

# JAMES FRANKLIN

PENN STATE FOOTBALL HEAD COACH



**1<sup>ST</sup>**

ALL-TIME IN WINS AND WINNING PERCENTAGE BY AN FBS AFRICAN AMERICAN HEAD COACH (MINIMUM 80 WINS)

**6**

OF THE LAST 8 SEASONS UNDER FRANKLIN, PENN STATE IS 1 OF 6 TEAMS TO RANK IN THE TOP 12 OF THE CFP FINAL RANKINGS AT LEAST 6 TIMES

**8<sup>th</sup>**

IN TOTAL WINS AMONG POWER 4 ACTIVE HEAD COACHES

**9<sup>th</sup>**

LONGEST TENURED HEAD COACH AT THE SAME INSTITUTION IN THE FBS

**12**

TOP 25 RECRUITING CLASSES IN THE LAST 12 YEARS

**12<sup>th</sup>**

IN TOTAL WINS AMONG ACTIVE FBS HEAD COACHES

**14<sup>th</sup>**

YEAR AS A HEAD COACH IN THE BIG TEN OR SEC

**29**

YEARS OF COLLEGIATE AND PROFESSIONAL COACHING

**107**

PLAYERS COACHED TO THE NFL IN FIRST 13 SEASONS AS A HEAD COACH

**1K**

PENN STATE POSTED ITS FIRST 1,000 SINGLE-YEAR APR IN PROGRAM HISTORY IN 2018-19



KUTZTOWN 1995



EAST STROUDSBURG 1996



JAMES MADISON 1997



WASHINGTON STATE 1998



IDAHO STATE 1999



MARYLAND 2000-04



GREEN BAY PACKERS 2005



KANSAS STATE 2006-07



MARYLAND 2008-10



VANDERBILT 2011-13



PENN STATE 2014-PRESENT

THE PATH TO PENN STATE

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

James Franklin, a 29-year football coaching veteran, was appointed Penn State's 16th head football coach on January 11, 2014 and enters his 14th season as a collegiate head coach. Franklin's career head coaching record is 112-54 and is one of five active FBS coaches with a 66-plus winning percentage and 13-plus years coaching experience. Franklin attributes his success on the field to the strength of his teams' dedication to four core values: positive attitude, great work ethic, compete in everything you do and must be willing to sacrifice.

Under Franklin's direction, Penn State has finished in the top 12 of the final College Football Playoff rankings in six of the last eight seasons, has earned berths in five New Year's Six bowl games with three wins and won the 2016 Big Ten Championship. Franklin guided the Nittany Lions to a school-record 93% graduation success rate in the most recent GSR report and a perfect single-year 1,000 APR for the 2018-19 school year.

## CAREER AT A GLANCE

- Franklin was named the 16th head football coach in the storied history of the Nittany Lion program on January 11, 2014.
- Franklin has 29 years of coaching experience at the collegiate and NFL level.
- He is one of four current FBS coaches to lead his teams to a bowl game in 12 of their first 13 seasons and has guided Penn State to five New Year's Six bowls.
- Since 2014, Franklin's first season with the Nittany Lions, Penn State owns wins in three New Year's Six bowl games, joining Alabama, Clemson, Georgia, Ohio State and Oregon as the only FBS schools with three or more wins in that span.
- Franklin is one of three current Big Ten coaches (Ryan Day and Kirk Ferentz) to have won a Big Ten Championship and became the first African American head coach to win a Big Ten title after Penn State's 2016 victory.
- He owns a 112-54 career record, leading his teams to five Top 10 finishes (all at Penn State) and eight Top 25 finishes (2 at Vanderbilt; 6 at Penn State).
- Of the 15 current coaches with 100 career wins at the FBS level, Franklin is one of six with all of their first 100 wins coming while coaching at a Power Four program.
- Since 2016, Franklin's .724 win percentage (74-27) ranks sixth among current FBS coaches.
- In the last eight seasons under Franklin, Penn State is one of six teams to rank in the top 12 of the College Football Playoff final rankings at least six times.
- With PSU's victory in the Rose Bowl Game to conclude the 2022 season, he became the fifth coach to win the Rose, Fiesta and Cotton Bowls at the same institution, joining Joe Paterno (Penn State), Bob Stoops (Oklahoma), Mack Brown (Texas) and Terry Donahue (UCLA).
- From 2016-19, Franklin led PSU to three New Year's Six bowls - 2016 (Rose), 2017 (Fiesta) and 2019 (Cotton) - marking the first time Penn State as a program went to three New Year's Six bowls in four years since 1980-83 (1980 Fiesta, 1982 Fiesta, 1983 Sugar).
- Franklin's squads won three New Year's Six bowl games in six years (2017-22), marking the first time PSU has won three New Year's Six bowl games in a six-year span since 1991 (Fiesta), 1995 (Rose) and 1997 (Fiesta).
- He guided Penn State to back-to-back New Year's Six bowls in 2016 (Rose) and 2017 (Fiesta) for the first time since 1985 (Orange) and 1986 (Fiesta), and again in 2022 (Rose) and 2023 (Peach).
- Penn State was ranked in the AP Top 25 for the 63 consecutive polls in which it was eligible from 2016-20, marking the third-longest streak in program history and longest streak since 1993-2000 when PSU was ranked for 121-straight weeks.
- From 2016-19, Franklin led Penn State to 42 wins, the most in program history for the Big Ten era in a four-year span, and 28 league wins, a program record.
- In his first 13 seasons as a head coach, Franklin mentored 107 players reaching the NFL ranks.
- Franklin has coached 16 All-Americans and 54 NFL Draft picks at Penn State.
- Forty-five Penn State players have been selected in the last seven NFL Drafts, the most for PSU in a seven-draft span since 1991-97 (45 players). In addition, five-plus Nittany Lions have been drafted in seven-consecutive years, the longest streak for PSU since 1978-84.
- Franklin has secured top-25 recruiting classes each of his last 12 seasons, including a top-5 class at Penn State in 2018 and the No. 6 class in 2022.
- Franklin is first all-time in wins and winning percentage (minimum 80 wins) by an FBS African American head coach.
- He became the first (and only) African American head coach to win a Big Ten title and is the first (and only) African American FBS head coach to reach 100 career wins.
- Franklin's victories in the Fiesta Bowl, Pinstripe Bowl, Music City Bowl and Birmingham Bowl (formerly the Compass Bowl) marked the first time in each bowl's history an African American head coach earned the win.



## NITTANY LIONS ON THE FIELD

### 2023 Season

- Penn State posted a 10-win season for the second-straight year and reached the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl after finishing 10th in the College Football Playoff rankings.
- As a team, the Nittany Lions were second in the nation in turnover margin (1.23) and finished 12th in time of possession (32:32).
- PSU put together one of its top defensive performances in school history, leading the country in sacks (49) and rushing defense (75.5), while finishing second in total defense (246.7), tackles for loss (111) and fewest first downs allowed (13.9), third in scoring defense (13.5), fifth in fumble recoveries (12), seventh in passing defense (172.1), 11th in passing efficiency defense (116.4) and 12th in takeaways (24).
- The 49 sacks were a school record for Penn State and the Lions finished in the top 10 in program history in rushing defense (3rd), total defense (4th), yards per carry allowed (T-5th), forced fumbles (T-9th) and fumble recoveries (T-9th).
- Offensively, Penn State led the nation in fewest interceptions (2), and was third in fewest turnovers (8), fourth in red zone offense (95.3), 10th in fewest tackles for loss allowed (3.9) and 12th in scoring offense (36.2).
- The Nittany Lions' special teams unit finished sixth in the nation in net punting (42.9).
- Penn State had 29 All-Big Ten selections across offense, defense and special teams, highlighted by offensive tackle Olumuyiwa Fashanu, defensive end Chop Robinson, linebacker Abdul Carter and defensive end Adisa Isaac earning first-team laurels.
- Fashanu, the Big Ten Rimington-Pace Offensive Lineman of the Year and William V. Campbell Trophy finalist, was named a first-team All-American by the Associated Press, AFCA, Sporting News and the Walter Camp Football Foundation, clinching him consensus All-American status.
- Quarterback Drew Allar posted a touchdown-to-interception ratio of 12.5-to-1 during his first season as the starter, finishing second nationally behind Oregon's Bo Nix (15-to-1).
- Penn State's tight ends, consisting of Theo Johnson, Tyler Warren and Khalil Dinkins, combined for 16 receiving touchdowns, the most in the nation, and PSU was the only FBS team with multiple tight ends owning 7+ receiving touchdowns in 2023.
- Isaac finished fourth in the Big Ten in tackles for loss per game (1.2; T-28th nationally) and fifth in sacks per game (0.6).
- Punt returner Daequan Hardy led the nation in punt return touchdowns (2) while ranking first in the Big Ten and fifth nationally in punt return average (14.6).

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## 2022 Season

- With a 35-21 win over No. 8 Utah in the Rose Bowl Game, Franklin led the Nittany Lions to the program's first Rose Bowl victory since the 1994 season.
- Penn State earned its fourth 11-win season in the last seven years with an 11-2 record.
- The Nittany Lions finished 11th in the College Football Playoff rankings and were ranked seventh in both the Associated Press and Amway Coaches polls.
- A total of 94 players on the roster played at least one snap during the season, which included 22 true freshmen.
- Penn State propelled itself into one of the top defensive units in the nation, ranking 10th in the country in scoring defense and tied for ninth in takeaways.
- The Nittany Lions finished first nationally with 85 pass breakups and had four games with double-digit pass breakups.
- PSU led the Big Ten with 104 tackles for loss (T-4th nationally) and 42 sacks (T-6th), and 26 different Nittany Lions had at least a full tackle for loss, good for second in the nation.
- The Nittany Lions additionally had 16 players who recorded at least one sack, tied for the nation's lead among Power Five teams.
- Penn State recorded at least seven tackles for loss in each of the last eight games of 2022.
- PSU's offense finished third in the Big Ten in fourth down conversion percentage (.700; 6th nationally), scoring offense (35.8; 19th) and total offense (433.6; 33rd).
- The Nittany Lions did not allow a sack in four games during the year, the most for Penn State since 2011 (5 games).
- Running backs Nicholas Singleton and Kaytron Allen became the first freshman duo in Big Ten history to both rush for 700-plus yards in a season.
- Penn State had 23 All-Big Ten selections across offense, defense and special teams in 2022, with cornerback Joey Porter Jr. leading the way as a first-team honoree.
- Singleton was named the Big Ten Thompson-Randle El Freshman of the Year, becoming the fourth Penn State player to win the Big Ten Freshman of the Year award and the 11th conference major award winner in the Franklin era.
- Penn State had three second-team All-Americans in Porter, offensive lineman Olumuyiwa Fashanu and cornerback Kalen King.
- Chris Stoll won the Patrick Mannelly Award, honoring the nation's top long snapper.
- Quarterback Sean Clifford closed out his career breaking school records in wins by a starting quarterback (32), completions (833), passing touchdowns (86), passing yards (10,661) and total yards (11,734).

