

KENTUCKY



STEPHEN JOHNSON
SENIOR QB

BENNY SNELL JR.
SOPHOMORE RB
ALL-SEC



GARRETT "JUICE" JOHNSON
SENIOR WR

AUSTIN MacGINNIS
SENIOR K
ALL-SEC



NASHVILLE

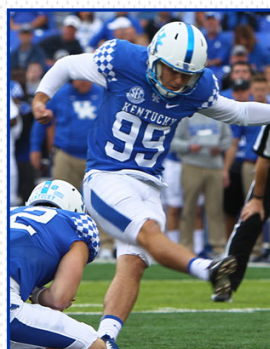
MUSIC CITY BOWL



BACK-2-BACK BOWLS

KENTUCKY FINISHED THE 2017 REGULAR SEASON WITH A 7-5 RECORD. IT IS KENTUCKY'S SECOND CONSECUTIVE SEVEN-WIN SEASON, THE FIRST TIME UK HAS ACHIEVED THAT IN EIGHT YEARS, SINCE 2008-09.

- Kentucky went 4-4 in the Southeastern Conference. It is UK's second consecutive 4-4 league mark, the first time the Wildcats have achieved that since 1998-99.
- UK finished third in the SEC Eastern Division. Along with the second-place finish last year, it is UK's highest back-to-back finishes since the league split into divisions in 1992.
- UK is allowing 162.2 rushing yards per game, the second-fewest rushing yards allowed over the last nine seasons.
- UK is averaging 169.8 rushing yards per game, the third-highest mark in the last 22 seasons.
- UK has thrown only five interceptions this season, currently tying the single-season record for fewest interceptions.
- UK is fifth in the SEC in interceptions with 11 pickoffs.



KICKER AUSTIN MACGINNIS HAS ADDED TO HIS LIST OF SCHOOL RECORDS

- Kentucky's all-time leading scorer with 354 points
- Tied his own school record with 21 field goals this season
- Tied his own school record with 11 consecutive field goals this season

UK IS ONE OF ONLY TWO SCHOOLS IN THE NATION THAT HAS TIED OR IMPROVED ITS WIN TOTAL IN EACH OF THE LAST FIVE SEASONS:

- 2012: two wins
- 2013: two wins (first season under Coach Mark Stoops)
- 2014: five wins
- 2015: five wins
- 2016: seven wins
- 2017: seven wins

2017 HIGHLIGHTS



RECORDS SET BY RUNNING BACK BENNY SNELL, JR.

- Currently leads the SEC in rushing touchdowns and is second in rushing yardage
- Rushed for 1,318 yards, school record for most rushing yards by a sophomore
- First player in school history over 1,000 yards rushing in consecutive seasons
- Already ranks eighth on the UK career rushing list (2,409 yards); only the fifth player in SEC history to reach 2,400 career yards prior to his junior season
- Set school record for career rushing touchdowns (31)
- Set school record for most total touchdowns in a season (18) and most rushing touchdowns in a season (18)
- Set school record for most points in a season (110)
- Already ranks eighth in the UK career scoring list



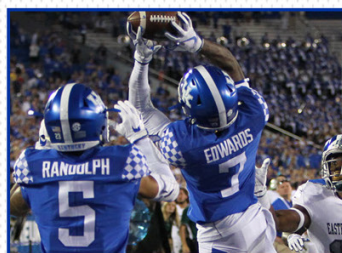
Senior LB Courtney Love was the 2017 recipient of the Wuerffel Trophy, an award that honors college football's top community servant. He also was one of just 11 FBS players named to the prestigious Allstate AFCA Good Works Team. This award shines a spotlight on the incredible stories of selflessness and community service and honors their dedication to volunteerism and enriching the lives of others.



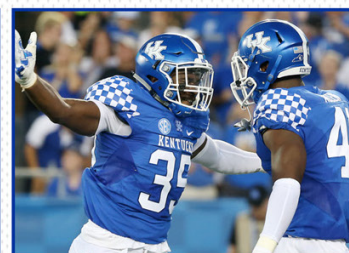
Wide receiver Garrett Johnson is only the fourth player in school history to reach 2,000 career receiving yards.



Despite playing only two seasons, quarterback Stephen Johnson already ranks in the top 10 in school history for passing yardage and touchdowns.



Safety Mike Edwards is second in the SEC in interceptions (four) and is among the top 10 tacklers in the league.



Linebacker Josh Allen and DE/LB Denzil Ware rank in the SEC top 10 in quarterback sacks.



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	@vincemarrow	
	@CoachSchlarman	

	Kentucky Football	Kentucky Wildcats
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UKStoopsTroops



GENERAL INFORMATION

Location:	Lexington, Ky.
Stadium:	Kroger Field (61,000)
Founded:	1865
Enrollment:	30,000
Nickname:	Wildcats
Colors:	Blue (PMS 286) and White
Conference:	Southeastern (Eastern Division)
President:	Dr. Eli Capilouto
Athletics Director:	Mitch Barnhart
Faculty Representative:	Joseph L. Fink III
Website:	UKathletics.com

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Mark Stoops

Overall Record: 26-35 (5th Season)/UK Record: Same

Assistant Coaches:

Steve Clinkscale, defensive backs

Eddie Gran, assistant head coach offense, RBs

Darin Hinshaw, co-offensive coordinator, QBs

Dean Hood, special teams coordinator, OLB

Matt House, defensive coordinator, ILB

Derrick LeBlanc, defensive line

Vince Marrow, tight ends, recruiting coord.

John Schlarman, offensive line

Lamar Thomas, wide receivers

Graduate Assistant Coaches:

Michael Colosimo, offense

Evan McKissack, offense

Chase Heuke, defense

Thomas Wells, defense

Quality Control:

Tommy Mangino, quality control

Louie Matsakis, quality control

Dillon Sanders, quality control

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KENTUCKY MEDIA ITINERARY

(Note that practice times are tentative; all times are local Central times; these events are open to the media unless noted otherwise)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Team departs for Nashville

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

No media availability

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

1:45 – 3:40 p.m. CT

Practice at Vanderbilt University

- First 15 minutes open to media, interviews after practice
- Parking is available McGugin parking lot (2601 Jess Neely Dr.)
- 2601 Jess Neely Drive, Nashville, TN 37232

7-9 p.m. CT

Kentucky Team Welcome Dinner

- Wildhorse Saloon
- 120 2nd Ave N, Nashville
- Prior to the start, head coach Mark Stoops and three select players will be made available for interviews

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

2 – 3:10 p.m. CT

Practice at Vanderbilt University

- First 15 minutes open to media, interviews after practice
- Parking is available McGugin parking lot (2601 Jess Neely Dr.)
- 2601 Jess Neely Drive, Nashville, TN 37232

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. CT

Joint press conference - both head coaches

- Location is the Gaylord Opryland Hotel
- 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. CT

Franklin American Mortgage Company Coaches Luncheon presented by WKRN News 2

- Location is the Gaylord Opryland Hotel
- The Coaches Luncheon (Head Coach Mark Stoops, OC Eddie Gran and DC Matt House will attend) is a ticketed event open to the public
- This event will feature each team’s head coach for a “chalk talk” about the upcoming game.

5-8 p.m. CT

Battle of the Bands

- Stage at 1st and 2nd Ave. and Broadway
- Bands and cheerleaders from each school will march down Broadway and battle. School bands will each perform 4-5 songs. Once the bands have concluded their performance, there will be a concert on 1st Avenue

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 (GAME DAY)

11-11:30 a.m. CT

Kentucky Team Pep Rally

- State at 1st Avenue and Broadway
- The pep rally will be followed by a concert

12:30 p.m. CT

- Media Will-Call and Press Box Opens, Nissan Stadium

3:30 p.m. CT

- 20th Franklin American Music City Bowl, Nissan Field

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Nashville, TN 37203
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As of December 27, the following phone numbers will be operating if you need to get in touch with a Bowl Media Relations representative at the media hotel:

- Credential Registration Desk: (615) 493-4082
- Media Information Workroom Fax: (615) 493-4083

The following functions will take place at the Media Hotel:

- Credential and Parking Pass Pick-up
- Media Hospitality
- Media Materials Center

Satellite trucks will be parked at Nissan Stadium in Lot M. This is a secured lot, 24-hours a day



VS.



FRANKLIN AMERICAN MORTGAGE MUSIC CITY BOWL
FRIDAY, DEC. 29 • 4:30 ET • ESPN
NASHVILLE • NISSAN STADIUM (69,143)

KENTUCKY WILDCATS
(7-5, 4-4 SEC)

9/2	at Southern Miss [CBSSN]	W, 24-17
9/9	Eastern Kentucky [SECN]	W, 27-16
9/16	at South Carolina* [SECN]	W, 23-13
9/23	#20/22 Florida* [SECN]	L, 27-28
9/30	Eastern Michigan [SECN]	W, 24-20
10/7	Missouri* [SECN]	W, 40-34
10/21	at Mississippi State* [SECN]	L, 7-45
10/28	Tennessee* [SECN]	W, 29-26
11/4	Ole Miss* [SECN]	L, 34-37
11/11	at Vanderbilt* [SECN]	W, 44-21
11/18	at #7/7 Georgia* [CBS]	L, 13-42
11/25	Louisville [SECN]	L, 17-44
Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl		
12/29	vs. #20/20 Northwestern [ESPN]	4:30 p.m.
All times ET; *SEC game; Home games in bold		

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS
(9-3, 7-2 BIG TEN)

9/2	Nevada	W, 31-20
9/9	at Duke	L, 17-41
9/16	Bowling Green	W, 49-7
9/30	at Wisconsin*	L, 24-33
10/7	Penn State*	L, 7-31
10/14	at Maryland*	W, 37-21
10/21	Iowa*	W, 17-10 (OT)
10/28	Michigan State*	W, 39-31 (3OT)
11/4	at Nebraska*	W, 31-24 (OT)
11/11	Purdue*	W, 23-13
11/18	Minnesota*	W, 39-0
11/25	at Illinois*	W, 42-7
Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl		
12/29	vs. Kentucky [ESPN]	4:30 p.m.
*Big Ten game; Home games in bold		

ABOUT THE GAME

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 Reporter Olivia Harlan

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Play-by-Play Tom Leach
 Analyst Jeff Picoro
 Sideline Dick Gabriel

RADIO • ESPN

Play-by-Play Mike Corey
 Analyst Rene Ingoglia
 Analyst Desmond Purnell

SATELLITE RADIO

Channel 80 - Sirius/XM

INTERNET RADIO • www.UKathletics.com

Live Audio - free; Live Stats

TICKETS • UKFootballTix.com

HASHTAG • #NWvsUK

CATS RETURN TO FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS IN MUSIC CITY BOWL

Nashville, here comes Kentucky. The Wildcats were invited to play in the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl for a record fifth time, continuing the friendship between Big Blue Nation and Music City USA. The Cats will take on a nine-win Northwestern team that has won seven consecutive games, including three straight that went to overtime.

With a win, the Cats would push their record in the Music City Bowl and all bowls to winning ones. The Cats are 2-2 in the Music City Bowl - with wins over Clemson (2006) and Florida State (2007) and 8-8 overall. UK last played in the Music City Bowl in 2009, dropping a tight affair to Clemson.

The Cats won in Nashville last month, playing one of their most complete games of the season in a 44-21 victory over Vanderbilt for their seventh win of the season.

Kickoff for the game will be at 4:30 ET at Nissan Stadium and the game will air on ESPN.

GAME CENTER - #NWvsUK

KENTUCKY WILDCATS

Record: 7-5 (4-4 SEC)
 Ranking: AP - NR; Coaches - NR
 Coach: Mark Stoops (Iowa, '89)
 Record: 26-35 (Fifth season)
 at UK: 26-35 (Fifth season)
 vs. NW: 0-0
 Last Game: L, 17-44, vs. Louisville (11/25)
 Series: Northwestern leads 1-0

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

Record: 9-3 (7-2 Big Ten)
 Ranking: AP - 20th; Coaches - 20th
 Coach: Pat Fitzgerald (Northwestern, '97)
 Record: 86-65 (12th season)
 at NW: 86-65 (12th season)
 vs. UK: 0-0
 Last Game: W, 42-7, at Illinois (11/25)
 Last Meeting: Northwestern won 7-0 in Evanston (10/20/28)

QUICK NOTES

- This will be UK's fifth appearance in the Music City Bowl. The previous appearances were in 1999, 2006, 2007 and 2009.
- Kentucky is the first school to appear in the Music City Bowl five times (1999, 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2017).
- The top two attendance records in the Music City Bowl featured the Wildcats as 68,024 fans, mostly clad in Blue and White, attended Kentucky vs. Clemson in 2006 and 68,661 were in the stands for Kentucky vs. Florida State in 2007.
- The Cats have a 2-2 record in the Music City Bowl, defeating Clemson (2006) and Florida State (2007) and losing to Syracuse (1999) and Clemson (2009).
- Kentucky is 8-8 all-time in bowl games.
- This will mark just the second all-time meeting against the Northwestern. UK is 0-1 vs. the Wildcats after falling 7-0 in 1928.
- UK has faced two opponents from the Big Ten in its bowl history: defeating Wisconsin in the 1984 Hall of Fame Bowl and losing to Penn State in the 1999 Outback Bowl.
- Kentucky is in back-to-back bowl games for the first time since the 2009 and 2010 seasons.
- UK finished the 2017 regular season with a 7-5 record. It is UK's second consecutive seven-win season, the first time UK has achieved that in eight years, since 2008-09.
- Three of UK's wins this season are against teams that will finish the season with at least seven wins – at Southern Mississippi (8-4), at South Carolina (8-4) and vs. Missouri (7-5).
- Kentucky went 4-4 in the SEC. It is UK's second consecutive 4-4 league mark, the first time the Wildcats have achieved that since 1998-99.
- UK finished in third place in the SEC Eastern Division. Placing second last season, it is UK's best back-to-back finishes since the league split into divisions in 1992.
- UK went 4-2 in games decided by seven points or less this season and the Wildcats are 8-3 in games decided by seven points or less over the past two seasons.
- UK is one of only two schools in the nation that has tied or improved its win total in each of the last five seasons.
- Kentucky is +5 in turnover margin this season, best margin since 2014.
- UK has reduced points allowed from 31.3 points per game last season to 28.6 per game this year.
- UK is allowing 162.2 rushing yards per game, the second-fewest rushing yards allowed over the last nine seasons.
- UK is averaging 169.8 rushing yards per game, the third-highest mark in the last 22 seasons.
- UK has its highest pass completion percentage (60.1) since 2010.
- UK has thrown only five interceptions this season, currently tying the single-season record for fewest interceptions.

continued on page 4





SEC STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION

Team	SEC	Pct.	All	Pct.
Georgia	7-1	.923	12-1	.917
South Carolina	5-3	.625	8-4	.667
KENTUCKY	4-4	.500	7-5	.583
Missouri	4-4	.500	7-5	.583
Florida	3-5	.375	4-7	.364
Vanderbilt	1-7	.125	5-7	.417
Tennessee	0-8	.000	4-8	.333

WESTERN DIVISION

Team	SEC	Pct.	All	Pct.
Auburn	7-1	.875	11-2	.846
Alabama	7-1	.875	11-1	.917
LSU	6-2	.750	9-3	.750
Miss. State	4-4	.500	8-4	.667
Texas A&M	4-4	.500	7-5	.583
Ole Miss	3-5	.375	6-6	.500
Arkansas	1-7	.125	4-8	.333

SEC IN THE BOWLS ...

