easier for you to say it and hold your head up."

## **Beating Florida didn't happen overnight; now Kentucky football needs to keep it going**

**By John Clay**

**Lexington Herald-Leader**

**October 3, 2021**

Rome wasn't built in a day. Neither was Kentucky football's epic Saturday night win over 10th-ranked Florida. It might have been UK's first home victory over the dreaded Gators since 1986, but the seeds were planted nine seasons ago. My how they've grown.

First, UK AD Mitch Barnhart bucked the trend, hiring a defensive coordinator to be his head coach when so many of his colleagues were choosing offense. Then Mark Stoops built back better. Brick by brick. Season by season. Breakthrough by breakthrough. Bowl by bowl. One good recruiting class followed by a better recruiting class. The only way to build a better football program: Sign and develop better football players.

The fans were the final piece of the puzzle. This isn't the old days, when Big Blue Nation filled Commonwealth Stadium every Saturday to back the Cats. We live in a different world now, with infinite choices for your entertainment dollar. UK didn't enjoy the traditional ticket booth boost after hiring a new coach. It took awhile for Stoops to get the BBN to totally buy in.

Saturday night, that support exploded. A jam-packed Kroger Field let it rip and Florida felt the noise. Eight times the Gators were whistled for false start penalties. The Kentucky defense felt it, too, rising up to meet the moment, especially in the final moments, holding the Gators out of the end zone after the visitors owned a first-and-goal from the 5.

Same movie, different ending. In 2017, Kentucky led Florida 27-14 only to lose 28-27. In 2019, Kentucky led Florida 21-10 only to lose 29-21. In 2021, Kentucky led Florida 20-10 with

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

11:32 to go and won 20-13. Florida departed with heads down, ears ringing.

“A big shout-out to you,” was Stoops’ salute to the BBN.

The Gators outgained the Cats 382-224, but Florida could never dial up the big play that had burned the Cats so many times in the past. UK defensive coordinator Brad White’s master plan made Dan Mullen’s team work for their yards. Nothing cheap. Nothing easy. (Barnhart’s smart bet on a strong Stoops’ defense paid off.) Mission accomplished, the pent-up frustration of 16 consecutive home losses to the Gators spilled over the barriers onto the field in a celebration to savor. UK can afford the fine.

“Unbelievable,” said Kentucky defensive end Josh Paschal, who played a fairly unbelievable game himself. “We loved it.”

Now here’s the thing: A one-off would only cheapen the feat of finally beating Florida. Now 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the SEC, the Cats have placed themselves in prime position to be a major factor in the SEC race. Five league games to go. Job 1 is LSU. The Tigers arrive Saturday night for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff on the SEC Network. The Cats need to follow up.

History lesson: Think back to 2007. Rich Brooks was the man in charge when Kentucky knocked off No. 1-ranked and eventual national champion LSU 43-37 in an overtime thriller at Commonwealth Stadium. College GameDay and Tim Tebow came to Lexington the following Saturday. But Florida triumphed 45-37. The next week, Mississippi State doubled UK’s misery, beating the Cats 31-14. Momentum vanished.

National champions in 2019, LSU has slipped since, 5-5 last year, 3-2 so far this season. Saturday, the Tigers lost 24-19 at home to Auburn. Joe Burrow isn’t walking through that door. Still, LSU is LSU. Ed Orgeron has outstanding players. Who knows, this Saturday might be the night the Tigers

put it all together.

Meanwhile, Kentucky must avoid the seductive pats on the back. Remember last year when a breakthrough 34-7 win at Tennessee was followed by a 20-10 flat tire at Missouri. Games are won during the week. Time to get back to work.

“We want to play in a lot of big games,” Stoops said Saturday. “To do that, you have to take care of what’s right in front of you.”

After all, Kentucky football worked too long and too hard to let Saturday’s home triumph go to waste.

## **‘We proved our identity.’ UK defense thriving with its back against the wall.**

**By John Clay**  
**Lexington Herald-Leader**  
**October 3, 2021**

Florida had nine opportunities to run a game-tying — or, if it scored a touchdown and got a two-point conversion, game-winning — play inside Kentucky’s 20-yard line inside the final minute of play. And nine times, the Gators failed to find pay dirt.

That sequence of plays featured two of Florida’s eight false-start penalties, the product of a sold-out Kroger Field. Kentucky’s crowd was the first group to receive praise from head coach Mark Stoops in his postgame news conference, and was lauded by every staffer and player who spoke with media afterward.

The crowd deserved its credit. But it didn’t take long for UK’s ball-stoppers to get their due.

“Defensively, back-to-back, as good of performances that we’ve had in a long time,” Stoops said.

A seven-play, 75-yard drive on Florida’s second series put the Gators up 7-0 midway through the first quarter, but it proved to be an outlier rather than a tone-setter. They put together two other lengthy scoring drives, but both were capped by field goals after

stalling in UK territory. Florida piled up 54 yards on its final series, but its last play that drive was a pass deflected by Jacquez Jones. Kentucky soon after kneeled for a 20-13 victory.

Josh Paschal finished with seven tackles, 2.5 of them for a loss, and blocked the Gators’ second field-goal try of the game, a play that turned more than momentum in Kentucky’s direction. He got both hands on a ball that deflected into the hands of true freshman linebacker Trevin Wallace, who hauled it 76 yards for a touchdown that gave UK a 14-10 lead, to which it clung for the remainder.

Paschal was back in Lexington when UK defeated Florida in Gainesville in 2018, a victory that ended a 31-game losing streak to the Gators. He played a little bit at the end of that season after undergoing offseason surgery to remove a malignant melanoma discovered on his right foot, but he has since blossomed into one of the team’s biggest leaders. Earlier this year he became the first Kentucky football player to be named a captain in three straight seasons.

Saturday’s win was something of a “coming full-circle” moment for the senior.

“You just cherish it,” Paschal said. “I remember, looking back on 2018, and wishing I could be there to make plays. It’s a blessing to be here a couple years later making those plays and being able to help my team out with this win.”

Paschal wasn’t in the game for all of UK’s final defensive series — sophomore Tre’vonn Rybka took over on the majority of snaps — but his influence was felt then and throughout the game. He brought a sense of calm to a defensive line that in the first quarter lost its starting nose guard, senior Marquan McCall, to an ankle injury; he was injured on the only Florida series that ended in a touchdown. Defensive coordinator Brad White said he needs to review the tape, but he

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

didn't think back-ups Josaih Hayes and Justin Rogers did anything detrimental in relief of McCall.

"When a big player like Marquan goes down, you're thrown into the fire," Paschal said. "And that was a big game with a big atmosphere. A lot of pressure that a young guy can feel, and to see those guys step up, and make those plays, and just be able to go in there and not skip a beat? We're really glad to see that."

Kentucky's offense last week at South Carolina put the defense in some dicey situations, and it responded on each occasion. Penalties and turnovers weren't an issue this week when UK had the ball in its hands, but it had a tough time getting any traction. The Wildcats were 1-for-9 on third down and had the ball for only 23 minutes of game time, so for a second straight week the defense got plenty of what it describes as "opportunities."

Florida racked up yardage — it wasn't too far from doubling up Kentucky, 382 to 224 — but the Cats held the Gators to a season-low 171 rushing yards; they were averaging 323 yards per game, No. 3 in the nation, coming in. Quarterback Emory Jones was held in a check most of the night, and lauded backup Anthony Richardson in his few appearances didn't demonstrate the level of wizardry he did against non-Power Five competition earlier in the season.

With a victory on the line against a top-10 team that's had its number for the better part of the last 35 years, Kentucky withstood blow after blow in the red zone and walked away with a school-record fourth straight win decided by single digits.

"They have played really well with their backs against the wall," White said.

Paschal, unknowingly doing an imitation of Stoops from about 30 minutes earlier, said UK would celebrate for a few hours tonight and then move

onto LSU. The Wildcats will likely be ranked, in large part thanks due to a historic string of defensive efforts.

They didn't have anything to prove to themselves, but the nation will be on alert, now.

"We proved that we can play with anybody," Paschal said. "We already knew that. We proved our identity. We're a defense that will swarm around the ball and that, no matter what happens, we're gonna bounce back and respond.

"We're a true brotherhood here at UK."

**After cancer kept him from 2018 Florida win, Josh Paschal earned his moment vs. Gators**  
By Jon Hale  
*Louisville Courier Journal*  
September 3, 2021

When Kentucky snapped its 31-game losing streak to Florida in 2018, one of two game balls awarded in the postgame locker room celebration by coach Mark Stoops went to defensive lineman Josh Paschal.

But Paschal was not in Gainesville that night. Like the rest of Big Blue Nation, he was at home in Lexington watching from his couch, screaming until his voice went hoarse.

The Wildcats emotional leader was still in early weeks of a year of immunotherapy treatments following his malignant melanoma diagnosis. While he would return to the field for the final four games of what ended up being a historic 2018 season, Paschal was not there to celebrate with his teammates for so many of the 10-win season's biggest moments.

Three years later, Paschal and Kentucky fans got to celebrate together as the No. 23-ranked Wildcats stunned No. 9 Florida with a stellar defensive performance in a 20-13 win Saturday.

As the sellout crowd stormed the field from the Kroger Field stands, Paschal could not help but take a

moment to think about how far he had come since the program's last win over Florida, one of just two in the last 35 meetings.

"This is something you just cherish," Paschal said. "I remember looking back in 2018 and wishing I could be there to make plays. It's a blessing to be here a couple years later making those plays and being able to help my team out with this win."

As the sellout crowd stormed the field from the Kroger Field stands, Paschal could not help but take a moment to think about how far he had come since the program's last win over Florida, one of just two in the last 35 meetings.

"This is something you just cherish," Paschal said. "I remember looking back in 2018 and wishing I could be there to make plays. It's a blessing to be here a couple years later making those plays and being able to help my team out with this win."

"The blocked field goal was a game-changer, but it was more than that," defensive coordinator Brad White said of Paschal. "Play after play after play, he's in the backfield. His effort, everybody feeds off that. I feed of it as a play-caller. I try to call up things to get him going or get some matchups because I wouldn't want to be an offensive player trying to block him."

To Paschal's point, he was far from the only defensive standout for the Wildcats.

On a night where Kentucky's offense totaled just 211 yards, UK's defense held Florida to a season-low 382 yards, 57 less than the Gators totaled against No. 1 Alabama two weeks ago. Florida entered the game ranked third nationally in rushing offense (322.5 yards per game) but was held 151.5 yards short of its season average in that category.

One week after holding South Carolina without any points after three UK turnovers, including back-to-back

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

fourth-down stops after Kentucky lost fumbles in the second half, the Wildcat defense saved its best play for when the stakes were highest against Florida.

Paschal's blocked field goal came after the defense forced a three-and-out following a Florida interception that started its drive at Kentucky's 31-yard line. Early in the fourth quarter, sophomore outside linebacker J.J. Weaver, who tore his ACL in the Wildcats' November loss at Florida last season, intercepted a pass and returned it to the Florida 29-yard line to set up a pivotal Chris Rodriguez touchdown run to give Kentucky a two-score advantage.

With the Wildcats leading by 10 in the fourth quarter, the defense finally looked gassed as Florida moved down the field with ease into the red zone but stepped up to hold the Gators to a 33-yard field goal.

Following a three-and-out from Kentucky's offense, Florida again marched into Wildcat territory. As the Gators earned a first-and-goal at UK's 9-yard line with time winding down, most of the 61,632 fans at Kroger Field had to be thinking of Florida's last two trips to Lexington in which Kentucky blew double-digit fourth quarter leads.

This time, Kentucky kept Florida from scoring on seven consecutive plays, capped by a Jacquez Jones' pass deflection in the end zone to seal the win.

"Tonight was special," Stoops said. "That was a thing of beauty defensively. I mean, we gave up some yards ... but overall, just to have that desire, the heart, the guts to stand up and getting seven, eight stops at the end is amazing.

"...I mean, it's incredible. It's a credit to our team."

Stoops, White and Kentucky players were quick to credit Big Blue Nation for an assist in the win. To be sure, without Florida's eight noise-induced

false starts, including two in the seven-play sequence to end the game, Kentucky would not have recorded its first win over the Gators in Lexington since 1986.

But Kentucky fans have been loud for near misses against Florida at the facility formerly known as Commonwealth Stadium before. What the Wildcats lacked in those games was the type of elite defense on display the last two weeks.

And that defense would not be what it is without Paschal leading the way.

Paschal was stunned to see how quickly the field clogged with fans as soon as the final buzzer sounded, but he made sure to embrace the moment. Just more than two years after his cancer treatments ended, Paschal was in the center of the celebration this time rather than watching it from home.

His cancer battle remains a key part of Paschal's story, but it does not define him anymore. Leading his team to wins like Saturday is just as important.

"This may be bad to say, you don't think about (the cancer) anymore," White said. "I thought about it in 2019, and a little bit in 2020. But this year, you don't even think about it. The way he plays, it doesn't show any glimpses that he had fought that battle. That's not to take away the battle that he fought, which was unbelievable.

"The fact that he's worked so hard, you would never guess. That's a testament to him."

## **Liam Coen: "I just keep going back to the belief of this team"**

**By Eric Decker  
Kentucky Sports Radio  
October 4, 2021**

"Believe it and it will happen." It's not quite exactly what Liam Coen said last night, but he decided to become Michael Strahan for a second when

describing the 2021 'Cats.

"I just keep going back to the belief, the belief of this team," Coen, Kentucky's first-year offensive coordinator, said after walking out with a win in his first game against Florida. "Our defense is stacked, they just did such a great job tonight. I would've loved to contribute more, but I'm really happy to be a part of it."

It's good that Coen has the awareness to praise the defense immediately after the game—they won the game for Kentucky once again. I wouldn't even put much blame on the offensive coordinator anyway, he really didn't call a bad game.

Field position football still works

I don't think it's very controversial to say that football in the NFL and the NCAA are vastly different. For a large portion of college games and programs in the modern era, it's simply about who can get to 50 points first.

