HEAD COACH SAM PITTMAN

Sam Pittman enters his sixth season as the Head Coach of the Arkansas Razorbacks and is coming off his third straight bowl victory, making him the only Arkansas coach in program history to win each of his first three bowl games. Pittman's sixth season atop the program matches the tenure of Ken Hatfield as only five coaches have served longer as the Head Hog over the program's 130 seasons.

After inheriting a program that had won eight total games and just one Southeastern Conference game in the previous three seasons, Pittman's Razorbacks have won 30 games in his five seasons at the helm. Pittman has navigated the Hogs through the pandemic-shortened 2020 season that featured 10 SEC games, while leading the Razorbacks from a 4-20 record in the two seasons prior to his arrival to being ranked in the Top 20 after just 12 games as the head coach to eventually the Top 10 in consecutive seasons.

Pittman's fifth Arkansas team qualified for a bowl game for the fourth time under his leadership in 2024 and made him the first Arkansas coach in program history to win each of his first three bowl games with a 39-26 triumph over Texas Tech in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl to put the finishing touches on a 7-6 campaign.

The offense was the headliner for the Razorbacks in 2024 with a revamped system led by first-year offensive coordinator and former Hogs head coach Bobby Petrino. First-year quarterback Taylen Green was impressive after transferring from Boise State, leading the offense to 5,973 total yards – fourth-most in a single season in program history. Arkansas' 459.5 yards per game ranked 10th in the FBS and second in the SEC. The offense's assault on the record book included rushing touchdowns (T-2nd, 34), total offense per game (4th, 459.5), passing first downs (4th, 150), passing yards (5th, 3,571) and passing yards per game (5th, 274.7). Green was exceptional, finishing the season with 3,756 total yards and just 40 yards shy of breaking Ryan Mallett's school record. Green became the fifth Arkansas quarterback to eclipse 3,000 yards passing and the first since 2016. Wide receiver Andrew Armstrong also etched his name in the Arkansas record book with one of the best seasons ever by a Razorback pass catcher. Armstrong led the SEC in receptions (78), receiving yards (1,140) and receiving yards per game (103.6) as the only player in the league to average over 100 receiving yards per game. His 78 receptions, 1,140 receiving yards and five 100-yard games all rank second all-time at Arkansas in a single season.

Armstrong led a quartet of Hogs to earn All-SEC honors from the league's coaches with Fernando Carmona, Landon Jackson and Xavian Sorey Jr. all earning recognition. Running back Ja'Quinden Jackson picked up All-SEC honors from the Associated Press after rushing for 15 touchdowns.

A pair of Hogs were called in the third round of the NFL Draft when Isaac TeSlaa (70th overall) and Landon Jackson (72nd overall) were selected by Detroit and Buffalo, respectively. The selection of TeSlaa and Jackson ran the Hogs' streak to 30 consecutive Drafts with a Razorback being drafted, the 11th-longest streak in the nation. TeSlaa became the highest selected Arkansas wide receiver since Treylon Burks went in the first round in 2022. Jackson's selection in the third round made him the highest drafted Arkansas defensive lineman since Jamaal Anderson was the eighth overall selection in 2007.

The Arkansas defense made huge improvements in 2023, improving in nearly every defensive category. The impact of first-year defensive coordinator Travis Williams along with first-year co-defensive coordinator Marcus Woodson was evident as the defense posted its best total yards against in a decade, allowing 357.2 yards for an improvement of over 100 yards per game from the previous season. The team's pass defense clamped down on opponents allowing just 202.8 yards per game to finish fourth in the league and post the best season total at Arkansas since 2011. The defense was also good at finding the end zone, leading the nation in defensive touchdowns by taking five of the team's 17 turnovers to the house. Defensive end Landon Jackson earned First-Team All-SEC honors from the league's coaches after leading the Hogs in tackles for loss (13.5) and sacks (6.5). Defensive back Hudson Clark was named a First-Team Academic All-American with his stellar academic standing that saw him named a semifinalist for the Campbell Trophy to go with 51 tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss and an interception.



Quarterback KJ Jefferson rewrote the career record book for a quarterback at Arkansas, setting new career marks for passing yards (7,911), passing touchdowns (67), completions (626), total yards (9,787), touchdown responsibility (88) and total plays (1,485). He became just the second player in school history to be named a team captain for a third season and first since Herbert Fishback captained three of the program's first four teams from 1895-97. Transfer offensive lineman Josh Braun picked up Second-Team All-SEC accolades from the Associated Press. The Hogs also earned praise from the league's coaches for special teams with kicker Cam Little picking up a first-team recognition and punter Max Fletcher a second-team nod.

Two Razorbacks heard their name came called in the NFL Draft when the Jacksonville Jaguars made Cam Little the youngest kicker ever selected in the Draft when they tabbed him in the sixth round. Five picks later, Beaux Limmer was picked by the Los Angeles Rams to make it 13 of the last 14 NFL Drafts to have at least one Hog called.

The 2022 season ended in Memphis, Tenn. with a thrilling triple overtime 55-53 victory over Kansas in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl to clinch Pittman's second bowl game and give the Razorbacks seven wins. The Liberty Bowl victory was emblematic of the entire season that saw numerous key players miss time with injuries, six starters missed the bowl game for various reasons.

Arkansas opened the season ranked 19th nationally, claiming a spot in the Associated Press Top 25 preseason poll for the first time since 2015. A victory over No. 23 Cincinnati in the season opener vaulted the Hogs back into the Top 10, marking back-to-back seasons in the Top 10 for the first time since reaching it three straight seasons 2010-12.

Linebacker Bumper Pool became the school's all-time leading tackler late in the season. His 92 tackles in his final season pushed him past long time record holder Tony Bua with 441 tackles. Pool earned All-SEC honors for the third consecutive season, earning a second-team nod from the league's coaches. Overall, 13 Hogs earned various postseason accolades led by unanimous All-American Drew Sanders. Sanders was phenomenal in his lone season on The Hill leading the team 103 tackles, 13.5 tackles for loss and 9.5 sacks to earn All-America honors from the AP (first team), American Football Coaches Association (second), Football Writers Association of America (second), The Sporting News (second) and Walter Camp Football Foundation (second). He also became the first Razorback in history to be named a finalist for the Butkus Award. Ricky Stromberg became the fourth Hog to win the Jacobs Blocking Trophy, given annually to the SEC's top offensive lineman. Stromberg was an honorable mention All-American according to Pro Football Focus and also a unanimous First-Team All-SEC pick. Beaux Limmer was tabbed a Third-Team All-American by PFF and freshman linebacker Chris Paul Jr. was named a Freshman All-American by College Football News and The Athletic.

Sanders was joined by Stromberg as third round draft picks in the NFL Draft in April. Sanders was selected by Denver with Stromberg going to Washington to extend Arkansas' streak of at least one player being selected to 28 straight drafts.

Pittman's staff once again delivered on the recruiting trail, landing a Top 20 class according to Rivals for the first time since 2019 and the best since 2009. The transfer portal also proved to be productive for the staff with 247Sports ranking the transfer class as the No. 11 class in the nation.

Pittman pushed the program back onto the national scene in 2021. The Razorbacks won nine games, including an Outback Bowl victory over Penn State, for the program's most wins in a decade. Arkansas finished the season ranked No. 21 in the Associated Press Poll and No. 20 in the USA Today Coaches' Poll, ending the season ranked for the first time since 2011.

The Hogs started the 2021 season 4-0 and rose to No. 8 in the Associated Press poll early in the season – the team's highest

ranking since 2011 – and later set a program first by being ranked in consecutive College Football Playoff rankings after the Razorbacks beat No. 17 Mississippi State. For the first time in history, the Hogs also captured all three of the program's trophy games, beating No. 7 Texas A&M in the Southwest Classic, winning at LSU to recapture the Golden Boot and topping Missouri in the season finale to earn the Battle Line Rivalry trophy. Pittman and the Razorbacks entered the postseason with eight wins – the most regular season victories at Arkansas since 2011 – before adding a fourth trophy to the case with a 24-10 win over the Nittany Lions in Tampa, Fla. at the Outback Bowl.

Grant Morgan became the first Razorback in history to win the Burlsworth Trophy – given annually to the nation's best player who started his career as a walk-on – and just the 16th Hog ever to earn Walter Camp Football Foundation All-America honors. Earlier that spring, Treylon Burks became the first Arkansas player to be selected in the first round of the NFL Draft since 2018 when Pittman protégé Frank Ragnow was taken 20th overall. Burks went 16th overall to Tennessee after being named a First-Team All-SEC wide receiver. Montaric Brown earned All-SEC first team honors this past season before being selected by the Jacksonville Jaguars. Burks and Brown were joined by John Ridgeway (Dallas Cowboys) to give Arkansas their most players selected in the NFL Draft since 2019.

Under the first-year head coach in 2020, Arkansas compiled a 3-7 record against an ultra-challenging SEC-only schedule in a season marred by the COVID-19 pandemic. In week two, the Razorbacks defeated No. 16 Mississippi State on the road, 21-14, snapping a 20-game SEC losing streak and claiming their first win against a ranked team since November 2016. Pittman oversaw immediate change on both sides of the ball with the offense averaging 51 more total yards per game and the defense forcing seven more interceptions than the 2019 team. Linebacker Grant Morgan earned Walter Camp second-team All-America honors, becoming the 16th Razorback in program history to earn the nod from the nation's oldest All-America team. Pittman guided the Razorbacks to their 43rd all-time bowl berth, becoming the fifth coach in school history to lead the team to a bowl in his first season and first since Houston Nutt in 1998 (Florida Citrus Bowl). The 2020 Texas Bowl, however, was canceled due to COVID-19 issues within TCU's program.

Before his return to Fayetteville, Pittman spent four seasons on staff at Georgia, including the 2019 season when he served as associate head coach and offensive line coach for the Bulldogs. He arrived in Athens in 2016 as the offensive line coach as part of Kirby Smart's first staff. In his four seasons with the Bulldogs, Pittman helped Georgia to unprecedented success including three-straight Southeastern Conference Eastern Division titles. Pittman's linemen paved the way for the Bulldogs' rushing attack in 2019 led by D'Andre Swift, who finished fourth in the league with 1,216 yards just ahead of Arkansas' Rakeem Boyd (1,133). Andrew Thomas, Isaiah Wilson and Solomon Kindley led the way up front on Pittman's o-line and later heard their names called in the NFL Draft with Thomas and Wilson going in the first round.

The 2017 Bulldogs were a special team, winning 13 games, the SEC championship and making the school's first-ever College Football Playoff appearance – a win over Oklahoma in the Rose Bowl. Georgia's offense that year was the best in the SEC and ninth nationally in rushing, led by Nick Chubb and Sony Michel. During his four seasons in Athens, he was part of a staff that produced four Top 10 recruiting classes, including the nation's No. 1 class in 2018.

An original member of Bret Bielema's staff at Arkansas in 2013, Pittman helped build the Razorbacks' offensive line into one of the league's best. He quickly made an impact, helping Travis Swanson earn first-team All-America honors and Rimington Trophy finalist honors in 2013. His first two offensive lines at Arkansas led the SEC in sacks allowed per game and his offensive line in 2014 paved the way for two



1,000-yard rushers in Jonathan Williams and Alex Collins. The unit averaged 328.4 pounds per player, making it the largest offensive line in the FBS and NFL that season.

In Pittman's final year in Fayetteville his offensive line contributed to an offense that finished second in the SEC in total offense (456.8 ypg), second in scoring (40.2 ppg) and third in passing offense (264.2 ypg). During his tenure with the Razorbacks, Pittman mentored some of the best offensive linemen at Arkansas in recent memory, including Swanson, Sebastian Tretola, Dan Skipper and Frank Ragnow.