Music City Bowl (4:30 p.m.; Dec. 29 - ESPN) Kentucky vs. Northwestern

Texas Bowl (9 p.m.; Dec. 27 - ESPN) Missouri vs. Texas

Belk Bowl (1 p.m.; Dec. 29 - ESPN) Texas A&M vs. Wake Forest

TaxSlayer Bowl (Noon; Dec. 30 - ESPN) Mississippi State vs. Louisville

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl (12:30 p.m.; Jan. 1, 2018 - ESPN) Auburn vs. UCF

Citrus Bowl (1 p.m.; Jan. 1, 2018 - ABC) LSU vs. Notre Dame

Outback Bowl (Noon; Jan. 1, 2018 - ESPN2) South Carolina vs. Michigan

College Football Playoff Semifinals

Rose Bowl (5 p.m.; Jan. 1, 2017 - ESPN) Georgia vs. Oklahoma

Sugar Bowl (8:45 p.m.; Jan. 1, 2017 - ESPN) Alabama vs. Clemson

All times ET



- UK is fifth in the SEC in interceptions with 11 pickoffs.
- UK has improved its third down efficiency this season on both offense and defense
 - o Offense: 41.1 percent this season, up from 39.1 percent last season
 - o Defense: 41.1 percent this season, down from 44.4 percent last season
- UK special teams blocked three kicks this season – two of which were key plays in UK victories – and also executed a successful fake punt that was a crucial play in a UK win. The three blocked kicks rank 18th nationally.
- UK special teams have not allowed a blocked kick this season or allowed a punt or kickoff return for a touchdown which leads the nation.
- Kentucky is third in the nation in punt returns, averaging 17.3 yards per return.

INDIVIDUAL QUICK NOTES

- Senior LB **Courtney Love** was named the winner of the prestigious Wuerffel Trophy. The honor goes to the college football player “who best combines exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement.”
- **Love** also was named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, just one of 11 FBS student-athletes named to the prestigious award. He will be recognized at the Allstate Sugar Bowl in New Orleans on Jan. 1, 2018.
- Running back **Benny Snell Jr.** was named First-Team All-SEC by The Associated Press and second team by the league coaches.
- **Snell** is just the ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 rushing yards in his career and the first player in school history to rush for 1,000 in consecutive seasons.
- **Snell** has 31 rushing touchdowns in his career, setting a new school record. He surpassed the old mark of 26.
- In the past five games, **Snell** has rushed for 777 yards and 12 TDs.
- **Snell** has 18 rushing TDs this season, breaking the UK single-season record of 17 by Moe Williams in 1995.
- **Snell** currently ranks second in the SEC in total rushing yards (1,318) rushing yards per game (109.8) and scoring (9.2).
- Linebacker/Defensive end **Josh Allen** was named a second-team All-SEC selection by the AP.
- Despite playing only two seasons, quarterback **Stephen Johnson II** already ranks in the top 10 in school history for passing yardage and touchdowns.
- UK is 14-9 over the last 23 games with **Johnson** as the starter (12-9) or QB for the majority of the game in a relief role (2-0). Johnson was on the top 20 list for the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award.
- With his game-winning fourth quarter drive against Tennessee, **Johnson** has five game-winning drives in the fourth quarter or overtime in his career, the second-most

ALL-TIME BOWL RESULTS

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

for a UK quarterback since 1955 (Andre' Woodson, 7).

- Junior safety **Mike Edwards** is tied for second in the SEC for interceptions (four) and is among the top 10 tacklers in the league (team-leading 90 tackles this season). He also has a team-high six PBUs and double-digit tackles in four of his last eight games.
- **Edwards** is tied for second in the league and 23rd nationally in interceptions per game.
- UK's pass rush has been led by the DE/LB duo of **Josh Allen** and **Denzil Ware** (aka Blitz Bros.). They comprise one of the SEC's top pass rushing pairs, having totaled 231 total tackles, 36.0 tackles for loss, 24.0 sacks, 12 quarterback hurries, six forced fumbles and two interceptions the past two seasons.
- **Allen** ranks tied for sixth in the SEC in sacks (7.0) and was a semifinalist for the Butkus Award and a midseason second-team All-American by the AP and *Sports Illustrated*.
- **Ware** has 6.5 sacks this season, good for 10th in the SEC. He was named SEC Co-Defensive Lineman of the Week for his play against Vanderbilt.
- Senior wideout **Garrett "Juice" Johnson** ranks fourth on the school's all-time career receiving yards list (2,050). He is just the fourth player in school history with 2,000 receiving yards in his career.
- Senior kicker **Austin MacGinnis** has a school-record 354 career points. He



NATIONAL POLLS (BOWLS)

AP TOP 25

1	Clemson (43)	12-1
2	Oklahoma (18)	12-1
3	Georgia	12-1
4	Alabama	11-1
5	Ohio State	11-2
6	Wisconsin	12-1
7	Auburn	10-3
8	USC	11-2
9	Penn State	10-2
10	UCF	12-0
11	Miami	10-2
12	Washington	10-2
13	TCU	10-3
14	Notre Dame	9-3
15	Stanford	9-4
16	LSU	9-3
17	Oklahoma State	9-3
18	Michigan State	9-3
19	Memphis	10-2
20	Northwestern	9-3
21	Washington State	9-3
22	Virginia Tech	9-3
23	South Florida	9-2
24	Mississippi State	8-4
25	Boise State	10-3

UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Louisville 11, Missouri 3

AMWAY COACHES TOP 25

1	Clemson (49)	12-1
2	Oklahoma (10)	12-1
3	Georgia (2)	12-1
4	Alabama	11-1
5	Ohio State	11-2
6	Wisconsin	12-1
7	USC	11-2
8	Auburn	10-3
9	Penn State	10-2
10	UCF	12-0
11	Miami	10-2
12	Washington	10-2
13	TCU	10-3
14	LSU	9-3
15	Notre Dame	9-3
16	Stanford	9-4
17	Oklahoma State	9-3
18	Memphis	10-2
19	Michigan State	9-3
20	Northwestern	9-3
21	Washington State	9-3
22	Virginia Tech	9-3
23	Mississippi State	8-4
24	South Florida	9-2
25	Boise State	10-3

UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Louisville 4, South Carolina 4
UK Opponents in Bold

KENTUCKY IN THE POLLS

DATE	AP	COACHES	BCS
Preseason	RV (3)	NR	-
Week 2	RV (4)	RV (6)	-
Week 3	NR	RV (1)	-
Week 4	RV (11)	RV (18)	-
Week 5	NR	NR	-
Week 6	NR	RV (14)	-
Week 7	RV (6)	RV (41)	-
Week 8	RV (8)	RV (64)	-
Week 9	NR	RV (4)	-
Week 10	NR	RV (33)	-
Week 11	NR	NR	-
Week 12	NR	RV (16)	-
Week 13	NR	RV (9)	-
Week 14	NR	NR	-
Week 15	NR	NR	-

COMPARISON STATS

KENTUCKY

7-5	Record	9-3
4-4	Conference Record	7-2
25.8	Scoring/game	29.7
350.8	Total Offense/game	405.2
169.8	Rushing/game	160.9
181.1	Passing/game	244.2
21.5	Kickoff Returns (avg.)	18.5
17.3	Punt Returns (avg.)	7.7
42.5	Punting (avg)	42.6
30:51	Time of Possession	30:29
41.1	Third-Down Conv. (pct)	35.5
55.6	Fourth-Down Conv. (pct)	61.8
28.6	Points Allowed/game	19.8
425.7	Total Defense/game	358.8
162.2	Rushing Defense/game	111.2
263.5	Passing Defense/game	247.6

NORTHWESTERN

surpassed Lones Seiber (305 from 2006-09) in the win over Missouri by scoring a career-high tying 16 points, the second-most points for a kicker in a single game at UK.

- With two field goals against Florida, MacGinnis surpassed Joey Worley (57 from 1984-87) to top the career list for field goals made. He now has 71.
- The 71 career field goals are fifth among active NCAA kickers and seventh in SEC history.
- MacGinnis' 21 field goals on the season are tied for the most in the SEC and ranks him fourth nationally. The total ties his own school record of 21 set in 2014. He also made 11 consecutive field goals this season, tying his own school record.
- Freshman All-SEC receiver/return man **Lynn Bowden Jr.'s** 93-yard kickoff return vs. Vanderbilt is the longest for a UK player since 2009. He is averaging 129.7 all-purpose yards per game over the past six games.
- Junior DB **Lonnie Johnson, Jr.** has blocked an extra point and a field goal this season and is third in the FBS in blocks.

SCOUTING NORTHWESTERN

- Northwestern completed the regular season 9-3 overall, 7-2 in the Big Ten.
- The Wildcats are riding a seven-game win streak, including three consecutive games that went to overtime.
- Northwestern head coach Pat Fitzgerald has done a tremendous job in Evanston, posting an 86-65 record in 12 seasons there.
- Fitzgerald is a Northwestern alum who after three seasons elsewhere returned to the program as the defensive backs coach in 2001. He was named the head coach in 2006.
- This will be the seventh bowl game the Wildcats have appeared in under Fitzgerald's guidance.
- Running Back Justin Jackson is one of the top tailbacks in the country, ranking as the No. 2 active leading rusher in FBS football with 5,283 career yards.
- Jackson's rushing total ranks as one of only six players in Big Ten history to rush for more than 5,000 career yards.
- Quarterback Clayton Thorson threw for 2,809 yards with 15 touchdowns and 12 interceptions
- The Wildcats have five players with 32 receptions or more on the season.
- The defense ranks ninth nationally in rushing defense at just 111.2 yards per game.
- Safety Godwin Igwebuike has 318 career tackles and seven interceptions.
- Linebacker Paddy Fisher totaled 110 tackles and eight tackles for loss in this, his redshirt freshman season.
- Defensive lineman Joe Graziano has a team-high 8.0 sacks.
- Linebacker Nate Hall has a team-high 16.5 tackles for loss and 5.0 sacks.
- Northwestern is a disciplined team, ranking 23rd nationally with less than five penalties per game on average.

KENTUCKY IN BOWL GAMES

- The Wildcats own an 8-8 all-time record in bowl games.
- The last bowl appearance came in the TaxSlayer Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida on Dec. 31, 2016. The Cats lost to Georgia Tech, 33-18.
- UK went to five consecutive bowls from 2006-2010.
- Former quarterback Andre' Woodson was two-time Most Valuable Player of the Music City Bowl in 2006 and 2007.



KENTUCKY BY THE NUMBERS

Table with 3 columns: Record, 2017, Stoops. Rows include SEC, West, East, Non-Conference, Home, Road, Neutral site, Night, Day, TV Games, CBS, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNNews, SEC Network, Fox Sports South, CBS Sports Network, UK scores on 1st possession, Opp scores on 1st possession, UK scores first, Opponent scores first, UK leads after 1st quarter, Opponent leads after 1stQ, Teams are tied after 1stQ, UK leads at halftime, Opponent leads at halftime, Teams are tied at halftime, UK leads after 3rd quarter, Opponent leads after 3rdQ, Teams are tied after 3rdQ, Game goes to overtime, Scoring less than 20 pts, Scoring 20+ points, Scoring 30+ points, Allowing less than 20 pts, Allowing 20+ points, Allowing 30+ points, UK has more total yards, Opp. has more total yds, UK has more rushing yards, Opp. has more rushing yards, UK has more passing yards, Opp. has more passing yards, Rushing for < 100 yds, Rushing for over 100 yards, Rushing for 200+ yards, Passing for 200+ yards, Passing for 300+ yards, UK has 100-yard rusher, Opp. has 100-yard rusher, No turnovers, One or two turnovers, 3 or more turnovers, No takeaways, 3 or more takeaways, UK has more penalties, Opp. has more penalties, Teams have equal penalties, UK has more TOP, Opp. has more TOP, UK defense scores, Opponent defense scores, UK returns KO/Punt for TD, Opp. returns KO/Punt for TD, Playing on natural grass, Playing on artificial surface, In blue uniforms, In white uniforms, In white unis/blue pants, In blue unis/white pants, In black uniforms, In blue uniforms/grey pants, In grey uniforms, In grey uniforms/blue pants.

MILESTONES TO WATCH

- Sophomore RB Benny Snell Jr. has 2,409 career rushing yards and is ninth all-time on Kentucky's career rushing list. He needs 102 yards to tie Stanley "Boom" Williams (2,511 from 2014-16) for seventh.
Snell has 12 career 100-yard rushing games which ranks fourth on UK's career chart. He needs one more 100-yard game to move up in a tie for second with Rafel Little (2004-07) and Moe Williams (1993-95).
Snell has 256 rush attempts this season which ranks third at UK. He needs 27 more to move up to No. 2 with Artose Pinner (283 in 2002).
Snell has 1,318 rushing yards this season which ranks third at UK. He needs 96 more to move up to No. 2 with Artose Pinner (1,414 in 2002).
Snell has seven 100-yard rushing games this season which ranks tied for second at UK. He needs one more to tie the school record of eight set by Artose Pinner in 2002.
Senior QB Stephen Johnson 4,770 yards of total offense which ranks seventh on the UK career lists. He would need 682 yards to move up to No. 6 with Patrick Towles (5,452).
Johnson has 4,085 passing yards at Kentucky which ranks 10th on the career passing yards list. He needs 63 yards to move up to No. 9 with Randy Jenkins (4,148 from 1979-83).
Johnson has 23 career passing TDs at UK which ranks ninth all-time. He needs one more to tie Patrick Towles (2012, 2014-15) and Randy Jenkins (1979-83) at No. 8.
Senior WR Garrett "Juice" Johnson has 2,050 career receiving yards and is fourth all-time on Kentucky's career receiving list. He would need 289 receiving yards to tie Derek Abney for third. He is just the fourth player to reach 2,000 career receiving yards.
Johnson currently has 153 career receptions. He ranks fifth on the career list. He would need 36 more to tie Keenan Burton at No. 4 (189 from 2003-07).
Senior kicker Austin MacGinnis has hit 141 career PATs and ranks second on the all-time list behind Lones Seiber (158). He would need 17 more to tie the school record.
MacGinnis has 71 career made field goals which ranks tied for seventh in SEC history. He needs five more to move up to No. 6 with Blair Walsh (Georgia) (76 from 2008-11).
MacGinnis has 97 points this season which ranks fifth at UK. He needs two more points to tie Lones Seiber at No. 4 (99 in 2007) and five more to jump two spots and tie Moe Williams (102 in 1995) at No. 3.
MacGinnis has attempted 27 field goals this season which ranks second at UK. He needs one more to tie the school record of 28 set by Joey Worley in 1985.

