

vs. Georgia Tech (Sept. 4, 2021)

In lieu of a depth chart, NIU is providing this numerical list of players at each position with a chance to play in the 2021 season opener at Georgia Tech on September 4.

OFFENSE

Quarterbacks

- 2 Ethan Hampton (6-3, 194, Fr., Elburn, Ill., Aurora Christian HS)
- 4 Dustin Fletcher (6-3, 219, Fr.-C, Flint, Mich., Carmen-Ainsworth HS)
- 12 Rocky Lombardi (6-3, 219, Jr.-R, Clive, Iowa, Valley HS/Michigan State)
- 16 Ryan Yost (6-4, 192, So., Medford, N.J., Holy Spirit/Wagner)

Running Backs

- 8 Jay Ducker (5-10, 185, Fr.-C, Bellevue, Neb., Bellevue West HS)
- 21 Erin Collins (6-2, 212, Jr., Plant City, Fla., Armwood/Hutchinson [KS] CC)
- 23 Braxton Chapman (6-2, 220, Jr., Farrell, Pa., Farrell/Youngstown State)
- 24 Mason Blakemore (6-1, 198, Fr., O'Fallon, Mo., Centralia, [Ill.] HS)
- 25 Clint Ratkovich (6-1, 220, Sr.-R, Crete, Ill., Crete-Monee HS/Western Illinois)
- 26 Antario Brown (5-10, 214, Fr., Savannah, Ga., Beach HS)
- 30 Harrison Waylee (5-10, 185, Fr.-C, Johnston, Iowa, Urbandale HS)

Tight Ends

- 32 Brett Bostad (6-0, 240, So.-R, Kennedale, Texas, Kennedale HS)
- 47 Drew Cassens (6-2, 240, Fr.-C, Downers Grove, Ill., Downers Grove North HS)
- 80 Miles Joiner (6-4, 259, Jr.-R, Dayton, Ohio, Butler HS/Youngstown State)
- 82 Tristen Tewes (6-3, 246, Fr.-R, Pleasant Plains, Ill., Pleasant Plains HS)
- 83 Liam Soraghan (6-7, 261, Jr.-R, Dearborn, Mich., Divine Child HS)

Wide Receivers

- 3 Tyrice Richie (6-0, 194, Sr.-R, Chicago, Ill., Homewood-Flossmoor/Dodge City CC)
- 7 Fabian McCray (6-2, 186, Fr.-R, Chicago, Ill., Phillips HS)
- 9 Mohamed Toure (6-2, 200, Fr.-R, Irvington, N.J., Irvington HS)
- 10 Billy Dozier (5-10, 190, Fr.-C, New Lenox, Ill., Lincoln Way West HS)
- 11 Messiah Travis (5-10, 182, Fr.-R, Chicago, Ill., Solorio Academy)
- 14 Jeremiah Howard (5-11, 178, Fr.-C, Merrillville, Ind., Merrillville HS)
- 15 Cole Tucker (6-2, 206, Jr.-R, DeKalb, Ill., DeKalb HS)
- 85 Trayvon Rudolph (5-10, 182, Fr.-C, Crete, Ill., Crete-Monee HS)

Offensive Line

- 50 Pete Nygra (6-4, 289, Fr., North Indianapolis, Ind., Brownsburg HS)
- 58 Brayden Patton (6-5, 309, Sr.-R, Ellettsville, Ind., Edgewood HS)
- 60 Evan Buss (6-6, 315, Fr.-C, Kimberly, Wis., Kimberly HS)
- 64 Matthew Schooley (6-2, 303, Fr.-C, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Lincoln HS)
- 65 Logan Zschernitz (6-3, 311, Fr.-R, Spencer, Wis., Spencer HS)
- 69 Nolan Potter (6-6, 308, So.-R, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Washington HS)
- 70 Marques Cox (6-6, 306, So.-R, Peoria, Ill., Peoria HS)
- 74 Tyler Pitcel (6-4, 306, Fr.-C, Mukwonago, Wis., Mukwonago HS)
- 75 Leif Engstrand (6-8, 331, Fr.-R, Oconomowoc, Wis., Oconomowoc HS)
- 76 John Champe (6-4, 321, Fr.-C, Brookfield, Wis., Brookfield East HS)
- 79 J.J. Lippe (6-5, 311, Fr.-R, Milwaukee, Wis., Whitefish Bay HS)

SPECIALISTS

- P 36 Matt Ference (5-11, 186, Sr., St. Louis, Mo., Lafayette HS)
- K 39 John Richardson (5-11, 180, So.-R, Orland Park, Ill., Brother Rice HS)
- LS 93 Erik Abrell (6-1, 215, Jr.-R, Aurora, Ill., Aurora Christian/Western Illinois)