The Oklahoma native has coached at seven different Power 5 schools during his 33 years of collegiate coaching, including Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, North Carolina and Tennessee. With a wealth of experience, Pittman is widely regarded as one of the nation's best offensive line coaches. He has coached 36 players that have been selected in the NFL Draft during his career, including first round picks Treylon Burks (18th in 2022), Andrew Thomas (4th in 2020), Isaiah Wilson (29th in 2020), Ragnow (20th in 2018), Isaiah Wynn (23rd overall in 2018), Ja'Wuan James (19th overall in 2014) and Jonathan Cooper (7th overall in 2013).

Overall, Pittman has coached seven offensive linemen that were selected in the first round of the NFL Draft, including Stockar McDougle (20th overall in 2000). Swanson also became the highest drafted Razorback center in school history at the time when he was picked 76th overall in 2014.
Pittman's coaching career began in 1987 as the head coach at Princeton (Mo.) HS. He coached at Hutchinson (Kan.) CC for three seasons, including the final two as the head coach, before getting his first FBS opportunity as Northern Illinois' offensive line coach in 1994. He later returned to NIU to help the Huskies to a pair of division championships and two bowl games and was the first assistant head coach in program history. While in DeKalb, Pittman's offensive line paved the way for Garrett Wolfe and Michael Turner, two standout running backs. Wolfe led the nation rushing for 1,928 yards in 2006, while Turner finished second in the nation as a senior at Northern Illinois in 2003 with 1,648 yards.

Pittman got his first experience in the SEC in 2012 when he joined the staff at Tennessee.

Pittman played defensive end at Pittsburg State, where he was a first-team NAIA All-American and twice earned all-conference recognition. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in education in 1986 and was inducted into the PSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998. As a senior at Grove High School, Pittman won the state Class 3A shot put title.

He and his wife, Jamie, reside in Fayetteville.

THE PITTMAN FILE

BIRTHDATE: Nov. 28, 1961
BIRTHPLACE: El Reno, Okla.
HIGH SCHOOL: Grove HS – Grove, Okla.
COLLEGE: Pittsburg State (Kan.), 1986 B.S. Education
FAMILY: Wife – Jamie

FOOTBALL STAFF



SCOTT FOUNTAIN

Assistant Head Coach/ Special Teams Coordinator

Scott Fountain is in his sixth season as the Razorbacks' assistant head coach and special teams coordinator having worked under Head Coach Sam Pittman since his arrival in 2020.

Fountain's special teams units featured several new faces in 2024 with the Razorbacks replacing the team's kicker, punter and long snapper. The Hogs held steady with kickers Matthew Shipley and Kyle Ramsey combining to make 17-of-24 (70.8%) field goals on the season, including 3-for-3 from 50+ yards, to match the tenth-most field goals made in a single season in school history. Shipley was good on 10 of his 12 field goal attempts (83.3%) to equal the fifth-best season by an Arkansas kicker with his 55-yard boot vs. Ole Miss cracking the program's all-time top 10 longest field goals. Shipley put his name in the record books the week prior with 16 points – third-most in a single game in program history – in the win at Mississippi State. Devin Bale took over the team's punting duties and proved to be one of the better punters in the Southeastern Conference, averaging 45.2 yards per punt. Bale would have ranked fifth in the league and in the top 15 nationally if he had punted enough to qualify. That average would have also been good enough for sixth on the Arkansas all-time list. He averaged over 50 yards per punt for three consecutive games during the season, including 57.3 yards per punt in the win over No. 4 Tennessee to rank fifth for a single game in Arkansas history. Ashton Ngo won the snapping job during camp and was flawless in his first season handling all long snapping duties, adding a pair of tackles during the season.

The Hogs' special teams placed three specialists on All-SEC teams in 2023 led by Cam Little, who was named first-team as a kickoff specialist thanks to leading the league with an 85.5% touchback rate. Punter Max Fletcher earned second-team honors and return specialist Isaiah Sategna was voted to the Freshman All-SEC squad. Fletcher was impressive in his second year, averaging 46.9 yards per punt with 23 boots of 50+ yards and 19 downed inside the 20-yard line. Fletcher's 46.9 per punt average is the second-best in a single season in Arkansas history with his 2,770 total yards checking in at eighth-most for a single season. He also recorded two of the best games by a punter in Razorback history, averaging 54.7 yards per punt vs. Texas A&M for the seventh-best average in a game by a Hog and 53.9 yards per punt at Alabama to place 10th on the single-game records. Sategna made it three straight seasons for an Arkansas punt returner to take a punt back for a score when he raced 88 yards to the end zone vs. BYU. His 88-yard is the fourth-longest punt return for a touchdown in school history. He also put his name in the record book that night with 169 total return yards – third-most in a single game by a Razorback. His 680 total return yards rank sixth in a single season in school history.

Fountain's work with Little transformed him into a sixth-round NFL Draft pick (Jacksonville) and the youngest kicker to ever be selected following a legendary career as a Hog. The Moore, Okla. native joined the program's lengthy list of elite kickers, leaving Arkansas with his name all over the record book. He is the most accurate field goal kicker in school history having made 82.8% of his kicks in his career, including two of the best five single seasons ever by a Razorback. Little sits inside the top 10 of every career kicking category in school history, including field goal attempts (64 – 6th), field goals made (53 – T3rd), field goal percentage (.828 – 1st), PAT attempts (129 – 5th), PATs made (129 – 3rd) and points in kick scoring (288 – 2nd). He also added his name to the list of longest field goals in program history with a 56-yard kick (7th longest) at Ole Miss followed by a 54-yarder (8th longest) at Alabama the following week. Little left Arkansas ranked second all-time with seven field goals of 50+ yards after connecting on four in 2023, including the 56-yarder against the Rebels that was the longest by a Razorback since 1988.

Arkansas' special teams were steady once again under the watchful eye of Fountain in 2022. Three specialists picked up postseason honors with kickoff specialist Jake Bates earning First-Team All-SEC accolades from the league's coaches, kicker Cam Little being named to the SEC Community Service Team and freshman long snapper Eli Stein earning Freshman All-SEC status. Bates was a weapon for the Razorbacks in his lone season, recording 64 touchbacks on his 75 kickoffs for a nation-best 85.3%. Little produced a solid sophomore season, leading the team with 89 points thanks to 13-of-16 on field goals and a perfect 50-for-50 on PATs. Little continued to add his name to the Arkansas record book by moving into the all-time top 10 in field goals made (33 – 9th), PAT attempts (96 – 8th), PATs made (96 – 8th) and kick scoring (195 – T-10th). In just two seasons, Little has two of the top 10 kick scoring seasons in program history with his 106 points in 2021 ranking third and his 89 points from 2022 placing him 10th.

In the return game, Bryce Stephens made it two years in a row for the Hogs with a punt return for a touchdown when he took a punt 82 yards to the house to ignite a comeback win over Missouri State in the third game of the season. Stephens' 105 return yards against the Bears put him eighth all-time in a single game in school history. Punter Reid Bauer moved into the career top 10 in punts with 179 in his career to rank sixth on the all-time school list with his 7,519 yards ranking him sixth all time at Arkansas. Bauer's 78-yard boot at Auburn matched the 10th-longst punt in school history.

Fountain's work on Arkansas' special teams started to take shape during the 2021 season. Freshman kicker Cam Little was an immediate difference maker for the Razorbacks, earning Freshman All-America and SEC All-Freshman honors. Little made 20 of his 24 field goals (.833) and all 46 of his PATs to lead Arkansas in scoring with 106 points. His 20 made field goals matched Todd Wright's total from 1989 for the third-most in a single season by a Razorback. Little also matched the third-most field goals in a game by a Razorback with four in a win over Texas and booted a walk-off winner at LSU in overtime.

Long snapper Jordan Silver was an unsung hero for the Hogs, earning Third-Team All-SEC honors from Phil Steele and being invited to the Reese's Senior Bowl, East-West Shrine Bowl and NFLPA Collegiate Bowl. Punter Reid Bauer saw improvement from 2020, averaging 43.3 yards per punt, including 23 fair catches and 14 punts of 50+ yards. Bauer made a name for himself on the national level as the team's holder, winning the Peter Mortell Holder of the Year Award. He twice pulled off fake field goals, hitting Blake Kern for a touchdown at Alabama and running 23 yards for a first down in the win at LSU. Punt returner Nathan Parodi became the first Razorback to return a punt for a touchdown since 2011 when he took a punt back for a score against UAPB at War Memorial Stadium. Parodi's 114 punt return yards in the win are the seventh-most in program history.

In his first year in Fayetteville, the Razorbacks received steady play from long snapper Jordan Silver, who graded out as one of the top long snappers in the SEC. Arkansas' kickers combined to go 8-for-12 on field goals while the team's punters averaged 42.1 yards per punt. De'Vion Warren averaged 20 yards per kickoff return before suffering a season-ending injury at Florida.

Fountain came to Arkansas after spending 2019 at Georgia in the same role. The Bulldogs saw immediate success with Fountain at the controls, led by kicker and Lou Groza Award winner Rodrigo Blankenship. The first-team All-SEC kicker capped an impressive career at UGA going 27-for-33 (81.8%) on field goals and making all 46 extra points as the Bulldogs won the 2020 Allstate Sugar Bowl. Blankenship was also a weapon on kickoffs allowing just 14 returns all season. Punter Jake Camarda improved in 2019 as well, upping his average to 46.8 yards per punt to rank sixth nationally.

In 2018, Georgia had two of the SEC's top special teams players in return man Mecole Hardman and Blankenship. Hardman led the SEC in punt return average (20.1), was fifth in kick return average (25.2) and was named to the ESPN.com All-America first team.

A Lou Groza semifinalist, Blankenship earned second team All-SEC honors after finishing fifth in the SEC in scoring by kickers (8.7 points per game) and booted his school record 154th consecutive PAT. He also posted 82 kickoff touchbacks (season record) extending his school career record to 170.

As a team, the Bulldogs were first in the SEC in punt return yards (366) and punt return average (16.6; seventh nationally) and tied for first in punt return touchdowns (2).

Fountain also contributed to the Bulldogs' emergence on special teams in 2017. Hardman averaged 25.3 yards per kick return, ranking second in the SEC and 21st nationally. Georgia's special teams unit also held opponents to 5.9 yards per punt return and 19.5 yards per kick return. Those numbers were all reduced from a year prior, as opponents averaged 6.1 yards per punt return, 23.8 yards per kick return and notched two 95-yard kickoff returns versus the Bulldogs in 2016.

Additionally, Blankenship hit on 20 of his 23 field goal attempts, including a 55-yarder in the 2018 Rose Bowl vs. Oklahoma and a 51-yarder in overtime of the national championship game. He made all 63 of his PAT attempts, kicked 67 touchbacks (a Georgia season record at the time and third nationally) and was named a semifinalist for the 2017 Lou Groza Award. Punter Cameron Nizialek averaged 45.0 yards per punt to rank ninth nationally and was named a semi-finalist for the 2017 Ray Guy Award.

Fountain joined Georgia's full time, on-field staff, in 2018, after filling the same position at Mississippi State during the offseason. Fountain was the special teams analyst at Georgia during the 2017 season.

Before joining Georgia's staff, Fountain had spent the previous eight years as a member of the football program at Auburn, the first four as the Tigers' player personnel director and the latter four coaching tight ends and special teams. From 2014-16, Fountain coached kicker Daniel Carlson, a three-time Lou Groza Award finalist.

Fountain, a part of three SEC championship teams, led Auburn's administrative and recruiting efforts from 2009-12. He followed Gene Chizik to Auburn after spending two seasons (2007-08) on Chizik's staff at Iowa State as tight ends coach and recruiting coordinator.



Fountain has coached in four national championship games (1997, 2010, 2013, 2017) since beginning his collegiate coaching career at Florida State (1994-96) as an offensive graduate assistant. He then spent seven seasons as an offensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at Central Florida. Before his eight-year stint at Auburn, Fountain also included coaching stops at Middle Tennessee (2004-05), Georgia Southern (2006) and Iowa State (2007-08).