## 2021 Season

- The Nittany Lions earned a spot in a New Year's Day bowl with an Outback Bowl berth.
- With wins over No. 12/15 Wisconsin and No. 22/20 Auburn, Penn State tallied two wins over ranked teams within the first three games of the season for the first time in program history.
- PSU's defense allowed just 17.3 points per game in 2021, good for sixth in the country.
- The Nittany Lion defense allowed opponents only a 66.7% conversion rate in the red zone, ranking third nationally.
- Penn State gave up just 11 passing touchdowns on the year, ranking fourth in the nation, while yielding 199.8 passing yards per game, ranking 23rd.
- The special teams unit was strong on punt and kick coverage, as the Nittany Lions ranked second in the country in net punting (44.5), fifth in kickoff return defense (14.0) and ninth in punt return defense (2.79).
- The Nittany Lions earned 18 All-Big Ten selections across offense, defense and special teams, led by four first-team honorees - wide receiver Jahan Dotson, safety Jaquan Brisker, defensive end Arnold Ebiketie and punter Jordan Stout.
- Stout was named the Big Ten Eddleman-Fields Punter of the Year, becoming the first Penn State player to win the award.
- Safety Ji'Ayir Brown tied for the nation's lead with six interceptions, the most for a Penn State player since 2006, and became the first Nittany Lion with six interceptions and two fumble recoveries in a season since 2005.
- Defensive end and second-team All-American Arnold Ebiketie paced the Big Ten with 17.0 tackles for loss and was second among Power Five defensive linemen in tackles for loss and tied for seventh in sacks.
- Dotson, a third-team All-American wideout, was a Biletnikoff Award and Walter Camp Player of the Year semifinalist and finished his career third all-time at Penn State in career receiving touchdowns (23) and fourth in receptions (175) and receiving yards (2,620).
- Stout, a Ray Guy Award finalist, set Penn State's school record for career punt average (44.54) and season punt average (46.01) and became the second specialist in Big Ten history to earn Special Teams player of the Week in a season four times.

## 2020 Season

- With Franklin's emphasis on safety, along with the precautions he, the coaching staff, medical team and support staff established, the Nittany Lions were one of only two Big Ten teams to play all nine of its scheduled games during a shortened 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Penn State paced the Big Ten in first downs (223) and was second in total offense (430.3).
- Tight end Pat Freiermuth was selected as the Kwalick-Clark Big Ten Tight End of the Year, becoming Penn State's first tight end to win the award.
- Despite missing five of PSU's nine games due to a season-ending injury, Freiermuth led Big Ten tight ends in receiving yards (310). Prior to his injury, Freiermuth led all FBS tight ends with 5.8 receptions per game and ranked fifth averaging 77.5 receiving yards per game.
- Wide receiver Jahan Dotson led the league in receiving yardage (884; 19th nationally) and was tied for the nation's lead in catches of 60-plus yards (4). Dotson also finished the year averaging 24.6 yards per punt return, a school record.
- Penn State ranked third in the Big Ten in total defense (328.8; 17th nationally), second in passing defense (198.6; 24th), second in tackles for loss (6.7 per game) and fourth in rushing defense (130.2).
- The Nittany Lions earned 16 All-Big Ten honors (six on offense, nine on defense and one on special teams), including first-team laurels for Freiermuth, defensive end Odafe Oweh and defensive end Shaka Toney.
- Oweh and Toney became the first Penn State defensive end duo to receive first-team honors since Courtney Brown and Brad Scioli in 1998.

## THE FRANKLIN FILE

**BORN:** Langhorne, Pennsylvania

**UNDERGRADUATE:** East Stroudsburg, 1995 (Bachelor's degree in psychology)  
Playing career: Quarterback, 1991-94

**GRADUATE:** Washington State, 1999 (Master's degree in educational leadership)

**FAMILY:** Wife: Fumi; daughters: Shola & Addison

**NAMED PENN STATE HEAD COACH:** January 11, 2014

### COACHING CAREER:

Penn State, 2014-present - Head Coach

Vanderbilt, 2011-13 - Head Coach

Maryland, 2008-10 - Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks

Kansas State, 2006-07 - Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks

Green Bay Packers, 2005 - Wide Receivers

Maryland, 2000-04 - Wide Receivers/Recruiting Coordinator

Idaho State, 1999 - Wide Receivers

Washington State, 1998 - Graduate Assistant/Tight Ends

James Madison, 1997 - Wide Receivers

East Stroudsburg, 1996 - Graduate Assistant/Secondary

Kutztown, 1995 - Wide Receivers

### COACHING CAREER RECORD:

Year	School	Record	Conference Finish	Bowl
2011	Vanderbilt	6-7	T-4th (East)	Liberty: Lost to Cincinnati, 31-24
2012	Vanderbilt	9-4	4th (East)	Music City: Beat N.C. State, 38-24
2013	Vanderbilt	9-4	4th (East)	BBVA Compass: Beat Houston, 41-24
2014	Penn State	7-6	6th (East)	Pinstripe: Beat Boston College, 31-30 (OT)
2015	Penn State	7-6	4th (East)	TaxSlayer: Lost to Georgia, 24-17
2016	Penn State	11-3	T-1st (East); B1G Champions	Rose: Lost to USC, 52-49
2017	Penn State	11-2	T-2nd (East)	Fiesta: Beat Washington, 35-28
2018	Penn State	9-4	3rd (East)	Citrus: Lost to Kentucky, 27-24
2019	Penn State	11-2	2nd (East)	Cotton: Beat Memphis, 53-39
2020	Penn State	4-5	3rd (East)	
2021	Penn State	7-6	4th (East)	Outback: Lost to Arkansas, 24-10
2022	Penn State	11-2	3rd (East)	Rose: Beat Utah, 35-21
2023	Penn State	10-3	3rd (East)	Peach: Lost to Ole Miss, 38-25
<b>Totals</b>		<b>112-54</b>	<b>1 B1G Championship</b>	<b>Bowls: Won 6, Lost 6</b>

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## 2019 Season

- Penn State earned its third 11-win season in the last four years with an 11-2 record, including a win over No. 17 Memphis in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic.
- Penn State posted its fourth-straight top 12 finish in the final College Football Playoff rankings, coming in 10th.
- The Nittany Lions were ranked ninth in the final Associated Press and Amway Coaches polls.
- The Nittany Lions ended the season in the AP Top 25 in four consecutive seasons for the first time since a seven-year stint from 1993-99.
- Franklin was a finalist for the Paul "Bear" Bryant National Coach of the Year award for the second time at Penn State (2016) and third time in his head coaching career.
- Defense was dominant for the Nittany Lions, finishing in the top 10 nationally in yards per rush (1st; 2.55), forced fumbles (1st; 22), rushing defense (5th; 95.0), sacks (7th; 3.46), scoring defense (8th; 16.0) and fumble recoveries (10th; 12). Penn State was also 11th in tackles for loss (7.8).
- The Nittany Lions' 22 forced fumbles were the second-most in program history behind the school standard of 25 set in 1968.
- Offensively, the Nittany Lions continued to put up big numbers, ranking 15th in the country in scoring offense with a 35.8 average.
- The Penn State special teams unit made big gains in 2019, recording three blocked punts to finish third in the nation and four blocked kicks overall, which was sixth.
- Jonathan Sutherland led the way with a pair of blocked punts in the season-opener against Idaho, marking the first time since 2000 the Nittany Lions had two blocks in a game.
- The Nittany Lions had 19 players garner All-Big Ten accolades, including two first-team selections in Micah Parsons and Yetur Gross-Matos.
- Parsons was also selected as the Big Ten Butkus-Fitzgerald Linebacker of the Year to become the third Nittany Lion to claim the award, joining Mike Hull (2014) and Michael Mauti (2012).
- Parsons was the first sophomore in conference history to win Big Ten Linebacker of the Year.
- In addition, Parsons became the 101st first-team All-American and 43rd consensus All-American in Penn State history. He collected first-team accolades from the Associated Press and American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) and second-team from the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA), Walter Camp Foundation and Sporting News.
- Tight end Pat Freiermuth was a finalist for the John Mackey Award for the nation's top tight end and took home All-America accolades with a bid on the AFCA second team.

## 2018 Season

- The Nittany Lions posted their third-straight season with at least nine wins in 2018 with a 9-4 overall record.
- Penn State finished No. 12 in the College Football Playoff rankings and No. 17 in the AP and Amway Coaches polls.
- The defense led the way for the Nittany Lions in 2018, finishing in the top 20 in team passing efficiency (8th; 106.10), red zone defense (11th; .750), passing yards allowed (15th; 181.5) and third down conversion defense (19th; .336).
- The Penn State defense was a permanent fixture in the opposition's backfield, leading the country in sacks (3.62) for the second time in the last four years and ranking fourth in tackles for loss (8.2).
- On the offensive side of the ball, the Nittany Lions posted their highest rushing average (204.9) since 2008 (205.8) and were No. 16 nationally in red zone offense (.897).
- Penn State had 15 players garner All-Big Ten accolades, including two first-team selections in Amani Oruwariye and Yetur Gross-Matos.
- Quarterback Trace McSorley capped his career as PSU's career record holder for passing yards (9,899), completions (720), 300-yard passing games (10), 200-yard passing games (28), rushing yards by a quarterback (1,697), rushing touchdowns by a quarterback (30), passing touchdowns (77), total offense yards (11,596), touchdowns responsible for (107), wins as a starting quarterback (31) and consecutive games with a touchdown pass (34).
- In addition, McSorley set eight season records during his time in the Blue & White - passing yards, passing touchdowns, completions, 200-yard passing games, 300-yard passing games, rushing touchdowns by a quarterback, total offense yards, touchdowns responsible for and the game record for yards of total offense.
- Blake Gillikin set the Penn State record for punting average in a season with a 44.00 mark, besting the previous record of 43.55 set by Ralph Giacommaro in 1981.

## 2017 Season

- Penn State continued to be among the nation's elite in 2017, climbing as high as No. 2 in the rankings and appearing in a second-straight New Year's Six bowl, earning a 35-28 win over No. 11 Washington in the PlayStation Fiesta Bowl.
- The Nittany Lions earned back-to-back 11-win seasons for the fifth time in program history and first time since 2008 and 2009 with an 11-2 record.
- Penn State finished the season No. 8 in the Associated Press and Amway Coaches polls and No. 9 in the final College Football Playoff rankings.
- The Nittany Lions used a balanced attack with a high-scoring offense and a stingy defense to lead the nation in scoring differential with a +24.6 margin.
- Offensively, Penn State finished seventh nationally with a 41.1 scoring average, the third-highest in program history, and 19th in total offense with a 460.3 average, which also ranked third in PSU history.
- Defensively, the Nittany Lions were seventh in the country in scoring average (16.5 ppg) and sacks (3.23 spg), while coming in 17th in total defense (329.5).
- Running back Saquon Barkley finished a stellar collegiate career by winning the Paul Hornung Award for the nation's most versatile player, three major Big Ten awards - Graham-George Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year, Ameche-Dayne Big Ten Running Back of the Year, Rodgers-Dwight Big Ten Return Specialist of the Year - and the Chicago Tribune Silver Football for the second-straight season. Barkley became just the fifth player since 1924 to win two career Silver Football honors.
- Barkley became the 100th first-team All-American in program history with Consensus All-America honors and finished fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting.
- The Nittany Lions had 18 players garner All-Big Ten accolades, including four first-team selections in Barkley (running back and return specialist), Marcus Allen and Mike Gesicki.
- McSorley, who was the Offensive MVP of the PlayStation Fiesta Bowl, followed up his record-breaking 2016 campaign with another outstanding season. In 2017, McSorley broke the Penn State single-season record for completions (284), total offense (4,061), touchdowns responsible for (37), 300-yard passing games (5) and 200-yard passing games (11).
- McSorley also became the second player in Big Ten history with 25 passing touchdowns and 10 rushing scores in a season, joining Ohio State's J.T. Barrett (2014, 2017).
- Wide receiver DaeSean Hamilton ended his Penn State career as the program's career receptions leader (214) and second in school history in receiving yards (2,842).
- The Nittany Lions sent nine players to senior all-star games, which is the most since 2003 when nine student-athletes were in postseason games (Senior Bowl: Allen, Gesicki, Hamilton, Christian Campbell; East-West Shrine Bowl: Hamilton, Jason Cabinda, Curtis Cothran, Parker Cothren, Grant Haley; NFLPA Collegiate Bowl: Troy Apke). Apke was the MVP of the NFLPA Collegiate Bowl.