SERIES VS. NORTHWESTERN

- The two teams have met just once on the gridiron, some 89 years ago. Northwestern claimed a 7-0 win in Evanston in October 1928.
Kentucky is 28-36-4 all-time against current Big Ten members.
Kentucky last faced a Big Ten opponent in 2005, losing at Indiana 38-17.

- Give Kentucky a winning record in bowl games.
Make UK the first team to win three Music City Bowl titles.
Give UK a 5-2 record in bowl games against teams ranked in the AP Poll.
Give UK its first win over Northwestern. The Cats lone meeting in 1928 was a 7-0 loss.

CATS VS. THE RANKED

- Kentucky has played 245 ranked teams in the Associated Press Poll in its history. The Cats are 41-199-5 in those games.
Northwestern is the third ranked opponent for the Cats this season. UK fell to No. 20 Florida on Sept. 23 (28-27) and No. 7 Georgia on Nov. 18 (42-13).
UK's last win over a ranked team was last season on the road at No. 11 Louisville, 41-38.

CATS TIE/IMPROVE WIN TOTAL FIVE STRAIGHT SEASONS

- UK is one of only two schools in the nation (New Mexico State is the other) that has tied or improved its win total in each of the last five seasons:
2012: two wins
2013: two wins (first season under Coach Mark Stoops)
2014: five wins
2015: five wins
2016: seven wins
2017: seven wins

A UK WIN WOULD...

- Improve UK to 8-5, giving UK eight wins for the first time since the 2007 team also went 8-5.



TRACKING KENTUCKY'S OPPONENTS

Opponent	UK vs. Opp	Opp. Record	Last Game	Next Game
at Southern Miss	Sept. 2	8-4	W, at Marshall, 28-27	Independence Bowl vs. Florida St. - Dec. 27
vs. Eastern Kentucky	Sept. 9	4-7	W, vs. Saint Francis, 14-10	Season Complete
at South Carolina	Sept. 16	8-4	L, vs. Clemson, 10-34	Outback Bowl vs. Michigan - Jan. 1
vs. Florida	Sept. 23	4-7	L, vs. Florida State, 22-38	Season Complete
vs. Eastern Michigan	Sept. 30	5-7	W, vs. Bowling Green, 34-31	Season Complete
vs. Missouri	Oct. 7	7-5	W, at Arkansas, 48-45	Texas Bowl vs. Texas - Dec. 27
at Miss. State	Oct. 21	8-4	L, vs. Ole Miss, 28-31	TaxSlayer Bowl vs. Louisville - Dec. 30
vs. Tennessee	Oct. 28	4-8	L, vs. Vanderbilt, 24-42	Season Complete
vs. Ole Miss	Nov. 4	6-6	W, at Mississippi State, 31-28	Season Complete
at Vanderbilt	Nov. 11	5-7	W, at Tennessee, 42-24	Season Complete
at Georgia	Nov. 18	11-1	W, at Georgia Tech, 38-7	National Semifinal vs. Oklahoma - Jan. 1
vs. Louisville	Nov. 25	8-4	W, at Kentucky, 17-44	TaxSlayer Bowl vs. Miss. State - Dec. 30

ALLEN, BOWDEN JR., SNELL JR. NAMED ALL-SEC

- Junior linebacker Josh Allen, freshman wide receiver/kick returner and sophomore running back Benny Snell Jr., earned All-Southeastern Conference accolades.
- Allen was named second-team All-SEC by The Associated Press after totaling 58 tackles during the regular season, including a team-high 9.5 tackles for loss and 7.0 sacks. He also totaled a team-high four quarterback hurries, three pass breakups, two forced fumbles and one interception. With 14.5 career sacks, Allen currently ranks fourth in the SEC among active players in that category behind Ole Miss' Marquis Haynes (32), LSU's Arden Key (21.0), Missouri's Marcell Frazier (16.5).
- Bowden Jr., was named to the Freshman All-SEC Team by the league coaches as a return specialist, sharing the honor with Alabama's Henry Ruggs III, Missouri's Larry Rountree III and Arkansas' De'Vion Warren. Bowden was a versatile performer this season, returning kickoff, playing wide receiver and serving in the feature-back role in the Wildcat formation. He caught 15 passes for 210 yards, averaging 14 yards per reception. As UK's primary kickoff returner, he averaged 23.1 yards return. In the Wildcat, he rushed 12 times for 37 yards while completing 3 of 4 passes for 92 yards.
- Snell was a first-team selection by the AP and a second-team pick by the league coaches. Snell led the SEC in rushing touchdowns (18) and total rushing yardage (1,318) and ranked second in rushing yards per game (109.8) during the regular season. The 1,318 rushing yards set a new school record for most rushing yards by a sophomore. He also became the first player in school history to record 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons.
- Snell, who already ranks eighth on the UK career rushing list (2,409 yards), is only the fifth player in SEC history to reach 2,400 career yards prior to his junior season.

He also holds the school records for total rushing touchdowns (31), most rushing touchdowns in a season (18) and most points in a season (110). He has climbed up to No. 8 on UK's career scoring list.

COURTNEY LOVE WINS 2017 WUERFFEL TROPHY

Senior linebacker Courtney Love was named the winner of the 2017 Wuerffel Trophy, an award that honors college football's top community servant.

- The Wuerffel Trophy, known as "College Football's Premier Award for Community Service," named after 1996 Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Danny Wuerffel from the University of Florida, the Wuerffel Trophy is awarded to the FBS player that best combines exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement.
- Love leads the team in community service hours and has a passion for mentoring children especially those living in a one-parent household or children who have parents who are incarcerated. Because of his passion, he currently volunteers at Amachi Central Kentucky, a mentoring program that seeks to pair caring, positive adults with



100-YARD RUSHERS

Player	2017	Career	'17 Opponent
Benny Snell Jr.	7	12	E. Kentucky South Carolina Missouri Tennessee Ole Miss Vanderbilt Louisville

100-YARD RECEIVERS

Player	2017	Career	'17 Opponent
Garrett Johnson	1	6	Missouri
C.J. Conrad		1	

INTERCEPTIONS

Player	2017	Career
Mike Edwards	4	8
Derrick Baity Jr.	2	5
Chris Westry		3
Josh Allen	1	2
Darius West	1	1
Kendall Randolph	1	1
Jordan Griffin	1	1
Denzil Ware	1	1

TRACKING SACK LEADERS

Player	2017	Career
Josh Allen	7.0	14.5
Denzil Ware	6.5	13.0
Josh Paschal	3.5	3.5
T.J. Carter	3.0	3.0
Jordan Jones	2.0	6.0
Boogie Watson	2.0	2.0
Courtney Love	1.0	2.0
Chris Westry		1.5
Adrian Middleton	1.0	1.0
Kengera Daniel	1.0	1.0
Mike Edwards	1.0	1.0
Lonnie Johnson	1.0	1.0
Naquez Pringle		1.0
Kendall Randolph		1.0
Mike Edwards		0.5

DOUBLE-FIGURE TACKLERS

Player	2017	Career
Mike Edwards	5	9
Jordan Jones	1	5
Courtney Love	2	2
Darius West	1	1



STAT LEADERS

PASSING

UK	COMP-ATT-INT-YDS-TD
Stephen Johnson	170-280-4-2,048-10

RUSHING

UK	ATT-YDS-TD
Benny Snell Jr.	256-1,318-18
Stephen Johnson	97-358-3
Sihiem King	72-334-2

RECEIVING

UK	REC-YDS-TD
Garrett Johnson	46-500-2
Tavin Richardson	22-282-1
Kayuane Ross	16-219-0

TACKLES

UK	TACKLES
Mike Edwards	90-4.0 TFL-4 INT
Courtney Love	82-3.5 TFL-2 FR
Darius West	75-3.5 TFL-INT, 2 FF

STAT SUPERLATIVES

Most Games Played (min. 30): Garrett Johnson (49), Charles Walker (48), Matt Elam (45), Blake Bone (45), Kendall Randolph (44), Kyle Meadows (41), Josh Allen (37), Derrick Baity (37), Mike Edwards (37), Denzil Ware (37), Chris Westry (37), C.J. Conrad (36), Dorian Baker (32)

Most Games Started (min. 20): Kyle Meadows (35), Chris Westry (33), Garrett Johnson (34), Mike Edwards (30), Denzil Ware (30), C.J. Conrad (30), Derrick Baity (28), Dorian Baker (24), Courtney Love (25), Adrian Middleton (24)

Consecutive Games Started (min. 12): Kyle Meadows (34), Mike Edwards (30), Courtney Love (25), Adrian Middleton (24), Stephen Johnson (14), Logan Stenberg (12), Benny Snell (12), Garrett Johnson (12), T.J. Carter (12)

Consecutive Games with a Tackle (min. 12): Mike Edwards (33), Courtney Love (25), Jordan Jones (22)

Consecutive Games with a Reception (min. 5): Dorian Baker (6)

WHERE ARE THE COACHES?

SIDELINE

Mark Stoops, Head Coach
Eddie Gran, HC Offense/RBs
Vince Marrow, Tight Ends
John Schlarman, Offensive Line
Lamar Thomas, Wide Receivers
Steve Clinkscale, Defensive Backs
Derrick LeBlanc, Defensive Line
Dean Hood, OLBs, Special Teams

PRESS BOX

Matt House, Defensive Coordinator, ILBs
Darin Hinshaw, Co-OC/Quarterbacks

children and youth in the Bluegrass who have one or both parents in state or federal prison or are affected by incarceration in some way.

- He also has served in a Skype mentoring program with area high school students, and has taken part in many events with the UK Children’s Hospital, Read Across America, and Special Olympics, along with many other service activities. In May of 2016, Love was chosen to participate in a service/educational trip to Ethiopia where he helped build houses as well as shoe-shining boxes for men to be able to work and provide for their families. He also delivered food to impoverished families and visited with orphans and widows.
- In the classroom, Love was named to the 2016 SEC Academic Honor Roll, graduating in May with a degree in community and leadership development. He is currently working on a second degree in com-munications. He also serves as one of UK football’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) repre-sentatives for the second straight season.
- On the field, he ranks second on the team in tackles with 82 and has started and been a captain in all 12 games. He ranks tied for 23rd nationally in fumble recoveries with two and has posted a career-high in tackles twice with 10 vs. Missouri and Louisville.

SENIOR SALUTE

Twenty-two players will be donning the Blue and White in their final game:

- #6, Blake Bone, WR, Sr., Woodruff, S.C.
- #69, Matt Elam, NG, Sr., Elizabethtown, Ky.
- #62, Dylan Greenberg, RG, Sr., Tucson, Ariz.
- #85, Greg Hart, TE, Sr., Dayton, Ohio
- #36, Jacob Hyde, NG, Sr., Manchester, Ky.
- #9, Garrett “Juice” Johnson, WR, Sr., Winter Garden, Fla.
- #15, Stephen Johnson, QB, Sr., Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.
- #51, Courtney Love, LB, Sr., Youngstown, Ohio
- #99, Austin MacGinnis, K, Sr., Wedowee, Ala.
- #32, William Mahone, RB, Sr., Cincinnati, Ohio
- #73, Kyle Meadows, OT, Sr., West Chester, Ohio
- #84, Charles Moushey, WR, Sr., Westerville, Ohio
- #93, Matt Panton, K/P, Sr., Melbourne, Aus.
- #77, Naquez Pringle, DT, Sr., Georgetown, S.C.
- #5, Kendall Randolph, CB, Sr., Tallahassee, Fla.
- #19, Kayaune Ross, WR, Sr., West Chester, Ohio
- #88, Charles Walker, WR, Sr., Louisville, Ky.

Juniors forgoing senior season:

- #55, David Baumer, OT, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio
- #43, Logan Blue, LB/LS, Jr., Owensboro, Ky.
- #37, Spencer Foy, LB, Jr., Louisville, Ky.
- #20, Ryan Kendall, WR, Jr., Charlotte, N.C.
- #14, Luke Wright, QB, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.

GETTING DEFENSIVE

- The Wildcats have recovered seven fumbles and charted 11 interceptions this season.
- The Cats rank 29th nationally in turnover margin (+5).
- The Cats rank 59th nationally in rushing defense, allowing just 162.2 yards per game.
- The Cats have held six of their 12 opponents under 100 yards rushing.
- One key to the defensive improvement this season is improved depth, which has enabled the coaches to play more players than previous seasons. The Wildcats have played more than 20 players on defense in every game this season.
- UK’s “Blitz Bros” - rush ends/LBs Denzil Ware and Josh Allen - have wreaked havoc with their ability to create consistent pressure on opposing quarterbacks, accounting for 18.5 tackles for loss, 13.5 sacks, four forced fumbles, a fumble recovery, an interception and a touchdown.

The Cats have an experienced defense and it shows in their rankings among active players:

Most Career Tackles Per Game, Active SEC Players (Min. 15 Games Played) (as of Dec. 9)

1. 7.5, Dee Greenlaw (Arkansas)
2. 7.1, Skai Moore (South Carolina)
3. 6.98, Armani Watts (Texas A&M)
4. 6.57, David Reese (Florida)



2017 TEAM CAPTAINS

Game captains for the 2017 season will be decided on a week-by-week basis. They are listed below.