He began his coaching career in high school, making four stops in Alabama, including Flomaton HS (1988) and W.S. Neal HS (1989), his alma mater. He became a head coach for the first time at Frisco City HS (1990-92) and made his final high school stop at Monroe County (1993).

Fountain earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Samford in 1988 and a master's degree in educational leadership from Florida State in 1998.

He is married to the former Rosie Hidalgo, and the couple has four sons: Brookes, Hunter, Tanner and Skyler.

THE FOUNTAIN FILE

BIRTHDATE: February 28, 1966
BIRTHPLACE: Brewton, Alabama
HIGH SCHOOL: W.S. Neal High School – Brewton, Ala.
COLLEGE: Samford, 1988 B.S. Physical Education; Florida State, 1998 M.A. Educational Leadership
FAMILY: Wife, the former Rosie Hidalgo; Sons – Brookes, Hunter, Tanner and Skyler

COACHING EXPERIENCE
1988 Flomaton (Ala.) HS (Assistant Coach)
1989 W.S. Neal (Ala.) HS (Assistant Coach)
1990-92 Frisco City (Ala.) HS (Head Coach)
1993 Monroe County (Ala.) HS (Head Coach)
1994-96 Florida State (Offensive Graduate Assistant)
1997-03 Central Florida (Offensive Line/Recruiting Coordinator)
2004-05 Middle Tennessee State (Offensive Line)
2006 Georgia Southern (Offensive Line)
2007-08 Iowa State (Tight Ends/Recruiting Coordinator)
2009-12 Auburn (Player Personnel Director)
2013-16 Auburn (Tight Ends/Special Teams)
2017 Georgia (Special Teams Analyst)
2018 Mississippi State (Special Teams Coordinator)
2019 Georgia (Special Teams Coordinator)
2020-pres. Arkansas (Assistant Head Coach/Special Teams Coordinator)

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FOOTBALL STAFF



BOBBY PETRINO

Offensive Coordinator/
Quarterbacks



Arkansas Head Coach Sam Pittman hired Bobby Petrino to be the Razorbacks' next offensive coordinator in November 2023.

Petrino, Arkansas' head coach from 2008-11, is widely regarded as one of the nation's elite offensive minds over the last 40 years of his coaching career. He has served as offensive coordinator for seven different collegiate programs.

Under Petrino's guidance, Arkansas put up some of the greatest single-season offensive numbers in program history in 2024. The Hogs' 5,973 yards of total offense is the fourth-best single-season mark in program history. Arkansas also ranked in the top five in the program single-season record books in rushing touchdowns (T-2nd, 34), total offense per game (4th, 459.5), passing first downs (4th, 150), passing yards (5th, 3,571) and passing yards per game (5th, 274.7). Petrino coordinated the Razorbacks to top 20 performances nationally in multiple categories including total offense (10th, 459.5), passing offense (18th, 274.7), passing yards per completion (10th, 14.00) and first downs (17th, 314). Arkansas also registered two top 10 all-time single-game total offense performances with 687 yards of total offense against UAPB for the third-most yards in a single game in program history and 673 total yards of offense in a win at Mississippi State, which ranks seventh on the list. In the win over UAPB, the Hogs' offense went a perfect 10-for-10 scoring touchdowns on all 10 possessions in the season opener. Quarterback Taylen Green concluded the 2024 campaign with 3,756 (602 rushing, 3,154 passing, 23 TD) yards of total offense, good for second-most in a single season in program history behind only QB Ryan Mallett's school-record mark of 3,795 (-74 rushing, 3,869 passing, 36 TD) in 2010 while becoming one of only five quarterbacks in program history to throw for 3,000-plus yards in a season.

Arkansas also had a 1,000-yard receiver in wide receiver Andrew Armstrong who registered a team-high 78 receptions for 1,140 yards and a touchdown during the 2024 campaign, becoming the first Razorback pass catcher to earn First-Team All-SEC honors from the Associated Press since Treylon Burks in 2021 and became just the sixth Arkansas wide receiver to do so since entering the league in 1992. Armstrong and Isaac TeSlaa both found their way to NFL rosters with Armstrong signing with Miami and TeSlaa becoming the first drafted Arkansas wide receiver since 2022 when he was selected in the third round by Detroit.

Prior to Arkansas, Petrino was the Offensive Coordinator at Texas A&M in 2024. With the Aggies, Petrino's offense averaged 34.2 points per game (25th in FBS, 5th in SEC) while averaging 403.8 yards per game despite losing starting quarterbacks Conner Weigman and Max Johnson to injury during the season. In his lone season with the Aggies, Petrino's offense helped lead the program back to bowl eligibility marking the 18th time in his career to help a team to the postseason.

In his 14 seasons as a head coach at five different stops, including Louisville (2003-06, 2014-18), the NFL's Atlanta Falcons (2007), Arkansas (2008-11), Western Kentucky (2013) and most recently at FCS level Missouri State (2020-22), Petrino has compiled a record of 119-56.

As the head coach of the Razorbacks, he led the program to a 34-17 mark in four seasons with bowl berths in the 2010 Liberty Bowl, 2011 Sugar Bowl and 2012 Cotton Bowl. The Hogs went 10-3 in 2010 with the program's only BCS Bowl appearance at the Sugar Bowl before finishing ranked 12th in the AP Poll. Arkansas' 2011 team was even better, finishing 11-2 with a Cotton Bowl victory over Kansas State to end the year ranked 5th in the AP poll. The team's 11 victories are the most by an Arkansas team and the team's final ranking in the Top 5 are the best since Lou Holtz's 1977 squad finished 11-1 and ranked 3rd in the final AP Poll.

In his first stint at Louisville, Petrino was 41-9 during those four seasons. His 2004 team led the nation in total offense (539.0 ypg) and scoring offense (49.8 ppg) while posting 50+ points in seven games and setting a NCAA record by scoring 55+ points in five straight games en route to an 11-1 record and an appearance in the Gator bowl.

Petrino's resume also has NFL coaching experience, having served as the Falcons head coach in 2007 and as an offensive coordinator with the Jacksonville Jaguars (2001), while also working with the Jaguars' quarterbacks (1999-2001).

At the collegiate level, Petrino has worked with quarterbacks, wide receivers and tight ends, while also coordinating offenses for Idaho (1990-91), Arizona State (1992-93), Nevada (1994), Utah State (1995-97), Louisville (1998) and Auburn (2002). He helped the Auburn Tigers to a 9-4 record and a 5-3 mark in the SEC, finishing No. 14 in the Associated Press Poll in 2002. Petrino worked with quarterback Jake Plummer at ASU before Plummer went on to a successful NFL career. At Nevada, Petrino had the nation's No. 2 passing and total offensive unit. As the offensive coordinator with the Utah State Aggies in 1996, Petrino set school records for total offense (468.5) and passing yards (317.5). His 1998 Louisville offense led the FBS in scoring and total offense.

The longtime coach has also produced elite, next level talent during his career, coaching 2016 Heisman Trophy winner and current Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson while at Louisville. With the Hogs, he tutored two of the best quarterbacks in school history in the late Ryan Mallett and Tyler Wilson. He also coached a trio of national award winners in Joe Adams (2011 Johnny "The Jet" Rodgers Award), DJ Williams (2010 Mackey Award and Disney Spirit Award) and Jonathan Luigs (2007 Rimington Trophy). Arkansas' top three wide receivers – Cobi Hamilton, Jarius Wright and Joe Adams – on the all-time receptions list all played under Petrino with Wright still holding the receiving yards school record with 2,934 yards.

Petrino is the son of legendary Carroll College coach Bob Petrino Sr. The younger Petrino began his coaching career as a graduate assistant in 1983 for his father in Helena, Montana. After one season with Weber State as a graduate assistant, Petrino returned to coordinate the offense for Carroll College from 1985-86 – his first offensive coordinator job.

The younger Petrino played for his father at Carroll, twice earning NAIA All-America honors and helping lead the squad to three straight conference championships. He was named the league's MVP in 1981 and 1982. He also played four years of basketball at Carroll while earning his degree in physical education with a minor in mathematics in 1983.

Petrino and his wife, Becky, have four children: Kelsey, Nick, Bobby and Katie, along with eight grandchildren.

THE PETRINO FILE

BIRTHDATE: March 10, 1961
HOMETOWN: Lewiston, Mont.
COLLEGE: Carroll College, 1983 BA, Physical Education
FAMILY: Wife, Becky; Daughters – Kelsey and Katie; Sons – Nick and Bobby

COACHING EXPERIENCE
1983 Carroll College (Graduate Assistant)
1984 Weber State (Graduate Assistant)
1985-86 Carroll College (Offensive Coordinator)
1987-88 Weber State (WRs/TEs)
1989 Idaho (QBs)
1990-91 Idaho (Offensive Coordinator)
1992-93 Arizona State (QBs)
1994 Nevada (Offensive Coordinator/QBs)
1995-97 Utah State (Offensive Coordinator)
1998 Louisville (Offensive Coordinator)
1999-00 Jacksonville Jaguars (QBs)
2001 Jacksonville Jaguars (Offensive Coordinator)
2002 Auburn (Offensive Coordinator)
2003-06 Louisville (Head Coach)
2007 Atlanta Falcons (Head Coach)
2008-11 Arkansas (Head Coach)
2013 Western Kentucky (Head Coach)
2014-18 Louisville (Head Coach)
2020-22 Missouri State (Head Coach)
2023 Texas A&M (Offensive Coordinator)
2024-pres. Arkansas (Offensive Coordinator)

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FOOTBALL STAFF



TRAVIS WILLIAMS

Defensive Coordinator

Travis Williams was named the Razorbacks' defensive coordinator in December 2022.

Williams brings defensive coordinator experience and a wealth of Southeastern Conference knowledge to The Hill, having played at Auburn and later as the Tigers' co-defensive coordinator. On the field, he starred as a two-time All-SEC linebacker – including first-team honors in 2004 – leading the Tigers in tackles during their undefeated season in 2004.

During his second season in Fayetteville, Williams engineered an Arkansas defense that recorded the Razorbacks' first shutout since Oct. 20, 2018, during a season-opening win over UAPB in addition to limiting Tennessee to a season-low 14 points during a 19-14 victory over the fourth-ranked Volunteers on Oct. 5. Other highlights included forcing five turnovers during a 24-14 win at Williams' alma mater Auburn (Sept. 21) and a 58-25 triumph at Mississippi State (Oct. 26). Williams' defensive unit also shutout opposing offenses during the first half of five games. The Razorbacks ranked in the top half of the SEC and 34th nationally in rushing defense (129.2 yards per game). Arkansas also ranked in the top 40 nationally in third-down conversion percentage defense with a mark of .359. Defensive lineman Landon Jackson led the Hogs with 6.5 sacks while tying for the team lead in tackles for loss (9.5) and totaling a career-high 49 tackles to go along with nine quarterback hurries, three pass breakups, a fumble recovery, and a forced fumble on his way to earning Second-Team All-SEC honors before being selected in the third round by Buffalo in the NFL Draft.

Williams' first defense at Arkansas was statistically one of the program's best in a decade. The Hogs allowed only 357.2 yards per game, the lowest average per game since 2014 when the Arkansas defense surrendered only 323.4 yards per game. The difference was nearly a full yard per play improvement in 2023 compared to the 2022 season – 5.67 ypp in 2023 compared to 6.46 ypp in 2022. The 2023 squad improved in nearly every defensive category from 2022 but made huge strides in pass defense. The Razorbacks ranked fourth in the SEC in passing yards allowed per game with 202.8 yards, the program's best effort since 2011 when they allowed 195.2 yards per game. Arkansas' 12 interceptions ranked third in the league and the team's four pick-sixes matched five other teams to lead all of FBS. The Hogs' defense scored five total touchdowns on the season, including Jaylon Braxton's fumble return for a score in the win at Florida. The defense gave up just 18.8 first downs per game, the fewest by an Arkansas defense since 2014.