Heather Crowder Photography

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## 2016 Season

- The Nittany Lions surged in 2016, winning nine consecutive games en route to the Big Ten Championship, a Rose Bowl berth and an 11-3 overall record.
- Penn State finished the season ranked No. 5 in the College Football Playoff rankings and No. 7 in the Associated Press and Amway Coaches polls. It was Penn State's highest finish in the polls since 2005.
- The Nittany Lions claimed their fourth overall Big Ten Championship and first outright title since 1994 with a thrilling 38-31 comeback win over Wisconsin in the Big Ten Championship Game.
- In 2016, Franklin was honored as Sporting News National Coach of the Year and the Woody Hayes National Coach of the Year, as well as the Dave McLain Big Ten Coach of the Year and Associated Press Big Ten Coach of the Year.
- Franklin was also a finalist for the Paul "Bear" Bryant, Eddie Robinson and Associated Press National Coach of the Year awards.
- The 2016 season brought record-breaking performances from the Nittany Lions as the offense set marks for total offense (6,056), passing yards (3,650), points scored (526) and double-digit comeback wins (4).
- The Nittany Lions' +14.4 scoring improvement in 2016 ranked fourth in the nation and second among Power Five schools.
- Barkley was selected as the Graham-George Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year, Ameche-Dayne Big Ten Running Back of the Year and Chicago Tribune Silver Football winner for the conference's top player.
- McSorley was named the Grange-Griffin Big Ten Championship Game MVP and Maxwell Club Tri-State Player of the Year. The second-team All-Big Ten honoree was the first Penn State quarterback to win all-conference honors since Daryll Clark in 2009.
- Defensively the Nittany Lions finished seventh nationally in tackles for loss (8.1) and 19th in sacks (2.86).



## 2015 Season

- Franklin guided the Nittany Lions to a 7-6 record in 2015 and a berth in the TaxSlayer Bowl.
- Under Franklin's tutelage, Carl Nassib claimed a trio of national awards – Lombardi Award, Lott IMPACT Trophy and Ted Hendricks Award – and became Penn State's 13th unanimous Consensus All-American.
- Nassib also led the nation in sacks with a school-record 15.5.
- The 2015 season also saw Christian Hackenberg break every Penn State career passing record, including passing yards, passing touchdowns and completions, and true freshman Saquon Barkley set the freshman season rushing record with a 1,000-yard campaign.
- Barkley earned Big Ten Network's Freshman of the Year and claimed second-team All-Big Ten honors, while wide receiver Chris Godwin (second team) and defensive tackles Austin Johnson (second team) and Anthony Zettel (third team) also earned All-Big Ten accolades.

## 2014 Season

- Franklin's first season was bookended with a pair of thrilling victories for the Nittany Lions. The Penn State head coach's inaugural season began with a final-play 26-24 victory over UCF in Dublin, Ireland, in Penn State's first-ever international game and ended with a comeback, 31-30 overtime win over Boston College in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl in Yankee Stadium. The Nittany Lions overcame a 14-point deficit late in the third quarter, tying the largest comeback in Penn State's bowl history.
- Franklin became just the third Penn State coach to lead the team to at least seven wins in his first season, joining Dick Harlow (1915) and Bill O'Brien (2012).
- Franklin guided the Lions to a 4-0 start, joining Harlow as the only first-year Penn State coaches to win their initial four games.
- In Franklin's first season at Penn State, he helped Mike Hull to the Butkus-Fitzgerald Big Ten Linebacker of the Year award to carry on the "Linebacker U" tradition.
- Zettel earned All-Big Ten first-team honors, while receiver DaeSean Hamilton garnered All-Big Ten second-team accolades after pulling in 82 catches for 899 yards.

## NITTANY LIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

- The Nittany Lions posted their first 1,000 single-year APR in program history in 2018-19, topping the previous high of 993 in 2014-15.
- Olumuyiwa Fashanu (2023), Sean Clifford (2021) and Trace McSorley (2018) have all been selected as National Football Foundation (NFF) Scholar-Athletes and finalists for the Campbell Trophy, known as the "Academic Heisman." They are the 18th, 19th and 20th Nittany Lions to be selected as an NFF Scholar-Athlete.
- In 2019, punter Blake Gillikin took home CoSIDA Academic All-America® first-team honors for the second-straight year to become the 12th two-time first-team selection in Penn State history. He graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average in May 2020.
- Gillikin's two first-team CoSIDA Academic All-America honors increased Penn State football's total to 67 honorees, which ranks second in Division I football history (FBS and FCS).
- Tyler Yazujian collected a berth on the CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team in 2016 after an appearance on the second team in 2015.
- A program-record 10 Nittany Lions were named 2020-21 Big Ten Distinguished Scholars, besting the previous mark of nine set a year earlier.
- Penn State had a program-record 38 student-athletes claim Academic All-Big Ten honors in the fall of 2021, besting the previous mark of 35 set by Franklin's squad in 2017.
- In the 2020 fall semester, five student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 grade-point average (GPA), 37 made Dean's List (3.5 GPA or higher) and 86 posted a 3.0 GPA or higher with the University's alternative COVID-19 grading system in place. The team posted a 3.39 mark with 29 players earning Academic All-Big Ten recognition.
- In the 2020 spring semester, 14 Nittany Lions posted a perfect 4.0 GPA and 89 squad members with at least a 3.0 GPA with the alternative grading also in effect.
- A total of 56 Nittany Lions earned a 3.0 GPA or higher during the 2015 fall semester, which set a school record.
- Fifty-two squad members compiled at least a 3.0 GPA in the fall of 2019, which was the second-highest semester total in program history.

## NITTANY LIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

- The Nittany Lions are active in the community, participating in activities such as Uplifting Athletes, THON, Pennsylvania Special Olympics Summer Games, State College Area Food Bank and Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital visits.
- In 2023 and 2024, Penn State Football partnered with Soles4Souls, whose mission is to turn unwanted shoes and clothing into opportunities, keeping them from going to waste and providing relief, creating jobs and empowering people to break the cycle of poverty.

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

- Student-athletes spent five days in Guatemala (2023) and the Dominican Republic (2024) in the partnership with Soles4Souls.
- On June 15, 2020, Franklin was named to the Big Ten Equality Coalition, which includes student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, chancellors, presidents and other members of the Big Ten family representing all 14 member institutions.
- Franklin and his wife, Fumi, established the Franklin Family Educational Equity Scholarship to help make the Penn State experience affordable for students who haven't had access to enroll in the past.
- As part of the Cotton Bowl festivities in 2019, Franklin and his family made a \$10,000 financial commitment to the Dallas Children's Hospital.
- In August 2019, Franklin was named a Penn State University Renaissance Fund honoree, which awards outstanding community members for helping students in need.
- Quarterback Sean Clifford (2021) and linebacker Brandon Smith (2017) were selected to the Allstate AFCA Good Works team for their selflessness and community service. Clifford and Smith are the fourth and fifth overall winners of the award in Penn State history.
- Clifford was selected one of three finalists for the Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Award in 2022, recognizing a student-athlete who demonstrates a record of leadership by exhibiting exceptional courage, integrity and sportsmanship on and off the field.
- The engaging and enthusiastic Franklin is a popular speaker and media interview subject. He was a guest analyst on ESPN's coverage from the site of college football's National Championship game, spending a day appearing on various ESPN platforms in 2013 and 2014. In 2015, Franklin joined the FOX studio crew for pregame, halftime and postgame coverage of the Big Ten Championship Game.
- In February 2015, Franklin was the lone college head coach among the speakers and panelists at the prestigious MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference in Boston. He was a panelist for the session, "The Formula to Win: College Football Analytics," which was moderated by ESPN reporter Rachel Nichols.
- Franklin has also been an ardent supporter of "Be the Match," encouraging community members to join the national bone marrow registry.

## RECRUITING SUCCESS

- Franklin's recruiting classes in the last seven years have been ranked an average of 11.9 nationally.
- Nine of the 15 highest-ranked 247Sports Composite recruits at Penn State since 2000 have been signed by Franklin.
- Penn State landed six out of the top 10 recruits from Pennsylvania in 2023, to go along with 16 total four-star signees.
- For two-straight years in 2022 and 2023, the Nittany Lions landed the No. 1 player in Pennsylvania (Nicholas Singleton and J'ven Williams).
- Franklin and his staff inked the sixth-ranked recruiting class according to 247Sports in 2022, which featured the Gatorade and Maxwell Football Club National High School Player of the Year (Singleton), two No. 1 recruits from their respective states (Singleton and Dani Dennis-Sutton) and six of the top 10 players out of Pennsylvania.
- Penn State's No. 6-ranked recruiting class in 2022 had an average star rating of 3.76 and featured 16 signees who were rated with four stars or higher.
- The 2020 recruiting class finished No. 12 according to ESPN.com, No. 14 by Rivals and No. 15 per 247Sports.
- The 2019 class featured a pair of 247Sports five-star recruits and three No. 1-ranked recruits in their respective states (Brandon Smith, Adisa Issac and Sal Wormley).
- The 3.83 average star ranking for the 2019 class was the highest in program history since the inception of the 247Sports Composite in 2000.
- The 2018 recruiting class was ranked No. 4 by ESPN.com, the highest finish in program history. The class was also ranked No. 5 by Rivals and No. 6 by 247Sports.
- Penn State signed a Rivals No. 1 Pennsylvania recruit in three-straight years (2018 – Micah Parsons; 2017 – Lamont Wade; 2016 – Miles Sanders) for the first time since 2004 (Anthony Morelli), 2005 (Justin King) and 2006 (Jared Odrick).
- In 2018, Penn State inked three 247Sports Composite 5-star recruits for the first time since rankings began in 2001.
- The Nittany Lions also signed 12 ESPN300 recruits in 2018, the first time since 2006 when ESPN rankings started.
- Parsons was the No. 5-rated recruit in the 247Sports Composite, which is the highest recruit signed by Penn State since 2005 when Derrick Williams was the No. 4 overall recruit.
- In 2017, the newest set of Nittany Lions finished in the Top 15 in the country, ranking as high as 12th by Rivals.

- The Class of 2016 at Penn State finished in the top 20, ranking as high as 18th by ESPN, and featured a pair of five-star recruits.
- In 2016, Franklin secured the No. 1 player in the state of Pennsylvania (Sanders) for the first time since Jared Odrick (2006).
- The Nittany Lions laid claim to the No. 1 running back in the state of Pennsylvania in 2015, 2016, 2022 and 2023.
- In February 2015, the Nittany Lions' highly-regarded class of 25 signees was ranked in the top 15 nationally by the four major recruiting services.
- While at Vanderbilt, Franklin assembled a class that finished as high as 19th in 2014.
- In each of his three seasons in Nashville, Franklin signed classes that finished in the top 50 nationally. Prior to Franklin's arrival, the Commodores average class rank was 64.6 since 2000 (based on 247Sports composite).