Southern Miss	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Eastern Kentucky	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
South Carolina	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Florida	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Eastern Michigan	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Missouri	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Mississippi State	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Tennessee	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Ole Miss	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Vanderbilt	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Georgia	Mike Edwards, Nick Haynes, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love
Louisville	Garrett Johnson, Stephen Johnson, Courtney Love, Charles Walker

HONORING THE CATS IN 2017

Josh Allen, Junior, DE/LB, #41
 - Second-Team All-SEC (Associated Press)
 - Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
 - Butkus Award Semifinalist
 - Midseason AP Second-Team All-American
 - Midseason *Sports Illustrated* Second-Team All-American
 - Midseason First-Team All-SEC by *The All-American*

Derrick Baity, Junior, DB, #8
 - SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week (9/18)

Blake Best, Sophomore, LS, #53
 - CoSida Academic All-District

Quinton Bohanna, Freshman, DL, #95
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Lynn Bowden, Freshman, WR, #1
 - Freshman All-SEC Return Specialist (Coaches)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman First Team (All-Purpose)
 - SEC Freshman of the Week (10/9)

C.J. Conrad, Junior, TE, #87
 - Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
 - John Mackey Award Preseason Watch List
 - Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Mike Edwards, Junior, S, #7
 - Phil Steele All-SEC First Team
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-SEC Second Team
 - Jim Thorpe Preseason Watch List
 - Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Media, Coaches)

Luke Fortner, R-Freshman, OL, #79
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Drake Jackson, R-Freshman, C, #52
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Stephen Johnson, Senior, QB, #15
 - Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Watch List

Jordan Jones, Junior, LB, #34
 - SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week (10/30)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-SEC First Team
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-America Third Team
 - Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Media)
 - Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Coaches)
 - *Southern Pigskin* All-SEC Preseason First Team
 - Bednarik Award Watch List
 - Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List

Courtney Love, Senior, LB, #51
 - Wuerffel Trophy Winner
 - Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
 - Lott Trophy Quarterfinalist
 - Capital One Orange Bowl - FWAA Courage Award Nominee

Austin MacGinnis, Senior, K, #99
 - Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
 - SEC Special Teams Player of the Week (9/18)
 - "Star of the Week" by the Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award (9/18 and 10/10)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-SEC Fourth Team
 - Lou Groza Award Watch List
 - Campbell Trophy Semifinalist
 - CoSida Academic All-District
 - Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Matt Panton, Senior, P, #93
 - Ray Guy Award Watch List

Josh Paschal, Freshman, LB, #4
 - SEC Special Teams Player of the Week (10/2)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

A.J. Rose, R-Freshman, RB, #10
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team (All-Purpose)

Benny Snell Jr, Sophomore, RB, #26
 - First-Team All-SEC (*Associated Press*)
 - Second-Team All-SEC (Coaches)
 - Phil Steele All-SEC FSecond Team
 - SEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week (10/30)
 - College Sports Madness SEC Offensive Player of the Week (10/29)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-SEC Third Team
 - Maxwell Award Watch List
 - Doak Walker Award Watch List
 - Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Denzil Ware, Junior, LB, #35
 - Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
 - SEC Co-Defensive Lineman of the Week (11/13)
 - SEC Defensive Lineman of the Week (9/5)
 - *Athlon Sports* Preseason All-SEC Third Team
 - Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Media)
 - Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Coaches)

Charles Walker, Senior, WR/PR, #88
 - CoSida Academic All-District
 - Burlsworth Trophy Nominee

5. 6.54, Devin White (LSU)
6. **6.19, Mike Edwards (Kentucky)**
7. **6.00, Jordan Jones (Kentucky)**

Most Career Tackles, Active SEC Juniors (As of Dec. 9)

1. 240, Dee Greenlaw (Arkansas)
2. **229, Mike Edwards (Kentucky)**

Most Career Tackles For Loss Per Game, Active SEC Players (as of Dec. 9)

1. 0.95, Marquis Haynes (Ole Miss)
2. 0.85, Arden Key (LSU)
3. 0.78, Marcell Frazier (Missouri)
4. 0.73, Cece Jefferson (Florida)
5. **0.76, Jordan Jones (Kentucky)**
6. **0.72, Denzil Ware (Kentucky)**

Most Career Forced Fumbles, Active SEC Players (as of Dec. 9)

1. 12, Marquis Haynes (Ole Miss)
2. **6, Josh Allen (Kentucky)**
 6, Lorenzo Carter (Georgia)
 6, Armani Watts (Texas A&M)

Most Career Interceptions, Active SEC Players (as of Dec. 9)

1. 15, Dominick Sanders (Georgia)
2. 14, Skai Moore (South Carolina)
3. 10, Armani Watts (Texas A&M)
4. 9, Minkah Fitzpatrick (Alabama)
5. **8, Mike Edwards (Kentucky)**

Most Career Interceptions, Active SEC Juniors (as of Dec. 9)

1. 9, Minkah Fitzpatrick (Alabama)
2. **8, Mike Edwards (Kentucky)**

MR. CLUTCH - STEPHEN JOHNSON RISING UP CAREER CHARTS

Kentucky's starting quarterback, Stephen Johnson, has provided the Cats with a steady hand at the position, but the senior is not just a game manager.

- Johnson ranks in the school's top five in several significant career categories, showing his ability to make plays at critical times and avoid the type of mistakes that can cost a team games.
- Johnson was a Top 20 candidate for the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award
- Johnson became the first UK QB to lead wins over Tennessee and Louisville since Turner Gregg in 1924.
- Those categories include career TD-to-INT, quarterback rushing yards, completions-to-TD ratio, passing yards per completion (*see page 20 for full lists*):

Most Touchdown Passes of at Least 40 yards, Career (since 1955)

1. 19, Jared Lorenzen (2000-03)
2. 15, Tim Couch (1996-98)





CATS SCRATCHES

JUNIOR • OL • GEORGE ASAFO-ADJEI

- Nickname is "Big George"
- Speaks English and Ghanaian

SENIOR • LB • JOSH ALLEN

- Sister, Myisha Hines-Allen, plays basketball at Louisville

JUNIOR • TE • C.J. CONRAD

- Comes from a family of athletes
- Brother, Austin, is currently a redshirt freshman defensive end at Ohio
- There will be at least one parent at each of their games this season
- Sister, Mackenzie, played collegiate softball at Akron and Coastal Carolina
- Both parents (Lois and Mike) played collegiate basketball at Tiffin University
- Grew up working on his grandfather's dairy farm, helping milk over 600 Holstein cows during the summers

JUNIOR • S • MIKE EDWARDS

- Wears a pink mouthpiece in memory of his aunt, Angie Evans, who passed away from breast cancer in 2013
- Wears No. 7 because he's a huge John Elway and Denver Broncos fan

SENIOR • QB • STEPHEN JOHNSON

- Suffered from Tourette Syndrome until the age of 13
- Sister, Sydney, is a junior forward/midfielder on the women's soccer team at Southern Cal, which won the 2016 NCAA championship with a 3-1 win over West Virginia

SENIOR • LB • COURTNEY LOVE

- Leads the team in community service hours
- Volunteers as a mentor at Amachi Central Kentucky, a program that pairs caring, positive adults with children and youth in the Bluegrass who have one or both parents in state or federal prison or are affected by incarceration in some way
- His mentee, Antonio "Tony" McKinney Jr., is eight years old

SENIOR • WR • CHARLES MOUSHEY

- Came to Kentucky in 2014 as a pole vaulter on UK's track and field team
- Set the UK freshman record in the pole vault at SEC championships

RS FRESHMAN • RB • A.J. ROSE

- Earned an Eagle Scout, the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America
- Only four percent of Boy Scouts are granted this rank after a lengthy review process

SOPHOMORE • RB • BENNY SNELL JR.

- Snell family has a legacy of running backs
- His dad, Ben Snell Sr., starred as a running back at Ohio Northern and was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens then played in NFL Europe and the XFL
- His great uncle, Matt Snell, was a running back for the New York Jets from 1964-72
- Matt Snell rushed for 121 yards and a touchdown in the Jets' stunning 16-7 upset of the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III

- 12, Andre' Woodson (2004-07)
- 9, Rick Norton (1963-65)
- 8, Stephen Johnson (2016-present)**

Most Game-Winning Drives in Fourth Quarter/Overtime, Career (since 1955)

- 7, Andre' Woodson (2004-07)
- 5, Stephen Johnson (2016-present)**
- 5, Bill Ransdell (1983-86)
- 4, Mike Hartline (2007-10)
- 4, Freddie Maggard (1989-91)
- 4, Rick Norton (1963-65)
- 4, Jerry Woolum (1960-62)

Best Attempts-To-Interception Ratio, Career, SEC History (Min. 500 Pass Att.)

- 86.3:1 AJ McCarron, Alabama (2010-2013) 690 attempts, eight interceptions
- 62.2:1 Tim Tebow, Florida (2006-2009) 995 attempts, 16 interceptions
- 54.5:1 Stephen Johnson, Kentucky (2016-2017) 554 attempts, 10 interceptions (As Of Nov. 18)**
- 51.1:1 Andre' Woodson, Kentucky (2004-2007) 1,278 attempts, 25 interceptions

Most Total Offense, Career, School History

- 10,637 yards Jared Lorenzen (2000-2003)
- 8,870 yards Andre' Woodson (2004-2007)
- 8,160 yards Tim Couch (1996-1998)
- 5,660 yards Mike Hartline (2007-2010)
- 5,456 yards Bill Ransdell (1983-1986)
- 5,452 yards Patrick Towles (2012, 2014-2015)
- 4,770 yards Stephen Johnson (2016-2017)**

MACGINNIS BREAKS CAREER SCORING RECORD

Senior kicker Austin MacGinnis now holds eight school records, including most points in a career (354), field goals in a career (71), longest field goal (54 yards), most consecutive field goals made (11, twice), most points in a season (104), most field goals in a season (21, twice), most extra points in a season without a miss (41 of 41) and most kickoff touchbacks in a season (25).

- Is 18-of-19 on field goals of 47 yards or less this season
- Awarded one of three "Stars of the Week" by college football's top kicking award, the Palm Beach County Sports Commission Lou Groza Collegiate place-Kicker Award presented by the Orange Bowl for his play in the win over Missouri
- Scored 16 points in the 40-34 win over Missouri, becoming UK's all-time career scoring leader with 314 points
- Tied his career high for points in a game vs. Missouri with 16
- Made a 53-yarder for the go-ahead score in the fourth quarter and became the first player in school history with three field goals in his career of at least 53 yards ... Added makes of 35, 21 and 20 yards and was 4-for-4 on extra point attempts vs. the Tigers
- Has nailed 21 field goals this season, which is tied for fourth among all FBS kickers

Most Career Points Scored, Active FBS Kickers (as of Dec. 9)

- 471, Daniel Carlson (Auburn)
- 447, Jonathan Barnes (Louisiana Tech)
- 400, Joey Slye (Virginia Tech)
- 397, Michael Badgley (Miami (FL))
- 361, Aidan Schneider (Oregon)
- 355, Drew Brown (Nebraska)
- 354, Austin MacGinnis (Kentucky)**
- 354, Griffin Oakes (Indiana)

Most Career Points Scored, Active SEC Players (as of Dec. 9)

- 471, Daniel Carlson (Auburn)
- 354, Austin MacGinnis (Kentucky)**



Most Career Made Field Goals, Active FBS Players (as of Dec. 9)

1. 90, Daniel Carlson (Auburn)
2. 78, Joey Slye (Virginia Tech)
- 78, Jonathan Barnes (Louisiana Tech)
4. 76, Michael Badgley (Miami (FL))
5. **71, Austin MacGinnis (Kentucky)**

Most Career Made Field Goals, SEC History

1. 90, Daniel Carlson (Auburn) (2014-2017) (as of Dec. 9)
2. 87, Billy Bennett (Georgia) (2000-2003)
3. 83, Leigh Tiffin (Alabama) (2006-2009)
4. 78, Phillip Doyle (Alabama) (1987-1990)
5. 77, Kevin Butler (Georgia) (1981-1984)
6. 76, Blair Walsh (Georgia) (2008-2011)
7. 71, Fuad Reveiz (Tennessee) (1981-1984)
- 71, Austin MacGinnis (Kentucky) (2014-2017) (as of Dec. 9)**

BENNY IN THE RECORD BOOKS

Benny Snell Jr. has continued to etch his name into the Kentucky record books throughout the 2017 season:

- Ranks second in the SEC in rushing yardage, rushing touchdowns and scoring
- Rushed for 1,318 yards, school record for most rushing yards by a sophomore
- First player in school history over 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons
- Already ranks eighth on the UK career rushing list (2,409 yards); only the fifth player in SEC history to reach 2,400 career yards prior to his junior season
- Set school record for career rushing touchdowns (31)
- Set school record for most total touchdowns in a season (18) and most rushing touchdowns in a season (18)
- Set school record for most points in a season (110)
- Already ranks eighth in the UK career scoring list
- Has 2,409 rushing yards as a Wildcat, becoming just the ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 in his career
- Has 1,318 rushing yards this season and is the first player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons. He ran for 1,091 last year
- Has 31 rushing touchdowns as a Wildcat, breaking the career record of 26 by Sonny Collins and Moe Williams
- Has 18 rushing touchdowns this season are a new school-record, surpassing Moe Williams' school record of 17 in 1995
- Has seven 100-yard games this season (tied for second in school history) and 12 in his career (fourth in school history)
- Rushed for over 100 yards in three consecutive games (Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt) ... Also accomplished that feat last season.
- Dating back to last season, Kentucky is 9-3 when Snell rushes for at least 100 yards
- Is just the third player in SEC history to have at least 1,000 rushing yards and at least 13 rushing touchdowns in both his freshman and sophomore seasons, joining Herschel Walker (Georgia, 1980-1981) and Knowshon Moreno (Georgia, 2007-2008)

BENNY AS A FRESHMAN:

In 2016, Snell earned All-SEC Freshman honors last season after rushing a team-high 186 times for 1,091 yards and 13 touchdowns, averaging 5.9 yards per carry.

- The 1,091 rushing yards is a school record for most ever by a freshman in a season for UK. Moe Williams had 928 rushing yards as a freshman in 1993.

CATS IN THE PROS



CATS IN THE NFL

A total of 11 former Kentucky Wildcats are currently on National Football League rosters, with two additional players in the CFL. Here is the list, along with their years at UK:

Arizona Cardinals

#98 Corey Peters, DT (2006-09)

Baltimore Ravens

#90 Za'Darius Smith, OLB (2013-14)
#13 Chris Matthews, WR (2009-10)

Chicago Bears

#59 Danny Trevathan, LB (2008-11)

Green Bay Packers

#18 Randall Cobb, WR (2008-10)

New Orleans Saints

#75 Larry Warford, G (2009-12)

Pittsburgh Steelers

#48 Bud Dupree, OLB (2011-14)
#41 Farrington Huguenin, DL (2012-15)

Seattle Seahawks

#59 Josh Forrest, LB (2012-15)

Tennessee Titans

#54 Avery Williamson (2010-13)
#59 Wesley Woodyard (2004-07)

CATS IN THE CFL

Cory "C.J." Johnson, DT (2014-15)

Winnipeg Blue Bombers

Micah Johnson, LB (2006-09)

Calgary Stampeders

- With 13 rushing touchdowns last season, he broke Randall Cobb (2008)'s record for most rushing TDs by a UK freshman (7) and most total touchdowns (9).
- Snell had the most rushing TDs in a single season (13) since Artose Pinner had 13 in 2002.
- With 152 yards against Austin Peay, he eclipsed 100 yards on the ground for the fifth time in 2016, setting the school's freshman record for most 100-yard rushing games in a season.
- Snell is the first UK player with a rushing touchdown in three consecutive games since Derrick Locke in 2010 and first freshman with



a rushing touchdown in three consecutive games since Randall Cobb in 2008.