Offenses usually focus on how often they can try to score through big plays, regardless of how the other phases of the game are going. The NFL is very much still a game about field position and clock management. So maybe poaching an NFL coach over the offseason was exactly what they needed, regardless of if the numbers aren't meeting expectations yet.

It sure wasn't a flawless performance either though against Florida. Coen had some questionable decisions that could've easily been avoided. Play-calling wasn't perfect, specifically looking back at that ugly bootleg call in the second half. But that being said, it's still a major upgrade to what people in Lexington have come to expect.

Coen still was able to get Wan'Dale Robinson out in space multiple times to where he could let his star receiver make plays. He did commit to the run at certain points of the game when it was working and killing the clock, even if he did take Rodriguez out maybe a tad too much. He schemed up a

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

game that played off of his defense and won the game, which is all that really matters.

Where does the belief go?

This is uncharted waters for the BBN. 5-0 and arguably the third-best team in the SEC. They have no idea how to react. No wonder State Street turned into the Burning Man festival with every couch on campus. People around Lexington have a taste of what it can be like to be good in the SEC, and we're starting to learn that it's insatiable.

The city and the school are all in now, there's no more doubt there.

The team has just been waiting for them to join in. This team really believes that they can win against whoever they go up against, which may be true outside of Georgia (and Georgia shouldn't count). That alone is massive for this team to be able to succeed. Tonight was a major hurdle in the perception of the program. If Coen and the rest of 'Cats can keep it up against a now 3-2 LSU next weekend, the legitimacy of the football team only grows.

This is a coaching staff that knows how to prepare for and win close games. I wouldn't worry if the offense ever really fully explodes this season, they don't need it to. They have an elite defense that will keep them in almost any game, Liam Coen and the offense just need to find a way to do enough.

## **Kentucky football: No worries, DC Brad White getting things done in Lexington**

**By Joe Cox**

**Saturday Down South**

**October 5, 2021**

It's all about the defense. Mark Stoops was a defensive guy. Given UK's myriad offensives struggles since 2013, it's fair to assume that Stoops' game plan was about the defense. Make opponents plod down the field.

Take away the big play, but still sting occasionally with tackles for loss. Out-slug the opponent, rinse, repeat and go to bowl games.

Which was why losing Matt House felt like a big deal. Stoops never quite connected with his first UK defensive coordinator, DJ Eliot, and Eliot struggled to craft UK's defense into an SEC-level group. Even discounting the 2013 season, when Stoops and Eliot inherited sub-SEC talent, UK struggled. In Eliot's last 3 seasons, UK allowed 31, 27, and 31 points per game, coughing up 407, 394, and 434 yards per game.

But when Stoops brought in Matt House, suddenly things clicked. Maybe that had something to do with guys like Mike Edwards and Josh Allen gaining experience and maturity. Or maybe House had the secret formula. When House helped the 2018 UK defense hold foes to 16.8 points and 338 yards per game en route to a 10-3 season, it felt like the secret formula. And when House headed for the Kansas City Chiefs (where he promptly won a Super Bowl), it felt like Kentucky might fall off.

Enter Brad White. If you've paid attention to Liam Coen's story, you might feel like you're hearing it again with White's background. In fact, the two were high school rivals. A New Englander (from Rhode Island), White had coached a few years in college and then worked his way onto Chuck Pagano's staff with the Indianapolis Colts. While the Colts slowly declined from reaching the AFC Championship game in White's first year to going 4-12 in his last, White, along with the rest of Pagano's staff, became expendable. Just in time for Kentucky to swoop in.

In Year 3 of White's work in Lexington, the sky has definitely not fallen. Kentucky has continued its streak of bowl appearances and has generally continued to be a defensive pest. Even in 2020's crazy all-SEC season,

White held SEC offenses to just under 26 points and 381 yards per game. In 2019, the numbers were 19.3 points and 325 yards per game. So far in 2021, it's 16.8 points and 284 yards per game. Kentucky has gone 18-11 with White leading the defense, and suddenly it feels like maybe Matt House didn't take the secret sauce to KC when he left.

In fact, White is conducting an SEC masterclass with his Kentucky defense right now. In Week 4, South Carolina held Kentucky to just 16 points in Columbia. That would spell trouble for most opponents, but not Kentucky. White's defense held Carolina to 216 total yard, 12 first downs and 10 points. While the offense dealt out a trio of turnovers, White's Wildcats stood strong, stopping Carolina on a pair of attempted 4th-down conversions that salted away the game.

But Florida would be different? Not much. Yes, UF (we hear you, Dan Mullen) amassed 382 total yards. But Kentucky faced the SEC's most dangerous big-play offense — UF had 28 plays of 20+ yards in their first 4 games — and shut it down. UF had 1 20-yard play, a 22-yard completion in the first quarter. That was it. And deprived of the big play, a Florida offense that was averaging over 35 points per game took home a 20-13 loss.

White wasn't surprised.

"There's a calm that anytime (the defense) gets put in these situations ... there's no anxiety. There's a high awareness that you have to step up and play," White said.

Stoops waxed a little more rhapsodic after the game.

"Defensively, back to back as good of performances as we've had in a long time," he said. "A credit to Coach White ... the staff, the players."

White's no-nonsense demeanor, his careful game planning, and his ability to get results from his players speak well toward his future. When Marquan McCall was hurt early on

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Saturday, White coaxed an impressive effort from his other interior defensive linemen. When linebacker Jamin Davis became a first-round draft pick of the Washington Redskins, White plugged in transfer Jacquez Jones and freshman Trevin Wallace. Jones broke up the win-clinching pass, and Wallace returned a blocked field goal in the third quarter to give UK a lead it did not relinquish.

Kentucky is going places, and Brad White's defense is right at the heart of it. Just like Mark Stoops planned.

**3 things to know about Kentucky football's Darian Kinnard, a top NFL Draft prospect**  
By Hayes Gardner  
Louisville Courier Journal  
October 9, 2021

Darian Kinnard is one of the top offensive linemen in the country. Here are three things to know about the 6-foot-5, 345-pound senior:

Darian Kinnard pancakes people 'like he's about to eat breakfast'

Kinnard racked up a myriad of recognition heading into the 2021 season: he was named to the Outland Trophy Watch List for the nation's top interior lineman, a preseason All-American by multiple outlets, and was graded by Pro Football Focus (PFF) as college football's No. 1 run-blocking tackle.

The three-year starter is an imposing force and running back Chris Rodriguez has said that Kinnard pancakes people "like he's about to eat breakfast."

UK has had a strong running game in recent years, and Kinnard has been a key factor.

"He's obviously very, very strong," UK offensive line coach Eric Wolford said before the season. "But he's a gifted athlete, too. When you're 340-plus pounds and able to move and change direction like that ... that's the sign of an athlete."

Kinnard would have been selected in the 2021 NFL Draft, but he opted to return for another season in Lexington, and he's considered to be a first or second-round prospect for next year's draft.

The Athletic rated him as the No. 34 overall player in August and one analyst for The Draft Network has him at No. 15 — right in the middle of the first round. Prior to the Florida game, PFF ranked him as the only offensive tackle in the country with an 85 or higher grade in run and in pass blocking.

Pro Football Network described him as having "surprising mobility" and "otherworldly size."

"Kinnard is truly an eye-catching prospect," the site wrote.

Kinnard went to high school in Cleveland, Ohio, but is a Knoxville, Tenn. native and his aunt is a first cousin of country music legend Dolly Parton, although he's never actually met her.

"It's kind of cool," he said. "I grew up going to Dollywood and stuff like that, but I never really go around saying my cousin is Dolly Parton. ... I just go about my business and focus on doing what I have to do."

**Like Will Levis and Caleb Williams, this season of great storylines shapes up to only get better**  
By Matt Fortuna  
The Athletic  
October 11, 2021

Will Levis' Sunday featured an autograph session at a local bar and a weekly dinner with his offensive linemen. Both were paid events. Both spoke to just how quickly he has won everyone over at Kentucky.

That he was named the Walter Camp offensive player of the week speaks to the impression he and his Wildcats are making on the rest of the nation, and the spotlight will be on Kentucky this Saturday when ESPN's

"College GameDay" visits Athens for a showdown with No. 1 Georgia in a battle of the SEC's only unbeaten teams.

Kentucky came in at No. 11 in this week's AP poll. Levis is the first quarterback since at least 1993 to win his first six starts in a Wildcat uniform.

Not bad for a Penn State grad transfer whose only real impression of Kentucky football had come in a 2018 Citrus Bowl loss during his redshirt year with the Nittany Lions.

"These past couple of weeks have been big wins, but the mentality has always been the same: it's on to the next one, and as soon as we wake up on Sunday and watch the film, we turn the page and get prepared for the next one," Levis said Sunday night by phone. "We obviously celebrated after the game yesterday in the locker room, celebrated with my family a little bit, but when it comes down to waking up the next day you've got to just move on, focus on the next task at hand.

"Especially this past week coming off the Florida win, just how historic that was to the program, you've seen a lot of teams historically have wins like that and kind of have that hang-over the next week. We really want to make sure that wasn't us. Coach (Mark) Stoops made that very clear to us and wanted us to take seriously our preparation for the week, which we did, and I'm sure that he's going to have the same message for us this week. That's how we've got to approach it if we want to go out there and play our best game and give us a chance to win it."

That showed on Saturday against LSU, as Levis completed 14 of 17 passes for 145 yards with three touchdowns and rushed for 75 yards and two more scores in a 42-21 win that was surprising only in how unsurprising it seemed to come against the 2019 national champs.

The 6-foot-3, 232-pound Levis

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

proved tough to bring down, posting a season high in rushing yards while having his most efficient passing performance of the season. Kentucky boasts the SEC's leader in rushing yards (Chris Rodriguez Jr., 768) and receiving yards (Wan'Dale Robinson, 527), and the offense under first-year coordinator Liam Coen is only beginning to materialize.

"Honestly, I don't think it's really clicked that much yet," Levis said of the offense. "This past week we had our most complete game offensively, for sure. We've shown flashes of what we're able to do offensively. It's a great system, but it's a system that takes some time to really get comfortable with. And the fact we've been able to win games like we have while still not playing to our full potential goes to show how much better and how good this team can be once we get things firing on all cylinders."

The 35-year-old Coen was hired this offseason from the Sean McVay coaching tree, having served as an assistant with the Rams the past three seasons. A native of Warwick, R.I., Coen had initially recruited Levis, a fellow New Englander, out of Madison, Conn., before the latter ultimately chose Penn State. Their connection in Lexington has proved to be the key to unlocking one of the best stories through the first half of the college football season, with Coen and Levis regularly texting each other while watching Rams games to identify the similarities between the two teams.

"We text each other like, 'Hey, that's this,' or 'Hey, that's that,'" Levis said. "It's a way for us to see and understand what it should look like. We're striving for perfection; we're never going to get perfect, but we're always striving for perfection, and those guys are executing that offense as close to perfect as you can in some aspects, so it's really cool to watch.

"It's really cool to see a guy like Matt Stafford, who honestly I see

some of myself in just with what I'm able to do with my arm. And it's good for receivers to watch, too, just with the details of the routes and the timing of everything. So it's just cool to see pros do what pros do."

Levis has earned plenty of viral fame for a TikTok account that includes videos of him eating a whole banana and of him putting mayonnaise in his coffee. His appetite, however, is far from limited.

The Sunday dinners with his offensive linemen are part of an NIL deal he signed with Malone's, a local steakhouse that pays for Levis and nine teammates of his choice to gorge themselves after game day. (Levis knows to take care of those who take care of him, and he was named a team captain before even playing in a game at Kentucky.)

His autograph session earlier on Sunday took place at Kentucky Sports Bar and Grill, drawing enough fans to keep him busy for 90 minutes straight.

Levis recently launched a merchandise line with the help of his mother, Beth, who runs an apparel company. He has partnered with the Lexington Leadership Foundation and will apply to be a mentor in its Amachi program, which assists children whose parents are incarcerated.

Busy is all Levis knows. This is a guy who ran five miles backward last summer to raise more than \$3,800 for COVID-19 response efforts as part of the Makin' Lemonade Fund, a community-based fundraising organization that was started by college students. He has described the NIL era as a learning process, relying on the guidance of those close to him to strategically allot time for interests that won't interfere with winning football games. (He cited the Sunday signing session as an example, as it was originally scheduled for a Thursday before he realized that Stoops might be uneasy with the event coming so close to a game day.)

Kentucky's success so far has only made Levis hungrier, and the options afforded to him in that department have rated as the biggest surprise in his transition from Central Pennsylvania to Central Kentucky.

"The food here is awesome," Levis said, laughing. "I've been to some awesome restaurants here. Honestly, I think a lot of people who have been to State College would agree with me. I love State College, but the one thing that was lacking there was the food scene a little bit. Being a football player, you're always hungry, looking for a place to eat. And there are a couple of good restaurants out there, but it doesn't compare to what's down here. There's awesome, awesome places."

**How Wan'Dale Robinson and Liam Coen joined forces to become a revelation in Lexington**  
By Connor O'Gara  
Saturday Down South  
October 12, 2021

In a meeting room on the second floor of Kentucky's football facility, Liam Coen is sitting at the head of a table chatting with a visiting reporter when the door opens. The Wildcats' first-year offensive coordinator doesn't skip a beat as he turns his chair so that he can dap up the guy who entered the room rocking an olive drab green hoody. It's Wan'Dale Robinson, whom Coen just spent the better part of the last half hour heaping praise onto.

Coen is never lacking words to describe Robinson — the Kentucky OC openly calls him the team's best offensive player — which is fitting. In his first year back in his home state, the Nebraska transfer is the talk of the town. The former Kentucky Mr. Football winner is the SEC's leading receiver, he reportedly has at least 6 figures worth of NIL money rolling in and above all else, Robinson's mil-

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

lion-dollar smile is the face of Coen's new Sean McVay-inspired offense in Lexington.