## HELPING THE COMMODORES GET THEIR STRIPES

- Franklin directed Vanderbilt to consecutive Top 25 finishes for the first time in the 124-year history of the program (No. 23/24 – 2013 & No. 23/20 – 2012).
- The Commodores finished 23rd in the final 2012 Associated Press poll, marking their first AP final ranking since 1948.
- Franklin's 24 wins tied Dan McGugin for most by a Vanderbilt coach in his first three seasons.
- Franklin led Vanderbilt to a bowl game in each of his three seasons in Nashville, with the last two years resulting in wins over NC State (Music City Bowl) and Houston (BBVA Compass Bowl). The Commodores had played in four bowl games all-time in the 121 seasons prior to his arrival, none in consecutive years.
- Vanderbilt had posted four nine-win seasons in program history, with Franklin's last two teams comprising half of the total.
- Over the last 20 games during the 2012-13 seasons, the Commodores' 16-4 record was second-best in the SEC to Alabama's 17-3 mark.
- Franklin guided the Commodores to a 6-6 regular-season record and earned a berth in the Liberty Bowl during his first season after inheriting a Vanderbilt team that finished 2-10 in both 2009 and 2010, with a combined mark of 1-15 in SEC play.
- The 2011 bowl berth was Vanderbilt's second since 1983.
- The Commodores had a breakthrough campaign in 2012 under Franklin, finishing on a seven-game winning streak (longest since 1948) to post a 9-4 mark, Vanderbilt's most wins in 97 years, and a berth in the Music City Bowl, in which VU defeated NC State, 38-24.
- A victory at Missouri sparked an 8-1 finish, which included three consecutive SEC road wins for the first time in program history.
- The Commodores were 5-3 in SEC play, winning five SEC games for the first time since 1935, and posted two shutouts for the first time since 1968.



# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

- Franklin was among five finalists for the Bear Bryant National Coach of the Year award in 2012.
- Wide receiver Jordan Matthews broke the Vanderbilt season receiving record with 1,323 yards on 94 catches in 2012.
- Vanderbilt continued its historic rise under Franklin during the 2013 season, capping a school-record 9-4 campaign with a 41-24 win over Houston in the BBVA Compass Bowl.
- The Commodores defeated Florida, Georgia and Tennessee in the same season for the first time in program history, winning in Gainesville and Knoxville.
- Franklin helped Matthews develop into a two-time All-American and the SEC's career leader in receptions (262) and receiving yardage (3,759). Matthews broke the SEC season record with 112 receptions for 1,477 yards and seven touchdowns in 2013, becoming the first SEC receiver to make 100 catches in a season.

## RISING UP THE RANKS

- Franklin began his coaching career as the wide receivers coach at Kutztown (Pa.) University (1995) and was a graduate assistant coach at his alma mater, East Stroudsburg (Pa.) University in 1996, working with the secondary.
- In 1998, Franklin began his participation in the NFL's Minority Coaching Fellowship Program, starting a stint with the Miami Dolphins and working with Hall of Fame quarterback Dan Marino. Franklin also worked with Donovan McNabb of the Philadelphia Eagles (1999) and Minnesota Vikings (2008) in the NFL program.
- He was the wide receivers coach at James Madison (1997), a graduate assistant (tight ends) at Washington State in 1998 and the wide receivers coach at Idaho State (1999).
- In 2000, Franklin was named the wide receivers coach at Maryland under head coach Ron Vanderlinden, who would go on to coach the Penn State linebackers from 2001-13.
- Franklin continued in that role under new head coach Ralph Friedgen in 2002 and 2003 and helped the Terps to three consecutive 10-win seasons, including an appearance in the 2002 FedEx Orange Bowl. In 2003, Franklin added duties as recruiting coordinator and directed back-to-back recruiting classes ranked in the Top 25 nationally. Franklin and former Nittany Lion head coach Bill O'Brien (running backs) were Maryland assistant coaches in 2003 and 2004 under Friedgen.
- After five successful years at Maryland, Franklin was named wide receivers coach on Mike Sherman's Green Bay Packers staff in 2005. During that season, Green Bay ranked third in the NFL in receptions (383) and seventh in receiving yards (3,766). Donald Driver was among the top receivers in the NFL, ranking second in receptions and eighth in receiving yards, with a then-career-high 86 catches for 1,221 yards.

- Franklin served as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Kansas State during the 2006-07 seasons under head coach Ron Prince. In 2006, he helped the Wildcats to their first winning season in four years. Franklin coached quarterback Josh Freeman and oversaw an offense that produced a 3,000-yard passer (Freeman), 1,500-yard receiver (All-American wide receiver Jordy Nelson) and 1,000-yard rusher (James Johnson) during the 2007 season, a first in school history. Freeman would go on to become the Wildcats' highest NFL offensive draft pick since 1954 when the Tampa Bay Buccaneers selected him 17th overall in the 2009 NFL Draft.
- Franklin returned to Maryland in 2008 as the Terps' assistant head coach and offensive coordinator. He helped the Terrapins to victories in the 2008 Humanitarian Bowl and the 2010 Military Bowl. The 2010 squad was among the national leaders in scoring offense at 32.2 points per game and was led by ACC Rookie of the Year quarterback Danny O'Brien. He threw for 2,438 yards, 22 touchdowns and only eight interceptions in 2010, with All-ACC receiver Torrey Smith making 67 catches for 1,055 yards and 12 scores.

## PLAYING CAREER

- Franklin was a four-year letterman at quarterback and a two-time All-PSAC selection at East Stroudsburg.
- Franklin graduated having broken or tied 23 school records.
- He set seven school records as a senior to earn team MVP honors and was a Harlon Hill Trophy nominee as the NCAA Division II Player of the Year.
- Among the season records he set were for total offense (3,128 yards), passing yards (2,586) and touchdown passes (19).
- Franklin was inducted into the East Stroudsburg Athletics Hall of Fame October 15, 2016.

## PERSONAL

- Franklin graduated from East Stroudsburg (Pa.) University in 1995 with a degree in psychology and earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Washington State University.
- Franklin graduated from Neshaminy High School in Langhorne, Pennsylvania.
- Franklin and his wife, Fumi, have two daughters, Shola and Addison.



# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## BOWL GAMES AS A COACH

### As a Head Coach:

2023 Peach Bowl	PSU	L	38-25
2023 Rose Bowl	PSU	W	35-21
2022 Outback Bowl	PSU	L	24-10
2019 Cotton Bowl	PSU	W	53-39
2019 Citrus Bowl	PSU	L	27-24
2017 Fiesta Bowl	PSU	W	35-28
2017 Rose Bowl	PSU	L	52-49
2016 TaxSlayer Bowl	PSU	L	24-17
2014 Pinstripe Bowl	PSU	W	31-30 (OT)
2014 BBVA Compass Bowl	VU	W	41-24
2012 Music City Bowl	VU	W	38-24
2011 Liberty Bowl	VU	L	31-24

### As an Assistant Coach:

2010 Military Bowl	UMD	W	51-20
2008 Humanitarian Bowl	UMD	W	42-35
2006 Texas Bowl	KSU	L	37-10
2004 Gator Bowl	UMD	W	41-7
2002 Orange Bowl	UMD	L	56-23
2002 Peach Bowl	UMD	W	30-3

## COACHING HONORS

2019	Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Finalist
2016	Sporting News National Coach of the Year
	Woody Hayes National Coach of the Year
	Maxwell Club Tri-State Coach of the Year
	College Sports Madness National Coach of the Year
	Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Finalist
	Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Finalist
	Associated Press Coach of the Year Finalist
	George Munger College Coach of the Year Semifinalist
	Big Ten Dave McClain Coach of the Year (media vote)
	Associated Press Big Ten Coach of the Year
	Athlon Sports Big Ten Coach of the Year
	ECAC Division I FBS Coach of the Year
	The Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week. (Oct. 24)
2012	Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Finalist

## ALL-AMERICANS AS A HEAD COACH

2023	Olumuyiwa Fashanu	1st Team (Consensus)
	Chop Robinson	3rd Team
2022	Olumuyiwa Fashanu	2nd Team
	Kalen King	2nd Team
	Joey Porter Jr.	2nd Team
2021	Jaquan Brisker	2nd Team
	Arnold Ebiketie	2nd Team
	Jordan Stout	2nd Team
	Jahan Dotson	3rd Team
2019	Micah Parsons	1st Team (Consensus)
	Pat Freiermuth	2nd Team
2017	Saquon Barkley	1st Team (Consensus)
	Mike Gesicki	2nd Team
2016	Saquon Barkley	3rd Team
2015	Carl Nassib	1st Team (Consensus)
2014	Mike Hull	2nd Team
2013	Jordan Matthews	1st Team
2012	Jordan Matthews	3rd Team
2011	Casey Hayward	2nd Team

## AWARD WINNERS AS A HEAD COACH

2023	Olumuyiwa Fashanu	Rimington-Pace Big Ten Offensive Lineman of the Year
		National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete
2022	Nicholas Singleton	Thompson-Randle El Big Ten Freshman of the Year
	Chris Stoll	Patrick Mannelly Award Winner
2021	Jordan Stout	Eddleman-Fields Big Ten Punter of the Year
	Sean Clifford	National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete
		Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
2020	Pat Freiermuth	Kwalick-Clark Big Ten Tight End of the Year
2019	Micah Parsons	Butkus-Fitzgerald Big Ten Linebacker of the Year
2018	Trace McSorley	National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete
2017	Saquon Barkley	Paul Hornung Award Winner
		Graham-George Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year
		Ameche-Dayne Big Ten Running Back of the Year
		Rodgers-Dwight Big Ten Return Specialist of the Year
		Chicago Tribune Silver Football Award
	Brandon Smith	Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
2016	Saquon Barkley	Graham-George Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year
		Ameche-Dayne Big Ten Running Back of the Year
		Chicago Tribune Silver Football Award
	Tyler Davis	Vlade Award
2015	Carl Nassib	Rotary Lombardi Award
		Ted Hendricks Award
		Lott IMPACT Award
		CBS Sports National Defensive Player of the Year
		Nagurski-Woodson Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year
	Ben Kline	Allstate AFCA Good Works Teams
2014	Mike Hull	Butkus-Fitzgerald Big Ten Linebacker of the Year

## FRANKLIN RECORDS VS. OPPONENTS

Akron	2 0	Idaho	1 0	Presbyterian	1 0
Alabama	0 1	Illinois	4 2	Purdue	3 0
Appalachian State	1 0	Indiana	9 1	Rutgers	10 0
Arkansas	0 2	Iowa	5 2	San Diego State	1 0
Army	2 0	Kent State	2 0	South Carolina	0 3
Auburn	3 0	Kentucky	3 1	Temple	2 1
Austin Peay	1 0	Maryland	8 2	Tennessee	2 1
Ball State	1 0	Memphis	1 0	Texas A&M	0 1
Boston College	1 0	Michigan	3 7	UAB	1 0
Buffalo	2 0	Michigan State	5 5	UCF	1 0
Central Michigan	1 0	Minnesota	2 1	UMass	4 0
Cincinnati	0 1	Mississippi	2 2	USC	0 1
Connecticut	1 0	Missouri	1 1	Villanova	1 0
Delaware	1 0	NC State	1 0	Wake Forest	3 0
Elon	1 0	Nebraska	1 1	Washington	1 0
Florida	1 2	Northwestern	3 3	West Virginia	1 0
Georgia	1 3	Ohio	1 0	Wisconsin	3 0
Georgia State	1 0	Ohio State	1 9	<b>Total</b>	<b>112 54</b>
Houston	1 0	Pittsburgh	3 1		





# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## NFL DRAFT PICKS

### As a Head Coach:

#### 2024

Olumuyiwa Fashanu .. 1 11 ..... Jets  
 Chop Robinson ..... 1 21 ..... Dolphins  
 Caedan Wallace ..... 3 68 ..... Patriots  
 Adisa Isaac ..... 3 93 ..... Ravens  
 Theo Johnson ..... 4 107 ..... Giants  
 Hunter Nourzad ..... 5 159 ..... Chiefs  
 Daequan Hardy ..... 6 219 ..... Bills  
 Kalen King ..... 7 255 ..... Packers

#### 2023

Joey Porter Jr. .... 2 32 ..... Steelers  
 Brenton Strange ..... 2 61 ..... Jaguars  
 Juice Scruggs ..... 2 62 ..... Texans  
 Ji'Ayir Brown ..... 3 87 ..... 49ers  
 Sean Clifford ..... 5 149 ..... Packers  
 Parker Washington .. 6 185 ..... Jaguars