- Snell was the first freshman in school history to have 100 rushing yards and a rushing touchdown in three consecutive games.
- His career-high 192 yards rushing vs. Mizzou set a school record for most rushing yards by a freshman in a single game. The previous high was Derick Logan's 186 yards against Mississippi State on Nov. 9, 1996.
- The 192 rushing yards tie for the ninth most in a single game in school history and the most since Rafael Little rushed for 198 yards vs. Vanderbilt on Nov. 12, 2005.
- His 38 carries vs. Mizzou were the most since Derick Logan had 41 attempts vs. Mississippi State in 1996.
- His five rushing TDs in the first four games of 2016 were the most by a UK player in his first four games of his freshman season in school history.
- Snell had one of the best rushing touchdown-to-carry ratios by any Kentucky player since rushing TDs were tracked at UK beginning in 1949 (min. 100 career carries):

Rushing Attempts-To-Rushing Touchdown Ratio (Since 1949, Min. 100 Career Carries)

- 10.4:1, Randall Cobb (2008-2010) (228 carries, 22 touchdowns)
- 12.9:1, Babe Parilli (1949-1951) (103 carries, 8 touchdowns)
- 13.8:1, Bob Hardy (1953-1955) (262 carries, 19 touchdowns)
- 14.3:1, Benny Snell Jr. (2016) (442 carries, 31 touchdowns)**
- 14.4:1, Calvin Bird (1958-1960) (202 carries, 14 touchdowns)

Most 100-yard games in a career

- 1. 18 Sonny Collins 1972-75
- 2. 13 Rafael Little 2004-07
- 13 Moe Williams 1993-95
- 4. 12 Benny Snell 2016-present**
- 5. 11 Boom Williams 2014-16
- 11 Artose Pinner 1999-2002
- 6. 10 George Adams 1981-84

Most 100-yard games in a season

- 1. 8 Artose Pinner 2002
- 2. 7 Benny Snell Jr. 2017**
- 7 Moe Williams 1995
- 6 Rafael Little 2007
- 6 Mark Higgs 1987
- 6 George Adams 1984
- 6 Sonny Collins 1975
- 7. 5 Benny Snell Jr. 2016**
- 5 Boom Williams 2015

Most Rushing TDs in a season

- 1. 18 Benny Snell Jr. 2017**
- 2. 17 Moe Williams 1995

Most Career Rushing Yards Prior To Junior Year, UK History

- 1. 2,409 Benny Snell (2016-2017)**
- 2. 1,733 Moe Williams (1993-1994)

Most Career 100-Yard Rushing Games Prior To Junior Year, UK History

- 1. 12, Benny Snell (2016-2017)**
- 2. 7, Boom Williams (2014-2015)
- 7, Sonny Collins (1972-1973)

Most Career Rushing Yards Among Sophomores, FBS (as of Nov. 25)

- 1. 2,653 Devin Singletary (Florida Atlantic)
- 2. 2,489 Justice Hill (Oklahoma State)
- 3. 2,409 Benny Snell (Kentucky)**



COBB INDUCTED INTO UK ATHLETICS HOF

The University of Kentucky Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2017 was announced, with Randall Cobb (football), Collin Cowgill (baseball), Ralph Hacker (broadcaster), Sherry Hoover Bordner (cross country/indoor track/outdoor track), Sarah Rumely (volleyball) and John Wall (men's basketball) were inducted during Hall of Fame Weekend, Sept. 22-23, in conjunction with the football home game vs. Florida.

RANDALL COBB, Football (2008-10)

Arguably the most versatile, dynamic playmaker in UK football history as a wide receiver, quarterback, punt returner and kickoff returner ... First-team All-America as a junior ... Two-year first-team All-SEC ... Set SEC single-season record for all-purpose yardage (2,396 yards in 2010) ... Set UK career record for touchdowns (37), although he played only three seasons ... Clutch player who scored five game-winning fourth-quarter touchdowns in his career, vs. Arkansas, Louisville and South Carolina at home, also at Auburn and Georgia ... Left UK after his junior season and was a second-round draft pick by the Green Bay Packers ... Has been a star wide receiver during his six-year career with the Packers, making the 2011 NFL All-Rookie Team and being selected to the Pro Bowl following the 2014 season ... Returned to UK and finished his degree.

Most Career Rushing TDs Among Sophomores, FBS (as of Nov. 25)

- 1. 38, Devin Singletary (Florida Atlantic)
- 2. 31, Benny Snell (Kentucky)**

Most Career Rushing Attempts Among Sophomores, FBS (as of Nov. 25)

- 1. 451, Justice Hill (Oklahoma State)
- 2. 442, Benny Snell (Kentucky)**

Most 100-Yard Rushing Games Prior To Junior Season, SEC Players (Since 2000)

- 1. 15, Leonard Fournette, 2014-2015 (LSU)
- 2. 13, Nick Chubb, 2014-2015 (Georgia)
- 13, Todd Gurley, 2012-2013 (Georgia)
- 13, Knowshon Moreno, 2007-2008 (Georgia)
- 5. 12, Benny Snell, 2016-2017 (Kentucky) (As Of Nov. 18)**
- 12, Darren McFadden, 2005-2006 (Arkansas)
- 7. 11, Jeremy Hill, 2012-2013 (LSU)
- 11, T.J. Yeldon, 2012-2013 (Alabama)
- 9. 10, Jalen Hurd, 2014-2015 (Tennessee)
- 10, Michael Dyer, 2010-2011 (Auburn)
- 10, Mark Ingram, 2008-2009 (Alabama)

Most 100-Yard Rushing Games Within First 20 Career Games With A Rushing Attempt, SEC Players (Since 2000)

- 1. 14, Nick Chubb, 2014-2016 (Georgia)



Oct. 22, 2016 | Austin MacGinnis vs. Mississippi State



Nov. 26, 2016 | Austin MacGinnis at Louisville

GAME-WINNING FIELD GOALS IN UK HISTORY

Below is a list of Kentucky's game-winning field goals in the final minute of regulation or overtime:

Name	Date	Opponent	Distance of FG	Time	Final Score
Austin MacGinnis	Nov. 26, 2016	at Louisville	47	:12	41-38
Austin MacGinnis	Oct. 22, 2016	Mississippi State	51	:00	40-38
Seth Hanson	Oct. 17, 1998	at LSU	33	:00	39-36
Brian Johnson	Sept. 21, 1996	Indiana	36	:14	3-0
Nicky Nickels	Nov. 13, 1993	East Carolina	29	:28	6-3
Doug Pelfrey	Nov. 2, 1991	Cincinnati	53	:00	20-17
Doug Pelfrey	Oct. 27, 1990	Georgia	32	:07	26-24
Clarkie Mayfield	Nov. 24, 1962	at Tennessee	19	:16	12-10
Delmar Hughes	Oct. 22, 1955	Florida	20	:34 seconds left	10-7

- 12, Benny Snell, 2016-2017 (Kentucky)**
12, Leonard Fournette, 2014-2015 (LSU)
12, Todd Gurley, 2012-2013 (Georgia)
- 10, Knowshon Moreno, 2007-2008 (Georgia)**
10, Darren McFadden, 2005-2006 (Arkansas)

Most Career Rushing Yards Within First 23 Career Games With A Rushing Attempt, SEC Players (Since 2000)

- 2,716 - Nick Chubb, 2014-2016 (Georgia)
- 2,616 - Leonard Fournette, 2014-2015 (LSU)
- 2,598 - Darren McFadden, 2005-2006 (Arkansas)
- 2,447 - Knowshon Moreno, 2007-2008 (Georgia)
- 2,409 - Benny Snell, 2016-2017 (Kentucky) (As of Nov. 25)**
- 2,105 - Marcus Lattimore, 2010-2011 (South Carolina)
- 2,010 - Todd Gurley, 2012-2013 (Georgia)

JOHNSON AND SNELL JOIN 2,000-YARD CLUB

- Explosive senior wide receiver Garrett "Juice" Johnson became just the fourth UK player to have 2,000 career receiving yards when he charted 76 receiving yards vs. Vanderbilt on Nov. 11.
- He now ranks fourth on Kentucky's all-time career receiving yardage list with 2,050. He would need 289 more to tie Derek Abney at No. 3.
- With 116 yards vs. Vanderbilt, sophomore RB Benny Snell became the ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 in his career. He now has 2,409 career yards and ranks eighth in school history.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

- Explosive senior wide receiver Garrett "Juice" Johnson found a connection with quarterback Stephen Johnson, hooking up for three touchdowns of 40 yards or more over the final two games of 2016.
- Juice hauled in a 75-yard bomb on the Wildcats' first play from scrimmage in the 41-38 upset victory at Louisville. He later added a 63-yarder that looked nearly identical to the first score, as he got behind the Cardinals' defense.
- Juice sparked the offense with a 64-yard scoring play from Johnson in the Cats' 40-34 win over Missouri on Oct. 7, 2017.
- The duo connected on a critical 30-yard gain in the Cats' win over Eastern Kentucky on Sept. 9 this season. He got his first TD catch of 2017 vs. Florida.
- Juice led the 2016 team with 39 catches for 585 yards and a team-high five touchdowns on the season. Through 11 games in 2017, he has a team-high 46 catches for 500 yards and two scores.
- For his career, Juice has six touchdown catches of 40-plus yards. That ranks second only to Craig Yeast's (1995-98) seven.

Most Touchdown Receptions of at least 40 yards, Career (Since 1955)

- 7, Craig Yeast (1995-98)
- 6, Garrett Johnson (2014-present)**
6, Quentin McCord (1996, 1998-2000)
6, Felix Wilson (1977-79)
5, Jeff Badet (2013, 2015-16)
5, Derek Abney (2000-03)



Most Career Yards Per Reception, Active SEC Players (As of Dec. 9)

1. 16, A.J. Brown (Ole Miss)
2. 15.8, J'Mon Moore (Missouri)
3. 13.7, Trent Sherfield (Vanderbilt)
4. **13.4, Garrett Johnson (Kentucky)**

"BLITZ BROS" AND "BLITZ BABY" STARRING ON UK DEFENSE

- Kentucky pass rushing aficionados Josh Allen and Denzil Ware have taken up residence in opposing quarterbacks' minds for several years but now the "Blitz Bros" have a young protege who is looking to be the Cats' next great edge rusher.
- Freshman Josh Paschal, dubbed by "Blitz Baby" by Allen and Ware, has found mentors in the two juniors.
- Allen has 14.5 sacks and 19.5 tackles for loss in 36 career games. He also has forced six fumbles, picked off two passes and registered seven quarterback hurries.
- Allen is a Butkus Award semifinalist. The award is annually given to the nation's top college linebacker. He is one of 15 players overall and one of five players on the list from the SEC.

Most Career Sacks, Active SEC Players (As of Dec. 9)

1. 32, Marquis Haynes (Ole Miss)
2. 21, Arden Key (LSU)
3. 16.5, Marcell Frazier (Missouri)
4. **14.5, Josh Allen (Kentucky)**

- Ware has 13.0 sacks and 26.5 tackles for loss in 36 career games to go along with three forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries (one for a touchdown), an interception and nine QB hurries.
- Paschal, from Olney, Maryland, is nearing promotion to full "Blitz Bro" status according to Allen and Ware. Paschal has 3.5 tackles for loss this season, including 2.5 sacks, and has blocked a punt.

FRESHMAN CATS DEBUT

- Seven true freshmen have seen action this season. They are: WR Lynn Bowden Jr., DE Josh Paschal, NG Quinton Bohanna, WR Josh Ali, WR Isaiah Epps, WR Clevan Thomas Jr. and DB Cedric Dort.
- Redshirt freshmen debuting this season are: CB Davonte Robinson, RB A.J. Rose, CB Zy'Aire Hughes, LB Jamar Watson, DT Kordell Looney, DB Tobias Gilliam, OG Luke Fortner and C Drake Jackson.

UK ADEPT AT HOLDING THIRD-QUARTER LEADS

- Kentucky has won 37 of its past 39 games when staked to a lead at the end of the third quarter, dating back to a 2008 loss vs. South Carolina.
- UK is 20-2 in the Mark Stoops era when holding a third-quarter lead. The only losses were in 2016 vs. Georgia and 2017 vs. Florida.

KENTUCKY OFFENSE

- Twenty letter winners return on offense from the 2016 season, including eight primary starters.
- Kentucky went through a remarkable transformation in 2016 under new offensive coordinator Eddie Gran. Leaning more toward the passing game at the beginning of the season, an injury to the starting quarterback and the emergence of an outstanding freshman running back led Gran to remodel the attack.
- The result was 3,044 rushing yards, second-most in school history; 5.4 yards per carry, shattering the school record by a wide margin; and a pair of 1,000-yard rushers, first time in school history that had been accomplished in one season. And, the record-breaking ground game set up an entertaining big-play passing offense that featured 14 completions of 40 or more yards, 10 of which went for touchdowns. Kentucky scored at least 35 points seven times in 2016, the most since the 2007 season (nine).
- This season, the Cats offense has again been balanced in its ability to run and throw effectively.
- The offense has done a remarkable job of taking care of the football, turning it over just 13 times (eight fumbles, five interceptions) through 11 games. The Cats rank fourth in the SEC and 29th nationally in turnover margin (+5).

Quarterbacks

- Senior Stephen Johnson stepped in as the Kentucky starter after an injury to quarterback Drew Barker just two games into the 2016 season, and provided a veteran and calming presence.
- In 2016, Johnson went 5-4 as a starter in 2016, also winning two games in a relief role, completing 145-of-265 passes for 2,037 yards and 13 touchdowns. He also carried the ball 97 times for 327 yards and three scores.
- This season, Johnson has led the Cats to a 7-5 record, including road wins at Southern Miss, South Carolina and Vanderbilt. He

has completed 170-of-280 passes for 2,048 yards and 10 touchdowns and only four interceptions.