"(Coen) and I were both really excited to add Wan'Dale to our roster," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops told SDS on the SEC Coaches Teleconference. "What I love about Liam and the offense is it's easy for him to target guys. They do a good job of targeting the receivers ... we felt like he could be a great addition and he certainly has been."

That's an understatement. "Rev- elation" is a better way to describe Robinson's impact in Coen's offense.

Together, Coen and Robinson helped the program to its first 6-0 start since a 37-year-old Paul "Bear" Bryant led the Cats to that mark in 1950. No. 11 Kentucky will face the ultimate test Saturday in Athens against No. 1 Georgia and Kirby Smart's all-world defense.

Regardless of what happens in a game that's essentially the SEC East Championship, what's undeniable is that Coen and Robinson have become synonymous with the new era of Kentucky offense. A passing attack that ranked outside of the top 115 in FBS each of the past 3 seasons now has life.

Go figure that Kentucky's offensive awakening came from a couple of guys who, at this time last year, didn't know each other existed.

In January, Coen had to be sold before he could do his own selling.

Let's back up a second. At the time, Coen had just accepted his first job as a play-caller at the FBS level (he called plays at FCS Maine in 2016-17). That happened after Coen wowed Stoops, who was in desperate need for a modern but balanced offensive approach, with a 300-play film breakdown during an informal meeting over drinks in the Los Angeles home of comedian Russell Peters. Coen promised to bring McVay's offensive concepts to Lexing-

ton. Before Coen could even get 1/4 of the way through his breakdown, Stoops stopped him. He was sold. The 35-year-old Rams assistant had the gig.

Coen's first pitch was a successful one. Before he made another pitch, he needed to sell himself on a player. A hybrid playmaker from Nebraska named "Wan'Dale Robinson" entered the transfer portal in early January. He was frustrated with his role in Scott Frost's offense (more on that later) and combined with his mother's COVID complications, Robinson sought a place to play that was closer to his Frankfort, Kentucky family.

Stoops and some of Kentucky's staff were familiar with Robinson, who committed to the program before flipping to Nebraska as a high school senior because of his fear that Kentucky's offense was too run-heavy (that proved to be quite ironic). Coen, however, still wanted to do his homework on Robinson.

The newly hired Kentucky OC knew someone who worked closely with Robinson at Nebraska, and he also reached out to former Nebraska quarterback and current Cincinnati Bengals coach Zac Taylor. Before they got to their current jobs, Coen and Taylor were assistants on the Rams together, so there was a mutual respect when it came to evaluating a player's fit in the McVay-style offense.

Needless to say, it didn't take long to sell Coen on Robinson.

"Then you turn the film on," Coen told SDS, "and he's just so dynamic doing so many good things. That was a key piece to this whole thing. This was a huge piece. Once he was in the portal and I was officially signed on here, and I was able to talk to him and get to know him ... he reminded me a lot more of the guys I was around (with the Rams) than the other younger guys I've gotten to know."

Who did Robinson remind Coen of? Cooper Kupp, AKA the Rams'

slot receiver who averaged 93 catches for 1,068 yards in Coen's last 2 seasons with the Rams. It was Kupp who taught Coen, a former UMass quarterback, some of the intricacies of route-running after he joined the Rams in 2018. That's why Kupp was the blueprint for Coen's pitch to Robinson.

"That's literally all we talked about," Coen said.

And yeah, it worked. But not until Robinson did his own homework, of course. He reached out to Kupp for a full scouting report on Coen.

"(Kupp) was like, 'Dude, you're gonna love it. You're gonna get the catches, you're gonna get the targets. I promise you're gonna get the ball with (Coen),' " Robinson told SDS. "So I was like, that sold me. I'm good."

There was another key caveat to Coen's Kentucky pitch. It wasn't the volume of touches that Robinson sought. "Quality over quantity," he says. It was no secret that Robinson didn't want to play running back like he was asked to do at times during his 2 prolific years at Nebraska. He has since spoken candidly about playing in a role that he saw for himself at the NFL level instead of making cut blocks against blitzing linebackers, and doing so in an offense that didn't utilize pro-style concepts. At least not like Coen's did.

Coen had (and has) zero plans to line up Robinson in the backfield. He transferred back home to Kentucky to be a receiver and not a part-time one who could plug a hole for a depleted running back room like he did in Lincoln. That was evident on the first day of spring practice at Kentucky.

"I'm actually running routes. I'm running NFL concepts," Robinson said. "I'm not just in there in the slot, I'm playing the outside position, too, and moving around in a lot of different places. That's what I'm used to doing. That's what I was excited about."

Ask Robinson if Coen has ever used



## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

him to make a cut block and he'll politely say "nah," with a smile.

Ask Robinson if he misses playing running back and he'll politely say, "nope, nope, nope. I'm having fun right where I'm at."

Let's back up again.

There's a right way to interpret that and a wrong way to interpret that. The wrong way would be to assume that a player who doesn't want to cut block is afraid of contact, which couldn't be further from the truth with Robinson.

"He's not soft," Coen said. "He's a tough, tough dude."

We saw that in his first game at Kentucky. After Robinson beat his man in press coverage, he proceeded to haul in Will Levis' pass and bulldoze a poor Louisiana-Monroe safety, who couldn't stand in the way of Robinson reaching pay dirt.

"That is him in a nutshell," Coen said. "It's character. It's everything you want in a player in terms of the way they approach the game, the way they study the game. And then he goes out and plays like an absolute dog. You want to try to get that kid the ball as many times as you can. He deserves it."

If Robinson doesn't like contact, he certainly doesn't do a good job of showing it.

"That just comes from my background playing running back. You can't be afraid to take a hit," said Robinson, who recorded a 570-pound max squat at Nebraska (Robinson said max squats were more of a thing at Nebraska than at Kentucky). "I've always known that I've been smaller, but that doesn't mean I can't bring a punch. Most people aren't expecting me to bring a punch, so whenever it does hit 'em, they're surprised."

And to be clear, it's not that Coen can't use Robinson in running situations. He has 5 carries on the year, including an end-around that went for 64 yards against Mizzou. Those looks, however, weren't similar to the major-

ity of the 134 carries he got in 2 years at Nebraska.

"It's a lot different because a lot of those are schemed up to where it's essentially the 2 tight ends and me, and I have really a read of where I wanna go," Robinson said. "There's not a bunch of traffic. So I can really just get in space and do what I do and then if I have to make somebody miss ... at that point, it can be house calls."

Coen lived up to his promise from the initial recruiting pitch. He has yet to line Robinson up in the backfield for a single snap — not even to run a route — which he admitted is tempting. There are ways in which Coen could use Robinson to line up in motion and start in the backfield just to get the defense to tip its hand with whether it's in man or zone coverage.

Instead, Coen would rather do right by his guy and avoid those potential Nebraska flashbacks.

"That's the stigma that he was trying to get away from, that he's a 'gadget guy,'" Coen said. "But he's the type of kid that at this point, I believe there's a trust and a belief in his usage and what we're trying to do with him. So I guarantee you that if it was, 'Hey, game is on the line, we're gonna put you in the backfield and you're gonna run a route,' he would do whatever it takes."

In the short time they've known each other, Robinson and Coen developed an open line of communication. It's mostly texts about ball. Coen started by sending Robinson clips from games to illustrate a receiver's get-off or how he got separation at the top of the route. Robinson always has a response or a clip of his own ready. Days before Kentucky's game against LSU, they went back and forth breaking down a route they saw from Hunter Renfrow on Monday Night Football.

Coen will also text with his former Rams buddies McVay and Kupp about the things Robinson does in the offense. Ten minutes into the game

against Florida, Coen scripted a jail-break screen of sorts for Robinson. It worked in practice against Kentucky's first-team defense, which was as good a sign as any for Coen. All it took was Will Levis making a quick on-target throw to Robinson, a clear-out block on Florida's corner by Kavosiey Smoke, some nice downfield blocking by the Kentucky offensive line and of course, Robinson's signature dead leg in space did the rest. Six points.

After that play helped Kentucky beat Florida in Lexington for the first time since 1986, Coen got a text from McVay.

"Hey, great job with the screen. We're gonna take that one."

Coen might not be able to recall plays quite at the level of his former boss, but he has no problem digging into the archives to illustrate a concept.

It's fitting that the defining offensive play of Coen's first year in Lexington involved Robinson. In their first SEC game working alongside one another, Kentucky held a 35-28 lead against Mizzou. Facing 3rd-and-12 on their own 26-yard line with just over 6 minutes left to play, the Wildcats were in desperate need of a big-time conversion to keep the emerging Mizzou offense off the field.

There was a 3rd-down play that Coen felt confident in, but 3rd-and-12 was a different challenge. It was a pivotal moment for Coen. He wasn't brought in to run a 3rd-down draw to the tailback in hopes that the defense could put the game away. It was Coen's job to make the adjustment and find the mismatch.

At that point, Robinson had been saying all game that he was getting press coverage, so he told Levis "if he's standing flat-footed, I can beat him over the top." Sure enough, Mizzou came out in that same look to defend Kentucky's 5-wide set. Little did anyone at home know that even though there were technically 5

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

pass-catching options, Robinson was the only real option. Coen had the running back on a go-route to clear space, there were hitches on the outside and then there was Robinson, who had to get separation on a fade route from of the slot against Mizzou's press man coverage.

"It was just a moment where I saw (Mizzou) press our best player," Coen said, "and I don't think that's a good thing."

Levis saw it, too.

"I just say, 'Hey, Wan'Dale is better than that guy. I just need to look off that safety who's playing off really high and I can drop it in there for a first down,'" Levis told SDS in September. "That was our best man-beater for that play, so that's pretty much all I was thinking."

Bingo. Perfect scheme, perfect recognition, perfect route, perfect throw. Thirty-three yards.

First down.

New offensive identity? You'd better believe it.

"It was a big moment for our offense," Coen said. "Have we put it together every single week yet? No, but there were moments, specifically that one, that give you trust in the system, that give you trust in your players to go out and execute in a moment like that."

It's trust that got Kentucky to this point. Stoops put his faith in Coen to overhaul the offense. Coen put his faith in Robinson to be the game-changing receiver in the middle of it all. That foundation helped lead Kentucky to a historic start.

We don't know what awaits Robinson beyond 2021.

Coen cited that the difference in how pass interference is called at the NFL level could actually benefit someone like Robinson, who moves so efficiently to get separation at the top of his routes. He could follow the path of his Bluegrass State friend Rondale Moore, who won the Paul Hornung Award in 2018 and became

a second-round pick by the Cardinals in 2018. Never mind the fact that the former Purdue star isn't exactly close to 6 feet like Robinson is. "He's making me money," Robinson said with a laugh.

In the meantime, Robinson is focused on leading his home-state program to new heights. He's not concerned about becoming Kentucky's first 1,000-yard receiver since Randall Cobb in 2010, though he's on pace to do just that. Robinson would rather spend his time working on his craft so that he can continue to develop in Coen's offense.

After all, it's quality over quantity

## **Chris Rodriguez has more than football goals versus home-state Georgia Bulldogs**

**By Jon Hale**

**Louisville Courier Journal  
October 14, 2021**

Little about Chris Rodriguez's college resume suggested he was ready to leave school for the 2021 NFL draft, but the speculation would not go away.

Rodriguez had yet to start a game in three seasons for Kentucky. He had never rushed for 1,000 yards in a season.

But the 5-foot-11, 224-pound running back had averaged more than 7 yards per carry for his career and had rushed for at least 80 yards in each of his last four games. The common thinking suggests running backs should start being paid to play as early as possible due to the finite number of carries in each body before the physical toll of the position begins to show.

Rodriguez had other plans though. He would return to Kentucky for the 2021 season.

The decision had little to do with football.

"I came back because my whole goal was to finish college," Rodriguez

said. "... Being the first generation from my family (to go to college), that's one of the things me and my mom talked about: When I go to college, I don't want to just go and not finish. The whole plan was to come to college and finish. That's the reason I came back."

Rodriguez's plan started at an early age when he and an older cousin made a plan to break a familiar cycle of dropping out even before high school as an example to their younger cousins.

Both graduated high school. Rodriguez's cousin then went to cosmetology school, while Rodriguez's football skills earned him multiple college scholarships offers.

"Me and him made a deal that, 'We need to graduate so they know not to just give up,'" Rodriguez said. "We're not going to let this keep going, generations of family just drop out and be done. That is not how you live your life. ... I wanted to come here to a big university and show them you don't have to be like the rest of the family. You can do something."

Of course, there were football benefits to his decision to return too.

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops had hired Liam Coen as his new offensive coordinator to run the same offense Sean McVay had perfected with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams. Shining in that scheme could only help Rodriguez's draft stock.

With senior A.J. Rose starting his professional career, Rodriguez would be the clear starter for the Wildcats. Coen quickly made it clear Rodriguez could expect to be used in a featured role in Kentucky's new offense.

Through Kentucky's first six games, Rodriguez has exceeded even the most optimistic of expectations.

He leads the Southeastern Conference in rushing yards (768) with more than 100 yards more than any other player in the league. He is tied for fifth in the SEC in total touchdowns

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

(seven). Known for his bone-crushing running style, Rodriguez has proven his worth as a pass-catcher with two touchdown receptions.

"Probably better in a lot of ways (than I expected) because he just doesn't take negatives," Coen said. "He doesn't take negative-yard runs."

Rodriguez's early-season production was marred by four fumbles through the first three games. Against Missouri, Rodriguez rushed for 207 yards with three total touchdowns, but he missed the opportunity for two more touchdowns when he fumbled twice just before crossing the goal line.

While Kentucky lost possession on just one of Rodriguez's four fumbles, Coen and the rest of UK's offensive staff began emphasizing ball security drills more in practice. That work has paid off with back-to-back games without a fumble.