Williams work with the team's linebackers was noticeable as the team's top two tacklers were linebackers – Jaheim Thomas (90) and Chris Paul Jr. (74). True freshman Brad Spence quickly earned playing time in his first season, starting the team's second game of the season vs. Kent State. Spence returned an interception 85 yards in his first collegiate game vs. Western Carolina before finishing the season with 16 tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss and a fumble recovery in 11 games. Defensive end Landon Jackson was an anchor on the team's front, leading the team with career-highs in sacks (6.5) and tackles for loss (13.5) on his way to earning first-team All-SEC honors the league's coaches. Braxton earned Freshman All-SEC accolades for his first campaign thanks to a team-high eight pass breakups to go with one interception and 20 tackles.

Prior to leading the Hogs' defense, he spent two seasons calling the defense at UCF as the Knights' defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. The Knights showed progress in each of his two seasons, improving this season to a Top 40 scoring defense in the FBS by allowing 23.2 points per game. The defense helped UCF reach the American Athletic Conference championship game, a 9-4 record and a berth in the Military Bowl by allowing 382.6 yards per game and producing the fifth-best red zone defense in the country.

Senior linebacker Jason Johnson led the way with 119 tackles – second-most in the league and 19th nationally – to earn first-team All-American Athletic Conference honors. Williams molded Johnson in his lone season in Orlando from an FCS All-American at Eastern Illinois to one of the nation's leading tacklers at the FBS level. The Knights' defense featured three All-AAC first teamers with Johnson joined by defensive linemen Ricky Barber and Tre'Mon Morris-Brash, who ranked fourth in the league with 13.0 tackles for loss.

Williams' first defense in Orlando finished the season strong in 2021, helping the Knights win six of their final seven games with defense giving up just 11.8 points per game in the six victories. The defense ended the season ranked seventh nationally in pass efficiency defense (110.7) and 26th in tackles for loss (6.8/game).

Linebacker Tatum Bethune averaged 9.0 tackles per game to rank second in the conference and 24th in the FBS. His work on the field made him a first-team All-American Athletic Conference selection by Pro Football Network, second team by Pro Football Focus and honorable mention by the league's coaches. Williams' defense also featured All-AAC performers defensive lineman Big Kat Bryant (first team) and safety Divaad Wilson (second team). PFF also tabbed safety Quadric Bullard (second team), cornerbacks Davonte Brown and Corey Thornton and Wilson (all third team).

Williams' initial UCF defense moved up 97 spots in the NCAA team pass efficiency defense rankings compared to 2020, 86 spots in passing yards allowed (89.1 fewer per game in 2021) and 70 in total defense (122.5 fewer yards allowed per game in 2021).

At Auburn, Williams served as co-defensive coordinator alongside Kevin Steele while also working as the Tigers' linebackers coach and recruiting coordinator. He helped his alma mater finish in the Top 20 in the nation in scoring defense in four of his last five seasons (2016-20) on The Plains. As the linebackers coach, Auburn allowed just 54 rushing touchdowns combined to rank fifth nationally during those five seasons – including just eight in 2016 and nine in 2018.

Williams also mentored All-Southeastern Conference linebackers in three consecutive seasons – K.J. Britt in 2019, Deshaun Davis in 2018 and Tre Williams in 2017. Linebacker Zakoby McClain led the SEC in tackles with 113 during the pandemic-shortened season of 2020.

Auburn's 2019 defense ranked eighth nationally in both red zone and third down defense, allowing just 19.5 points per game against a schedule that featured six opponents that went on to win 11 games that season.

The Tigers ranked 14th nationally in scoring defense (19.2/game) in 2018 allowing only nine rushing touchdowns while returning three interceptions for scores. The squad's 38 sacks ranked 16th nationally and the 96 tackles for loss were the ninth-most in the nation.

Auburn won the SEC West in 2017 led by a defense that ranked 14th nationally in total defense (319.4/game) and 11th in scoring defense (18.5/game). The Tigers yielded just 4.67 yards per play, eighth-best nationally.

In 2016 the Tigers' red zone defense ranked 11th in the FBS and the team's total defense (361.9/game) ranking 28th to move up 43 spots over the previous season. The defense held eight consecutive opponents without a rushing TD, the longest season streak at Auburn since 1957.



On the field at Auburn, he led the Tigers in tackles (80) as a junior during the team's 2004 undefeated season. As a senior, his 68 tackles were second on the team. He won the Pat Dye Leadership Award on defense in each of his last two seasons (2004, 2005). He played two seasons in the NFL for the Atlanta Falcons (2006-07) before beginning his coaching career.

Williams began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Auburn before landing his first full-time coaching job as the linebackers coach at Northern Iowa in 2012. He spent one year as the defensive coordinator at Creekside (Ga.) High School before returning to Auburn in 2014 as a defensive analyst.

He was promoted to an on-field role for the Tigers prior to the 2016 season as the team's linebackers coach. He earned the co-defensive coordinator title in 2019 and then added recruiting coordinator duties in 2020.

Williams earned his bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice from Auburn in 2005 and later received a master's degree in adult education from Auburn in 2011.

A native of Columbia, S.C., Williams and his wife Jeanine, also an Auburn graduate, have three daughters: Tru, Reign and Brave.

THE WILLIAMS FILE

BIRTHDATE: Jan. 20, 1983
HOMETOWN: Columbia, S.C.
COLLEGE: Auburn, 2005 B.S. Criminology and Criminal Justice; 2011 M.S. Adult Education
FAMILY: Wife – Jeanine; Daughters – Tru, Reign, Brave

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2009-11 Auburn (Graduate Assistant)
2012 Northern Iowa (Linebackers)
2013 Creekside (Ga.) HS (Defensive Coordinator)
2014-15 Auburn (Defensive Analyst)
2016-18 Auburn (Linebackers)
2019-20 Auburn (Co-Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers)
2021 Miami (Linebackers)
2021-22 UCF (Defensive Coordinator)
2023-pres. Arkansas (Defensive Coordinator)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
2001-05 Auburn

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MARCUS WOODSON

Co-Defensive Coordinator

Marcus Woodson enters his third year as the Razorbacks' co-defensive coordinator.

Under Woodson's guidance, the Razorbacks' defense opened up the 2024 campaign by registering the first shutout for Arkansas since 2018 courtesy of a 70-0 thumping of UAPB. During the victory, Arkansas limited UAPB to just 123 passing yards on 23 attempts. Woodson's unit also had big performances in road wins at Auburn (Sept. 21) and Mississippi State (Oct. 26). During a 24-14 win over the Tigers, the Hogs' secondary intercepted a season-high four passes while tying a season-high with six pass breakups. Arkansas picked off a pair of passes and registered four pass breakups in a 58-25 victory over the Bulldogs in Starkville. The Razorbacks' 32-point margin of victory was the largest in an SEC game since 2012.

The Arkansas defense underwent a massive improvement in Woodson's first season helped by the development of the Hogs' secondary. Woodson teamed up with secondary coach Deron Wilson to help post the best Arkansas pass defense since 2011 allowing 202.8 yards per game – ranking 31st in FBS for an improvement of 99 spots nationally compared to the 2022 season. The defense as a whole recorded the fewest yards allowed per game in a decade, giving up 357.2 yards per game. Woodson's secondary also contributed to the Hogs' national-leading five defensive touchdowns with Jaylon Braxton and Alfahiym Walcott both finding the end zone.

Braxton's development during his freshman season was impressive, earning six starts in his nine games played and leading the team with eight pass breakups before being named Freshman All-SEC by the league's coaches. Dwight McGlothern and Walcott each picked off three passes to lead the team with safety Jayden Johnson finishing third on the team with 62 tackles. Woodson's work with Hudson Clark showed his versatility and creativity with Clark moving all over the secondary playing every position in the back end. Clark contributed 51 tackles and a career-best 4.5 tackles for loss on his way to being named a First-Team Academic All-American.

Woodson joined the Arkansas staff after spending three seasons at Florida State as the Seminoles' defensive backs coach and defensive passing game coordinator. His secondary helped lead the Noles to a 10-win campaign in 2022 capped by a Cheez-It Bowl victory. Florida State's secondary was one of the nation's best, helping the FSU defense rank fourth in the FBS allowing 165.4 yards per game to lead the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Woodson helped mold safety Jammie Robinson into a two-time, first-team All-ACC performer. In 2022, Robinson led Florida State in tackles with 99, including five tackles for loss. He led the Noles in tackles in 2021 with 84 to go along with an ACC-best four interceptions.

Robinson joined Woodson's group of defensive backs to be selected in the NFL Draft as a fifth round selection by Carolina in 2023. Woodson had seven DBs picked over four NFL Drafts, including 2020 first-round selection Noah Igbinoghene. Igbinoghene was the 30th overall pick by the Miami Dolphins after Woodson coached him through a transition from wide receiver to defensive back upon his arrival at Auburn in 2018.

Florida State had eight different defenders grab at least one interception and forced 20 total takeaways in 2021. FSU picked off at least one pass in eight straight games to end the season, the longest active streak in America entering the 2022 season and tied for the longest streak in the country at any point during the 2021 season.

During the 2020 season, Florida State's defensive backfield was responsible for 10 takeaways and added four forced fumbles. Woodson helped continue the development of first-team All-ACC selection Asante Samuel Jr. into one of the nation's premiere defensive backs. Samuel finished the season leading all active ACC defenders with 29 career pass breakups before being selected in the second-round of the NFL Draft pick by the Los Angeles Chargers. In records dating back to 2000, he was only the second FBS defender to grab three interceptions and have two fumble recoveries in his team's first four games of a season. Samuel also became the first FSU defender since 2016 with at least one takeaway in four straight games and only the third Seminole since 2000 with three interceptions and two fumble recoveries in a season.

Prior to Florida State, Woodson helped Auburn win 17 games in two seasons (2018-19) while working alongside Arkansas' new defensive coordinator Travis Williams. In 2019 with Woods as the defensive backs coach and Williams serving as co-defensive coordinator, the Tigers won nine games and advanced to the Outback Bowl behind a defense that ranked eighth nationally in third-down defense and red zone defense, allowing conversions on just 29.9% of third-down attempts and 71.8% of red zone trips. Safety Jeremiah Dinson earned second-team All-SEC honors after posting averaging 7.3 tackles per game to go along with a pair of interceptions

The Tigers returned three interceptions for touchdowns in 2018, the ninth-highest total in the nation, and ranked 14th in the country in scoring defense by allowing 19.2 points per game. Auburn's nine rushing touchdowns allowed were the second-lowest total in the SEC and tied for the fifth-lowest total in the FBS. The defense's 38 sacks were good for 16th nationally with the team's 96 tackles for loss coming in at No. 20. The Tigers' defense capped the season with a 63-14 victory over Purdue, the fewest points allowed in a Music City Bowl since 2009.

Woodson headed to The Plains after two seasons at Memphis coaching the Tigers' defensive backs. Memphis won 18 games over the two seasons, forcing a combined 60 takeaways, the second-highest total in the nation during that span. The Tigers picked off 32 passes in Woodson's two seasons and were one of only six teams in the country to record at least 16 interceptions in both 2016 and 2017.

In 2017, Woodson coached T.J. Carter to Freshman All-America honors from ESPN and USA Today. Carter also was the American Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year after breaking Memphis' freshman record with five interceptions. In only his second collegiate game, Carter ended a fourth-quarter UCLA drive in the red zone with an interception of Josh Rosen to help secure Memphis' 48-45 victory.

Prior to joining the Memphis staff, Woodson coached defensive backs at Fresno State for two seasons (2014-15). He helped lead the Bulldogs to the 2014 Mountain West Conference Championship Game and a berth in the Hawai'i Bowl. Safety Derron Smith earned first-team All-Mountain West Conference accolades before being drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals in the sixth round of the 2015 NFL Draft. The 2015 Bulldogs' 11 fumble recoveries to rank second in the conference and 20th nationally.