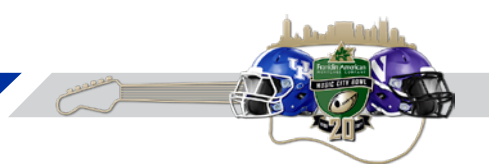
- The 6-foot-2, 185-pound Californian will forever hold a place in Kentucky fans' hearts in leading UK to a thrilling upset of the 11th-ranked Louisville Cardinals in the regular-season finale (41-38). Also guiding UK to a pair of come-from-behind wins in relief roles, Johnson led the Cats to their best record in seven years and a bowl game for the first time since 2010.
- Barker is currently the backup along with redshirt freshman Gunnar Hoak. Barker has thrown for 731 yards and five touchdowns as a Wildcat. Hoak was a four-star prospect out of Dublin (Ohio) Coffman High School where he threw for 1,798 yards and 14 touchdowns a senior. Also on the roster is junior walk-on Luke Wright who earned a starting spot in the last year's game vs. Austin Peay.

Running Backs

- Despite the loss of big-play-maker Stanley "Boom" Williams to the NFL (366 for 2,511 yards and 18 TDs in his career) and senior Jojo Kemp (338 for 1,709 and 19 TDs in his career) to graduation, running backs coach Eddie Gran is able to go three deep.
- Sophomore phenom Benny Snell Jr., burst on the scene three games into last season and never looked back. Although he did not have a carry in the first two games of 2016, Snell went on to break six freshman records on his way to being named a FWA, ESPN and 247Sports Freshman All-American and All-SEC selection. He finished with a UK freshman record 1,091 rushing yards on 186 carries with a freshman-record 13 rushing and total touchdowns.
- Snell is proving his rookie season was no fluke, ranking second in the SEC with 109.8 rushing yards per game through 12 games in 2017.
- Snell enjoys spending time in the end zone, rushing for a school-record 18 touchdowns this season.
- Don't sleep on junior Sihiem King, who earned the No. 2 spot behind Snell in fall camp. King has rushed for 334 yards and two touchdowns this season.
- In 2016, the Cats rushed for the second-most yards in school history with 3,044 yards and a school-record 30 rushing touchdowns. UK also averaged 5.4 yards per carry, another school record.

Wide Receivers

- Second-year wide receivers coach Lamar Thomas has almost as many receivers in his meeting room as he has Skittles in his pockets. Despite the loss of senior Dorian Baker to an ankle injury during preseason



camp, UK has had nine wide receivers catch at least one pass this season.

- Starting WR Garrett "Juice" Johnson continues to climb the school's all-time receiving chart, ranking fourth in career yardage with 2,050 on 153 catches (13.4 per catch). He also has six catches of at least 40 yards in his career.
- Senior Blake Bone had a career-high 93 yards receiving on three catches vs. ECU, exceeding his season total of 82 yards last season. He followed up with a TD catch vs. Florida.
- Senior Kayaune Ross has caught 16 passes for 219 yards. He had his best game as a Wildcat with four catches for 77 yards in the win over Missouri.
- Sophomore Tavin Richardson is the team's second-leading receiver with 282 yards on 22 catches. He caught a critical 16-yard pass from Stephen Johnson on the game-winning drive in the fourth quarter, making the catch while dragging his toe inbounds at Tennessee's 45-yard line.
- Kentucky's depth increased with addition of four impact freshmen in Josh Ali, Lynn Bowden Jr., Isaiah Epps and Clevan Thomas. Bowden was named SEC Freshman of the Week when he piled up 129 all-purpose yards in the win over Missouri.

Tight Ends

- The tight ends are led by junior C.J. Conrad, however, he suffered a season-ending ankle injury at Georgia which required surgery. Prior to his injury, Conrad had 16 receptions for 286 yards and a team-high four receiving TDs. He also was averaging 17.8 yards per reception. He now has 49 receptions for 690 yards and nine TDs in his career.
- Senior Greg Hart caught his first career touchdown with a 20-yard scoring grab vs. Eastern Michigan on Sept. 30. Hart, who caught six passes for 32 yards in his first season as a Wildcat after transferring from Nebraska in 2015, adds depth along with sophomore Justin Rigg, who saw his first action of the season at South Carolina, catching one pass for six yards.

Offensive Line

- Offensive line coach John Schlarman continuously puts together an offensive unit that helps lead the Wildcats to high levels of point production. The offensive line was named a semifinalist in 2016 for the Joe Moore Award which recognizes the nation's Most Outstanding Offensive Line.
- Once again, the offensive line is one of the most experienced positions as it returns 68 career starts, including 47 from 2016.
- Redshirt freshman Drake Jackson out of Woodford County High School has started

the last six games at center.

- A big loss on the O-Line was senior left tackle Cole Mosier who tore the ACL in his right knee during a preseason scrimmage. Mosier played in 32 games with 13 starts at left tackle.
- Senior Kyle Meadows has 34 consecutive starts at right or left tackle, while sophomore Landon Young has six starts at left tackle this season.
- Junior George Asafo-Adjei can play guard or tackle and gives UK a talented option in the line. He has started five games in 2017.
- Sophomore Logan Stenberg saw his role increase as the backup for Haynes at left guard as the season went along. The true freshman made quite the impression as he was named to the All-SEC Freshman team along with running back Benny Snell Jr. In 2017, Stenberg is the only offensive lineman to have started at the same position all 12 games.
- Redshirt freshman Luke Fortner provides depth in the rotation as does sophomore Mason Wolfe.

KENTUCKY SPECIAL TEAMS

- New special teams coordinator Dean Hood brings a wealth of knowledge to the program as he enters his 30th year of college coaching.
- Kentucky ranks third in the nation in punt returns, averaging 17.3 yards per return.
- Special teams played a crucial role in the wins over Eastern Michigan and Missouri. Against EMU, Josh Paschal blocked a punt that set up a crucial touchdown in the 24-20 victory. In the fourth quarter of the Missouri game, UK converted a fake punt and blocked a Missouri field goal, both of which set up the two UK field goals that provided the 40-34 win.
- Senior kicker Austin MacGinnis is Kentucky's career leading scorer with 354 points, surpassing Lones Seiber's 305 career points.
- MacGinnis has also hit 71 career field goals and has passed Joey Worley (57 from 1984-87) for No. 1 on the all-time field goals made list.
- He is the only kicker in school history to have at least three field goals of 53 yards.
- MacGinnis has twice connected on 11 consecutive field goals, including this season when he tied his own school record.
- MacGinnis has 21 field goals this season, tying his own school record of 21 set in 2014.
- Junior Miles Butler can also step in at placekicker. He hit 4 of 4 field goals in 2015 with a long kick of 46 yards and was 11 of 12 in PATs. He made his first appearance as a punter vs. Vanderbilt on Nov. 11, punting three times with all three pinning the

Commodores inside their own 20-yard line.

- Punter Matt Pantone, a graduate transfer from Columbia University, has started at punter this season. He ranked No. 42 nationally in punting (40.5 average) last season, and finished with 29 punts inside the 20-yard line, four touchbacks, 13 fair catches and three punts of 50 yards or longer.
- Pantone is currently averaging 42.7 yards per kick and had a career-long 71-yarder vs. Eastern Michigan on Sept. 30.
- Sophomore Grant McKinnis, who was a candidate for the Ray Guy Award as a freshman, averaged 39.2 per punt with 10 downed inside the opponent's 20-yard line. He boomed a career-long 61-yard punt against Alabama.
- Junior Tristan Yeomans handles the long snapping for punts, while sophomore Blake Best is the snapper for field goals and PATs.
- The kick returns are in the capable hands of senior Charles Walker for punts and freshman Lynn Bowden Jr., for kickoffs. Walker returned 15 punts in 2016 for 117 yards, good for a 7.8 average which ranked seventh in the SEC. Bowden, who was named to the Freshman All-SEC team, brings excitement to special teams as well, averaging 23.1 per kickoff return. He had a 93-yard return at Vanderbilt.

MacGINNIS PLAYS THE ROLE OF HERO. TWICE.

- Senior kicker Austin MacGinnis' had two game-winning field goals in 2016, making him just the second player in school-history to have two career game-winning kicks in the final minute of regulation. Doug Pelfrey also has two (1990 vs. Georgia, 32 yards, and 1991 vs. Cincinnati, 53 yards).
- MacGinnis' game-winning 51-yard field goal vs. Mississippi State was his longest of the season. He was named one of three Lou Groza Award "Stars of the Week" for his performance. The game-winning field goal on the final play of the game was Kentucky's first since Oct. 17, 1998 when Seth Hanson drilled a 33-yarder to defeat LSU in Baton Rouge.
- The Wedowee, Ala. native drilled a 47-yarder with 12 seconds left to defeat Louisville in the regular season finale.
- MacGinnis is now 6-of-12 on field goals of more than 50 yards in his career. He is the only kicker in school history to have at least three field goals of 53 yards.
- His 53-yard field goal against Missouri on Oct. 7 was the longest made field goal by a UK kicker in an SEC home game since his 51-yard game-winner against Miss. State on Oct. 22, 2016. Previously, Ryan Tydlacka made a 51-yard field goal against South Carolina on Oct. 11, 2008.



- MacGinnis' 16 points against Missouri on Oct. 7 are the most scored by a kicker in an SEC game since Oct. 31, 1992 (Doug Pelfrey) and Oct. 22, 2016 (MacGinnis), both scoring 14 points.
- He was once again on the watch list for the Lou Groza Award and was a semifinalist for the prestigious William V. Campbell Trophy®, which recognizes an individual as the absolute best football scholar-athlete in the nation.

KENTUCKY DEFENSE

- For the first time in the Mark Stoops era there is a new defensive coordinator taking the reins of the defense. Matt House, who spent the 2016 season as the special teams coordinator and inside linebackers coach, was named D.J. Eliot's successor in January after Eliot left for the same position at Colorado.
- Twenty-one letter winners return, including nine starters.
- UK opponents averaged 44.5 points in the first three games in 2016, but in the last nine regular season games, which included top-ranked Alabama, UK's defense held the opponent to 27.0 ppg.
- In allowing just 13 rushing yards to Eastern Michigan the Cats posted the fewest rushing yards allowed vs. a FBS team since Vanderbilt had -29 in 1996.
- The Cats have held opponents to under 100 yards rushing six times in 12 games this season.

Linebackers

- At middle linebacker, senior Courtney Love was third on the team with 76 tackles through 13 games last season and is a proven leader on and off the field. He's currently second on the team in tackles with 82.
- Strongside linebacker Josh Allen was also a force on the outside as a sophomore last season, totaling 62 tackles with a team-high 8.5 sacks and four forced fumbles, which ranked tied for 14th nationally. He picked up where he left off last season, finishing with five tackles, three of which were for loss (-12 yards), including a seven-yard QB sack at Southern Miss. He also caused a fumble and had a quarterback hurry.
- Allen currently ranks 44th nationally and sixth in the SEC in sacks per game (0.58). Ware ranks 62nd nationally and 10th in the SEC (0.54).
- Weakside linebacker Jordan Jones missed four games this season due to injury but returned to action vs. Mississippi State. He had a season-high 13 stops in the win over Tennessee and was named SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week. He is fifth on the team this season with 55.
- Freshman Josh Paschal has shown devastating pass rushing potential this season and been taken under the wings of Allen and fellow "Blitz Bro" Denzil Ware.
- Also looking to continue contributing quality minutes are sophomores Eli Brown and Kash Daniel. Brown stepped in to start four games when Jordan Jones was injured and has 37 tackles on the season.
- Jamar "Boogie" Watson, who redshirting the 2016 season, has the size and speed to be a versatile weapon against SEC offenses. He recorded his first career sack vs. Tennessee.

Defensive Line

- First-year defensive line coach Derrick LeBlanc replaced Jimmy Brumbaugh in February after being named the co-defensive coordinator at Maryland. LeBlanc, a former defensive lineman at Northwestern State, is known for his toughness. His line features eight returning letter winners, including starting at the weakside defensive end position Denzil Ware, who was second on the team in tackles for loss and sacks last season (70 tackles, 12.0 TFL, 5.5 sacks, 5 QBH). The line also returns defensive tackle Adrian Middleton (35 tackles, 5.5 TFL)

CATS IN THE SEC/NCAA RANKINGS

Category	SEC	NCAA	National Leader	Stat
Scoring Offense	10-25.8	86	UCF	49.4
Rushing Offense	7-169.8	58	Army West Point	355.8
Total Offense	10-350.8	103	Oklahoma	583.3
Total Defense	12-425.7	89	Wisconsin	253.2
Pass Defense	13-142.34	105	Wisconsin	96.31
Pass Efficiency	8-130.77	71	Oklahoma	206.90
Interceptions	5-11	55	Fla. Atlantic	20
4th-Down Conv.	4-0.556	54	Alabama	0.813
Opp. 4th-Down Conv.	13-0.708	121	San Diego St.	0.143
Red-Zone %	4-0.923	13	FIU	0.975
Opp. Red-Zone Opp.	12-0.907	122	Troy	0.590

	SEC	NCAA	Stat
Rushing Yards Per Game			
Benny Snell Jr.	2	23	109.8
Rushing Yards Per Carry			
Benny Snell Jr.	9	82	5.15
Rushing TDs			
Benny Snell Jr.	1	5	18
Total Offense			
Stephen Johnson	7	71	200.5
Benny Snell Jr.	14	136	109.8
Scoring			
Benny Snell Jr.	2	15	9.2
Austin MacGinnis	6	39	8.1
Pass Efficiency			
Stephen Johnson	7	63	131.1
Passing Yards Per Completion			
Stephen Johnson	7	61	12.5
Kick Return Avg			
Lynn Bowden, Jr.	5	44	23.1
Field Goals			
Austin MacGinnis	8	51	0.778
Total Tackles			
Mike Edwards	9	117	7.5
Courtney Love	15	169	6.8
Darius West	20	244	6.3
Josh Allen	47	492	4.8
Sacks			
Josh Allen	6	41	0.58
Denzil Ware	10	61	0.54
Interceptions			
Mike Edwards	4	36	0.3

2018 KENTUCKY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location
SEPT. 1	CENTRAL MICHIGAN	LEXINGTON
Sept. 8	at Florida*	Gainesville, Fla.
SEPT. 15	MURRAY STATE	LEXINGTON
SEPT. 22	MISSISSIPPI STATE*	LEXINGTON
SEPT. 29	SOUTH CAROLINA*	LEXINGTON
Oct. 6	at Texas A&M*	College Station, Texas
Oct. 13	OFF	
OCT. 20	VANDERBILT*	LEXINGTON
Oct. 27	at Missouri*	Columbia, Mo.
NOV. 3	GEORGIA*	LEXINGTON
Nov. 10	at Tennessee*	Knoxville, Tenn.
NOV. 17	MIDDLE TENNESSEE	LEXINGTON
Nov. 24	at Louisville	Louisville, Ky.