#### 2022

Jahan Dotson ..... 1 16 .. Commanders  
 Arnold Ebiketie ..... 2 38 ..... Falcons  
 Jaquan Brisker ..... 2 48 ..... Bears  
 Brandon Smith ..... 4 120 ..... Panthers  
 Jordan Stout ..... 4 130 ..... Ravens  
 Tariq Castro-Fields .. 6 221 ..... 49ers  
 Rasheed Walker ..... 7 249 ..... Packers  
 Jesse Luketa ..... 7 256 ..... Cardinals

#### 2021

Micah Parsons ..... 1 12 ..... Cowboys  
 Odafe Oweh ..... 1 31 ..... Ravens  
 Pat Freiermuth ..... 2 55 ..... Steelers  
 Shaka Toney ..... 7 246 .. Commanders  
 Michal Menet ..... 7 247 ... Cardinals  
 Will Fries ..... 7 248 ..... Colts

#### 2020

Yetur Gross-Matos ... 2 38 ..... Panthers  
 KJ Hamler ..... 2 46 ..... Broncos  
 John Reid ..... 4 141 ..... Texans  
 Cam Brown ..... 6 183 ..... Giants  
 Robert Windsor ..... 6 193 ..... Colts

#### 2019

Miles Sanders ..... 2 53 ..... Eagles  
 Connor McGovern ..... 3 90 ..... Cowboys  
 Shareef Miller ..... 4 138 ..... Eagles  
 Amani Oruwariye ..... 5 146 ..... Lions  
 Trace McSorley ..... 6 197 ..... Ravens  
 Nick Scott ..... 7 243 ..... Rams

#### 2018

Saquon Barkley ..... 1 2 ..... Giants  
 Mike Gesicki ..... 2 42 ..... Dolphins  
 Oren Burks (V) ..... 3 88 ..... Packers  
 Troy Apke ..... 4 109 ..... Redskins  
 DaeSean Hamilton ... 4 113 ..... Broncos  
 Marcus Allen ..... 5 148 ..... Steelers  
 Christian Campbell ... 6 182 ..... Cardinals

#### 2017

Zach Cunningham (V) . 2 57 ..... Texans  
 Chris Godwin ..... 3 84 .. Buccaneers  
 Will Holden (V) ..... 5 157 ..... Cardinals

#### 2016

Austin Johnson ..... 2 43 ..... Titans  
 Christian Hackenberg . 2 51 ..... Jets  
 Carl Nassib ..... 2 65 ..... Browns  
 Anthony Zettel ..... 6 202 ..... Lions  
 Jordan Lucas ..... 6 204 ..... Dolphins  
 Stephen Weatherly (V) . 7 227 ..... Vikings

#### 2015

Donovan Smith ..... 2 34 ... Buccaneers  
 Adrian Amos ..... 5 142 ..... Bears  
 Jesse James ..... 5 160 ..... Steelers

#### 2014

Jordan Matthews ..... 2 42 ..... Eagles  
 Wesley Johnson ..... 5 173 ..... Steelers  
 Andre Hal ..... 7 216 ..... Texans

#### 2013

Zac Stacy ..... 5 160 ..... Rams  
 Ryan Seymour ..... 7 220 ..... Seahawks

#### 2012

Casey Hayward ..... 2 62 ..... Packers  
 Tim Fugger ..... 7 214 ..... Colts

### As an Assistant Coach:

#### 2011

Torrey Smith ..... 2 58 ..... Ravens  
 Da'Rel Scott ..... 7 211 ..... Giants

#### 2010

Bruce Campbell ..... 4 106 ..... Raiders

#### 2009

Darrius Heyward-Bey . 1 7 ..... Raiders  
 Josh Freeman ..... 1 17 .. Buccaneers  
 Jaimie Thomas ..... 7 236 ..... Colts  
 Dan Gronkowski ..... 7 255 ..... Lions

#### 2008

Jordy Nelson ..... 2 36 ..... Packers

#### 2007

Yamon Figurs ..... 3 74 ..... Ravens  
 Thomas Clayton ..... 6 186 ..... 49ers

(V) - Indicates Franklin coached NFL Draft pick while at Vanderbilt.

## ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS AS A HEAD COACH

#### 2023

Abdul Carter ..... 1st  
 Olumuyiwa Fashanu ..... 1st  
 Adisa Isaac ..... 1st  
 Chop Robinson ..... 1st  
 Kaytron Allen ..... 2nd  
 Alex Felkins ..... 2nd  
 Daequan Hardy ..... 2nd (RS)  
 3rd (DB)  
 Kalen King ..... 2nd  
 Hunter Nourzad ..... 2nd  
 Dani Dennis-Sutton ..... 3rd  
 Johnny Dixon ..... 3rd  
 Nicholas Singleton ..... 3rd (RB)  
 3rd (RS)  
 Tyler Warren ..... 3rd  
 Drew Allar ..... 3rd  
 Zane Durant ..... 3rd  
 Dvon J-Thomas ..... 3rd  
 Olaivavega Ioane ..... 3rd  
 Curtis Jacobs ..... 3rd  
 Theo Johnson ..... 3rd  
 Kobe King ..... 3rd  
 KeAndre Lambert-Smith ..... 3rd  
 JB Nelson ..... 3rd  
 Jaylen Reed ..... 3rd  
 Riley Thompson ..... 3rd  
 Caedan Wallace ..... 3rd  
 Kevin Winston Jr. .... 3rd  
 Sal Wormley ..... 3rd

2022  
 Joey Porter Jr. .... 1st  
 Abdul Carter ..... 2nd  
 PJ Mustipher ..... 2nd  
 Olumuyiwa Fashanu ..... 2nd  
 Nicholas Singleton ..... 2nd (RS)  
 3rd (RB)  
 Ji'Ayir Brown ..... 3rd  
 Adisa Isaac ..... 3rd  
 Kalen King ..... 3rd  
 Juice Scruggs ..... 3rd  
 Brenton Strange ..... 3rd  
 Barney Amor ..... 3rd  
 Sean Clifford ..... 3rd  
 Johnny Dixon ..... 3rd  
 Bryce Effner ..... 3rd  
 Curtis Jacobs ..... 3rd  
 Hunter Nourzad ..... 3rd  
 Jake Pinegar ..... 3rd  
 Chop Robinson ..... 3rd  
 Nick Tarburton ..... 3rd  
 Parker Washington ..... 3rd  
 Sal Wormley ..... 3rd

2021  
 Jaquan Brisker ..... 1st  
 Jahan Dotson ..... 1st (WR)  
 3rd (RS)  
 Arnold Ebiketie ..... 1st  
 Jordan Stout ..... 1st (P)  
 3rd (K)  
 Ellis Brooks ..... 2nd  
 PJ Mustipher ..... 2nd  
 Ji'Ayir Brown ..... 3rd  
 Jesse Luketa ..... 3rd  
 Joey Porter Jr. .... 3rd  
 Brandon Smith ..... 3rd  
 Rasheed Walker ..... 3rd  
 Tariq Castro-Fields ..... 3rd  
 Sean Clifford ..... 3rd  
 Curtis Jacobs ..... 3rd  
 Juice Scruggs ..... 3rd  
 Mike Miranda ..... 3rd  
 Brenton Strange ..... 3rd

2020  
 Pat Freiermuth ..... 1st  
 Odafe Oweh ..... 1st  
 Shaka Toney ..... 1st  
 Will Fries ..... 2nd  
 Mike Miranda ..... 2nd  
 Jaquan Brisker ..... 3rd  
 Jahan Dotson ..... 3rd (WR)  
 3rd (RS)  
 Michal Menet ..... 3rd  
 Joey Porter Jr. .... 3rd  
 Lamont Wade ..... 3rd  
 Rasheed Walker ..... 3rd  
 Tariq Castro-Fields ..... 3rd  
 PJ Mustipher ..... 3rd  
 Antonio Shelton ..... 3rd  
 Brandon Smith ..... 3rd

2019  
 Yetur Gross-Matos ..... 1st  
 Micah Parsons ..... 1st  
 Pat Freiermuth ..... 2nd  
 Steven Gonzalez ..... 2nd  
 KJ Hamler ..... 2nd (WR)  
 3rd (RS)  
 Shaka Toney ..... 2nd  
 Cam Brown ..... 3rd  
 Tariq Castro-Fields ..... 3rd  
 Robert Windsor ..... 3rd  
 Journey Brown ..... 3rd  
 Sean Clifford ..... 3rd  
 Will Fries ..... 3rd  
 Blake Gillikin ..... 3rd  
 Michal Menet ..... 3rd  
 Jan Johnson ..... 3rd  
 Jake Pinegar ..... 3rd  
 John Reid ..... 3rd  
 Garrett Taylor ..... 3rd  
 Lamont Wade ..... 3rd

2018  
 Amani Oruwariye ..... 1st  
 Yetur Gross-Matos ..... 1st  
 Trace McSorley ..... 2nd  
 Miles Sanders ..... 2nd  
 Ryan Bates ..... 3rd  
 Connor McGovern ..... 3rd  
 Shareef Miller ..... 3rd  
 Pat Freiermuth ..... 3rd  
 Steven Gonzalez ..... 3rd  
 KJ Hamler ..... 3rd (WR & RS)  
 Michal Parsons ..... 3rd  
 John Reid ..... 3rd  
 Nick Scott ..... 3rd  
 Garrett Taylor ..... 3rd  
 Robert Windsor ..... 3rd

2017  
 Marcus Allen ..... 1st  
 Saquon Barkley ..... 1st (RB & RS)  
 Mike Gesicki ..... 1st  
 Jason Cabinda ..... 2nd  
 Blake Gillikin ..... 2nd  
 DaeSean Hamilton ..... 2nd  
 Trace McSorley ..... 2nd  
 Amani Oruwariye ..... 2nd  
 DeAndre Thompkins ..... 2nd  
 Ryan Bates ..... 3rd  
 Shareef Miller ..... 3rd  
 Troy Apke ..... 3rd  
 Christian Campbell ..... 3rd  
 Curtis Cothren ..... 3rd  
 Parker Cothren ..... 3rd  
 Grant Haley ..... 3rd  
 Juwan Johnson ..... 3rd

#### 2016

Saquon Barkley ..... 1st  
 Tyler Davis ..... 1st  
 Trace McSorley ..... 2nd  
 Garrett Sickels ..... 2nd  
 Mike Gesicki ..... 2nd  
 Evan Schwan ..... 3rd  
 Jason Cabinda ..... 3rd  
 Marcus Allen ..... 3rd  
 Chris Godwin ..... 3rd  
 Brandon Bell ..... 3rd  
 Parker Cothren ..... 3rd  
 Brian Gaia ..... 3rd  
 Blake Gillikin ..... 3rd  
 John Reid ..... 3rd

#### 2015

Carl Nassib ..... 1st  
 Saquon Barkley ..... 2nd  
 Chris Godwin ..... 2nd  
 Austin Johnson ..... 2nd  
 Anthony Zettel ..... 3rd  
 Marcus Allen ..... 3rd  
 Jason Cabinda ..... 3rd  
 Grant Haley ..... 3rd  
 DaeSean Hamilton ..... 3rd  
 Trevor Williams ..... 3rd

#### 2014

Mike Hull ..... 1st  
 Anthony Zettel ..... 1st  
 Sam Ficken ..... 2nd  
 DaeSean Hamilton ..... 2nd  
 Adrian Amos ..... 2nd  
 Deion Barnes ..... 2nd  
 Jesse James ..... 2nd  
 Austin Johnson ..... 2nd  
 Jordan Lucas ..... 2nd  
 Angelo Mangiro ..... 2nd  
 Trevor Williams ..... 2nd