"He's a guy that wants to play at the next level," running backs coach John Settle said. "He's seen guys that have come through here get an opportunity, so he was dedicated. In my past, if you've got a guy that's dedicated and wants to learn, wants to do it right, it makes my job a lot easier. ... He's all in. He's totally bought into what we're doing here and wants to be great at it."

Rodriguez has topped the 100-yard plateau in four of Kentucky's first six games – he just missed the milestone with 99 yards against Florida – but his most difficult test yet will come this weekend against his home-state Georgia Bulldogs.

The McDonough, Georgia native, who was not offered a scholarship by Kirby Smart's staff in high school, has made no secret of his desire to prove himself against the Bulldogs throughout his Kentucky career. A year ago, Rodriguez was one of the few Wildcats to find any success against Georgia with 20 carries for 108 yards, but he failed to reach the end zone in

Kentucky's 14-3 loss.

"I've always wanted to beat Georgia since I got here," Rodriguez said. "...For the program, I think it means a lot. For us to go 7-0, beat the No. 1 team, it's a big step for this program."

A standout performance against a Georgia defense that ranks fourth nationally in fewest rushing yards allowed per game (66.5) would go far in cementing Rodriguez's status as one of the best running backs in the country. It would boost his candidacy for SEC Offensive Player of the Year and surely attract more interest from NFL scouts.

But with more than 20 family members expected at the game, Rodriguez's bigger goal remains just as important.

"The educational part is really the most important part to me," he said. "I talk to my mom all the time. She's like, 'I'm proud of you,' but mostly for the school part."

**Turning down FSU to stay at Kentucky best career move Mark Stoops ever made**  
**By Mike Bianchi and Orlando Sentinel**  
**Lexington Herald-Leader**  
**October 15, 2021**

Smart man, that Mark Stoops.

It was just two years ago when the Florida State Seminoles reportedly made overtures to Stoops about possibly replacing Willie Taggart as FSU's head coach.

Stoops, the head coach at undefeated and 11th-ranked Kentucky, did not pursue the job even though he had been Jimbo Fisher's defensive coordinator when Fisher replaced Bobby Bowden and began the process of rebuilding the Seminoles back into a national championship contender.

Best career decision Mark Stoops has ever made.

Why would Stoops go to a place where he could be fired in two years just like Taggart was?

In fact, Stoops should never leave Kentucky for any other job.

Not even if LSU opens up.  
Or Miami.

Or even if Southern Cal calls him about filling its marquee coaching vacancy.

If you ask me, Mark Stoops has the best coaching job in America at a place where he actually gets a one-year contract rollover anytime he wins seven games. You heard me, seven games! At programs like Florida, Florida State and Miami, you get fired for winning seven games a season, but at Kentucky you actually get a contract extension.

At LSU, Ed Orgeron won the national championship just two years ago and yet, incredibly, he will be lucky to keep his job after this season.

Meanwhile, Stoops, who has led Kentucky to its first 6-0 record since 1950 (some guy named Bear Bryant was coaching the Wildcats then) heading into Saturday's showdown with No. 1-ranked Georgia, is a case study in the benefits of institutional backbone. Obviously, longtime Kentucky AD Mitch Barnhart is a reader of Tolstoy, who once wrote: "The two most powerful warriors are patience and time."

In today's Instagram, instant-gratification world, it's refreshing when a program actually exhibits prudence and patience when dealing with a coach. Yes, Barnhart heard grumbling when Stoops was 2-10, 5-7 and 5-7 during his first three seasons and didn't have a winning conference record until Year 6, but he knew he had the right coach.

Of course, if Stoops were Kentucky's basketball coach he would have been quickly jettisoned, but UK fans are much more forgiving when it comes to a football program that has been an SEC also-ran for much of its existence.

That said, I love when ADs go all Tammy Wynette and stand by their

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

man. I've told this story before, but it bears repeating: Perhaps the No. 1 piece of advice for up-and-coming young ADs should be a famous quote that late, great Duke AD Tom Butters once recited to me: "If you listen to the fans, you'll soon find yourself sitting with them."

Butters is the AD who stood by struggling young coach Mike Krzyzewski even though Krzyzewski was 38-47 in his first three seasons at Duke. Many boosters were angry and demanded that Butters get rid of Coach K.

After Butters retired to a golf community in Florida, I interviewed him once amid Coach K's run of five national titles, 12 Final Fours and nearly 1,200 victories. Butters told me then, "You cannot let the alumni tell you who to fire. I knew our coach was the absolute right man for the job."

Then he deadpanned: "I think in time my decision may still work out."

Former Florida State AD Dave Hart told me a similar story when fans were demanding that he fire basketball coach Leonard Hamilton, who failed to make the NCAA Tournament during his first six years at FSU. Hamilton is now entering his 20th year in Tallahassee, is the ACC's fifth all-time winningest coach and just led the Seminoles to a school-first ACC regular season championship.

When I asked Hart a couple of years ago if he would have stood by Hamilton in today's toxic social media world, he replied: "Yes, I would have, except I might be the one to get fired instead. There's no question, it's harder now. Because of social media, there are more opinions than ever before, but you still have to make the decisions you feel are right."

Imagine how the history of sports might have changed if the current trend of firing struggling coaches after a couple of years and doling out millions of dollars in buyout money had existed years ago.

Would the Dallas Cowboys have

ever become "America's Team" if they had fired the legendary Tom Landry, who compiled a 13-38-3 record during his first four years?

Would UCLA have ever become the most dominant force in the history of collegiate sports if some impulsive, impatient AD had decided John Wooden, who went 16 years before he won his first national championship, just couldn't win the big one?

Would Pittsburgh Steelers legend Chuck Noll, who won four Super Bowls, survive today if he went 1-13, 5-9 and 6-8 in his first three years?

Stay at Kentucky, Mark Stoops.

## **Kentucky's win over Florida 'closed a chapter' for J.J. Weaver: 'It was like he was healed'**

**By Kyle Tucker**

**The Athletic  
October 15 2021**

On the best night of his life, J.J. Weaver briefly panicked. Where's Mama? How would he ever find her in that roiling sea of humanity? When Kentucky finally beat Florida in a home football game, which had not happened since 1986, people spilled over the wall like water over Niagara Falls. Weaver would have to swim against the current. It felt like 60,000 fans wanted onto the turf at Kroger Field to celebrate and he was the only non-Gators player who wanted off.

Weaver, a 6-foot-5, 230-pound outside linebacker, pushed past the oncoming throng and toward his mom's seat in the stands. His field-storming brother got to him first. Where's Mama? She was too worried to watch the final moments of UK's 20-13 victory, sealed by a fourth-down stop in the end zone with 18 seconds left and walked off her nervous energy on the concourse. She waited for Weaver outside a tunnel the players take from the field to their locker room.

From there, Stacey Sherrell saw a giant party was in progress and figured it would be a while before her son

emerged from that jubilant horde. He's always the last player to leave the field anyway. It startled her when Weaver came bounding through the tunnel before any of his teammates, screaming her name and galloping at such a speed that Sherrell wondered if someone had gotten hurt in the pandemonium. She was even more startled when Weaver leaped over a waist-high metal barrier, wrapped her in a bear hug and nearly lifted her off the ground. He howled: Mama, I did it!

"He was just so happy," Sherrell said, "and it just tore me up."

She cried. He cried. They stood there sobbing together for a little while, quietly considering all Weaver endured — and conquered — during the previous 16 months. His father was murdered in June 2020, Weaver tore his ACL in November, and his beloved high school coach died after a battle with cancer in August. The weight of all that threatened to crush him, but the right people in Kentucky's program noticed in time to get him help. Weaver rehabilitated his mental and physical health with equal vigor and believed he had made a full recovery even before the Florida game.

But that would be the true test. He suffered the indignity of tight end Kyle Pitts tagging him in an Instagram photo of the exact moment Weaver injured his right knee trying to defend the former Gators star. He circled Florida on the schedule, although even his wildest dream for the game could not have topped reality. From film study, Weaver correctly predicted a fourth-quarter pass play and alerted the rest of Kentucky's defense, which was in a zone, that he was taking the tight end one-on-one. Still wearing a brace on his knee, he ran stride for stride down the seam and stepped in front of a throw he knew was coming, and his first career interception set up the decisive touchdown.

"We just stood there hugging and

## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

crying like two babies,” Sherrell said. “Because that game meant so much to him. It was like he closed a chapter. It was like he was healed.”

Physically, there’s no doubt. Weaver was expected to ease his way back into action this season but instead delivered a tackle for loss in each of the first five games. He leads the Wildcats in sacks (3.5) and is a major reason they’re 6-0 for the first time since 1950, have their highest ranking in the Mark Stoops era (11th) and are preparing for one of the biggest games in program history on Saturday at No. 1 Georgia. He has been nominated for the Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award and the Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award.

“It’s very important, and it needs to be known,” Sherrell said of what her son has overcome. “Because sometimes men have that macho thing happening — especially young men — where they’re not in touch with their emotions or they’re scared to be emotional because they don’t want to seem weak. ‘I’m a football player. I’m strong. I’m tough.’ But it needs to be talked about because there’s suicide, there’s drugs, there’s all these things they turn to instead of dealing with their emotions. It’s important to know that it’s OK to talk to someone. I just want his story to touch somebody’s life and heart and help other young men come out and say, ‘Hey, I’m not OK. I need help.’”

Weaver is no stranger to hardship. Six weeks before his due date, baby J.J. was already 22 inches long and weighed nearly 11 pounds. He was so big, he pressed against his mother’s pelvis and cut off his own oxygen. Sherrell’s doctor discovered this at a regular checkup and made an alarming announcement: We’ve got to rush you to the hospital. This baby needs to come out right now. Everything after those words was a blur, except for one minor detail after Weaver’s emergency delivery.

“Um, ma’am, your son has six

fingers on his right hand,” Sherrell remembers a nurse telling her.

With an extra, fully functional pinky, Weaver was destined to stand out. With that physical anomaly, plus a speech impediment and some developmental delays that resulted from his lack of oxygen in the womb, Weaver unfortunately was sure to be seen as different. His mother and grandmother reframed those differences: Anyone with such special features must be God’s gift, they always told him.

“He gave you these things for a reason,” Sherrell said. “You’re going to struggle in life now so that when you get to all the great things he has planned for you, you’ll appreciate them. You’re going to be a testimony to other children who have difficulties learning or speaking or who look different. One day, they’ll all look up to you.”

That was of little comfort at the time when classmates made fun of the way he stuttered or called him names because of his hand. For years, Weaver tried to hide his extra digit. When he started playing football, he discovered that the two pinkies on his right hand could be smashed into a single finger hole on his gloves. It was terribly uncomfortable, but at least he felt normal.

“With a helmet and gloves on, he looked like everyone else. He used that as a shield. It hid his identity,” Sherrell said. “Football became his identity — up until he went to Kentucky. Now when I watch his interviews, I just break down and cry. He’s not scared in front of the camera. Millions of people are watching, and I can see his confidence. He smiles, he cracks jokes. After all those years going to talk to teachers and principals because he was being picked on, coming home hurt and sad and not really loving himself, my God, look at him now. Look at you now, kid.”

Ask Weaver about his extra finger today, and he smiles wide.

“Shoot, I can grip things better,” he says, laughing. “My right hand is way bigger than most.”

He poses for pictures with the six-fingered hand extended proudly out in front of him. It has been turned into an Internet meme, which cracks him up. That’s a recent development; he was still jamming that pinky into a regular pair of gloves last season. He finally went to Kentucky’s equipment manager this summer and requested an alteration. Tom Kalinowski happily obliged, snipping off the pinky from one glove and sewing it onto a special pair for Weaver. Not surprisingly, he feels like he plays better with all 11 of his fingers available.

“I was afraid to come out to the world about it,” he said, “but I’m comfortable now. I’m not afraid to let people see me.”

That causes his mother to cry again. The happiest of tears. That painfully shy little boy is gone, and a remarkable young man has taken his place.

“If God doesn’t bless me with anything else, my heart is really full seeing how far he’s come,” Sherrell said. “Just like I promised, there are kids watching him now who have issues they’re trying to overcome, and they see J.J. and know it’s possible.”

His grandmother rarely called and never four times in a row, so Weaver figured he better answer when his phone blew up on June 17, 2020. Granny was despondent on the other end. He struggled to understand her, and surely he misunderstood or she misspoke because the message sounded utterly impossible: “Your father has been killed.”

“I hung up on her,” Weaver said. “I tried to call my daddy. Straight to voicemail. Called my daddy again. Straight to voicemail. Then I heard a knock on my door.”

His parents divorced when he was still a toddler and Weaver moved from Florida to Louisville with his mother when he was 10. She got word that her ex-husband, 44-year-old Terrance

## KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Weaver, had been shot 17 times during a robbery at his home in Albany, Ga., around 2:30 a.m. and did not survive. Four teenagers were arrested in connection with the crime. Sherrell immediately jumped in the car and drove to Lexington, where Weaver's roommate let her in.

"As soon as he saw us there, he knew it was true, and he just fell to the floor," Sherrell said. "That was the hardest day ever, the hardest thing I've ever done, delivering that news. I know the relationship he and his older brother had with their dad. That's who got them into football. Football was their thing with him. J.J. was so excited to show his dad, 'Look at me, I'm in the SEC. I made it.' To know his father would never get to see that, it was just devastating."

But it was also motivating. Now he had to make it, to honor the man he considered his best friend. Weaver wears No. 13 because his father had 13 children. He wants to carry on operating his father's mobile car detailing business and make sure all his siblings — he's the second-oldest — never forget their dad. He also desperately wants to make it to the NFL so that his mother and all the people his father left behind are taken care of.

In that way, football saved him. Summer workouts, then preseason camp, then a grueling SEC schedule kept Weaver's mind occupied. He poured himself into the game his dad taught him to love and by the second half of his redshirt freshman season, the four-star recruit was playing up to that ranking. He had 33 tackles, 6 1/2 for loss, in nine games. He earned his first career start against Florida on Nov. 28, 2020 and had a career-high six tackles in just three quarters. Weaver looked like one of the most talented players on the field, right up until Pitts went up for a catch, and Weaver came down clutching his knee.