- and nose guard Naquez Pringle (39 tackles, 2.0 TFL, 1.0 sacks).
- Late in the third quarter vs. Southern Miss, safety Darius West made a jolting tackle that caused a fumble, which Ware scooped and scored from 20 yards out. It marked Ware's first collegiate touchdown but his second collegiate score. He also had a fumble return for a 2-point defensive PAT at South Carolina in 2015.
 - Ware also recovered a fumble in the first quarter that set up UK's first touchdown and caused a fumble at Southern Miss. He finished with three tackles, featuring 1.5 for loss (-11 yards) and a 10-yard quarterback sack.
 - He recorded his first career interception vs. Vanderbilt and also tallied two sacks in the win.
 - Reserve nose guards Matt Elam and Jacob Hyde add depth and can be counted on to eat up double teams.
 - Sophomore defensive end T.J. Carter has started all 12 games in 2017.
 - True freshman Quinton Bohanna has earned playing time at nose guard and has 11 tackles. He made his first career start vs. Ole Miss on Nov. 4.
 - Sophomore Tymere Dubose got his first game action last season and is another option at tackle.
 - DE Kengera Daniel and DT Adrian Middleton each recorded his first career sack vs. Eastern Michigan (Sept. 30).
 - Redshirt freshman tackle Kordell Looney recorded his first sack against Louisville (Nov. 25), taking down the slippery Lamar Jackson.

Secondary

- Coach Steve Clinkscale is in his second season as the secondary coach.
- In 2016, Kentucky ranked fifth in the SEC in pass defense for the second straight season, allowing just 206.1 yards per game in the air. Four of his returning letter winners were a big reason for that success, including two returning starters in junior cornerbacks Derrick Baity and Chris Westry. Baity had 42 tackles, three interceptions and seven pass breakups in 2016, while Westry had 43 tackles, one interception and three PBUs. Also seeing time at cornerback and impressing the coaches with his athleticism was freshman Jordan Griffin.
- Two newcomers with size and speed who look to challenge for playing time are redshirt freshman safety Davonte Robinson, a local standout from Henry Clay High School, and junior college transfer cornerback Lonnie Johnson Jr.
- Junior safety Mike Edwards emerged as one of the league's top defensive backs last

season, proving strong in run support while being an adept pass defender. He totaled 100 tackles, 5.5 TFL, three interceptions and eight pass breakups, earning second-team All-SEC honors. He already has four interceptions this season (vs. ECU, South Carolina, Eastern Michigan and Vanderbilt) and leads the team in tackles.

- Junior Darius West has returned in full form after suffering a season-ending knee injury during fall camp last season. In addition to causing a fumble at Southern Miss, he made six tackles, including one for loss. West currently ranks third on the team in tackles with 75.
- Showing big-play potential last season at nickelback was Kendall Randolph (15 tackles, 1.0 sacks). He looks to replace the experience and leadership of senior Blake McClain (180 career tackles, 4.5 TFL, 3.0 sacks, 22 PBU, 3 QBH, 2 FF). Randolph recorded his first career interception vs. Eastern Michigan on Sept. 30.

2017 SEASON NOTES

THREE WILDCATS DO SERVICE WORK IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- In May of 2017, three Wildcats, outside linebackers Jordan Bonner and Denzil Ware and tight end C.J. Conrad, were chosen by the athletic department to participate in a service/educational trip to the Dominican Republic. During the week-long trip, they interacted with residents of impoverished communities, visited an orphanage, constructed park benches in a sugar cane village, distributed food to the hungry and visited a nursing home and a daycare for special needs children.

- UK has taken football student-athletes to Ethiopia on a service trip since 2011. Due to the state department's travel ban to Ethiopia, the Cats visited the DR in 2017.

2011: Stuart Hines, Danny Trevathan

2012: Mikie Benton, Matt Smith, Larry Warford

2013: Kevin Mitchell, Jonathan George, Avery Williamson

2014: Alvin "Bud" Dupree, Landon Foster, Braylon Heard

2015: Austin MacGinnis, Marcus McWilson, Alex Montgomery

2016: Greg Hart, De'Niro Laster, Courtney Love

*2017: Jordan Bonner, C.J. Conrad, Denzil Ware (Dominican Republic)

COACHING CHANGES

- Dean Hood was named special teams coordinator/outside linebackers coach to replace Matt House who was named defensive coordinator/inside linebackers coach. Hood spent the 2016 season as the assistant head coach/special teams coordinator/tight ends at Charlotte. House, who was UK's special teams coordinator in 2016, replaced D.J. Eliot who left UK for a similar position at Colorado.
- UK defensive line coach, Jimmy Brumbaugh, was hired to be the co-defensive coordinator at Maryland in February. Former North Texas defensive line coach, Derrick LeBlanc, was hired to replace Brumbaugh.

MID-YEAR ENROLLEES

- Kentucky welcomed seven mid-year enrollees to the program in January of 2017. One is a junior college transfer and six are true freshmen.



L-R: C.J. Conrad, Denzil Ware and Jordan Bonner with children in the DR.



Danny Clark, Quarterback

6-2, 230, Fr.-HS
Columbus, Ohio (Archbishop Hoban)

Jamin Davis, Linebacker

6-4, 212, Fr.-HS
Ludowici, Ga. (Long County)

Cedric Dort Jr., Defensive Back

5-11, 170, Fr.-HS
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. (Dwyer)

Lonnie Johnson Jr., Defensive Back

6-3, 203, Jr.-JC
Gary, Ind. (Garden City CC/Gary West Side)

Bryant Koback, Running Back

6-0, 193, Fr.-HS
Thornville, Ohio
Holland, Ohio (Springfield)

Clevan Thomas Jr., Wide Receiver

5-11, 205, Fr.-HS
Miami, Fla. (Charles W. Flanagan)

Walker Wood, Quarterback

6-0, 181, Fr.-HS
Lexington, Ky. (Lafayette)

- In 2016, UK added seven mid-year enrollees, including high school graduates Kash Daniel, Gunnar Hoak, Dakota Holtzclaw and Drake Jackson and three junior college transfers in Tate Leavitt, Naquez Pringle and Stephen Johnson.
- Daniel, Pringle and Johnson were the only players who didn't redshirt. Daniel recorded 19 tackles, mostly on special teams, while Pringle started in five of 12 games as nose guard and totaled 39 tackles, including 2.0 TFL. Johnson became UK's primary starter three games into the season after an injury to Drew Barker. He finished completed 145 of 265 passes for 2,037 yards and 13 TDs.

CWS RENAMED TO KROGER FIELD

- In May of 2017, UK, JMI Sports and Kroger announced a comprehensive and unprecedented partnership that expands Kroger's commitment to UK Athletics and the University of Kentucky, including the renaming of UK's football stadium from Commonwealth Stadium to Kroger Field.
- In order to avoid any confusion and in consultation with the Newton family, the football playing field will be renamed to C.M. Newton Grounds at Kroger Field. The playing field was named C.M. Newton Field in honor of the former UK athletics director in 2000.
- Through this partnership, Kroger also becomes the Official Fuel Partner of the University of Kentucky and the Official Grocery Partner of Move-In at UK while also providing additional engagement opportunities with UK students in discussion now. Per the agreement, Kroger is also the Official Nutrition and Pharmacy Partner of UK Athletics.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Kentucky currently has 16 players on its roster who have already earned their undergraduate degrees:

Drew Barker - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in integrated strategic communication and is currently working on a master's degree in public financial management at the Martin School of Public Administration

David Baumer - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in management

Dylan Greenberg - Earned a finance degree in December of 2016 and is currently working on a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics

Greg Hart - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in marketing and is currently working on a second degree in communications

Nick Haynes - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in economics and management and is currently working on a second degree in kinesiology

Jacob Hyde - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in social work and is currently working on a master's degree in social work

Garrett Johnson - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in communications

Stephen Johnson - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in agricultural economics with a minor in business

Courtney Love - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in community and leadership development and is currently working on a second degree in communications

Austin MacGinnis - Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in finance and is currently working on a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics

Will Mahone - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in family sciences

Kyle Meadows - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in psychology

Cole Mosier - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in political science

Matt Pantone - Graduated in May of 2017 from Columbia with a degree in psychology and is currently working on a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics

Naquez Pringle - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree in community leadership and development

Charles Moushey - Graduated in December of 2017 with a degree kinesiology/exercise science

- Last year, UK had 31 players on the 2016 SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll and eight (**Jordan Bonner, Luke Fortner, Jordan Griffin, Grant McKinniss, Justin Rigg, Kayaune Ross, Jamar Watson and Landon Young**) were named to the SEC First-Year Academic Honor Roll.

- Nine Wildcats (**David Baumer, Garrett Johnson, Stephen Johnson, Will Mahone, Kyle Meadows, Cole Mosier, Charles Moushey, Naquez Pringle and Charles Walker**) are all expected to graduate in December with their undergraduate degrees

- Another eight players are on track to graduate in May: **Logan Blue, Blake Bone, David Bouvier, Matt Elam, Jacob Hyde (master's in social work), Adrian Middleton, Kendall Randolph and Kayaune Ross.**
- Several key UK players have strong cumulative GPAs over their academic careers, including Miles Butler (4.0), Charles Walker (3.786), Luke Fortner (3.725), Austin MacGinnis (graduated with a 3.672; 3.667 in grad school), and Jacob Hyde (graduated with a 3.085; 4.0 in grad school).

THREE NAMED COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT

Blake Best, Austin MacGinnis and Charles Walker were named Academic All-District Team by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

- All three players were named to the District 2 team and will be on the CoSIDA Academic All-America ballot with the honorees for that distinction announced in December. The award honors top student-athletes for their performance both in the classroom and on the field.
- MacGinnis, graduated in May 2017 with a degree in finance. He is currently working toward a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics. He is set to graduate in just 13 months with his MBA by taking 19 credit hours this semester and 22 hours next semester.
- Walker has a 3.79 grade point average in finance and marketing. The former walk-on is a two-time SEC Academic Honor Roll and Dean's List member.
- Best, serves as the Wildcats' long snapper on field goals and extra points. He has a 3.95 grade point average in economics and finance and is a three-time Dean's List honoree, as well as a member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll.



HYDE NAMED TO SEC COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAM

Senior nose guard Jacob Hyde was selected to the SEC Community Service Team.

Hyde, a native of Manchester, Kentucky, is one of the team’s top leaders in community service hours volunteered.

Just a few of his community service projects include, visiting sick children at the UK Children’s Hospital, volunteering to read books to children at Picadome Elementary and at Woodford County Library, volunteering at Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids’ Sake fundraiser where he bowled and spent time with kids affected with cancer, volunteering for Read Across America Day at Fayette Mall and staying after practice to spend time with Special Olympics athletes. Last season, he volunteered to visit with sick children at Wolfson Children’s Hospital at the TaxSlayer Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. He also is a frequent visitor to local nursing homes.

Last season, Hyde was inducted into UK’s prestigious Frank G. Ham Society of Character which honors Wildcats who have shown an extraordinary commitment to academic excellence, athletic participation, personal development, career preparation and serving as a role model.

Hyde, a two-time SEC Honor Roll and Dean’s List member, graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in social work and is currently working on a master’s degree in social work with the hopes of continuing to be a positive light in children’s lives.

STATUE HONORING SEC TRAILBLAZERS UNVEILED

The statue honoring the four UK players who broke the color barrier in Southeastern Conference football – Nate Northington, Greg Page, Wilbur Hackett and Houston Hogg – was unveiled at an event at the site of the statue on Sept. 2, 2016.

The statue commemorates the playing careers and lives of the first four African-American football players in SEC history. It is located on a pedestal in the plaza between the Joe Craft Football Training Facility and Kroger Field, positioned to remind fans, coaches and players of the incredible contributions made by Northington, Page, Hackett and Hogg to the University of Kentucky, the SEC and college football on a national level.

Cast in bronze, the statue features the four pioneers in uniform standing side by side. It was designed and sculpted by J. Brett Grill over the course of a year and after interviews with the three living trailblazers; Page’s brother, Melvin; and teammates of the four. The statue is to scale, with the tallest figure standing approximately seven-and-a-half feet tall. It is 11 feet wide at its base and four feet in depth, weighing around 3,500 pounds.

Last year was the 50th anniversary of Northington and Page’s arrival on the UK campus in 1966. Hackett and Hogg would join them a year later. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Northington integrating the SEC. He made his varsity debut on Sept. 23, 1967 against Indiana before breaking the SEC’s color barrier a week later when UK hosted Ole Miss on Sept. 30, 1967. Tragically, Page – Northington’s close friend – passed away just a day prior on Sept. 29 after suffering a neck injury in a practice accident. Hackett and Hogg

would carry on Northington and Page’s legacy, with Hackett becoming the SEC’s first African-American team captain in any sport in 1969.

TRAILBLAZERS HONORED WITH SLIVE AWARD

Kentucky’s four trailblazers - Nate Northington, Greg Page, Wilbur Hackett and Houston Hogg – were honored with the Michael L. Slive Distinguished Service Award on Dec. 1-2 during the SEC Football Championship Weekend events.

The Michael L. Slive Distinguished Service Award is presented on special occasions to former student-athletes, coaches, graduates or administrators of SEC institutions or the conference office who have maintained a lifetime of interest in college athletics and who, over a significant period of time, have exhibited superior leadership qualities and made a significant impact to the betterment of the mission of the Southeastern Conference.

Also honored with the four Cats were Vanderbilt basketball players Perry Wallace and Godfrey Dillard. Wallace was the SEC’s first African-American varsity basketball player.

SEPT. 30 PROCLAIMED “NATE NORTHINGTON DAY”

Saturday vs. Eastern Michigan was the 50th anniversary of former Wildcat Nate Northington breaking the SEC’s color barrier against Ole Miss (Sept. 30, 1967). Northington served as an honorary captain and also stood alongside UK’s captains for the pregame coin toss. Lexington Mayor Jim Gray declared it “Nate Northington Day,” and over 100 student-athletes from UK came onto the field wearing No. 23 Nate Northington t-shirts to





read messages of thanks. UK players also wore No. 23 helmet stickers to honor Northington.

NORTHINGTON NAMED UK'S SEC FOOTBALL LEGEND

The SEC announced its 2017 SEC Football Legends class, a collection of former football standouts who were honored at events surrounding the SEC Football Championship Game in Atlanta in December and Kentucky's legend is Nate Northington.