#### 2013

Kenny Ladler ..... 1st  
 Jordan Matthews ..... 1st  
 Andre Hal ..... 2nd  
 Wesley Johnson ..... 2nd

#### 2012

Jordan Matthews ..... 1st  
 Richard Kent ..... 2nd  
 Zac Stacy ..... 2nd

#### 2011

Tim Fugger ..... 2nd  
 Casey Hayward ..... 2nd  
 Zac Stacy ..... 2nd

HM - honorable mention

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## FRANKLIN YEAR-BY-YEAR RESULTS

### AT VANDERBILT

#### 2011 6-7, 2-6 (T-4th SEC)

S	9	at Elon	.....W	45-24
S	10	Connecticut	.....W	24-21
S	17	Mississippi*	.....W	30-7
S	24	at South Carolina [12]*	.....L	3-21
O	8	at Alabama [2]*	.....L	0-34
O	15	Georgia*	.....L	28-33
O	22	Army	.....W	44-21
O	29	Arkansas [8]*	.....L	28-31
N	5	at Florida*	.....L	21-26
N	12	Kentucky*	.....W	38-8
N	19	at Tennessee*	.....L	21-27 (OT)
N	26	Wake Forest	.....W	41-7

#### Liberty Bowl (Memphis, Tenn.)

D	31	Cincinnati	.....L	24-31
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SEC: Tied for third in East Division

#### 2012 9-4, 5-3 (4th SEC)

S	3	South Carolina [9]*	.....L	13-17
S	10	at Northwestern	.....L	13-23
S	17	Presbyterian	.....W	58-0
S	24	at Georgia [5]*	.....L	3-48
O	8	at Missouri*	.....W	19-15
O	15	Florida [4]*	.....L	17-31
O	22	Auburn*	.....W	17-13
O	29	UMass	.....W	49-7
N	5	at Kentucky*	.....W	40-0
N	12	at Mississippi*	.....W	27-26
N	19	Tennessee*	.....W	41-18
N	26	at Wake Forest	.....W	55-21

#### Music City Bowl (Nashville, Tenn.)

D	31	[23] NC State	.....W	38-24
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SEC: Fourth in East Division

#### 2013 9-4, 4-4 (T-4th SEC)

A	29	Mississippi*	.....L	35-39
S	7	Austin Peay	.....W	38-3
S	14	at South Carolina*	.....L	25-35
S	21	at UMass	.....W	24-7
S	28	UAB	.....W	52-24
O	5	Missouri*	.....L	28-51
O	19	Georgia [15]*	.....W	31-27
O	26	at Texas A&M [16]*	.....L	24-56
N	9	at Florida*	.....W	34-17
N	16	Kentucky*	.....W	22-6
N	23	at Tennessee*	.....W	14-10
N	30	Wake Forest	.....W	23-21

#### BBVA Compass Bowl (Birmingham, Ala.)

J	4	Houston	.....W	41-24
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SEC: Tied for fourth in East Division

### AT PENN STATE

#### 2014 7-6, 4-4 (3rd B1G)

##### Croke Park Classic (Dublin, Ireland)

A	30	UCF	.....W	26-24
S	6	Akron	.....W	21-3
S	13	at Rutgers*	.....W	13-10
S	20	UMass	.....W	48-7
S	27	Northwestern*	.....L	6-29
O	11	at Michigan*	.....L	13-18
O	25	Ohio State [13]*	.....L	24-31 (2OT)
N	1	Maryland*	.....L	19-20
N	8	at Indiana*	.....W	13-7
N	15	Temple	.....W	30-13
N	22	at Illinois*	.....L	14-16
N	29	Michigan St.*	.....L	10-34

##### Pinstripe Bowl (New York, N.Y.)

D	27	Boston College	.....W	31-30 (OT)
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Big Ten: Third in Leaders Division

#### 2015 7-6, 4-4 (4th B1G)

S	5	at Temple	.....L	10-27
S	12	Buffalo	.....W	27-14
S	19	Rutgers*	.....W	28-3
S	26	San Diego State	.....W	37-21
O	3	Army	.....W	20-14
O	10	Indiana*	.....W	29-7
O	17	at Ohio State [1]*	.....L	10-38
O	24	Maryland*	.....W	31-30
		(Baltimore, M&T Bank Stadium)		
O	31	Illinois*	.....W	39-0
N	7	at Northwestern [21]*	.....L	21-23
N	21	Michigan [13]*	.....L	16-28
N	28	at Michigan St.*	.....L	16-55

##### TaxSlayer Bowl (Jacksonville, Fla.)

J	2	Georgia	.....L	17-24
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Big Ten: Fourth in East Division

#### 2016 11-3, 8-1 (T-1st B1G)

S	3	Kent State	.....W	33-13
S	10	at Pittsburgh	.....L	39-42
S	17	Temple	.....W	34-27
S	24	at Michigan* [4]	.....L	10-49
O	1	Minnesota*	.....W	29-26 (OT)
O	8	Maryland*	.....W	38-14
O	22	Ohio State* [2]	.....W	24-21
O	29	[24] at Purdue*	.....W	62-24
N	5	[20] Iowa*	.....W	41-14
N	12	[12] at Indiana*	.....W	45-31
N	19	[9] at Rutgers*	.....W	39-0
N	26	[8] Michigan St.*	.....W	45-12

##### Big Ten Championship Game (Indianapolis, Ind.)

D	3	[8] vs. Wisconsin [6]	.....W	38-31
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##### Rose Bowl (Pasadena, Calif.)

J	2	[5] vs. USC [9]	.....L	49-52
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Big Ten: Tied for first in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 5th, AP 7th, Coaches 7th

#### 2017 11-2, 7-2 (T-2nd B1G)

S	2	[6] Akron	.....W	52-0
S	9	[4] Pittsburgh	.....W	33-14
S	16	[5] Georgia State	.....W	56-0
S	23	[4] at Iowa*	.....W	21-19
S	30	[4] Indiana*	.....W	45-14
O	7	[4] at Northwestern*	.....W	31-7
O	21	[2] Michigan* [19]	.....W	42-13
O	28	[2] at Ohio State* [6]	.....L	38-39
N	4	[7] at Michigan St.* [24]	.....L	24-27
N	11	[16] Rutgers*	.....W	35-6
N	18	[13] Nebraska*	.....W	56-44
N	25	[12] at Maryland*	.....W	66-3

##### PlayStation Fiesta Bowl (Glendale, Ariz.)

D	30	[9] vs. Washington [12]	.....W	35-28
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Big Ten: Tied for second in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 9th, AP 8th, Coaches 8th

#### 2018 9-4, 6-3 (3rd B1G)

S	1	[10] Appalachian St.	.....W	45-38 (OT)
S	8	[13] at Pittsburgh	.....W	51-6
S	15	[11] Kent State	.....W	63-10
S	21	[T10] at Illinois*	.....W	63-24
S	29	[9] Ohio State* [4]	.....L	26-27
O	13	[8] Michigan State*	.....L	17-21
O	20	[18] at Indiana*	.....W	33-28
O	27	[17] Iowa* [18]	.....W	30-24
N	3	[14] at Michigan* [5]	.....L	7-42
N	10	[21] Wisconsin*	.....W	22-10
N	17	[16] at Rutgers*	.....W	20-7
N	24	[15] Maryland*	.....W	38-3

##### VRBO Citrus Bowl (Orlando, Fla.)

J	1	[13] vs. Kentucky [16]	.....L	24-27
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Big Ten: Third in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 12th, AP 13th, Coaches 12th

#### 2019 11-2, 7-2 (2nd B1G)

A	31	[15] Idaho	.....W	79-7
S	7	[15] Buffalo	.....W	45-13
S	14	[13] Pittsburgh	.....W	17-10
S	27	[12] at Maryland*	.....W	59-0
O	5	[12] Purdue*	.....W	35-7
O	12	[10] at Iowa* [17]	.....W	17-12
O	19	[7] Michigan* [16]	.....W	28-21
O	26	[6] at Michigan State	.....W	28-7
N	9	[5] at Minnesota* [13]	.....L	26-31
N	16	[9] Indiana* [24]	.....W	34-27
N	23	[9] at Ohio State* [2]	.....L	17-28
N	30	[12] Rutgers*	.....W	27-6

##### Goodyear Cotton Bowl (Arlington, Texas)

D	28	[13] vs. Memphis [15]	.....W	53-39
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Big Ten: Second in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 9th, AP 9th, Coaches 10th

#### 2020 4-5, 4-5 (3rd B1G)

O	24	[8] at Indiana* [RV]	.....L	35-36 (OT)
O	31	[18] Ohio State* [3]	.....L	25-38
N	7	Maryland*	.....L	19-35
N	14	at Nebraska*	.....L	23-30
N	21	Iowa* [RV]	.....L	21-41
N	28	at Michigan*	.....W	27-17
D	5	at Rutgers*	.....W	23-7
D	12	Michigan State*	.....W	39-24
D	19	Illinois*	.....W	56-21

Big Ten: Third in East Division

#### 2021 7-6, 4-5 (4th B1G)

S	4	[19] at Wisconsin* [12]	.....W	16-10
S	11	[11] Ball State	.....W	44-13
S	18	[10] Auburn [22]	.....W	28-20
S	25	[6] Villanova	.....W	38-17
O	2	[4] Indiana*	.....W	24-0
O	9	[4] at Iowa [3]*	.....L	20-23
O	23	[7] Illinois*	.....L	18-20 (9OT)
O	30	[20] at Ohio State [5]*	.....L	24-33
N	6	[22] at Maryland*	.....W	31-14
N	13	[23] Michigan [9]*	.....L	17-21
N	20	Rutgers*	.....W	28-0
N	27	at Michigan State [12]*	.....L	27-30

##### Outback Bowl (Tampa, Fla.)

J	1	vs. Arkansas [22]	.....L	10-24
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Big Ten: Fourth in East Division

#### 2022 11-2, 7-2 (3rd B1G)

S	1	[RV] at Purdue* [RV]	.....W	35-31
S	10	[RV] Ohio	.....W	46-10
S	17	[22] at Auburn [RV]	.....W	41-12
S	24	[14] Central Michigan	.....W	33-14
O	1	[11] Northwestern*	.....W	17-7
O	15	[10] at Michigan* [5]	.....L	17-41
O	22	[16] Minnesota* [RV]	.....W	45-17
O	29	[13] Ohio State* [2]	.....L	31-44
N	5	[15] at Indiana*	.....W	45-14
N	12	[14] Maryland*	.....W	30-0
N	19	[11] at Rutgers*	.....W	55-10
N	26	[11] Michigan State*	.....W	35-16

##### Rose Bowl (Pasadena, Calif.)

J	2	[11] vs. Utah [8]	.....W	35-21
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Big Ten: Third in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 11th, AP 7th, Coaches 7th

#### 2023 10-3, 7-2 (3rd B1G)

S	2	[7] West Virginia	.....W	38-15
S	9	[7] Delaware	.....W	63-7
S	16	[7] Illinois*	.....W	30-13
S	23	[7] Iowa* [24]	.....W	31-0
S	30	[6] at Northwestern	.....W	41-13
O	14	[6] UMass	.....W	63-0
O	21	[7] at Ohio State* [3]	.....L	20-12
O	28	[10] Indiana*	.....W	33-24
N	4	[11] at Maryland*	.....W	51-15
N	11	[10] Michigan* [3]	.....L	24-15
N	18	[12] Rutgers	.....W	27-6

##### Ford Field (Detroit, Mich.)

N	24	[11] at Michigan State* [^]	.....W	42-0
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##### Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl (Atlanta, Ga.)