"Football was my escape. Football was my coping mechanism. And then

I couldn't play football," said Weaver, who finally had to face his grief. "It all hit me. I'm always an excited person, a happy person, smile on my face every day, always greeting people when I see them. But I didn't want to be around anybody. Just wanted to be isolated. I was really depressed. I kept my hoodie up, kept my headphones in, didn't want to talk to anyone, just walked right past people."

Gabe Amponsah noticed. Kentucky's head athletic trainer might spend more time talking about non-football things with players than anyone on the staff. He got to know Weaver well before the injury and even better once he began rehab. Through regular encounters, Amponsah began to recognize things that Weaver's mother had inquired about and got the standard brush-off: Mama, I'm fine. Just tired.

"No, he was struggling," Amponsah said. "When you see it once, you think nothing of it. But if you see it twice, three times, you start to wonder. There's a huge psychological component to coming back from injury, not to mention so many other heavy things these guys carry around and the pressure they feel to succeed, so we always try to keep that in mind and pay attention to it in the training room: 'Are they OK not just physically, but also mentally?'"

One day in early 2021, Amponsah pulled Weaver into his office and put it plainly: "I know what's going on," he said, "and if you need to talk to someone, I can help you."

Weaver fell apart. Through tears, he confessed that, yes, he was drowning in the darkness. And no, he didn't think he could climb out on his own.

"It was like God talking to me that day," Weaver said. "The way I felt, that's when people start drinking, start popping pills. I've had friends go through depression and they weren't talking to anybody about it, and it was bad. I wasn't trying to talk to anybody either — I was just trying to hurry up

and get back to football — but Gabe convinced me that opening up to somebody and talking would really help."

Amponsah suggested Weaver go see Stoops, who lost his father unexpectedly while playing at Iowa, and explain what was going on. Weaver felt comforted by his coach taking the time to relate. After that emotional meeting, Kentucky's staff connected Weaver with a therapist. For six months, he visited her every Thursday for an hour. He unburdened himself of all the sadness, fear and anger that had overwhelmed him.

"Got a lot of things off my chest," Weaver said. "There's so much value in that. The week of the Florida game, every day before I got taped, before treatment, I was telling Gabe, 'Thank you for everything. Y'all helped me through this long process and I'm finally here.' And after that game, I gave every one of them a hug."

But Amponsah figures Weaver deserves most of the credit. It takes a lot to acknowledge the problem and accept the help.

"He started coming back out of his shell," Amponsah said, "and he immediately looked lighter. It's an unbelievably rewarding feeling to see where he's at now. People talk about adversity a lot in sports, but this is real adversity. And when you start having people like J.J., people like Dak Prescott and Simone Biles, high-profile athletes talking about the importance of mental health, it brings a lot of awareness to the subject. Maybe it helps a younger athlete who is scared and hurting to actually think, 'It's time to get help.' Maybe you can prevent a person from doing something that could be irreversible."

When Weaver's high school coach, Rob Reader, passed away in August at the age of 50, Weaver was crushed all over again. Reader was a close family friend, another father figure in Weaver's life, and the grief was profound. But this time, Weaver had the tools

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

to cope with it, so his mother wasn't worried sick.

Amponsah, Stoops, defensive coordinator Brad White and recruiting coordinator Vince Marrow promised Weaver's mother they would remain vigilant. If Sherrell checks in, White gets back to her within a few hours to provide an update — or the occasional request for mom to “get on J.J.'s butt” about something. That's what flashed through her mind when Weaver and the Wildcats knocked off Florida, when her boy came sprinting out of the madness with a wide smile across his face.

“I could not ask for a better program,” Sherrell said. “I could not ask for better people to look after my son. He's not a talker. He never was a talker. But they got him talking. And for him to say, ‘Yeah, I need to talk to someone,’ it showed me a lot of maturity. It tells me they're helping him grow up. And I look at him in a different light now. I don't think of him as this little kid anymore who I need to ask, ‘Did you brush your teeth? Did you put away your clothes?’ He's this grown man. He's this amazing person I always knew he would be: somebody to look up to.”

## **Will Levis: 'No point' in thinking about what might have been if he stayed at Penn State**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

October 28, 2021

Kentucky football quarterback Will Levis hears the chatter. The Penn State transfer just does not care to engage in the conversation.

After an early slump, Levis has posted back-to-back impressive performances for the No. 12 Wildcats to offer hope of even more production in the final five games of the 2021 season. Meanwhile, his former team has gone from leading College Football Playoff contender to No. 17 nationally with consecutive losses.

No factor has contributed more to Penn State's back-to-back defeats than quarterback play after starter Sean Clifford missed half of the loss to Iowa with an injury and was obviously hampered by the lingering effects of that issue in a nine-overtime loss to Illinois.

“(James) Franklin banked on a crippled version of Clifford at quarterback, we must believe, because he did not trust healthy backups — even against this opponent,” USA TODAY network reporter Frank Bodani wrote for the York Daily Record after the Illinois loss. “The plan failed miserably. If nothing else, that shouts to the program's depth vacuum at the game's most important position.”

The Nittany Lions' quarterback issues have led many fans and reporters to ask the same question: Would Penn State still be in the playoff hunt if Levis had remained in Happy Valley?

Levis spent the last two seasons as Clifford's primary backup. He totaled 644 passing yards and 473 rushing yards with nine total touchdowns in 15 games, including one start.

The Connecticut native grew frustrated with what he viewed as the Penn State coaching staff pigeon-holing him as a run-first quarterback. When he entered his name in the transfer portal in January, Levis wanted to find a coach who believed in his ability to also make plays with his arm.

“It's up to the coaches, it's up to the guys calling the plays,” Levis told the Courier Journal before the season. “Luckily, I'm at a place now where the staff believes in that ability and hopefully are going to be able to give me opportunities to throw it down the field more.”

Levis's considerable arm strength has been clear with Kentucky with 18 completions of at least 20 yards and 10 of at least 30 yards through seven games.

The decision to transfer from Penn State to Kentucky has worked out best for his career too as he needed just more than one week of presea-

son camp to be named the Wildcats' starter. He helped lead the team to six consecutive wins to start the season.

Levis entered Kentucky's bye week after two of his best performances. He totaled 220 yards and five touchdowns in the blowout of LSU then completed 32 of 42 passes for 192 yards and two touchdowns in the loss at No. 1 Georgia.

“I think he's doing an unbelievable job right now,” UK offensive coordinator Liam Coen said of Levis. “... You saw him take a little bit of a step in terms of being a quarterback last week. That's where we're trying to continue to get him to: Being a true quarterback. Yes, he's athletic. Yes, he can run. But for us to have success we need him to continue to play like he did last week.”

Had Levis remained at Penn State, he might have been thrust into the spotlight following Clifford's injury, but he would have likely spent most of the first half of the season on the bench.

Since he graduated from Penn State in the spring, Levis would have been able to transfer and play immediately this season even before the NCAA allowed most players to transfer once without sitting out a year, but the new transfer rule ensures that Penn State will be far from the only program with quarterback depth issues moving forward.

As the college football adage goes: If you have a good backup quarterback, you might just have someone else's starting quarterback.

“Most guys want to come in and be guaranteed the starting job, depending on where they are in their careers and why they're leaving,” Penn State coach James Franklin said last week.

Even after transferring to Kentucky, Levis has made no secret of his desire to see his friends and former teammates at Penn State perform well. During Kentucky's bye week, he watched every snap of the Nittany Lion's nine-overtime thriller against Illinois.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

And while Levis has chosen to stay out of the social media conversation about how Penn State's season might be different if he had remained in Happy Valley, he issued a vote of confidence for his former team in an interview this week.

"I don't pay attention to any of that stuff," Levis said. "Sean is a great player. Obviously, he had that injury against Iowa, which is unfortunate. Hopefully he can get back to 100% here pretty soon, but he's been playing good ball. He's their quarterback and he's going to continue to work hard for them, I know. He's going to fight for every game, for every play.

"Everyone throws out what ifs all the time, but it doesn't matter. It's in the past. The decision was made. There's no point in thinking that way."

## **Levis delivers career-best performance in Tennessee loss**

**By Derek Terry**

**Cat's Pause**

**November 7, 2021**

Kentucky quarterback Will Levis responded from a poor outing at Mississippi State with one of his best performances of his career on Saturday night against Tennessee. Despite a losing effort by the team, Levis played well enough to give Kentucky every opportunity to come away with a victory.

The Connecticut native threw for a career-high 372 yards and three touchdowns. He also rushed for two touchdowns in the 45-42 loss. It was the second time this season that Levis accounted for three passing touchdowns and two rushing touchdowns in a game, making him the first player in school history to do so. In all, Kentucky's offense possessed the ball for over 46 minutes, went 12 of 17 on third down, racked up 612 yards and gained 35 first downs.

"He's a stud," offensive coordinator Liam Coen said. "That's the way he is. He's tough as nails. It means so much

to him. All day Sunday, all day that kid was in our building watching film, trying to get better. Nobody puts in more time. Nobody puts in more work. Nobody practices like he practices in terms of how fast he goes, how hard he goes, the speed at which he plays and practices at is how he always is. He's 100 miles per hour. It's a fine line of trying to slow him down. I thought he was fantastic being slow tonight. We didn't protect him. We need to do a better job of pass pro."

Through nine games, Levis has already passed for more touchdowns than any other quarterback in the Mark Stoops era. It's no secret that Kentucky has struggled through the air for much of Stoops' time at Kentucky, but it still shows development within a new offense. He's already thrown 17 touchdowns this year and should see that number increase as the schedule softens over the next few weeks. His 372 yards against Tennessee were the most for a UK quarterback since Patrick Towles threw for 390 yards against Mississippi State in 2014.

"When you have a game like I did last week it's definitely motivation," Levis said. "I'm just trying to take it to the next level. I think I have a good work ethic, but regardless how good your work ethic is, you can always be better."

Perhaps more impressive was that Levis was not at 100 percent during the Tennessee game. While the nature of his injury was not discussed, Levis was in the locker room right up until the start of the second half. Backup quarterback Beau Allen was taking snaps from starting center Luke Fortner and had his helmet on while talking to Coen. But Levis sprinted onto the sidelines right before the kick and started the second half. Levis had laid his body on the line in the first half, hurdling multiple times over Tennessee defenders. One of the hurdles resulted in a touchdown to even the game at 14.

When asked if he's nervous when Levis leaves his feet, Coen said he indeed was.

"Yes, very much so," Coen said. "Every time I see him leave his feet I'm a little bit sick. But you guys see it. How many other kids compete like that? Just throw your body around. Just that will. If you're anybody, fan, teammate, anybody in the building respects him and should because of the way he competes. It's not even close."

Yes, Levis had some throws he'd want back. He airmailed a throw to a wide open Chris Rodriguez late in the first half that was nearly picked off. He threw a tad behind Wan'Dale Robinson on the next play and then Robinson dropped a pass on fourth down. Tennessee ultimately took the ball and got into field goal range to take a three-point lead into the break.

His biggest mistake of the night came in the third quarter. Levis was baited into an out route to Robinson that was intercepted and returned 56-yards for a touchdown by Alontae Taylor.

"Despite the numbers there are a lot of things that could've gone differently," Levis said. "That interception is a bad decision by me. (Taylor) clouded the field. I can't be throwing a quick-out, breaking route like that because that corner is in the flat responsibility. Just need to do a better job of seeing the big picture and moving on in that progression. I know we've got a lot of things run game wise that could've been cleaner, but we've gotta take the positives too. We've gotta look at the tape and be proud of what we did offensively. But at the same time being as critical as possible to improve ourselves as much as possible."



# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

## **'We want to be first.' Another winning SEC record a building block for UK.**

**By Josh Moore**

**Lexington Herald-leader**

**November 14, 2021**

Kentucky's football season isn't finished yet, but it capped Southeastern Conference play Saturday with a 34-17 victory at Vanderbilt.

The result stopped a three-game losing streak. Each loss was to a league opponent, and each one was disappointing in a different way for a UK team that started 6-0 and teased the notion of earning a New Year's Six bowl game, or even contending for a spot in the College Football Playoff.

The first, to Georgia, eliminated Kentucky from the SEC championship conversation. The second, at Mississippi State, was distressing given that UK was coming off a bye. The third, at home last week, came at the hands of Tennessee — need more be said? A fourth would have been the worst of all, since it would have been league win No. 1 this season for the Commodores, who instead lost their 18th straight SEC game.

Kentucky did what it needed to in front of a friendly crowd — at least 15,000 of the 25,000-plus fans in attendance wore blue in contrast to the black Vanderbilt asked its fans to adorn — and took steps to rekindle the momentum it lost amid its slide. A lackluster showing in the second half kept its flame from getting too bright — UK took a 31-3 lead into halftime but was outscored 14-3 in the second half after Vanderbilt switched from Ken Seals to Mike Wright at quarterback. But with wins off the menu since Oct. 9, UK was more satisfied than not.

"We were hungry for a win," said defensive end Josh Paschal, who had two quarterback sacks. "We hadn't won in like a month, so we were ready to get a win."

With a 5-3 final ledger in the

league, Kentucky ended with a winning record in SEC play for just the second time since 1977. The first, in 2018, also came under Mark Stoops, who earned an automatic extension of his contract by one year by winning his seventh game of the season. Since the league split into divisions in 1992, it is the first time that UK ended league play with sole possession of second place in the East; the 2018 team finished in a tie for second place, as did Stoops' 2016 team.

Kentucky's players and coaches talk a lot about getting to Atlanta. A 5-3 league record isn't going to get teams into the SEC championship game most years, but getting above .500 — period, let alone in the SEC — is still more new in Lexington than it's not. The bar's raising, even if incrementally.

"At the end of the day, we want to be first," Paschal said. "That's our goal. But being second, we're not going to take any moral victories, that's something to build on. These guys, I'm sure they'll come back next year hungry and ready to get after it."