From 2009-13, Woodson coached defensive backs and was the recruiting coordinator at Charleston Southern, tutoring five all-conference defensive backs. He also added defensive passing game coordinator duties for the 2012 and 2013 seasons. Charleston Southern finished the 2013 season with a school-record 10 wins and were ranked No. 22 in the final FCS poll.

Woodson began his coaching career at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss., where he was the defensive backs coach (2005-08). The Majors won three consecutive SCAC championships, including an 11-1 record and No. 12 final ranking in 2008. Woodson coached four all-conference defensive backs while at Millsaps.



Woodson played safety at Ole Miss, starting for two seasons before his playing career was cut short by an injury prior to his senior season. The Rebels advanced to four bowl games, including the Cotton Bowl, the Music City Bowl and two trips to the Independence Bowl during his career. He went to Ole Miss after helping lead Moss Point High School to two Mississippi state titles.

A native of Moss Point, Miss., Woodson earned his bachelor's degree in political science with an emphasis in criminal justice from Ole Miss in 2003 and was selected for the Senior Leadership Unity Council.

Woodson and his wife, Chastity, who holds a bachelor's degree from Loyola University New Orleans and a master's degree from Howard University, have two sons, Carter and Bryce.

THE WOODSON FILE

COLLEGE: Ole Miss, 2003 B.S. Political Science
FAMILY: Wife – Chastity; Sons – Carter and Bryce

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2005-08 Millsaps College (Defensive Backs)
2009-11 Charleston Southern (Defensive Backs/Recruiting Coordinator)
2012-13 Charleston Southern (Defensive Backs/Defensive Passing Game Coordinator/Recruiting Coordinator)
2014-15 Fresno State (Defensive Backs)
2016-17 Memphis (Defensive Backs)
2018 Auburn (Defensive Backs)
2019 Auburn (Defensive Backs/Recruiting Coordinator)
2020-22 Florida State (Defensive Backs/Defensive Passing Game Coordinator)
2023-pres. Arkansas (co-Defensive Coordinator)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
2001-05 Auburn


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DEKE ADAMS

Defensive Line

Deke Adams has been a steady force for the Razorbacks' defensive line as he enters his fourth season on The Hill.

In 2024, Arkansas was among the top half of the SEC in rushing defense while ranking in the top 40 nationally. The Razorbacks also ranked in the top 40 nationally in third-down conversion percentage defense with a mark of .359. Adams tutored defensive lineman Landon Jackson, who led the Razorbacks with 6.5 sacks while tying for the team-lead in tackles for loss with (9.5) while totaling a career-high 49 tackles to go along with nine quarterback hurries, three pass breakups, a fumble recovery and a forced fumble on his way to earning Second-Team All-SEC honors. Jackson became the highest drafted Arkansas defensive lineman since 2007 when he was selected by Buffalo in the third round.

Under Adams' tutelage, Landon Jackson blossomed into one of the nation's best pass rushers in 2023. Jackson entered his junior season with 3.5 career tackles for loss and three sacks before earning First-Team All-SEC recognition from the league's coaches and second-team honors from the Associated Press after leading Arkansas in tackles for loss (13.5) and sacks (6.5) while racking up 44 total tackles. Jackson's 13.5 tackles for loss ranked sixth in the SEC and his 6.5 sacks were good for 12th. Cam Ball's emergence provided a spark up front with the sophomore starting six of his 11 games played. Ball made 32 tackles with 1.5 tackles for loss. Transfer Trajan Jeffcoat made an immediate impact as a team captain with 8.5 tackles for loss and four sacks.

The defensive line helped the Hogs give up only 357.2 yards per game, the lowest average per game since 2014 when the Arkansas defense surrendered only 323.4 yards per game. The difference was nearly a full yard per play improvement in 2023 compared to the 2022 season – 5.67 ypp in 2023 compared to 6.46 ypp in 2022.

Adams' first defensive line at Arkansas helped the defense break the school record for sacks with 42 in 2022. The Razorbacks' defensive line provided 22 of the team's 42 sacks led by Jordan Domineck's 7.5 sacks in his lone year with the program. The depth of the defensive line proved to be a plus with seven different linemen contributing at least one sack. The development of upperclassmen Zach Williams (4.5 sacks), Eric Gregory (2.0 sacks) and Jashaud Stewart (2.0 sacks) combined with Adams' work with transfers like Domineck, Landon Jackson (3.0 sacks) and Terry Hampton (2.0 sacks) with the emergence of Cam Ball, transformed the defensive line in just one year. Williams set career-bests in tackles, tackles for loss and sacks while Jackson flashed dominance from the defensive end spot.

Adams joined the Hogs with a wealth of coaching experience having coached at numerous levels over 20+ years after starring at linebacker at Southern Miss as a player in the 1990s. The Mississippi native heads to The Hill after spending the 2021 season at Florida International. In his lone season with the Panthers, Adams turned sophomore defensive tackle into an All-Conference USA Honorable Mention performer with 53 tackles, including three sacks and six tackles for loss.

Adams is no stranger to the SEC having coached at Ole Miss (2020), Mississippi State (2019) and South Carolina (2013-15). At South Carolina under Head Coach Steve Spurrier, he helped the Gamecocks to a pair of bowl wins while coaching 2014 NFL No. 1 pick Jadeveon Clowney. Adams' front also featured defensive tackle Kelcy Quarles, who earned first-team All-SEC and All-America honors along with Clowney. Quarles and Clowney became the first South Carolina duo since 1984 to earn All-America status in the same season.

Adams has helped develop six NFL draft selections, including a pair of first round picks. During his first stop at North Carolina, he coached All-American defensive tackle Sylvester Williams in 2012. Williams was selected 28th overall by the Denver Broncos in the 2013 NFL Draft. The Tar Heels ranked third in the ACC that season with 97 tackles for loss with Adams' group responsible for 40 of them. Williams and Kareem Martin were one of the ACC's most dominant defensive line duos, combining for 29 TFLs. Martin ranked third in the conference with 15.5 and Williams finished sixth with 13.5.

Before his first stop at North Carolina, Adams spent three seasons (2009-11) at his alma mater Southern Miss as defensive line coach for Head Coach Larry Fedora. Among the players he developed were first-team All-Conference USA defensive end Cordarro Law and second-round 2013 NFL Draft pick Jamie Collins. During his first season back in Hattiesburg, he coached a young group that helped the Golden Eagles finish the season ranked 18th nationally in sacks and 24th in tackles for loss after finishing 93rd and 68th, respectively, in those two categories the previous season.

In 2011, Adams' helped the Golden Eagles to the Conference USA championship and a 12-win season capped by a Hawaii Bowl victory over Nevada. His front four allow led the effort to allow only 112.6 rushing yards per game and rank 22nd nationally.

Prior to Southern Miss, he coached linebackers at Louisiana-Monroe while also serving as the coordinator of player development. He spent the 2006 and 2007 seasons at FCS level North Carolina A&T. Adams was elevated to interim defensive coordinator during his first season at North Carolina A&T after two games before earning the job on a permanent basis headed into the 2007 season. He coached the Aggies' defensive line in 2006 and took over the linebackers in 2007 in addition to his coordinator duties the following season.

Adams also knows his way around the Natural State having spent four years at Ouachita Baptist (2002-05) coordinating the defense and coaching the defensive line in his last season.
He coached in the junior college ranks at Pearl River (Miss.) Community College from 1998-2002, serving as the linebackers coach during his first three seasons before being named co-defensive coordinator and secondary coach in addition to his role as recruiting coordinator in 2001.

Adams began his coaching career in 1997 as the defensive line coach at FCS level Jacksonville (Ala.) State.

A three-year letterman at Southern Miss, Adams played a key role as part of the Golden Eagles' "Nasty Bunch" defense as a linebacker. He wrapped up his collegiate career in 1994 with 76 tackles, five tackles for loss, one sack and one interception.
In the classroom, he was a four-year member of the Dean's List. He earned his bachelor's degree in psychology and sports administration in 1995 before picking up a master's degree in 1996 from Southern Miss.

Adams is married to the former Alexis Hall, a member of the 1,000-point club and four-year letterwinner for the Southern Miss women's basketball team. The couple has two boys, Jaylen and Jordyn – who was a first round MLB Draft pick by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim in 2018.



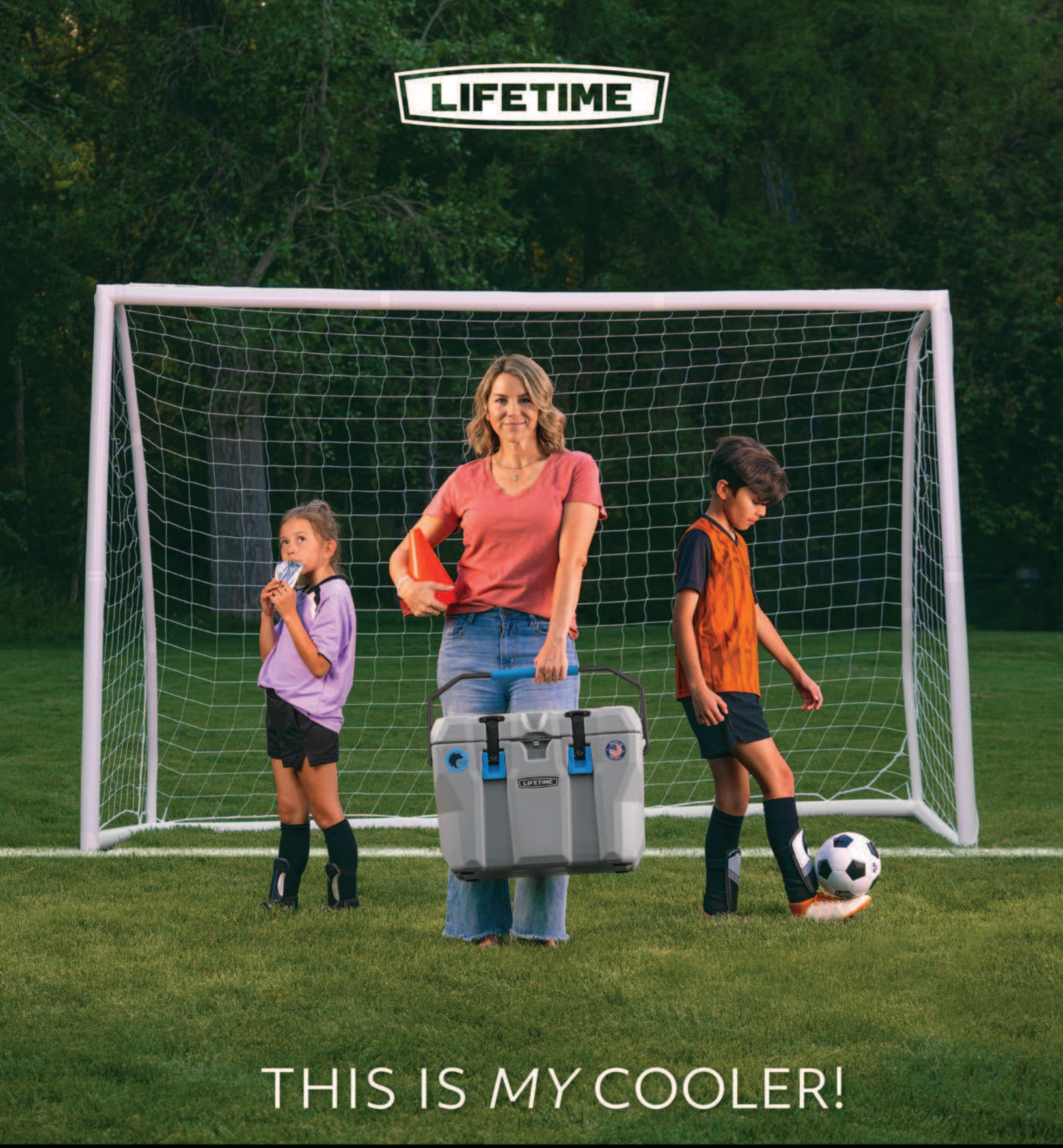
THE ADAMS FILE

BIRTHDATE: January 20, 1972
BIRTHPLACE: Meridian, Miss.
HIGH SCHOOL: Meridian HS
COLLEGE: Southern Miss, 1995 B.S. Psychology and Sport Administration; 1996 M.S.
FAMILY: Wife – Alexis; Sons – Jaylen and Jordyn

COACHING EXPERIENCE
1997 Jacksonville State (Defensive Line)
1998-2000 Pearl River CC (Linebackers)
2001-02 Pearl River CC (Co-Defensive Coordinator/ Secondary)
2002-04 Ouachita Baptist (Defensive Line)
2005 Ouachita Baptist (Defensive Coordinator/ Defensive Line)
2006 North Carolina A&T (Defensive Coordinator/ Defensive Line)
2007 North Carolina A&T (Defensive Coordinator/ Linebackers)
2008 Louisiana-Monroe (Linebackers/Player Development)
2009-11 Southern Miss (Defensive Line)
2012 North Carolina (Defensive Line)
2013-15 South Carolina (Defensive Line)
2016 East Carolina (Defensive Line)
2017-18 North Carolina (Defensive Line)
2019 Mississippi State (Defensive Line)
2020 Florida International (Defensive Line)
2022-pres. Arkansas (Defensive Line)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
1991-94 Southern Miss

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RONNIE FOUCH

Wide Receivers

Ronnie Fouch coaches the Arkansas wide receivers after joining the program in 2024.