DEFENSE

Defensive End

- 4 Ray Thomas (6-4, 281, Fr.-C, Racine, Wis., Washington Park HS)
- 5 Michael Kennedy (6-1, 229, Jr.-R, Chicago, Ill., Mt. Carmel HS)
- 52 Ivan Davis (6-3, 235, Fr.-C, Canton, Mich., Plymouth HS)
- 54 Jalen Pinkney (6-3, 231, Jr., Norcross, Ga., Norcross HS/UCF)
- 55 Jaden Wilson (6-2, 234, Fr., Detroit, Mich., Renaissance HS)
- 99 Pierce Oppong (6-3, 261, Fr.-C, Bloomington, Minn., Jefferson HS)

Defensive Tackle

- 1 James Ester (6-3, 286, Fr.-R, Detroit, Mich., Cass Tech)
- 8 Jeffrey Griffin Jr. (6-0, 299, So.-R, Homewood, Ill., Homewood-Flossmoor HS)
- 10 Demond Taylor Jr. (6-2, 296, Fr.-R, East St. Louis, Ill., East St. Louis HS)
- 42 Jack Hugunin (6-2, 297, Fr.-C, Oswego, Ill., Oswego HS)
- 59 Cade Haberman (6-2, 297, Fr., Omaha, Neb., Westside HS)
- 95 Devonte O'Malley (6-2, 273, Fr.-C, Midlothian, Ill., Bremen HS)
- 96 Jacob Waskow (6-2, 276, Fr.-C, Canton, Ill., Canton HS)

Linebackers

- 2 Lance Deveau Jr. (5-11, 218, Sr.-R, Pompano Beach, Fla., St. Thomas Aquinas)
- 9 Daveren Rayner (6-3, 200, Fr.-C, Indianapolis, Ind., Lawrence Centra HSI)
- 18 Elijah Hamm (LB, 6-1, 196, Fr., Watkinsville, Ga., Oconee County HS)
- 23 Eddie Jackson (6-0, 222, Fr.-C, Miami, Fla., Gulliver Prep)
- 26 Jaden Dolphin (6-2, 210, Fr.-C, Des Plaines, Ill., Maine West HS)
- 38 Nick Rattin (6-2, 223, So., Palatine, Ill., Fremd HS)
- 45 Makhi Nelson-Douglas (6-1, 210, Fr., Omaha, Neb., Elkhorn South HS)
- 46 Dayven Shinhoster (6-0, 215, Fr., Barrington, Ill., Barrington HS)
- 49 Brock Lampe (6-1, 232, Fr., Kenosha, Wis., Bradford HS)

Cornerbacks

- 12 Eric Rogers (6-2, 178, Fr.-C, Burlington, N.J., Burlington Township HS)
- 13 Myles McGee (6-0, 191, Fr.-C, Canton, Ga., Sequoyah HS)
- 14 Jordan Gandy (5-10, 180, So., DeKalb, Ill., DeKalb HS, South Dakota State)
- 15 Ty Myles (5-10, 187, Fr., Blackshear, Ga., Pierce County HS)
- 22 Cyrus McGarrell (6-2, 178, Fr., Windsor, Ontario, Clearwater Acad. Int'l. [Fla.])
- 20 Zhamaine March (5-8, 175, Jr., Detroit, Mich., East English Village Prep)
- 29 JaVaughn Byrd (6-0, 180, Fr., Milwaukee, Wis., Rufus King HS)

Safeties

- 3 Devin Lafayette (6-2, 194, Fr.-C, Brunswick, Ga., Brunswick HS)
- 6 C.J. Brown (5-11, 192, Fr.-C, Canton, Mich., Walled Lake Western HS)
- 7 Jordan Hansen (6-1, 188, Fr.-C, Arlington Heights, Ill., John Hersey HS)
- 11 Dillon Thomas (6-2, 190, Jr.-R, Kansas City, Mo., Park Hill South HSI)
- 19 Nate Valcarcel (6-1, 180, Fr.-C, Greenfield, Wis., Whitnall HS/South Dakota)
- 24 Jashon Prophete (5-11, 182, Fr.-C, Pompano Beach, Fla., Blanche Ely HS)
- 28 Muhammad Jammeh (6-1, 188, Fr., Detroit, Mich., Renaissance HS)
- 33 Josh Earl (6-1, 194, So.-R, Naperville, Ill., Neuqua Valley HS)