"It's good to set that standard, but of course we're trying to get better and get up to that first spot."

Chris Rodriguez looked the most like himself since the 6-0 start. Newly-inserted starters at the safety spots — Vito Tisdale for Davonte Robinson and Jalen Geiger for Tyrell Ajian — helped give the Cats' struggling defense a different energy to open the game. Youngsters JuTahn McClain (69 yards on 10 rushes) and Izayah Cummings (27 yards and a TD on two catches) demonstrated playmaking ability from the non-Rodriguez and Wan'Dale Robinson categories. Quarterback Will Levis' final stat line wasn't especially noteworthy — 14 of 22 for 177 yards and two touchdowns with an interception — mostly because he started 10 of 12 and all but 21 of those yards came on those first 10 completions. But he didn't take a big step back from his performance against the Volunteers, as he did

coming off other strong showings this season.

For Kentucky, it was ultimately a win from which to grow, for the remainder of this year and into the future. The context of how UK got to it, right now, makes a 5-3 SEC finish taste a bit sour. But as far as bricks go, it could be building with worse.

"I think we have the team, and the talent, and the leadership and the coaching to do that year in and year out," Levis said. "... The SEC, it's tough to do that regardless of who you are or who you're playing. Getting an SEC win on the road and getting a record like that is something to be proud of. I'm happy for my guys and glad to wrap up our SEC schedule this year on a good note."

## **Kentucky football embracing increased expectations**

**By Chris Fisher**

**Cat's Pause**

**November 14, 2021**

Expectations can be fickle.

Once you change the expectations, all of a sudden you have to meet them. That's where Mark Stoops' Kentucky team finds itself 10 games into the 2021 season.

On one hand, the Wildcats got off to its first 6-0 start since 1950, which is no small feat. In the process, UK beat Florida in Lexington for the first time since 1986, recorded its first win over an Associated Press top-10 team since 2010, and beat both Florida and LSU in the same season for the first time since 1977.

On the other, dreams of a New Year's Six bowl game and a possible 10 or even 11-win season were dashed following a 3-game losing streak to Georgia, Mississippi State and Tennessee, eliminating any chance at what some viewed as a once and a lifetime type of season.

Fans now find themselves conflicted after Kentucky's 34-17 win at Vanderbilt Saturday night.

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

The victory not only stopped a 3-game skid, it clinched UK's first outright second place finish in the SEC East since the league split into divisions in 1992. At 5-3, the Wildcats also secured just its second winning record in the SEC since 1977 and its sixth straight win over the Commodores is tied for its longest vs. any SEC opponent.

Kentucky has already qualified for a school record sixth straight bowl game but 7-3 in the shadow of 11-1 or 10-2 doesn't appear quite as significant.

Senior defensive end Josh Paschal says the team embraces those increased expectations.

"We love this game. We love Kentucky football. We love this program. We've poured our heart and soul into this program for the past 4-5 years," Paschal said. "We want to be first. That's our goal. But being second, that's something to build on. We don't want to be satisfied with 7-3. I feel like we set new standards and that's what the fan base is holding us to. At the end of the day, that's what you want to do. Raise the standard every year."

Saturday's win clinched a winning record for the fifth time in Stoops' nine seasons at UK but even that felt tainted. After outscoring Vanderbilt 31-3 in the first half, the Wildcats managed just a fourth quarter field goal in the second.

Quarterback Will Levis looked visibly frustrated in the second half as the Cats were outscored 14-3.

"We came out in the second half with the game plan to put the nail in the coffin and choke them out and finish the game out and we didn't do that," Levis said. "It's games like that where everything is going your way you want to find challenges and things to improve on and that was an area we haven't been able to capitalize on all season. We had an opportunity to do that this game and it didn't come together for us so it is a little frustrating."

A first-year transfer from Penn

State, Levis' perspective isn't colored by the history of Kentucky football.

"I wasn't aware of that but that should be expected from this group," Levis said of UK's winning record in the SEC. "I think we have the team and the talent and the leadership and the coaching year in and year out. We should be able to do that and I'm glad we were able to do that this year and glad we were able to wrap up our SEC schedule on a good note."

As long as he understands that good is no longer good enough.

## **Senior Spotlight: Colin Goodfellow is Dropping Bombs**

**By Nick Roush**

**Kentucky Sports Radio**

**November 18, 2021**

No Max Duffy? No problem, thanks to Colin Goodfellow.

Kentucky had a big hole to fill entering the 2021 football season. Duffy's Australian style worked to perfection over three seasons in Lexington. He set the UK record for career punting average (45.96) and became the first Wildcat to win the Ray Guy Award, given each year to college football's top punter.

Kentucky initially expected to solve its punter problem with another Australian, Wilson Berry. The younger brother of NFL star Jordan Berry and a friend of Duffy's, it appeared a match made un heaven. That all changed when Berry suffered a preseason back injury. After fighting through the nagging injury with subpar punts for two weeks, Kentucky turned to Goodfellow and never looked back.

A walk-on from Cleveland, Goodfellow went to high school with Darian Kinnard at football powerhouse St. Ignatius. He filled in for Duffy a couple of times in 2020, then brought out the boomstick against Chattanooga.

In his first game as the primary punter, Goodfellow launched a ball 59 yards and averaged 50.5 yards per kick. He's kicked nine punts of 50

yards or more, including two 70-yarders. He has also placed 11 balls inside opponents' 20-yard line. Goodfellow averages 47.4 yards per punt, on pace to finish with the second best punting season in school history.

"He's hitting some punts. He is booming some and we have seen that in practice the past couple of years, so it's really nice to see that," Mark Stoops said Monday. "It shows some good depth, and it gave us a different style to become more in the pocket, so it's been good."

Kentucky's special teams have not always been great in 2021 (especially the blocking on field goals). When faced with a significant problem in the punting department, Goodfellow saved the day. His impact on the Wildcats' success in 2021 cannot be overlooked.

## **Gatton on the Gridiron: UK Football Players Balance the Game, Pursuing Master's in Business**

**By Lindsey Piercy**

**UK News**

**November 23, 2021**

From every block and tackle to pass and touchdown, you've cheered them on.

As a Wildcat fan, you've applauded and chanted along with the roaring crowd at Kroger Field as the University of Kentucky football team fights to clinch another victory.

Their accomplishments on the field don't go unnoticed. But what about off the field? Their successes in the classroom don't often make the highlight reel.

"I like seeing the look on people's faces, because obviously, there's the stereotype of, 'you're just a football player,'" Quintin Wilson, center for UK Football, said. "And we really want to take advantage of every opportunity that UK gives us and being part of this program is just another one of those opportunities."

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Overcome obstacles and exceed expectations — that's what Wilson hopes to do as an athlete and as a student.

And he's not alone.

Wilson is one of four football players pursuing a master's degree in the Gatton College of Business and Economics.

Wilson, Luke Fortner (center) and Matthew Ruffolo (kicker) are part of the One Year MBA program, while Will Levis (quarterback) is working toward a Master's of Science in Finance (MSF).

The MBA program is designed for young professionals, recent graduates and emerging leaders across all academic majors. The program aims to help students discover their passions and position them for success in their future careers.

The MSF prepares students for a professional career in the finance and banking industries. The science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program focuses on analytics and data science related skills in courses through Python, Tableau and more.

"When I got the extra year because of COVID, I thought it would be a great idea, and it's all worked out really well," Fortner, who is also pursuing a master's degree from the College of Engineering, said.

It's the silver lining after an unprecedented year. But that doesn't mean balancing life as a student-athlete comes easy.

The stakes are high when it comes to college football. But the stakes are just as high when pursuing a master's degree. It requires diligence to keep up with schoolwork and determination to stay focused at practice.

"Obviously in grad school, you have to do more work than in undergrad, but the program here at UK is great, and they work with us whenever we need help," Ruffolo said.

"It's difficult to be pursuing a degree at a high level, and it's also difficult to be playing football at a high

level," Levis added. "I think it's good for others to see and think, 'if they can do it, why can't I do it too — if not better.'"

And while the payoff isn't as immediate as a win under the bright lights on a Saturday night, Fortner, Levis, Ruffolo and Wilson are interested in playing the long game.

"So far, I think the leadership and management skills that I've learned will help me no matter if I'm in a management role or working toward a management role," Ruffolo said.

"Ultimately, I'd love to be my own boss one day," Wilson added. "And I think this gives you the groundwork to help you become successful."

Though he is proud of his accomplishments, Wilson admits he has a lot of support when it comes to reaching his goals. On and off the field, he has teammates — they serve as his foundation for success.

"The most challenging part is definitely to balance when to focus on football and when to focus on school," Wilson explained. "You feel like you're getting pulled in all angles sometimes, but everyone is supportive. Whenever I do struggle, they are willing to pick me up and help me out."

Bringing true meaning to the phrase — "For the Team."

"We all have a common goal to do well in the classroom and to win games. And we have a support system both in the classroom and on the field," Fortner said. "To be able to lean on each other when things get a little tougher is really big for us."

"I think the most rewarding part is probably going to be at the end of this when you get to tack on the three letters at the end of your name on the resume," Ruffolo added. "Obviously, it's a lot of work, but football doesn't last forever. I think school is really important. Getting this graduate degree is going to help us when we don't have football anymore."

**Will Levis came to UK as a 'running QB.' He had a record day as one against U of L.**

**By Josh Moore**

**Lexington Herald Leader**

**November 28, 2021**

In rushing for four touchdowns in UK's 52-21 win over Louisville, Will Levis did something only six other players in school history have done.

The last to achieve that feat did so against the same school, in much the same fashion: Lynn Bowden set a Governor's Cup record with four rushing TDs as the Wildcats physically dominated the visiting Cardinals in a 45-13 win. With two years to strengthen up in the trenches, U of L in year three under Scott Satterfield looked just as overwhelmed as it did in 2019, the last time these two got together.

Levis feasted to the tune of 113 yards on 14 carries. He was barely touched on all four of his scores, most of them coming on draw plays that UK thought it could have success with coming into Saturday. They worked out better than anyone on the Cats' sideline could have dreamed.

"I knew they were in the game plan but we literally called the same play, I think, four or five times," Levis said. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it, I guess. It's a good play for us."

Kentucky ended with 511 total yards, 362 of them coming on the ground. There were multiple plays ran that were called as passes but that ended with Levis scurrying for double-digit yardage. The Wildcats by no means struggled through the air — Levis was 14 of 18 for 149 yards — but their ability to dominate at the line of scrimmage again gave themselves plenty of open turf.

Throughout the week, UK players and staff who'd played against Louisville felt like they'd have a distinct physical advantage. It didn't take long for first-time rivalry participants to understand why.

"Our staff actually helped me

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

understand, 'We will be more physical, we will be the more physical unit, we will run the football well, you just gotta stick with it,'" Coen said.

That was hard to digest at first, because of how U of L's defense showed up on film, Coen said. UK often put its receivers in wider splits to try and create some cleaner running lanes, and that proved effective, but the Wildcats this week mostly were able to thrive based on the fruits of their past labor.

"They just know where they've had success in the past, and that's something that I'm continuing to learn," Coen said. "Just do what they want to do, do what they're confident in.' It may not always be what I want to do or what I'm comfortable with, or a play I've run a lot of times, but if they know it, they like it and they can execute it, that's what it's all about. It's not about me, it's about what they can do."

Levis was known as a running quarterback at Penn State, from which he transferred ahead of this season. He'd rushed for 274 yards and five touchdowns at UK prior to Saturday, few enough for Satterfield to address the abnormality of his latest effort in the opening statement of his postgame press conference.

He didn't think his team was mismatched physically; he thought it was more about execution and run fits.

"I know there were holes and I know there were guys running free and their quarterback ran," Satterfield said. "One of the plays on third down, we bought pressure and he spins out of a tackle, and he picks up a big first down and they ended up scoring on that drive. That's not a physical mismatch, that's a missed tackle."

Whatever the reason, Levis running around in Cardinal Stadium on Saturday looked a lot like Bowden running around at Kroger Field in 2019. Luke Fortner blocked for both; who's the tougher runner?

"I'd probably go with Will, but I

don't know if you can call him a better runner than Lynn, though," Fortner said.

Levis' success on the ground was even starker contrasted with the relative ineffectiveness of Cardinals star Malik Cunningham, who was held to 35 yards and a touchdown on 11 rushes. He dismissed the notion that the hype surrounding Cunningham and U of L's offense coming into the game motivated him and his teammates.

"He's a great player and he deserves all the attention that he's gotten," Levis said. "I'm just glad the right team came out on top tonight."

## **Wan'Dale Robinson breaks Kentucky football record for catches in a single season**

**By Jon Hale**

**Louisville Courier Journal  
November 27, 2021**

Wide receiver Wan'Dale Robinson needed just one season to leave his mark on the Kentucky football record book.

With a second-quarter reception, his sixth of the game, in the regular season finale against Louisville Saturday, Robinson broke the program's record for most catches in a season. The record was previously held by tight end James Whalen, who totaled 90 receptions in the 1999 season.

"He is an absolute baller," UK coach Mark Stoops said after Kentucky's 52-21 win. "He just really is playing at a super high level. He is so competitive, so tough and so good.

"It's not any one area. He does a lot of things good. He really picks things up. He's intelligent. He makes tough catches, puts the ball away in traffic. Gets banged up and he's trying to go in there and cut people out and crack people in the run game. He's a very complete player."

Robinson's record-setting junior season came in his first year as a Wildcat. The Frankfort native initially

committed to Kentucky's 2019 recruiting class, but he flipped his commitment to Nebraska just more than a month later. After two seasons with the Cornhuskers, Robinson transferred home before the 2021 season.

At Nebraska, Robinson split time between slot receiver and running back, totaling 914 receiving yards and 580 rushing yards with seven total touchdowns. One of his primary goals when entering the transfer portal was to prove he could be a full-time receiver, despite questions about his size at 5-foot-10, 183 pounds.