D	30	[10] Ole Miss [11]!	.....L	38-25
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Big Ten: Third in East Division

Final Rankings: CFP 10th, AP 13th, Coaches 13th

\* - indicates conference game

## STATISTICAL HIGHS & LOWS UNDER JAMES FRANKLIN

### PENN STATE

#### Total Offense Highs

673.....Idaho, 2019  
643.....Kent State, 2018  
619.....at Maryland, 2019  
609.....Nebraska, 2017  
599.....Iowa, 2016  
591.....at Illinois, 2018  
586.....at Michigan State, 2023  
580.....Illinois, 2020  
579.....at Iowa, 2017  
572.....Ohio, 2022

#### Total Offense Lows

180.....at Temple, 2015  
186.....at Michigan, 2018  
191.....at Michigan, 2016  
207.....Michigan, 2015  
214.....at Michigan, 2014  
219.....Maryland, 2014  
227.....at Ohio State, 2019  
227.....Illinois, 2021  
233.....Michigan State, 2014  
238.....Michigan, 2023

#### First Down Highs

35.....Idaho, 2019  
34.....Delaware, 2023  
32.....Nebraska, 2017  
32.....Ball State, 2021  
31.....at Illinois, 2018  
30.....at Maryland, 2019  
30.....Maryland, 2020  
30.....at Nebraska, 2020  
29.....at Iowa, 2017  
28.....Maryland, 2016  
28.....at Maryland, 2017  
28.....Maryland, 2018  
28.....Illinois, 2020  
28.....Iowa, 2023  
28.....UMass, 2023

#### First Down Lows

9.....at Temple, 2015  
9.....at Michigan, 2022  
11.....at Michigan, 2018  
11.....at Wisconsin, 2021  
12.....Army, 2015  
12.....at Michigan, 2016  
13.....Ohio State, 2016  
14.....Northwestern, 2014  
14.....at Ohio State, 2015  
14.....Michigan, 2015  
14.....Pittsburgh, 2017  
14.....Michigan State, 2018  
14.....Buffalo, 2019  
14.....Michigan, 2019  
14.....Illinois, 2021

#### Rushing Yardage Highs

396.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
387.....at Illinois, 2018  
372.....Maryland, 2016  
359.....Iowa, 2016  
340.....at Rutgers, 2016  
331.....Idaho, 2019  
330.....Rutgers, 2015  
315.....Delaware, 2023  
310.....Maryland, 2018  
297.....Kent State, 2018

#### Rushing Yardage Lows

16.....Ohio State, 2014  
33.....at Ohio State, 2021  
38.....Michigan State, 2014  
39.....Indiana, 2017  
42.....Maryland, 2014  
44.....Ohio State, 2020  
48.....at Maryland, 2015  
49.....at Ohio State, 2023  
50.....Northwestern, 2014  
50.....at Wisconsin, 2021

#### Rushing Attempts Highs

62.....Maryland, 2016  
60.....Delaware, 2023  
58.....Northwestern, 2022  
57.....at Rutgers, 2020  
57.....Iowa, 2023  
53.....Iowa, 2019  
53.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
53.....Illinois, 2021  
52.....Iowa, 2016  
52.....at Indiana, 2020  
52.....at Nebraska, 2020

#### Rushing Attempts Lows

18.....at Wisconsin, 2021  
22.....Michigan State, 2014  
22.....Michigan, 2015  
22.....at Michigan, 2022  
24.....Pittsburgh, 2017  
24.....Georgia State, 2017  
24.....Buffalo, 2019  
25.....Northwestern, 2014  
26.....Michigan State, 2021  
26.....at Ohio State, 2023

#### Passing Yardage Highs

454.....vs. UCF, 2014  
429.....Villanova, 2021  
421.....at Maryland, 2019  
401.....at Michigan State, 2017  
394.....at Ohio State, 2021  
386.....Michigan State, 2016  
384.....vs. Wisconsin, 2016  
371.....vs. Boston College, 2014  
371.....Ohio State, 2022  
363.....at Maryland, 2021

#### Passing Yardage Lows

74.....Michigan, 2023  
81.....Rutgers, 2019  
88.....Rutgers, 2023  
93.....at Illinois, 2014  
103.....at Temple, 2015  
112.....Temple, 2014  
118.....at Michigan, 2018  
120.....at Ohio State, 2015  
121.....at Michigan, 2016  
128.....Buffalo, 2015  
128.....at Ohio State, 2019

#### Passing Attempt Highs

57.....Maryland, 2020  
52.....at Ohio State, 2021  
50.....Ohio State, 2014  
50.....vs. Boston College, 2014  
48.....at Iowa, 2017  
48.....at Michigan State, 2017  
47.....vs. UCF, 2014  
47.....at Michigan State, 2015  
47.....at Maryland, 2021  
47.....Ohio State, 2022

#### Passing Attempt Lows

13.....at Ohio State, 2015  
14.....Rutgers, 2023  
15.....Rutgers, 2019  
16.....at Illinois, 2014  
17.....at Michigan, 2018  
18.....Iowa, 2016  
19.....Rutgers, 2015  
19.....Army, 2015  
19.....Maryland, 2016  
20.....at Illinois, 2018  
20.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
20.....Northwestern, 2022

#### Passing Completion Highs

35.....at Ohio State, 2021  
34.....vs. Boston College, 2014  
32.....vs. UCF, 2014  
32.....vs. Washington, 2014  
32.....Ohio State, 2022  
31.....Ohio State, 2014  
31.....at Iowa, 2017  
31.....Ohio, 2022  
29.....at Northwestern, 2017  
29.....at Maryland, 2019  
29.....Auburn, 2021

#### Passing Completion Lows

7.....at Ohio State, 2015  
7.....Rutgers, 2023  
8.....at Illinois, 2014  
8.....Ohio State, 2016  
8.....at Michigan, 2018  
8.....Rutgers, 2019  
10.....Rutgers, 2015  
10.....Army, 2015  
10.....Maryland, 2016  
10.....Northwestern, 2022

#### Scoring Highs

79.....Idaho, 2019  
66.....at Maryland, 2017  
63.....Kent State, 2018  
63.....at Illinois, 2018  
63.....Delaware, 2023  
63.....UMass, 2023  
62.....Purdue, 2016  
59.....at Maryland, 2019  
56.....Georgia State, 2017  
56.....Nebraska, 2017  
56.....Illinois, 2020

#### Scoring Lows

6.....Northwestern, 2014  
7.....at Michigan, 2018  
10.....Michigan State, 2014  
10.....at Temple, 2015  
10.....at Ohio State, 2015  
10.....at Michigan, 2016  
10.....vs. Arkansas, 2021  
12.....at Ohio State, 2023  
13.....at Rutgers, 2014  
13.....at Michigan, 2014  
13.....at Indiana, 2014

#### Total Offense Highs

575.....vs. USC, 2016  
563.....at Michigan, 2022  
554.....at Indiana, 2018  
542.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
529.....at Ohio State, 2017  
526.....Ohio State, 2020  
515.....at Michigan, 2016  
474.....at Michigan State, 2017  
469.....Minnesota, 2016  
466.....at Ohio State, 2021  
466.....vs. Maryland, 2015  
466.....Nebraska, 2017

#### Total Offense Lows

53.....at Michigan State, 2023  
76.....Iowa, 2023  
87.....at Rutgers, 2016  
104.....Purdue, 2019  
109.....UMass, 2023  
128.....at Maryland, 2019  
134.....Maryland, 2022  
140.....Delaware, 2023  
145.....Idaho, 2019  
159.....Akron, 2017

#### First Down Highs

33.....vs. USC, 2016  
32.....at Indiana, 2018  
31.....Minnesota, 2016  
29.....at Wisconsin, 2021  
29.....at Maryland, 2021  
28.....at Michigan, 2022  
27.....at Ohio State, 2017  
27.....at Ohio State, 2019  
27.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
26.....Michigan State, 2016  
26.....at Illinois, 2018  
26.....Michigan, 2019  
26.....Illinois, 2021  
26.....at Purdue, 2022

#### First Down Lows

4.....Iowa, 2023  
5.....at Rutgers, 2016  
5.....Idaho, 2019  
5.....Delaware, 2023  
5.....at Michigan State, 2023  
8.....Temple, 2014  
8.....Purdue, 2019  
9.....at Rutgers, 2022  
9.....UMass, 2023  
10.....Rutgers, 2017  
10.....at Maryland, 2019  
10.....Rutgers, 2021

#### Rushing Yardage Highs

418.....at Michigan, 2022  
357.....Illinois, 2021  
353.....vs. Arkansas, 2021  
341.....at Pitt, 2016  
326.....at Michigan, 2016  
315.....at Ohio State, 2015  
285.....vs. Boston College, 2014  
261.....Army, 2015  
259.....at Michigan, 2018  
245.....at Pittsburgh, 2018  
245.....at Illinois, 2018

### OPPONENTS

#### Rushing Yardage Lows

-49.....at Maryland, 2023  
-35.....at Michigan State, 2023  
-19.....Purdue, 2019  
3.....UMass, 2014  
4.....Idaho, 2019  
20.....Iowa, 2023  
24.....vs. UCF, 2014  
24.....Pittsburgh, 2019  
25.....Michigan State, 2022  
30.....Iowa, 2016

#### Rushing Attempts Highs

67.....Illinois, 2021  
61.....at Ohio State, 2019  
58.....Buffalo, 2019  
58.....at Wisconsin, 2021  
58.....vs. Arkansas, 2021  
57.....Ohio State, 2014  
56.....at Pitt, 2016  
55.....Army, 2015  
55.....at Rutgers, 2018  
55.....at Michigan, 2022

#### Rushing Attempts Lows

16.....at Maryland, 2023  
17.....Iowa, 2023  
20.....Temple, 2014  
22.....at Purdue, 2022  
23.....at Iowa, 2017  
23.....Central Michigan, 2022  
24.....Indiana, 2021  
24.....Delaware, 2023  
25.....Akron, 2014  
25.....at Maryland, 2017  
25.....Pittsburgh, 2019  
25.....Michigan State, 2022

#### Passing Yardage Highs

479.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
453.....vs. USC, 2016  
400.....at Michigan State, 2017  
399.....Nebraska, 2017  
372.....Pittsburgh, 2019  
371.....Indiana, 2019  
371.....at Maryland, 2021  
365.....at Purdue, 2022  
354.....Ohio State, 2022  
344.....at Indiana, 2016

#### Passing Yardage Lows

32.....Army, 2015  
38.....Illinois, 2021  
43.....Rutgers, 2017  
45.....UMass, 2023  
46.....at Rutgers, 2018  
48.....at Rutgers, 2016  
55.....at Pittsburgh, 2018  
56.....Iowa, 2023  
58.....Delaware, 2023  
60.....Wisconsin, 2018  
60.....Michigan, 2023

#### Passing Attempt Highs

60.....at Purdue, 2022  
58.....at Maryland, 2021  
56.....at Michigan State, 2017  
55.....Purdue, 2016  
55.....at Indiana, 2018  
54.....vs. USC, 2016  
53.....Michigan State, 2018  
53.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
52.....Central Michigan, 2022  
51.....Pittsburgh, 2019

#### Passing Attempt Lows

1.....Army, 2015  
8.....Michigan, 2023  
15.....at Pitt, 2016  
15.....vs. Kentucky, 2018  
16.....Maryland, 2016  
16.....at Rutgers, 2018  
16.....Iowa, 2023  
16.....Rutgers, 2023  
17.....at Rutgers, 2016  
17.....at Michigan, 2018  
17.....Delaware, 2023

#### Passing Completion Highs

41.....at Maryland, 2021  
36.....Purdue, 2016  
35.....at Indiana, 2018  
35.....Pittsburgh, 2019  
33.....vs. USC, 2016  
33.....at Ohio State, 2017  
33.....at Michigan State, 2017  
33.....vs. Memphis, 2019  
31.....Indiana, 2019  
31.....at Maryland, 2023