In his first season, Fouch helped transform Andrew Armstrong into one of the best receivers in the Southeastern Conference. Armstrong led the SEC in receptions (78), receiving yards (1,140) and receiving yards per game (103.6) as the only player in the league to average more than 100 receiving yards per game. He earned First-Team All-SEC honors from the Associated Press for one of the best seasons by a wide receiver in school history. His 78 receptions,1,140 receiving yards and five 100-yard games all rank second all-time at Arkansas. Isaac TeSlaa accounted for 545 yards and three scores in his final season at Arkansas, capping his career as a Hog with 107 yards in the win over Texas Tech in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl. Armstrong and TeSlaa both earned invites to the NFL Combine with TeSlaa also garnering an invitation to the Reese's Senior Bowl. TeSlaa became the first Arkansas wide receiver since 2022 to hear his name called during the draft when the Detroit Lions picked him with the 70th overall selection in the third round. Armstrong quickly signed a deal with the Miami Dolphins following the draft.

The Arkansas offense finished 10th in the nation in yards per game averaging 459.5 yards per game and 11th nationally in yards per play with 6.58 yards per play, both good for fourth-best in a single season in program history. Arkansas eclipsed 600 total yards of offense in a school record three games with 687 yards vs. UAPB, 648 at Oklahoma State and 673 at Mississippi State. The Razorbacks' passing game also posted one of the better seasons in program history with 3,571 yards with an average of 274.7 yards per game – both ranking fifth in a single season at Arkansas. The Hogs' 255 completions rank fourth in the school record books.

Prior to Arkansas, Fouch was the co-offensive coordinator, running backs coach and recruiting coordinator at Missouri State.

The 2023 Bears were led in rushing for the second straight season by Kansas State transfer Jacardia Wright, who ran for a team-best 696 yards on 147 carries to go along with six touchdowns. Wright was one of seven Bears named All-Missouri Valley Conference, earning second-team honors after finishing fifth in the league in rushing yards per game (69.6 ypg) and fifth in all-purpose yards per game (96.7 ypg). Alongside offensive coordinator Nick Petrino, Fouch helped lead one of the best offenses in the Football Championship Subdivision with the Bears ranking in the top 10 nationally in multiple categories. Along with Wright, the offense featured First-Team All-America wide receiver Raylen Sharpe and Freshman All-America wide receiver Jmariyae Robinson and offensive lineman Cash Hudson.

Arkansas marks the third stop in Fouch's career that he has worked with offensive coordinator Bobby Petrino. Fouch worked under Petrino at Louisville for three seasons as an offensive quality control analyst and was part of Petrino's staff at Missouri State, serving as the Bears co-special teams coordinator and running backs coach.

In 2022, Fouch quickly molded Wright into one of the best running backs in the MVC. Wright earned All-Newcomer Team status in the league after rushing for 711 yards and nine touchdowns on 156 carries. He was the Bears' first player to go over 700 yards rushing since 2014 and finished in the top 10 of seven different categories in the Valley. Fouch also served as the Bears' special teams coordinator with his special teams unit led by All-America punter Grant Burkett and All-MVFC selections in kicker Jose Pizano, long snapper Caden Bolz and returner Montrae Braswell.



After sharing the league title during the 2020-21 season, the Bears earned a FCS Playoff berth for the first time in over 30 years thanks to a vastly improved running game in Fouch's first season in Springfield, Mo. Freshman Celdon Manning earned All-MVFC honorable mention honors and was selected for the league's All-Newcomer Team after helping the Bears to 111.6 yards per game on the ground – an improvement of nearly 40 yards per game from the previous season.

In between Louisville and Missouri State, Fouch spent the spring of 2019 coaching the quarterbacks for the Salt Lake Stallions in the Alliance of American Football. With the Stallions, Fouch coached former Arkansas QB Austin Allen, who served as the team's backup that season. Fouch returned to the college ranks in the fall of 2019 as the tight ends coach at Florida Tech. The Panthers' offense finished fourth in the Gulf South Conference, averaging 395.2 yards per game.

In three seasons at Louisville, Fouch worked with the Cardinals' quarterbacks and special teams while assisting in recruiting. During his time working with the Cardinals' QBs, he helped develop Lamar Jackson into the 2016 Heisman Trophy winner and a first-round pick in the NFL Draft in 2018. Fouch got his start in coaching at Georgia State, where he spent two seasons as a graduate assistant for the Panthers.

Fouch played quarterback at Washington for three seasons, starting eight games in 2008, before transferring to Indiana State. With the Sycamores, he started 22 games over two seasons (2010-11) throwing for 4,316 yards and 38 touchdowns.

He married his wife, the former Jenifer Abreu, in 2023. The couple has one son, Kainoa.

THE FOUCH FILE

BIRTHDATE: May 30, 1989
HOMETOWN: Redlands, Calif.
COLLEGE: Indiana State, 2012 BA, Criminology
FAMILY: Wife, Jenifer Abreu; Son - Kainoa

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2013-14 Georgia State (Graduate Assistant)
2015-18 Louisville (Offensive Quality Control)
2019 Salt Lake Stallions (Quarterbacks)
2019 Florida Tech (Tight Ends)
2020-22 Missouri State (co-Special Teams Coordinator/RBs)
2023 Missouri State (co-Offensive Coordinator/RBs/Recruiting Coordinator)
2024-pres. Arkansas (Wide Receivers)

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FOOTBALL STAFF



ERIC MATEOS

Offensive Line

Eric Mateos leads the Razorbacks' offensive line and enters his second season as the Arkansas offensive line coach in 2025.

The Hogs' offensive overhaul in 2024 was impressive as the offense improved in nearly every statistic compared to 2023. Mateos' contribution to that overhaul was evident up front led by San Jose State transfer and left tackle Fernando Carmona, who earned All-SEC third team from the league's coaches. Carmona started all 13 games for Arkansas, earning SEC Offensive Lineman of the Week twice during the season to make him the first Hog O-lineman to earn the honor twice in a season since Ricky Stromberg in 2022.

Mateos' recruiting work yielded three transfer starters, in addition to Carmona, Addison Nichols and Keyshawn Blackstock both started multiple games. Mateos also developed E'Marion Harris into a valuable piece of the line with the redshirt sophomore starting the first six games at left guard before starting the final seven games at right tackle. Redshirt sophomore Brooks Edmonson and true freshman Kobe Branham also benefitted from working with Mateos with both earning starting assignments in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl victory over Texas Tech that saw the Arkansas offense rack up 559 total yards, including a program bowl record 341 passing yards.

For the season, the Razorbacks' offense finished 10th in the nation in yards per game averaging 459.5 yards per game and 11th nationally in yards per play with 6.58 yards per play, both good for fourth-best in a single season in program history. Arkansas eclipsed 600 total yards of offense in a school record three games with 687 yards vs. UAPB, 648 at Oklahoma State and 673 at Mississippi State. Mateos' offensive line paved the way for 34 rushing touchdowns – second-most in school history – while averaging 184.8 yards per game. Running back Ja'Quinden Jackson received a Second-Team All-SEC nod from the Associated Press after rushing for 15 scores and a team-high 790 yards.

Mateos returned to Fayetteville after coaching the offensive line at Baylor for three seasons. Mateos served as now Head Coach Sam Pittman's graduate assistant for the Hogs from 2013-15 while Pittman was the team's offensive line coach.

At Baylor, Mateos was named to Dave Campbell Texas Football's 40 under 40 list, honoring the top 40 assistant coaches in the state of Texas under the age of 40. Since 2014, Mateos has coached 13 NFL players including eight draft picks. BYU's Brady Christensen is the most recent after being selected in the third round of the 2021 NFL Draft by the Carolina Panthers.

Mateos' 2022 veteran offensive line protected for one of the best offenses in Baylor history with the team's 34 rushing touchdowns ranking seventh in school history and the team's total offense of 5,380 yards ranking 10th. Baylor averaged 182.4 yards per game rushing to go along with 231.5 yards per game passing. Mateos' line also protected QB Blake Shapen, allowing him to be sacked only 22 times in 13 games. Center Jacob Gall and left tackle Connor Galvin each earned honorable mention All-America honors from Phil Steele with Gall picking up Best Offensive Lineman in Texas from Dave Campbell's Texas Football. Guard Grant Miller earned first-team All-Big 12 from Pro Football Network and second-team honors from the Associated Press and Phil Steele.

In 2021, Mateos' first offensive line paved the way for the best rushing attack in the Big 12 and 10th-best in the FBS running for 219.3 yards per game. The line also protected the QB at an elite level, giving up just 1.29 sacks per game to rank second in the league. The men up front were also a semifinalist for the Joe Moore Award, given annually to the nation's best offensive line.



Galvin was named the Big 12's Offensive Lineman of the Year and first-team All-Big 12 as well as first-team All-America by The Athletic and third-team All-America by the Associated Press. Gall was also named second-team All-America by the FWAA, second-team All-Big 12 (AP) and All-Big 12 Honorable Mention Team (Coaches). Xavier Newman-Johnson was the third member of the offensive line unit to be recognized as an All-Big 12 Honorable Mention performer.

Prior to his time at Baylor, Mateos spent two seasons (2019-20) at BYU. His second line for the Cougars was impressive in 2020 as the Cougs finished 11-1, led by an offense that finished the season in the Top 15 in 10 different statistical categories, including third in points per game (43.5), seventh in total offense (522.2 ypg) and eighth in passing yards (332.1 ypg). Christensen anchored an offensive line that allowed just 12 sacks in 12 games and paved the way for 34 rushing TDs, fourth-most in the nation. BYU scored 40+ points in nine of 12 games that season, including a 49-23 win over UCF in the Boca Raton Bowl.

Christensen received 10 All-America honors overall finishing the 2020 season as the highest-graded offensive tackle in the country by Pro Football Focus with a 96.0 rating, earning grades above 95.0 as both a pass-blocker and run-blocker. He allowed just three pressures across 372 regular-season pass-blocking snaps.

In 2019, the Cougars finished 7-6 with a Hawaii Bowl berth. Under Mateos' guidance, Christensen and center James Empey earned All-Independent honors from Phil Steele. During the team's final five regular-season games BYU boasted the nation's No. 8 offense (520.6 ypg), No. 13 passing offense (323.0 ypg) and No. 34 rushing offense (197.6 ypg). The Cougars capped the season with 505 yards of total offense in the Hawai'i Bowl, including 274 through the air and 231 on the ground. The offensive line finished the season ranked No. 12 overall as a unit by Pro Football Focus.