"(The record) definitely means something to me," Robinson said after UK's win over New Mexico State last week that moved him within five catches of the record. "A lot of people, especially with me transferring, didn't really want to tell me I could be a full-time receiver, do the things I'm doing now.

"Even my old coach, he wanted to tell me I wasn't really a receiver. I just kind of put my head down and worked ever since I got here in the spring. Just wanted to make the impact I could. Now, luckily things are paying off."

Robinson has thrived this season despite accounting for the overwhelming majority of targets from quarterback Will Levis. He was paid even more attention from opposing defenses when super senior wide receiver Josh Ali, the Wildcats' No. 2 option, was sidelined by an injury for two games.

The record-setting season has Robinson in the running for All-SEC honors at wide receiver after being named to multiple preseason All-SEC teams as an all-purpose player.

"That's just all the work I tried to put in," Robinson said. "I wanted to go out there and prove I could really play receiver and I could do this at the highest level in college football, the SEC."

With a stellar bowl performance, Robinson could also break UK's record

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

for most receiving yards in a single season (1,311). After tallying nine catches for 97 yards against Louisville, Robinson has 94 catches for 1,164 yards on the season.

## **Kentucky football signs Mark Stoops to contract extension through 2027 season**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal  
November 30, 2021

Amid speculation tying coach Mark Stoops to multiple high-profile job openings, Kentucky football has made its investment to keep Stoops in Lexington

Stoops has "agreed in principle" to a new contract that will run through the 2027 season, expiring in June 2028. Like his previous deal, the contract includes guaranteed extensions for any season with seven wins (one-year extension) or 10 wins (two-year extension).

Stoops' previous deal was set to expire in June 2027 but could have been extended an additional year with a win in UK's bowl game. The school has not released salary information for the new contract, which is awaiting final signatures.

"We have been in discussion with Coach Stoops in recent weeks and are excited about his ongoing commitment to Kentucky," UK athletic director Mitch Barnhart said in a news release. "Coach Stoops has done an outstanding job in building the UK football program and we look forward to continued success under his leadership."

Stoops had been mentioned as a candidate at Florida and LSU, but those openings were filled by Billy Napier and Brian Kelly respectively. He has also been listed as a candidate for the current open positions at Oklahoma, where his brother Bob was a legendary coach, and Notre Dame.

"I'm excited to continue to build

this program to national prominence," Stoops said in the release. "We're on our way and I'm more confident in Kentucky football than I've ever been.

"I thank President (Eli) Capilouto and Mitch Barnhart for their support. The continuity among us for the last nine years is extremely valuable and I'm looking forward to more success together. Mitch and I came to an agreement a week or two ago and shook hands on it Saturday afternoon. This process is a compliment to our relationship."

After beating Louisville in the regular season finale, Stoops ranks second on UK's career coaching wins list, two shy of Paul "Bear" Bryant for most in program history. His 58-53 record at Kentucky will not turn heads alone, but he is 46-27 since the third game of the 2016 season after winning just 12 of his first 38 games. Stoops already holds the UK records for most home wins (41) and total games coached (111).

He is tied with Fran Curci for most seasons as Kentucky's head coach (nine). No coach has left UK with a winning record since Blanton Collier, who was 41-36 from 1954 to 1961.

Stoops led Kentucky to its first 10-win season since 1977 in 2018 and will coach the Wildcats in their sixth consecutive bowl game later this season. A win in the bowl game would give Kentucky just the third double-digit win season in program history. Kentucky has won three consecutive bowl games.

The Wildcats are 25-25 in SEC play the last six seasons with two winning records in league play in that span. Before Kentucky's historic 2018 season, the program had not posted a winning record in SEC play since 1977.

Stoops' rebuilding project at Kentucky was forged on unprecedented recruiting success.

Each of Stoops' first nine signing classes were ranked in the top 40 nationally by the 247Sports Compos-

ite, including three in the top 30. The 2022 class is poised to be his best yet, currently ranked 13th nationally. The class is headlined by five-star Charles-town, Indiana offensive tackle Kiyaunta Goodwin and four-star Nashville wide receiver Barion Brown.

Prior to Stoops's arrival at Kentucky many pundits predicted the only way the program could win in the SEC was to close the talent gap with the rest of the league by using a gimmicky offense like the "Air Raid" Hal Mumme built in Lexington in the late 1990s, but Stoops was able to recruit and develop enough players to win with a physical, run-first mentality.

Running back Benny Snell became the program's career rushing leader playing for Stoops and running behind an offensive line that was known as one of the best in the SEC.

When the offense became too one-dimensional, Stoops fired coordinator Eddie Gran after the 2020 season and hired Liam Coen to run the offense built by Sean McVay and the Los Angeles Rams. The offense, which still relies heavily only a strong run game to set up play-action passes, averaged 100 more passing yards per game than last season with Coen as coordinator, Penn State transfer Will Levis at quarterback and Nebraska transfer Wan'Dale Robinson at wide receiver.

Stoops' has been aided by financial investment from UK before.

In the early years of Stoops' tenure, Kentucky unveiled a \$120 million stadium renovation and constructed a new \$45 million practice facility. After the 10-win 2018 season, Stoops signed a contract extension that pays him \$5.25 million this season. His salary was scheduled to increase by \$250,000 each year through the end of the contract. He ranks 15th nationally in salary among head coaches at public universities, according to a USA TODAY database.

That contract awarded Stoops an

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

additional \$250,000 per win starting with win No. 9 each season. Every time he wins seven games, the contract was automatically extended by one year. If he wins 10 games, the contract was extended an additional year.

## **Kentucky to face coach Mark Stoops' alma mater - Iowa football - in Citrus Bowl 2021**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

December 5, 2021

Mark Stoops will face a familiar foe in Kentucky football's bowl game.

The No. 22 Wildcats will return to the Citrus Bowl for the second time in four years for a matchup with No. 15 Iowa football, the program where Stoops played from 1986 to 1989. The Citrus Bowl, which has first pick of SEC and Big Ten teams after the playoff committee fills the New Year's Six bowls, took Kentucky over Arkansas and Texas A&M.

Kentucky will play in its sixth consecutive bowl game. The Wildcats have won their last three bowl games, including last season's victory over NC State in the Gator Bowl to cap a 5-6 season. The streak started with a win over Penn State in the Citrus Bowl following the 2018 season.

"Mark has done just a phenomenal job with the program there," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "Little personal aspect to it, but it's going to be a great thrill for us to compete against their football team. We'll have our hands full, I'm sure of that."

With a win in the bowl, UK would secure just the third-double digit win season in program history.

"Obviously like most people, naturally I want 10, 11," Stoops said after UK's regular season finale. "That's human nature. We all want more, but we're just going to keep on working. We're going to keep on growing the program, we're going to keep on re-

cruiting.

"I told you in the summer we were on the right track and I felt good about this team."

A New Year's Day bowl game would represent a successful end to a season had fans dreaming of a possible berth in the playoff after a 6-0 start but had lost almost all its momentum after three consecutive losses to Georgia, Mississippi State and Tennessee.

Kentucky bounced back with wins over overmatched foes Vanderbilt and New Mexico State in November then closed the regular season on a high note with a 52-21 blowout of Louisville in the Governor's Cup rivalry game.

The bowl game should give Kentucky an opportunity to rewrite the narrative of its season.

October wins over Florida and LSU were thought to be marquee victories at the time, but both of those teams have struggled down the stretch and ended up firing their coaches. Kentucky did not beat an FBS team in the regular season with a winning record, but it did beat five teams eligible for a bowl game at 6-6.

A berth in a high-profile New Year's Day bowl, which will be televised on ABC, could help provide momentum in advance of signing day later this month. Kentucky's 2022 recruiting class is currently ranked 16th nationally by the 247Sports Composite and the Wildcats are still pursuing several high-profile transfers.

But most of the attention leading up to the game is like to center around Stoops, who earlier this week agreed in principle to a contract extension with Kentucky.

Stoops agreed to his extension amid reports listing him as a possible candidate for the open jobs at LSU, Florida and Oklahoma, but he has also been mentioned as a logical candidate to replace Ferentz whenever college football's longest-tenured coach decides to retire.

Stoops was a three-year letterman at Iowa (1987-89) and started his coaching career as a graduate assistant for legendary Iowa coach Hayden Fry (1990-91). Ferentz was an offensive line coach for the Hawkeyes while Stoops was a player.

In an interview with The Courier Journal earlier this week, Citrus Bowl CEO Steve Hogan denied setting up the Stoops-vs.-Iowa matchup was a consideration in the bowl's selections, but he acknowledged the bowl would promote that storyline if the two teams were picked.

"His connection in that case would be fun, for sure, but that's not one that goes, 'OK, here it is, that's the reason to do this,'" Hogan said. "It's just one you'd have fun with once you actually put that matchup together."

## **Why playing Iowa in the Citrus Bowl will be special for Kentucky football coach Mark Stoops**

By Jon Hale

Louisville Courier Journal

December 6, 2021

In talking about Kentucky football's opponents, Mark Stoops generally likes to stick to coaching clichés.

The next game is a big game only because it is the next one.

But even Stoops made no effort to hide the importance of Kentucky facing Iowa, the program he and two of his brothers played for in college, in the Citrus Bowl.

"My father has my game jersey from the Hawkeyes very neatly folded and placed in his casket where he's buried with the black and gold," Stoops said in a Zoom news conference Sunday evening after the matchup was confirmed. "It definitely will mean something to me. Different than anybody else I've played, that's for sure."

Bob Stoops lettered at Iowa in four years from 1979 to 1982. Mike Stoops

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

followed with letters in 1981, 1983 and 1984.

Mark, the youngest of the Stoops' brothers, also considered Ohio State and Michigan State as a recruit, but the family's ties to Iowa won out in the end.

"I felt so comfortable with those coaches," Stoops said. "They were really like fathers to me during my time there. They were just such great people, such a great organization. That's what I try to be for our players and try to be and support them during good times and bad."

The headline in the Jan. 24, 1985, edition of the Des Moines Register read, "Another Stoops to play at Iowa," on the day after Mark announced his commitment to legendary coach Hayden Fry's program. Once he got to campus, injuries would derail his career, but Stoops still lettered three times from 1987 to 1989.

Like his brothers, Stoops then started his coaching career as a graduate assistant on Fry's staff.

Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz worked on Fry's staff as the offensive line coach when Iowa was recruiting Stoops. After Stoops' visit to campus, Ferentz remembers then defensive coordinator Bill Brazier shaking his head in incredulity at Stoops' diminutive frame.

"Bill made the comment: If this wasn't a Stoops, I would have sworn there is no way this guy was going to be a college football player," Ferentz said Sunday. "His point was Mark at that time probably looked like he was 15. Just a really young-looking high school senior. Coach Fry had his mind made up on that one already. Certainly, it panned out.

"All three of the boys had tremendous careers here. Not just good careers, tremendous careers. Not surprised at all. Mark has done a wonderful job there with Kentucky's program."

While Stoops' time at Iowa may not have prepared him for a professional

playing career – UK's coach described himself as a "very average player" – it did shape his coaching philosophy.

He joked he might find some film of his playing days to show Kentucky's players during the upcoming month of bowl practices, but the more likely impact will come from his work to build a similar culture at Kentucky to the one Fry built at Iowa. When Stoops' father, Ron, died in 1988, Fry flew to Youngstown, Ohio for the funeral even as his team prepared to face Michigan that weekend.

"It just shows you what kind of people they are," Stoops said.

While Stoops talked about his connection to the Hawkeyes program, UK seniors Luke Fortner and DeAndre Square watched on from their own computer screens while waiting their turn to field questions from reporters.

Asked what it would mean to beat Iowa, Fortner paid Stoops perhaps the highest compliment a player can give a coach.

"He talked a lot about the way he felt when he was at Iowa," Fortner said. "I think the best thing about it is that's the way we feel about Coach Stoops. Feel like the coaching staff here act as father figures to us. They make us feel comfortable, and we know they would do anything for us.

"...To get a win over Iowa for Coach Stoops, it would truly mean a lot to us. He works his butt off for us, and his coaching staff works as hard as they can for us. To be able to reward him with that win would be big for us."

## **Citrus Bowl against Iowa conjures unique emotions for Kentucky, Mark Stoops**

**By Josh Moore**

**Lexington Herald-Leader  
December 6, 2021**

Mark Stoops isn't sure how emotional the Wildcats' matchup with Iowa in the Citrus Bowl will be.

Stoops' father, Ron, was buried with the jersey that Mark wore while playing for the Iowa Hawkeyes. He and two of his brothers, Bob and Mike, played at and got their coaching careers kick-started with the Hawkeyes. Mark recalls playing in high school football games on Friday nights and then driving 10 hours overnight from Struthers, Ohio, to Iowa City, Iowa, to watch his brothers play. "It's hard to put into words what the Iowa program has meant to us," Kentucky's head coach said.

The program that helped groom Stoops and two of his brothers into Power Five football coaches now stands between UK and its fourth season with 10 or more wins in school history. Kentucky won its final three games to finish 9-3 in the regular season and the No. 22 spot in the final College Football Playoff rankings. Iowa, the Big Ten championship runner-up, was 15th in those same rankings. Kentucky made its Citrus Bowl debut just three seasons ago after finishing 9-3 in the 2018 season. The Wildcats toppled Penn State, 27-24, in that edition of the game. That win has since seemed to resonate with recruits, and another victory in front of a national television audience — the game will be broadcast by ABC — could yield similar value for a team trying to climb the ranks in the Southeastern Conference.

What might resonate more, though, is Stoops' recent commitment to the school; he last week agreed to a contract extension through the, at least, the 2027 season, following a few weeks of speculation that saw his named linked to several prominent openings across the country. "What does the University of Kentucky mean to me? It means everything to me," Stoops said. "... It's been a really good marriage between the University of Kentucky and myself. There's ups and there's downs, but it's always that way." Contract details aren't yet

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

available, but reports surfaced prior to the announcement of Stoops' extension that he was hoping UK would make progress on the development of a new indoor training facility and expand the salary pool for his assistant coaches. "We're working through it," Stoops said of those items. "I've had a great relationship with Dr. (Eli) Capilouto and (Athletic Director) Mitch (Barnhart). I have a lot of trust in those guys and we talked about it prior to the agreement. I'm sure we'll continue to work our way through it. It's not like it's just a simple answer on some things."