#### Passing Completion Lows

1.....Army, 2015  
5.....at Rutgers, 2018  
6.....Delaware, 2023  
6.....Iowa, 2023  
7.....at Rutgers, 2016  
7.....Rutgers, 2017  
7.....Michigan, 2023  
8.....Illinois, 2020  
8.....Illinois, 2021  
9.....at Pittsburgh, 2018  
9.....Wisconsin, 2018  
9.....vs. Kentucky, 2018  
9.....Minnesota, 2022  
9.....UMass, 2023

#### Scoring Highs

55.....at Michigan State, 2015  
52.....vs. USC, 2016  
49.....at Michigan, 2016  
44.....Nebraska, 2017  
44.....Ohio State, 2022  
42.....at Pitt, 2016  
42.....at Michigan, 2018  
41.....Iowa, 2020  
41.....at Michigan, 2022  
39.....at Ohio State, 2017  
39.....vs. Memphis, 2019

#### Scoring Lows

0.....Illinois, 2015  
0.....at Rutgers, 2016  
0.....Akron, 2017  
0.....Georgia State, 2017  
0.....at Maryland, 2019  
0.....Indiana, 2021  
0.....Rutgers, 2021  
0.....Maryland, 2022  
0.....Iowa, 2023  
0.....UMass, 2023  
0.....at Michigan State, 2023

# HEAD COACH JAMES FRANKLIN

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT JAMES FRANKLIN

"I've had the chance to work closely with Coach Franklin and I can't say enough good things about his approach, his work ethic, his passion for the game and his ability to teach the game. He's a tireless recruiter and one of those coaches who can get the most out of his players and is excellent at making and maintaining relationships."

- **Darrell Bevell, Quarterbacks Coach and Passing Game Coordinator, Miami Dolphins**

"To this day, the most rewarding opportunity in my career was getting to be a graduate assistant for Coach Franklin at Penn State. It changed my life. So much of who I am as a coach is because of him. No one taught me more about the importance of making relationships meaningful and intentional. He pushed me as a coach and I grew because of him. His attention to detail from day one is unlike anyone I've been around, and his strong belief in his core values, all of which are still ingrained in me today, speaks to the man and coach he is. It was privilege to work for and learn from Coach."

- **Joe Brady, Offensive Coordinator, Buffalo Bills**

"Coach Franklin has a lot of energy. He has a great vision. He's a terrific coach. He's an outstanding recruiter. You've got to be able to get both players who are talented and ready to go, and players who can develop into elite level players. James has been able to do both. His staff has coached them well and they've established expectations and standards for the program. He's developed a culture that really is a championship level culture at Penn State."

- **Rece Davis, ESPN**

"What else can you say about James? He won the Big Ten Championship in his third year following what was the most difficult time in Penn State's football history. Here's what else you can say - He's a student of the game, highly organized, coach's his coaches and is one of the best recruiters in the country."

- **Gerry DiNardo, Big Ten Network**

"It was an honor to have James Franklin as a coach. He brings out the passion and the love for the game in everyone. He is a leader, he knows how to win and he brings a relentless work ethic. He is a tremendous motivator on and off the field. He's done an amazing job and will continue to be an asset to the Penn State campus, community and football program."

- **Donald Driver, Former Green Bay Packers Wide Receiver and Player of Franklin**

"Coach Franklin was an outstanding player and has been an outstanding coach. James is the type of individual who has a great passion for the game of football. He has goals and aspirations. He is enthusiastic and has an outstanding work ethic. He applied those attributes as a player and has applied them to his coaching and that is why he has been able to have so much success everywhere he has been. He is an outstanding communicator and that parlays into being a great recruiter. He brings as much enthusiasm and passion for Penn State as the fan base does."

- **Denny Douds, Franklin's College Head Coach at East Stroudsburg**

"I think right now Coach Franklin has proven to be one of the three best coaches in college football because of what he's accomplished the past decade. What he did at Vanderbilt was remarkable. He led the Commodores to Top 25 poll finishes in two of his three seasons. Keep in mind, that was a program that hadn't finished in the Top 25 for more than 60 years before his arrival. I don't think he gets anywhere near enough credit for that transformation. Then, he takes over a Penn State program that was still reeling from hefty sanctions and also was thrust into arguably the toughest division in college football, stacked with top coaches. By his third season, Franklin led the Nittany Lions to a Big Ten title."

- **Bruce Feldman, The Athletic/FOX Sports**

"I have been very fortunate to attend several leadership events with James. His deep understanding of the value of developing a successful culture is readily apparent. But in addition, it is also apparent he is also constantly striving to learn and better himself. His questions, his perspectives and his insights always carry a great deal of weight with others in attendance. While striving to better himself, James is making all of us in attendance better. Candidly his presence at these events is one of the absolute keys to their success. I promise you every attendee feels this way."

- **Jeremy Foley, Former Director of Athletics at Florida**

"Coach has meant so much to me, both on and off the field. One of the best things that ever happened to me was getting to work with Coach Franklin. I was very raw, and needed development in really every area. Coach taught me proper footwork, how to better understand pass routes and schemes, just how to play the position. Truly, to this day, my fundamental foundation as a quarterback came from the time with him."

- **Josh Freeman, Former NFL First Round Pick/Kansas State ('09) Quarterback and Player of Franklin**

"Coach Franklin embodies all of the characteristics you want in a head football coach but also a mentor of young men. He was instrumental to our team success as well as my individual success throughout my four years with the program. I am so happy for his continued success and wish him and Penn State Football nothing but the best moving forward."

- **Mike Gesicki, New England Patriots/Penn State ('17) Tight End and Former Player of Franklin**

"There are a few things that I believe make Coach Franklin one of the best in the business — his relentless passion for wanting the very best for his program, whether it's the video department, weight room, academic resources...You name it. Coupled with his leadership and coaching acumen, Coach Franklin continues to keep Penn State as one of the premier programs in America."

- **Howard Griffith, Big Ten Network**

"Coach Franklin is a great person and a great coach. He transformed the program and my career during my time at Vanderbilt. He took us from the bottom of the SEC to the upper tier of college football's toughest conference and a national contender. It was amazing to see what he was able to do at Vanderbilt. For him, there is only one goal in mind; a National Championship. I feel like he has the right mindset as a coach, can put the right coaches around him and with the student-athletes, resources and fan base at Penn State, he will continue to do a tremendous job."

- **Casey Heyward, Former NFL/Vanderbilt ('12) Cornerback and Former Player of Franklin**

"James Franklin is an elite coach. This is one of the best coaches in the game of college football. He did it at Vanderbilt. He's doing it at Penn State."

- **Gus Johnson, FOX Sports**

"I truly believe we have the best football coach in the country. James has built a winning culture at Penn State through his strong leadership and the way he runs a football program. Relationships are important to James, and a lot of his success starts with those relationships with prioritizing the student-athlete first and foremost. His work ethic is unmatched and his determination, heart and passion has made Penn State one of the elite programs in the country."

- **Dr. Patrick Kraft, Penn State Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics**

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT JAMES FRANKLIN

"Coach Franklin has a lot of energy, a lot of passion for the game, and obviously knows what he is doing. He cares about his players and is a great family guy. He is intense, but yet has fun and like I said, he has his passion for the game, his love for the game and a love for his players, and he cares about his players like family."

- **Jordy Nelson, Former NFL/ Kansas State ('09) Wide Receiver and Player of Franklin**

"James Franklin has Penn State in prime position for what's around the corner in College Football. The culture is solidified to the point where changes like NIL and the transfer portal are able to be baked into the model instead of upending the model like we've seen with less stable programs. At the same time, the stability and standard he's cultivated has attracted an excellent staff, and that staff is assembling recruiting classes that will have Penn State in an expanded CFP picture for years to come."

- **Josh Pate, CBS Sports HQ & 247Sports**

"Coach Franklin took a personal interest in me. He and the staff knew I had a lot of potential and made me into the person I wanted to be. The environment he's built is tremendous. The relationship he builds when he's recruiting you, he tells you this is a forever relationship, and he truly means it. He's one of the smartest people you will meet on and off the field. When you have a guy who cares about what you are going to be doing 20 years from now, that's someone you want to have in your corner."

- **Micah Parsons, Dallas Cowboys/Penn State ('19), 2019 All-American and B1G Linebacker of the Year**

"James is a great coach, a great leader and tireless worker. His players play tough, but they are old-school and disciplined. He brings new approaches to the field for the players and offenses, and he is an innovator and a cutting-edge type of coach. You would love to have that type of guy be your son. He is a wonderful person with great character and great integrity. He is a wonderful husband and a wonderful father. He's a great friend, who never forgets where he came from, and his friends. He's just a wonderful human being."

- **Mike Price, Former Washington State Head Coach**

"I learned so much from James in the 12 years I spent working with him. He is incredibly organized, meticulous and emphasizes the details in everything. James is a relational leader and a friend who has had a tremendous influence on me both personally and professionally."

- **Brent Pry, Virginia Tech Head Coach**

"I think the greatest thing about Coach Franklin is he makes you believe in yourself more than you believe in yourself. I think he's the greatest maximizer of your individual capacity that I've ever been around. He made us believe in things that we didn't believe in ourselves. He made us become what he saw of us and were that good because of what he did."

- **Jordan Rodgers, ESPN Analyst/Vanderbilt ('13) Quarterback and Former Player of Franklin**

"James Franklin is one of the hardest working and detailed people that I have ever encountered. His ability to have a vision and then see it come to fruition is almost unrivaled. Any coach that has had the honor to work with him or for him uses him as the benchmark for running a successful program."

- **Ricky Rahne, Old Dominion Head Coach**

"I have always believed Penn State is one of the most spectacular college football environments. James Franklin's recruiting panache and on-field energy has continued that tradition to make it a special place to be. I can't wait to see what he continues to build."

- **Holly Rowe, ESPN**

"James worked for me at the Green Bay Packers. I noticed early on that he always saw the big picture. He didn't just coach his players on the field, but saw the need for them to be accountable off the field as well. He took an interest in every aspect of their lives and coached not just the player, but the person."

- **Mike Sherman, Former Green Bay Packers and Texas A&M Head Coach**

"James Franklin is one of the best football coaches in America – his record speaks for itself. However, I'm more impressed with his character and the family atmosphere he creates that permeates through the program. Coach Franklin's biggest attribute is that he loves his players like they are his sons and prioritizes their academic development, so they're well prepared for life after football. Coach brings a unique mix of enthusiasm, determination and authenticity, which inspires everyone around him. We're lucky to have James Franklin as our coach."

- **Brandon Short, Penn State ('99) Linebacker**

"Coach Franklin has earned the opportunity to be a leader at a program like Penn State. I had a greater appreciation for him after I left (Maryland). He wants you to be the best you can be as a student and a player and brings a family environment. He is very passionate about what he does and has all the tools to be successful."

- **Torrey Smith, Former NFL/Maryland ('10) Wide Receiver and Player of Franklin**

"I got to know James when he was at Kansas State and I enjoyed being around him a great deal. I think he is a quality person and is a very fine football coach. I liked his integrity and the way he carried himself. He is a coach that does things the right way and treats people with respect. He truly cares about the student-athletes that he coaches and he is a guy that seems to get along with everyone he interacts with."

- **Bill Snyder, Former Kansas State Head Coach**

"I have known Coach Franklin for almost a quarter of a century. His dedication to the development of his student athletes competitively, through community service and in the classroom is admirable. His intensity and attention to detail in regards to game preparation always impressed. In summary, he is a terrific role model in every regard."

- **Debbie Yow, Former Director of Athletics at NC State and Maryland**