Mateos spent two seasons (2017-18) as the offensive line coach at Texas State where he had an All-Sun Belt performer in each of his two years. Prior to his stint with the Bobcats, Mateos served as the tight ends at LSU in 2016 after starting the season as an offensive line graduate assistant under Baylor offensive coordinator Jeff Grimes. Mateos was tabbed to lead the tight ends coach by Ed Orgeron midway through the 2016 season and helped lead the Tigers to a victory over Louisville in the Citrus Bowl.

He began his coaching career as an assistant offensive line coach at Southwest Baptist in 2011 before serving a one-year stint in 2012 as the offensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at Hutchinson Community College.

A two-year starter at Southwest Baptist, Mateos was the starting center and team captain during the 2009 and 2010 seasons. He earned his bachelor's degree in public relations at Southwest Baptist in 2011 and a master's degree from Arkansas in 2015.

Mateos is married to the former Gillian Chavez and the couple have two daughters, Isabel and Camila.

THE MATEOS FILE

BIRTHDATE: June 29, 1989
HOMETOWN: Overland Park, Kan.
HIGH SCHOOL: Shawnee Mission South HS
COLLEGE: Southwest Baptist, 2011 B.S. Public Relations; Arkansas, 2015 M.A. Human Resources and Development
FAMILY: Wife – Gillian; Daughters – Isabel and Camila

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2011 Southwest Baptist (Assistant OL)
2012 Hutchinson CC (OL/Recruiting Coordinator)
2013-15 Arkansas (Graduate Assistant)
2016 LSU (Graduate Assistant/TEs)
2017-18 Texas State (Offensive Line)
2019-20 BYU (Offensive Line)
2021-23 Baylor (Offensive Line)
2024-pres. Arkansas (Offensive Line)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
2009-10 Southwest Baptist





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NICK PERRY

Secondary

Nick Perry joins Arkansas as the Razorbacks' secondary coach.

Perry spent the 2024 season with the Seattle Seahawks as a defensive assistant. Prior to his time in Seattle, Perry worked three seasons for the Atlanta Falcons as the team's assistant wide receivers coach in 2023 and two years as an assistant defensive backs coach (2021-22).

In Seattle, Perry's work with the secondary helped the Seahawks produce one of the better pass defenses in the NFL ranking ninth in the league in yards per attempt (6.9) and 12th in both passing yards allowed (3,930) and interceptions (13). Safety Julian Love led the team with 109 tackles while second-year cornerback Devon Witherspoon continued to develop, making 98 stops to go with one sack and nine pass breakups on his way to being named to the Pro Bowl. Love also picked off three passes to match safety Coby Bryant and cornerback Riq Woolen for the team lead.

Under Perry's tutelage in 2022, Atlanta safeties Richie Grant (122) and Jaylinn Hawkins (82) both set single-season career highs for total tackles. Grant added seven pass breakups to go with three tackles for loss, two interceptions, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery and one blocked punt. Hawkins ended the year with six pass breakups, two interceptions, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery and a touchdown. Rookie cornerback Dee Alford finished his first season with 25 total tackles, one interception and seven pass breakups.

Perry's work with Falcons' cornerback A.J. Terrell helped him earn second-team All-Pro from the Associated Press in 2021. Terrell limited opponents to 29 receptions for a paltry 200 yards on 66 targets. When targeted, Terrell held opposing passers to a 47.5 passer rating according to Pro Football Focus, marking the lowest passer rating by a cornerback that played at least 50 percent of coverage snaps that season.

In his lone season as an assistant wide receivers coach with the Falcons in 2023, Perry helped continue the growth of second-year receiver Drake London, who led the team in receiving yards with 905 yards. London caught 69 passes and improved his yards and yards per game (56.6) from his rookie season.



Perry began his coaching career back at his alma mater, Alabama, as a graduate assistant in 2017 before being promoted to an analyst role. As a member of the coaching staff, the Crimson Tide made three College Football Playoff appearances winning the national championship in 2017 and 2020. He worked with numerous future pros with the Tide including Trevon Diggs, Patrick Surtain II and Minkah Fitzpatrick.

The Prattville, Ala. native helped the Tide to back-to-back national championships in 2011-12 as a key member of the team's secondary. He later spent time with the Baltimore Ravens and Philadelphia Eagles before beginning his coaching career.

He and his wife, Ari, have one daughter, Mila Navy.

THE PERRY FILE

BIRTHDATE: Dec. 7, 1991
HOMETOWN: Prattville, Ala.
COLLEGE: Alabama, 2014 B.S. Business Management
FAMILY: Wife – Ari; Daughter – Mila Navy

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2017-18 Alabama (Graduate Assistant)
2019-20 Alabama (Defensive Analyst)
2021-22 Atlanta Falcons (Assistant Secondary)
2023 Atlanta Falcons (Assistant Wide Receivers)
2024 Seattle Seahawks (Defensive Assistant)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
2010-14 Alabama
2015 Baltimore Ravens
2016 Philadelphia Eagles


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FOOTBALL STAFF



KOLBY SMITH

Running Backs



Former NFL running back and NFL assistant coach Kolby Smith is in his second year on The Hill as the Razorbacks' running backs coach.

Following a four-year career in the NFL as a running back, Smith began his coaching career as a graduate assistant for the Razorbacks in 2012 before joining Bobby Petrino's staff at Western Kentucky as the Hilltoppers' running backs coach in 2013. He followed Petrino to Louisville the following year, where he coached the Cardinals' running backs for five seasons. Smith's relationship with Petrino dates back to Smith's college days as a running back at Louisville for Petrino (2003-06) during Petrino's first stint leading the Cardinals.

The Razorbacks produced one of the best offenses in the nation and in school history in Smith's first season in 2024. The Hogs ranked 10th nationally in total offense with 459.5 yards per game – fourth-best in a single season in school history. The team came up one rushing touchdown shy of matching the school record for rushing touchdowns with 34 scores, led by running back Ja'Quinden Jackson's 15 TDs. Jackson's 15 scores on the ground were the most by an Arkansas running back since Alex Collins set the school record with 20 in 2015. Jackson also led the team in rushing with 790 yards, including three consecutive 100-yard games to start the season, despite playing in only 10 games in his lone season at Arkansas on his way to earning All-SEC second-team honors from the Associated Press. The Hogs' 184.8 rushing yards per game ranked third in the Southeastern Conference and was helped by the team rushing for over 200 yards in six games with the squad's season-best 359 yards coming in the win at Mississippi State. In the win vs. the Bulldogs, true freshman Braylen Russell burst onto the scene with 175 yards on 16 carries in his first career start. Smith also developed transfer running back Rodney Hill, who ran for a season-high 81 yards on eight carries in the win over Texas Tech in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl.

Smith served four seasons (2020-23) on the staff of the Miami Dolphins working with the team's running backs, first as a quality control coach (2020-21) before being promoted to an offensive assistant role prior to the 2022 season. This past season, Smith helped the Dolphins' offense to record heights setting a franchise record with 6,899 total yards while ranking second in the league in both points per game (29.2) and passing yards per game (276.4) and sixth in rushing yards per game (135.8). Running back Raheem Mostert topped 1,000 yards for the first time in his career and led all NFL running backs with 18 rushing touchdowns. In 2022, Smith worked with an offense that finished in the top 10 (sixth, 364.5 yards per game) for the first time since 1995. Miami averaged 6.1 yards per play, which ranked second in the NFL.

Before his jump to the professional ranks, Smith spent seven seasons as a college assistant at Rutgers (2019), Louisville (2014-18) and Western Kentucky (2013).

In one season at Rutgers, Smith helped sophomore running back Isiah Pacheco improve in nearly every category. Pacheco set career-highs in carries (169), rushing yards (729) and rushing touchdowns (7), which led the Knights.

At Louisville, he helped the Cardinals to four bowls, while setting school records in rushing yards in back-to-back years in 2017 (3,186) and 2016 (3,148). In 2017, the Cardinals ranked 15th nationally in rushing (245.1 ypg) and totaled over 250 rushing yards in seven games. Smith's three running backs combined to rush for 1,225 yards and 14 touchdowns. The 2016 campaign saw the Cardinals total 37 scores on the ground, highlighted by the 903 yards and six touchdowns by Brandon Radcliff, who was second on the team with four 100-yard games.

During the 2015 campaign, Smith helped the Cardinals post their best rushing games in the second part of the season, running for over 200 yards in four of the final five games. That included a season-best 314 yards in a 38-24 victory over Kentucky. For the year, the Cardinals averaged 171.0 yards on the ground and totaled 23 touchdowns.

With a stable of running backs in 2014, Smith's unit ran for 28 touchdowns and averaged 142.7 yards per game in leading the Cardinals to a 9-4 record and a berth in the Belk Bowl. The team's backs recorded six 100-yard rushing games, including Brandon Radcliff, who tallied a team-best three 100-yard rushing games.

In his lone season with the Hilltoppers, Smith tutored Antonio Andrews, the nation's top all-purpose player, to a career season on the ground. Andrews reset the school rushing mark with 1,730 yards in 2013. WKU running backs combined for 30 of the team's 31 rushing touchdowns, led by Andrews' career-best 16. He also set a school record for the most 100-yard rushing games in a career (21), in a season (11) and consecutively (11). He generated 125 all-purpose yards in 25 consecutive games, a streak unmatched to within 10 games by any other player in the country. Smith's running backs also accounted for 724 receiving yards and a pair of touchdowns through the air.

As a player at Louisville, Smith helped the Cardinals to a 12-1 record as the primary back in 2006. Sharing the backfield that year with Michael Bush, Smith stepped in after an injury to Bush to average more than five yards per carry, scoring seven touchdowns on a team that defeated Wake Forest in the Orange Bowl, the program's first BCS victory.

For his career, Smith rushed for over 1,800 yards and scoring 18 rushing TDs while averaging nearly 6.0 yards per carry. He also caught 56 passes for over 500 yards and two touchdowns.

Smith was selected in the fifth round of the 2007 NFL Draft by the Kansas City Chiefs. He immediately made an impact in his rookie season, rushing for over 400 yards on 112 carries. Smith played in all 16 games in 2007, scoring a pair of touchdowns and earning AFC Offensive Player of the Week honors after rushing for 150 yards on 31 carries against the Raiders. He finished his NFL career in 2010, spending brief periods with the Denver Broncos and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Smith and his wife, Ashley, have three sons, Kolby Jr., Karter and Klay.

THE SMITH FILE

BIRTHDATE: December 15, 1984
HOMETOWN: Tallahassee, Fla.
HIGH SCHOOL: James S. Rickards HS
COLLEGE: Louisville, 2006
FAMILY: Wife – Ashley; Sons – Kolby Jr., Karter and Klay

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2012 Arkansas (Graduate Assistant)
2013 Western Kentucky (Running Backs)
2014-18 Louisville (Running Backs)
2019 Rutgers (Running Backs)
2020-21 Miami Dolphins (Offensive Quality Control)
2022-23 Miami Dolphins (Offensive Assistant)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
2003-06 Louisville

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FOOTBALL STAFF



MORGAN TURNER

Tight Ends

Veteran tight ends coach Morgan Turner enters his third season leading the Arkansas tight end room.

Before arriving at Arkansas, Turner spent 13 seasons at Stanford, including 10 seasons as the program's tight ends coach. During his tenure in Palo Alto, Turner built Stanford into a national brand among tight ends by producing numerous NFL tight ends such as Dalton Schultz, Austin Hooper, Coby Fleener, Levine Toilolo, Zach Ertz, Kaden Smith and most recently Colby Parkinson.