Two of the players who've contributed the most to UK's recent ascension — offensive lineman Luke Fortner and linebacker DeAndre Square — had contrasting experiences the last time Kentucky went to Orlando. Fortner, then playing guard but now the Cats' starting center, was sidelined due to an injury suffered during practice in the week before the game. Square made his first career start against Penn State and has since started in 34 of UK's last 35 games. He'd played a lot prior to this season, but Square took on a greater leadership role coming into the 2021 campaign. He's among several seniors who could return for an additional year of eligibility under the NCAA's COVID-19 waiver but has not yet decided what he'll do. "I'm glad that we get a chance to get back down into Orlando to play a bowl game," said Square, a Detroit native. "It was fun being down there my freshman year, so to do it again my senior year, to come full circle? I think it'll be pretty fun." Fortner described this opportunity as a "do-over" for him. The 6-foot-7 lineman could describe the entire 2021 season that way; he might have gotten selected late in the 2021 NFL Draft but, by demonstrating his effectiveness in a completely different role this year, his chances of making an NFL roster in 2022 improved drastically. On a

personal level, Fortner and UK's other linemen will have an opportunity to showcase their talents in the same game as that of Iowa, consistently one of the nation's best units and which boasts Tyler Linderbaum, the Big Ten Offensive Lineman of the Year. UK's offensive line recently was named as a semifinalist for the Joe Moore Award, a distinction it earned for the fourth time in the last six years.

"I've watched their offensive line quite a bit," Fortner said of Iowa. "They play hard, they're a hard-nosed unit. ... I definitely think there's gonna be some pride going into it. Their defense is doing really well and defending against the run this year, and they haven't given up many points in each of their games. It's definitely going to be a pride thing."

## NOTES

Stoops joked during his availability that he would break out film from his playing days at Iowa to lighten the mood during some of UK's practices leading up to the Citrus Bowl. "I was not very impressive as a player, that's for sure," Stoops said. "I loved my time there, did the best I could, and I'm not going to make any excuses, but back then when you tore up a knee, it was a little different than it is right now." Stoops earned a starting job his junior year. His father died during the same week he suffered that knee injury.

"I got back from my father's funeral on Wednesday and I blew out my knee against Michigan on Saturday," Stoops said.

## **New Troy coach Jon Sumrall explains why he'll coach with Kentucky in Citrus Bowl**

**By John Clay**  
**Lexington Herald-Leader**  
**December 07, 2021**

Though he now has a new job, Jon Sumrall wants to finish his old one.

The new head football coach at Troy said Monday he will coach the linebackers for Kentucky in the Wildcats' Citrus Bowl game against Iowa on Jan. 1, 2022.

"I am going to coach in the bowl game," Sumrall told reporters in a conference call. "Coach (Mark) Stoops and I have communicated. Mr. (Mitch) Barnhart and I have communicated about it, as well. The plan is for me to coach in the bowl game."

"I'd love to get win No. 10 and coaching some of those young men there that mean so much to me. I really will cherish one more opportunity to go out with those guys that I've had the opportunity to coach at Kentucky." An assistant at Troy from 2015-18 under Neal Brown, Sumrall spent the past three seasons at his alma mater. He was named Troy's new head coach last Thursday. A native of Huntsville, Ala., Sumrall replaces Chip Lindsey, who went 15-19 in three seasons at the Sun Belt Conference school.

Asked to expound on why it was important for him to coach one more game with Kentucky, Sumrall said, "The University of Kentucky is important to me. The young men on that football team are important to me. Getting win No. 10 is important to me, and finishing the job."

Sumrall told reporters that after a knee injury ended his career at Kentucky, former UK coach Rich Brooks was instrumental in starting him in coaching. He also talked about what he learned from being on Mark Stoops' staff at Kentucky. "I think Coach Stoops really understands how to evaluate the most important critical factors to building a great program and emphasizing those," Sumrall said. "He's very detailed, very thorough. He has a great relationship with our players. As a head coach, he's so engaged to the pulse of our team. The guys on the roster at Kentucky understand how much he cares about them."

After being named head coach at



# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Troy, Sumrall flew back to Lexington for UK's recruiting visits. He returned with his family to Alabama on Sunday night and said he will spend the next two weeks at Troy before rejoining UK for the bowl game.

"I really want to emphasize that, yeah, I'm doing this job right now, and that's what's next, but I'm going to finish this job before I fully move on," said the coach. "Most of my attention the next couple of weeks is going to be on Troy. I'll do things here and there for Kentucky. And I'll continue to do whatever Coach Stoops asks of me, but at the same time next couple of weeks I'll be busy here.

"But I'm coaching the (bowl) game because I want to finish the job. I want to finish it for Coach Stoops. I want to finish it with (defensive coordinator) Brad White. I want to finish it for the linebackers I coach. I want to finish it for the university. I want to see us get to 10 wins and finish in the top 25."

## **'It was actually one of the best days of my life.' Will Levis recalls Iowa offer.**

**By Josh Moore**

**Lexington Herald Leader**

**December 9, 2021**

The Country School, the Connecticut private school that Kentucky quarterback Will Levis attended through eighth grade, didn't have a football team, so he had to settle for playing in local leagues until he enrolled at Xavier High School.

The New England area isn't traditionally regarded as a producer of high-level football prospects, but Levis says he's been encouraged by the number of players he's seen get major offers from his state in recent years. (Example: Michigan signed a defensive lineman and offensive tackle, the No. 2 and No. 3 players in the state, out of Connecticut as part of the 2021 class.)

His road to Power Five football was in large part the product of personal

tenacity and parents who were willing to spend the energy, time and money needed to put him in front of as many eyeballs as possible.

"Because of where I'm from, it changed how I had to approach the recruiting process a lot," Levis told the Herald-Leader. "I really had to scratch and claw, go to camps and make a name for myself. People didn't really know who I was at the time. ... There was a time when I thought nobody would recruit me, that nobody would take a shot on me."

Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz noted on Sunday, during a news conference following the announcement that his team would play Kentucky in the Citrus Bowl, that his school was the first Power Five program to offer Levis. The UK quarterback, who played his first three seasons at Penn State, recalled that moment.

"It was actually one of the best days of my life," Levis said.

Ken O'Keefe, Iowa's quarterbacks coach, attended a rival high school in Connecticut and was the man who invited Levis to the camp at which he received an offer.

"I don't know if I'd be here right now if that hadn't happened," Levis said. "They were right at the top of my list until the very end. I had to make a choice between them and Penn State, those were my final two picks. I went with Penn State but Iowa's a great place. I loved it and have all the respect in the world for Coach Ferentz."

## **Stoops, Marrow Land Top Football Recruiting Class in Kentucky History**

**By Tim Letcher**

**UK Athletics**

**December 16, 2021**

Wednesday was National Signing Day, the day when players sign their National Letters of Intent to play their college football for a particular school. Through Wednesday evening, Ken-

tucky had signed 21 players and had a recruiting class that ranked in the top 20 nationally.

Still, there was one huge piece, literally, that was missing from the class.

That issue was resolved on Thursday when five-star offensive lineman Kiyaunta Goodwin put pen to paper and signed with the Cats.

Goodwin was the number one player in the state of Indiana this season. He was the number two offensive tackle and No. 13 player overall in the nation, as ranked by 247Sports.

After waiting 24 hours to get the official paperwork on Goodwin, UK head coach Mark Stoops was excited to welcome him to the UK family.

"We are happy to welcome Kiyaunta, the big fellow, into our organization," Stoops said on Thursday. "As I told him last night, welcome to the program but it feels like you've been a part of it for nearly a year now, or more. We've recruited and known Kiyaunta since he was in eighth grade. We've known him for a long time. Terrific young man. Unbelievable football player and we're excited to add him to our program."

Goodwin had committed to UK a few months ago but a few other schools made late runs at him, trying to pry him away from the Cats. Asked whether he was nervous about losing Goodwin, Stoops was honest.

"I wouldn't say nervous," Stoops said. "It's just constant work. We got it done."

Goodwin is a 6-8, 340-pound offensive lineman. But for Stoops, it wasn't just his size.

"Number one, it's very rare to see a human being move at that size," Stoops said. "He is unbelievably athletic for his size. He can move his feet, he can do a lot of things and that's rare for someone his size."

Stoops knows that Goodwin was a highly-coveted prospect.

"This is a young man who could truly play anywhere in the United

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

States," Stoops said. "Any college in the country would take his signature today."

Stoops does not rule out Goodwin playing as a true freshman.

"I would never put it past him," Stoops said. "Yes, he has that ability."

The class is not only Goodwin. There are plenty of talented pieces that make up this group. Stoops touched on a number of them on Thursday.

Alex Afari, DB – "Alex Afari, we had people going to extreme lengths right down to the wire to try to get him away from us, and Alex has been committed to us for some time. He's a DB, a big corner that can also be very versatile, playing in that medium position that we know is so important for us and could play safety. He's a guy that's a five-position player in my eyes, just a terrific football player."

Kobi Albert, DB – "Kobi we just mentioned, one of the best athletes we've recruited, can play multiple positions."

Grant Bingham, OL – "A guy from right here in Kentucky, Paintsville, big, physical guy, highly recruited, four-star guy, terrific player, is going to help us."

Barion Brown, WR – "Barion Brown, as high as a five-star with certain people, extremely explosive. Hopefully he comes in and helps us right away."

Tyreese Fearby, DE – "Tyreese Fearby out of Pittsburgh, great outside linebacker, that length that we were talking about that with needed."

Zah Frazier, Juco DB – "Zah Frazier, big-time length, 6'3" corner, junior college player, one of the top junior college players in the country that we needed. I wanted that size at corner."

Dane Key, WR – "Dane Key is a terrific football player. He's also very mature. He's very intelligent, works extremely hard."

Destin Wade, ATH/QB and Keaten Wade, LB – "Destin Wade, a quarterback, but a terrific player. Him and his brother Keaten, two terrific players

out of Tennessee. Took their team to the state championship game, top players in Tennessee, terrific people, great leaders. Going to be unbelievable fits for us."

Deone Walker, DT – "Deone Walker as I mentioned was a big, big get. Coach Wolford did a great job going into Detroit and keeping that streak alive and continuing to recruit and beat some terrific teams on him, and we felt good but never really secure. It was a battle all the way to the end, and Coach Wolf did a tremendous job with him."

Stoops knows that all of his staff's hard work has paid off with this tremendous class.

"It's always a battle and a fight," Stoops said. "To the best of my recollection, we've never been ranked in the SEC. I've never been ranked ahead of ninth."

It's also a historic class for Kentucky.

"By national experts, it's my understanding that this is the best class the University of Kentucky has ever signed," Stoops said. "That's the way we understand it."

The 2022 signing class continues the elevation of the Kentucky program, one that Stoops has overseen since his arrival in Lexington.

**Football Cats Impressed with What They See from Iowa**  
**By Tim Letcher**  
**UK Athletics**  
**December 17, 2021**

Now that finals and National Signing Day are over, No. 22 Kentucky can turn its attention to their opponent in the Citrus Bowl, 15th-ranked Iowa.

The Hawkeyes, like the Cats, opened their season with six straight victories. Iowa beat Indiana, Iowa State, Kent State, Colorado State, Maryland and Penn State and, in doing so, rose to number two in the national rankings.

Also like the Cats, the Hawkeyes had some bumpy roads in the middle of the season. After opening 6-0, Iowa was upset, at home, by unranked Purdue and followed that with a loss as Wisconsin.

Iowa would close out its regular season by beating Northwestern, Minnesota, Illinois and Nebraska. By finishing 10-2 and 7-2 in the Big Ten, the Hawkeyes won their division and advanced to the Big Ten title game.

There, they ran into a buzzsaw that called itself Michigan. The Wolverines beat the Hawkeyes 42-3 in Indianapolis.

Still, at 10-3, Iowa has put together a most impressive season, one that will culminate with a game against Kentucky in Orlando in New Year's Day.

Veteran head coach Kirk Ferentz leads the Hawkeyes and is in his 23rd season in Iowa City. Ferentz likes his offense simple and his defense complex, something that the Cats have discovered on film.

The Hawkeyes have run the ball 477 times this season while passing on just 374 occasions. Those numbers tell the UK defense that Iowa will be running the ball, something that senior Marquan McCall seems to favor.

"We are really excited because it's an old-school offense and that's what we like," McCall said. "We like for teams to run the ball and to give us some more challenges. We're prepared and ready to go."

McCall's job against Iowa will be especially tough as he squares off with Tyler Linderbaum, who is widely regarded as the best center in the country and a likely first-round pick in next year's NFL Draft. McCall plans to be up for the challenge.

"I'm really excited. I always like competition," McCall said. "It's just exciting to get to go against him and show him what I got and for him to show me what he's got."

On the other side of the ball, the Hawkeyes have one of the nation's best defenses. That's because they

# KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

do a lot of things very well, according to UK All-American tackle Darian Kinnard.

"Their defense is very technical," Kinnard said. "They are pretty big, they're very stout when they play. They don't miss a lot of tackles. Their linebackers have over 100 tackles, one of their (defensive) lineman has like 50. They're very technical guys and they're going to play throughout the whole game."

As the Cats continue to prepare for Iowa, as well as preparing for a trip to Florida, Kinnard is enjoying one last ride with his teammates. And he has advice for the younger players.

"Throughout this whole break before bowl game, I would say enjoy the time," Kinnard said. "It is a daily grind but I would say have fun with it. Have fun, don't burn yourself out and enjoy the process."

That process includes learning more about Iowa each and every day, something UK will continue to do right up until game time.