Turner's tight ends in 2024 featured a variety of skillsets and body types led by Luke Hasz, Andreas Paaske and Ty Washington, who combined for seven of the team's 16 touchdown receptions. Hasz's four touchdown catches led the team with his 324 yards fourth-best on the squad. He and Paaske each caught two touchdown passes in the win at Mississippi State. The two-score game was the first of Paaske's career and his first two touchdowns as a Razorback after transferring from Eastern Michigan. Paaske's steady development throughout the season was evident as the Denmark native saw his playing time increase as a key piece of the team's run blocking.

Turner displayed his ability to build depth in his tight end room during his first season with the Razorbacks with four different tight ends drawing at least three starting assignments. Turner quickly got true freshman Luke Hasz up to speed to start the first five games of the season before a season-ending injury cut his freshman campaign short. Hasz was impressive in his first five collegiate games, catching 16 passes for 253 yards and three touchdowns. His most impressive performance came on the road at LSU in a night game that saw him haul in six passes for 116 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Ty Washington was the next man up, earning three straight starts before an injury ended his season at Florida. Washington caught 11 passes for 170 yards and two touchdowns, all in a four-game span. He jumped on the scene with a seven-catch, 90-yard effort that included a pair of touchdowns at Ole Miss. Nathan Bax and Francis Sherman each started three games during their final college seasons.

The latest in Turner's long line of productive tight ends is junior Benjamin Yurosek, who caught 49 passes for 445 yards and a touchdown in 2022 to earn second-team All-Pac-12 honors. Yurosek's 49 receptions were second-most on the Cardinal roster and second-most among all tight ends in the Pac-12. Yurosek's sophomore campaign in 2021 was even better, leading the Cardinal with 658 receiving yards to earn honorable mention All-Pac-12. He averaged 15.3 yards per reception, recorded three games of 90+ yards receiving and hauled in 13 receptions of 20+ yards – all three ranked among the top three tight ends in the Power 5.



Parkinson is the latest of Turner's tight ends to make an impact in the NFL as a fourth-round selection by Seattle in 2020. He was a semifinalist for the Mackey Award – given annually to the nation's top tight end – and earned second-team All-Pac-12 recognition in 2019 after catching 48 passes for 589 yards and a score.

Schultz was a fourth-round pick by the Dallas Cowboys in 2018 after earning All-Pac-12 First Team leading a talented group of tight ends for Stanford in 2017. The unit snagged 12 of the team's 23 touchdown passes that season. Hooper is Turner's most recent All-American, having earned the distinction in 2015 after being named a finalist for the Mackey Award and first-team All-Pac-12 for catching 34 passes for 438 yards and six TDs. The Atlanta Falcons picked him in the third round of the 2016 draft.

In 2012, Turner assisted Ertz in becoming a unanimous All-American, Mackey Award finalist, first-team All-Pac-12 and a second-round pick by the Philadelphia Eagles. Ertz led all FBS tight ends in 2012 in receiving yards (898) and catches (69) to go along with six touchdowns. Along with Toilolo, Stanford tight ends led the nation that season in productivity catching a combined 93 passes for 1,291 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Turner has also displayed the ability to land elite recruits while also developing tight ends. He recruited Parkinson and Schultz, who were four-star tight ends coming out of high school and molded them into top NFL draft picks. He developed three-star recruits Hooper and Yurosek into All-Pac-12 performers for the Cardinal with Hooper eventually becoming a third-round NFL selection.

Before taking over the tight ends, Turner spent two seasons at Stanford as an offensive assistant and one as a sports performance intern. Prior to Stanford, he coached quarterbacks at Indiana State for one season (2009) after getting his start in coaching at Central (Ill.) High School in 2008 as the team's quarterbacks coach and scout team coordinator.

Turner graduated from Illinois in 2009, earning a bachelor's degree in finance. The Champaign, Ill. native served as a student coach for the Illini football team in 2004 and is the son of longtime NFL and collegiate head coach Ron Turner.

Turner and his wife, Melissa, have three children, two sons, Nico and Landon, and a daughter, Mia.

THE TURNER FILE

BIRTHDATE: August 27, 1985
COLLEGE: Illinois, 2009 B.S. Finance
FAMILY: Wife – Melissa; Sons – Nico and Landon; Daughter – Mia

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2009 Indiana State (Quarterbacks)
2010 Stanford (Sports Performance Intern)
2011-12 Stanford (Offensive Assistant)
2013-22 Stanford (Tight Ends)
2023-pres. Arkansas (Tight Ends)



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BEN SOWDERS

Director of
Strength & Conditioning

Ben Sowders is in his third season leading the Razorbacks' strength and conditioning program as the Director of Strength & Conditioning.

In 2024, he earned the highest honor a strength and conditioning coach can receive when he was named a Master Strength & Conditioning Coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association. The title of Master Strength & Conditioning Coach represents professionalism, knowledge, experience, expertise and longevity in the field. To earn the distinguished status, a strength and conditioning coach must be an active member of the CSCCA, be a strength and conditioning certified coach and a full-time collegiate and/or professional strength and conditioning coach for a minimum of 12 years.

Sowders' work with Landon Jackson helped transform the talented defensive lineman into a third-round pick by the Buffalo Bills in the NFL Draft. Jackson saw big gains in the weight room and showed off those skills at the NFL Combine, where he ran 4.68 in the 40-yard dash along with a 40.5-inch vertical jump and a broad jump of 10 feet, 9 inches. Jackson's performance, however, was not the most impressive by a Razorback with wide receiver Isaac TeSlaa recording one of the best combine workouts in the history of the event. TeSlaa's Athleticism Score of 96 led all wide receivers at the 2025 combine. He ran a 4.43 in the 40-yard dash with a vertical jump of 39.5 inches and a broad jump of 10 feet, 9 inches. TeSlaa's combine performance helped him move up draft boards to become the first Arkansas wide receiver to be picked since 2022 when the Detroit Lions selected him with the 70th overall pick.

The first Arkansas team under Sowders' watch saw gains in the weight room, including offensive lineman Beaux Limmer who squatted 745 pounds prior to the start of the 2023 season. Limmer was later selected in the NFL Draft by the Los Angeles Rams along with kicker Cam Little, who was picked by Jacksonville. Little's improved strength helped him become the youngest kicker to ever be selected in the NFL Draft.

Sowders came to Arkansas after spending the 2022 season at Louisville as the Director of Strength & Conditioning for the Cardinals. This past season the Cardinals went 7-5 and earned a spot in the Fenway Bowl.

Sowders worked with Pittman at Georgia during the 2018-19 seasons – Sowders' first of four seasons with the Bulldogs. As the Assistant Director of Strength & Conditioning, he worked with 20 student-athletes that went onto play in the NFL while also helping the Dawgs to the 2022 National Championship and three trips to the SEC Championship Game.

Prior to his time at Georgia, the Bowling Green, Ky. native spent one season at McNeese State as the Director of Strength & Conditioning. The Cowboys posted a 9-2 record in his lone season in Lake Charles, La. Sowders spent two seasons at Georgia Tech (2015-16) after two seasons at Gardner-Webb, where he was responsible for the training of the Bulldogs' 21 Division I programs.



His first full-time collegiate position was at Southern Miss, where he led the strength and conditioning efforts for the Golden Eagles' men's and women's basketball, volleyball and softball programs while assisting with football. Prior to his time in Hattiesburg, Miss., He fulfilled a six-month internship at Alabama, where he worked with the Crimson Tide's football, volleyball, tennis and rowing teams.

Sowders earned his start in strength and conditioning as a Facility Coordinator and Head Strength & Speed coach at D1 Sports Training in Nashville, Tenn. While at D1 Sports, he worked with numerous NFL players, including Steve Smith, Jerome Bettis, Donovan McNabb and Kyle Vanden Bosch.

He earned his bachelor's degree in exercise science from Western Kentucky in December 2008 after playing for the Hilltoppers as a linebacker. Sowders began his career as a walk-on before earning a scholarship and becoming a two-year starter. As a senior in 2008, he recorded 47 tackles with 2.5 tackles for loss for the Hilltoppers and added 29 tackles and 3.0 tackles for loss as a junior in 2007.

He received his master's degree in recreation and sport administration in August of 2010 from WKU. He is a member of the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCa), a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) and certified by USA Weightlifting.

Sowders is married to the former Shelbee Rodgers and the couple has one daughter, Gibson.

THE SOWDERS FILE

BIRTHDATE: Dec. 20, 1985
COLLEGE: Western Kentucky, 2008 B.S. Exercise Science; 2010 M.S. Recreation and Sport Administration
FAMILY: Wife – Shelbee Rodgers, Daughter – Gibson

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2012-13 Southern Miss
(Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach)
2013-14 Gardner-Webb
(Director of Strength & Conditioning)
2015-16 Georgia Tech
(Assistant Director of Player Development)
2017 McNeese State
(Director of Strength & Conditioning)
2018-21 Georgia
(Assistant Director of Strength & Conditioning)
2022 Louisville (Director of Strength & Conditioning)
2023-pres. Arkansas
(Director of Strength & Conditioning)

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AURMON SATCHELL

Senior Associate Director
of Strength & Conditioning



Aurmon Satchell joined the Arkansas staff as the team's Senior Associate Director of Strength & Conditioning in December 2022.

Satchell spent one year at Louisville as an associate strength coach working with Ben Sowders, who was the Director of Strength & Conditioning for the Cardinals. Prior to Louisville, Satchell was at the University of New Mexico, where he served as the director of athletic performance beginning in 2016. While at UNM, he oversaw all aspects of the athletic performance department for the Lobos, and supervising six assistant performance coaches.

Satchell previously worked on the football strength and conditioning staffs at South Carolina (2012-16 and 2009-11) and Indiana (2011-12). He also spent two years working at Minnesota. Outside the weight room, Satchell spent time volunteering at the Lowry Family Center mentoring at risk youth.

A 2007 graduate of the University of Texas, Satchell was a four-year member of the Longhorn football team as a linebacker.



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DANNY WHEELER
Director of Player Development



NEIL HARRELL
Assistant Director of Player Development



JAZZ GREWAL
Player Development Graduate Assistant



DYLAN CRUZ
Assistant WR's / Offensive Quality Control



MILES FISHBACK
Assistant QB's / Senior Offensive Quality Control



CHRISTOPHER BROWNE
Assistant OL / Senior Offensive Quality Control



CHE HENDRIX
Assistant DB's / High School Relations



RYAN BRIGHT
Assistant LB's / Defensive Quality Control



CHRIS WILSON
Assistant DL / Senior Defensive Quality Control



CHRIS NORRIS
Special Teams Analyst



ADAM DULKA
Special Teams Graduate Assistant



GAGE WHITE
Assistant RB's / Graduate Assistant Offense



ARMANI LINTON
Assistant DB's / Graduate Assistant Defense



TYRONE HOPPER
Assistant DL / Graduate Assistant Defense



JOVON HUBBARD
Director of Personnel



DAVID BOWEN
Assistant Director of Personnel



CHARLIE WILLIAMS
Director of Football Management / NFL Liaison



HANNA AXENE-SORENSEN
Director of Football Relations



SHAY TAYLOR
Director of Recruiting



MADDIE LYONS
Director of On Campus Recruiting



ELIZA VANDEWALLE
Director of Creative Media



JOSH MINDEMANN
Senior Graphic Designer



SULLIVAN ORTEGA
Creative Content Producer



ZACH REED
Associate Director of Strength & Conditioning



TOMMY McCHESNEY
Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach



COLE FORNEY
Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach



BROOKS GILLERLAIN
Director of Football Nutrition



VINCENT BLANKENSHIP
Director of Athletic Training



TAMARIA HIBBLER
Assistant Athletic Trainer



PAULINA PIECH
Assistant Athletic Trainer



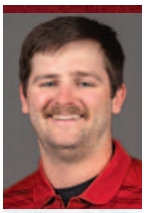
ALLIE CHARLESON
Assistant Athletic Trainer



DALTON WITHROW
Director of Football Equipment Operations



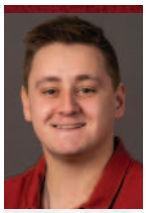
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Assistant Football Equipment Manager



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