The class was honored at the 2017 SEC Football "Weekend of Champions" Dec. 1-2 in Atlanta, Ga. The annual SEC Legends Dinner presented by AT&T will be held Fri., Dec. 1 at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta and the group will also be recognized prior to the SEC Football Championship Game, which will be held at the new Mercedes-Benz Stadium on Sat., Dec. 2.

Northington became the first African-American to participate in a varsity football contest in the Southeastern Conference on September 30, 1967. 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the year Northington integrated SEC Football. He and fellow African-American Greg Page entered UK in 1966 and were stars on the Wildcat freshman team. They were expected to make major contributions to the varsity as sophomores; however, Page sustained a neck injury in practice in August 1967, and passed away in September. Northington played his first varsity game against Indiana on Sept. 23, 1967; one week later, he made his debut in an SEC game vs. Ole Miss. He eventually left UK but encouraged the team's African-American freshmen, Wilbur Hackett and Houston Hogg, to stay at UK and continue his and Page's trailblazing legacy.

KENTUCKY'S YOUNGSTOWN BOYS

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

Mark Stoops - Head Coach (Cardinal Mooney)

Vince Marrow - Recruiting Coord./Tight Ends (Cardinal Mooney)

Steve Clinkscale - Defensive Backs (Chaney)

Frank Buffano - Director of Operations (Cardinal Mooney)

Lynn Bowden Jr. - Wide Receiver (Warren Harding)

Jordan Jones - Linebacker (Cardinal Mooney)

Tymere Dubose - Defensive Tackle (Youngstown Christian)

Courtney Love - Linebacker (Cardinal Mooney)

DID YOU KNOW?

- This is the 127th season of intercollegiate football for the UK football program.
- Kentucky is in its fifth season under head coach **Mark Stoops**, who has energized the UK fan base with record-setting recruiting classes, facility upgrades and an influx in talent.
- A picture of longevity, UK Equipment Manager **Tom Kalinowski** is in his 40th season in that role. A group of former players, staff members and current UK coaches pitched in this summer to surprise him with a new Ford Escape.
- The Kentucky cheerleaders have won an unprecedented 22 national cheerleading championships, including 18 of the last 22, at the annual Universal Cheerleaders Association championships.
- Kentucky is one of only 10 schools that have won an NCAA men's basketball championship while also having a claim on a national championship in football.
- UK is one of only seven universities in the U.S. that have programs in agriculture, engineering, law, medicine and pharmacy on a single campus.
- The 2017 football roster is comprised of 18 different states and Australia. UK has 34 players from Ohio, 25 from Kentucky, 14 from Florida and nine from Georgia.

to Vanderbilt on Oct. 20 and meet Missouri in Columbia on Oct. 27.

- Two of Kentucky's four games in November are on the road. The Wildcats cap off their conference slate at home on Nov. 3 vs. Georgia before meeting Tennessee in Neyland Stadium on Nov. 10. UK returns to Kroger Field on Nov. 17 for Senior Day vs. Middle Tennessee State.
- The regular-season finale comes on Thanksgiving weekend with a Nov. 24 visit to Louisville at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in the annual battle for the Governor's Cup.

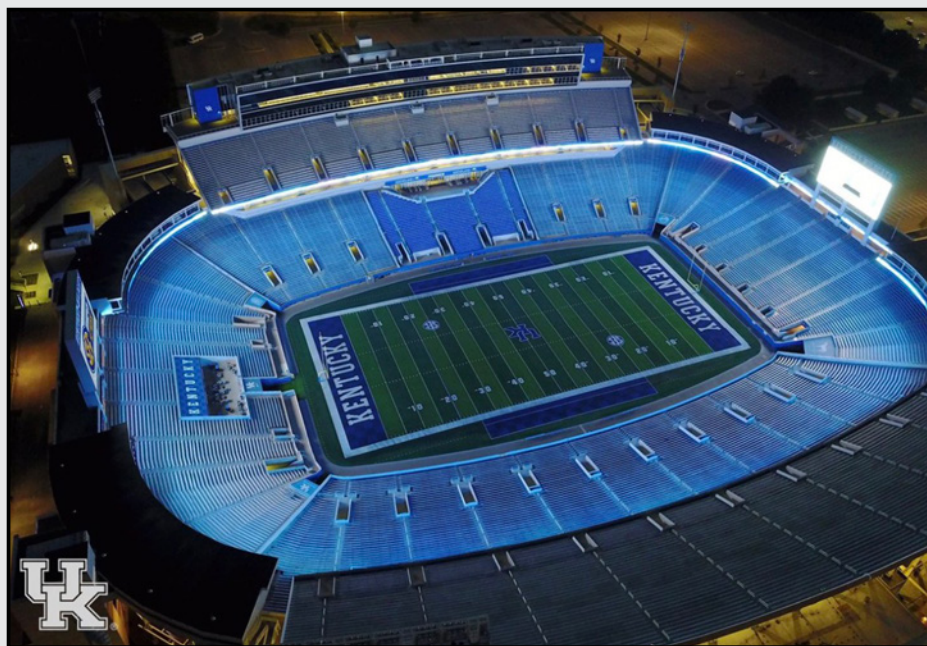
KENTUCKY ANNOUNCES 2018 SCHEDULE

- The 2018 Kentucky football schedule features seven home games, including visits from Mississippi State, South Carolina, Vanderbilt and Georgia, and five road games, the Southeastern Conference announced Tuesday.
- Kentucky opens its season at Kroger Field with Central Michigan on Sept. 1 before traveling to The Swamp to face the Florida Gators in the SEC opener on Sept. 8. The Wildcats close out September with a three-game homestand that includes Murray State (Sept. 15), Mississippi State (Sept. 22) and South Carolina (Sept. 29).
- The Wildcats travel to College Station, Texas for the first time since 1952 to face the Aggies of Texas A&M on Oct. 6. After an open date on Oct. 13, the Wildcats play host



KROGER FIELD

On game day, Kroger Field often becomes the third-largest city in Kentucky.



- Since its opening in 1973, Kentucky has played 291 games within the friendly confines of newly-named Kroger Field. UK has a 156-132-4 record (.541), 20-16 under Mark Stoops.
- UK announced its first sellout since 2015 when 62,945 fans attended the Florida game on Sept. 23, 2017.
- Since the 1999 expansion, UK has averaged 62,382 fans per game and ranked in the nation's top 30 teams in attendance in 14 of the last 16 seasons. Both the single game and season attendance record has been broken in recent years.
- The playing surface is named C.M. Newton Grounds at Kroger Field in honor of the former UK Director of Athletics.

KROGER FIELD

Commonwealth Stadium was renamed to Kroger Field in May of 2017. The agreement--which is between Kroger and JMI Sports, UK's multimedia rights partner-- begins at approximately \$1.85 million annually with a term of up to 12 years. With the partnership, Kroger becomes the Official Fuel Partner of the University of Kentucky and the Official Grocery Partner of Move-In at UK while also providing additional engagement opportunities with UK students. Per the agreement, Kroger is also the Official Nutrition and

Pharmacy Partner of UK Athletics.

Kroger Field was transformed into a state-of-the-art facility after a \$126-million reinvention which was completed prior to the 2015 season. The project was handled by HNTB. The outside of the stadium underwent a dramatic external facelift, receiving a modern look, but one that remained uniquely Kentucky. Inside, the capacity of Kroger Field was reduced over the course of the two-year project to approximately 61,000, but the value of all remaining seats were increased, from the top of the upper deck to front-row seats at midfield. Concourses were revamped and widened throughout the stadium with improved concessions, restrooms and security. Players and coaches reaped the benefits of the new Kroger Field as well, as home-team facilities were built, and a multi-purpose recruiting room hosts future Wildcats on their on-campus visits.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Seating Capacity: 61,000, including the Commonwealth Suites. New bench-back seating has been installed in the South upper level of Kroger Field.

Playing Field: UK switched from natural grass to synthetic turf for the 2015 season. Other SEC schools with a turf surface are: Arkansas, Mississippi State, Missouri and Vanderbilt.

Video Boards: Video boards by Daktronics measuring at 39 by 79 feet, each, bring a total of 6,162 square feet of video capability. The video boards put UK among the nation's leaders in video square footage. The interior seating bowl also has LED ribbon boards.

Sound System: Sportsound system delivers pounding bass energy, smooth mid- and high-range frequencies, and high-impact entertainment. Components of the sound system include a main speaker cluster behind the end zone, under-balcony speakers and concourse speakers.

GAME DAY EXPERIENCES

The "Cat Walk" on Talbott Todd Way: With the unveiling of the new \$45 million Kentucky Football Training Facility in August of 2016, the headquarters of the program have moved next door to Kroger Field. That means the Cat Walk presented by Chevy will still begin outside Gate 1 two hours and 15 minutes prior to kickoff, but the team will proceed past Gate 1 and between Kroger Field and Nutter Field House which has been dedicated to former Wildcat Talbott Todd (1963-65). Todd, who passed away from ALS in August of 2017, was an avid supporter of the program. From Talbott Todd Way the team will walk to the locker room in the Joe Craft Kentucky Football Training Facility.

Pregame concerts: The Kentucky Football Pregame Concert Series has returned for the 2017 season. Concerts will begin on the stage outside Gate 12 immediately following the Cat Walk presented by Chevy and last until 30 minutes prior to kickoff. The Cat Walk takes place two hours and 15 minutes prior to kickoff.

Coca Cola Fan Zone: Fans of all ages, but especially the younger Wildcats, will enjoy playing at the Fan Zone located in Nutter Field House. It will have inflatable games, free posters, face tattoos and more, available two hours before kickoff.

TOP ATTENDANCES FOR KROGER FIELD

1. 63,407 Auburn, 2015
2. 63,380 EKU, 2015
3. 63,040 Florida, 2015
4. 62,965 Florida, 2017
5. 62,933 UL Lafayette, 2015



KENTUCKY RECORDS

CAREER TOTAL OFFENSE

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Total Yards. Top entry: Jared Lorenzen, 2000-03, 10,637.

CAREER PASSING YARDS LEADERS

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Total Yards. Top entry: Jared Lorenzen, 2000-2003, 10,354.

CAREER PASSING TOUCHDOWN LEADERS

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Total TDs. Top entry: Andre' Woodson, 2004-2007, 79.

CAREER TD-TO-INTERCEPTION RATIO (MIN. 20 PASSING TDS)

Table with 6 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Ratio, TDs, INTs. Top entry: Andre' Woodson, 2004-2007, 3.16:1, 79, 25.

CAREER RUSHING YARDS AMONG QBS (MIN. 400 PASSING ATT.)

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Total Yards. Top entry: Pookie Jones, 1991-1993, 854.

CAREER COMPLETIONS-TO-TOUCHDOWN RATIO (MIN. 20 PASSING TDS)

Table with 6 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Ratio, Cmp, TDs. Top entry: Babe Parilli, 1949-1951, 6.62:1, 331, 50.

CAREER PASSING YARDS PER COMPLETION (MIN. 200 COMPLETIONS)

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Ratio, Yds, Cmp. Top entry: Rick Norton, 1963-1965, 15.15, 4,514, 298.

CAREER RECEIVING YARDAGE LEADERS

Table with 7 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Rec, Yards, Avg, TD. Top entry: Craig Yeast, 1995-98, 208, 2,899, 13.9, 28.

Continuation of Career Total Offense table with ranks 6-27. Top entry: Quentin McCord, 1996, 1998-2000, 112, 1,743, 15.6, 15.

CAREER RECEPTIONS LEADERS

Table with 7 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Rec, Yards, Avg, TD. Top entry: Craig Yeast, 1995-98, 208, 2,899, 13.9, 28.

CAREER RUSHING LEADERS

Table with 7 columns: Rank, Player, Years, Att, Yards, Avg, TD. Top entry: Sonny Collins, 1972-75, 777, 3,835, 4.9, 26.

CAREER RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS LEADERS

Table with 6 columns: Rank, Player, Years, TD, Yards, Avg. Top entry: Benny Snell Jr., 2016-present, 31, 2,409, 5.5.

CAREER SCORING LEADERS

Table with 6 columns: Rank, Player, Years, TD/FG, PAT, Pts. Top entry: Austin MacGinnis, 2014-present, 0/71, 141, 354.



KENTUCKY RECORDS

CAREER 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

1.	18	Sonny Collins, 1972-75
2.	13	Rafael Little, 2004-07
3.	13	Moe Williams, 1993-95
4.	12	Benny Snell Jr., 2016-present
5.	11	Stanley "Boom" Williams, 2014-16
	11	Artose Pinner, 1999-2002

CAREER FIELD GOALS MADE

1.	71	Austin MacGinnis (86 att.), 2014-present
2.	57	Joey Worley (85 att.), 1984-87
3.	49	Lones Seiber (79 att.), 2006-09
4.	36	Taylor Begley (53 att.), 2002-05
5.	35	Seth Hanson (48 att.), 1997-98, 2000-01
6.	34	Doug Pelfrey (52 att.), 1990-92

CAREER FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED

1.	90	Austin MacGinnis (71 made), 2014-present
2.	85	Joey Worley (57 made), 1984-87
3.	79	Lones Seiber (49 made), 2006-09
4.	55	John Pierce (24 made), 1974-76
5.	53	Taylor Begley (36 made), 2002-05

CAREER FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE (MIN. 10 MADE)

1.	.857	Joe Mansour (12/14), 2010-13
2.	.824	Marc Samuel (14/17), 1997, 99
3.	.789	Austin MacGinnis (71/90), 2014-present
4.	.729	Seth Hanson (35/48), 1997-98, 2000-01
5.	.707	Ken Willis (29/41), 1987-89

CAREER PATS BY KICKING

1.	158	Lones Seiber (164 att.), 2006-09
2.	141	Austin MacGinnis (143 att.), 2014-present
3.	127	Seth Hanson (135 att.), 1997-98, 2000-01
4.	118	Taylor Begley (125 att.), 2002-05

CAREER PATS ATTEMPTS BY KICKING

1.	164	Lones Seiber (158 made), 2006-09
2.	143	Austin MacGinnis (141 made), 2014-present
3.	135	Seth Hanson (127 made), 1997-98, 2000-01
4.	125	Taylor Begley (118 made), 2002-05

LONGEST FIELD GOALS

1.	54	Austin MacGinnis vs. Tennessee, Nov. 15, 2014
2.	53	Austin MacGinnis vs. Missouri, Oct. 7, 2017
	53	Austin MacGinnis vs. Ohio, Sept. 6, 2014
	53	Doug Pelfrey vs. Indiana, Sept. 21, 1991
	53	Doug Pelfrey vs. Cincinnati, Nov. 2, 1991

MOST CAREER FIELD GOALS MADE, SEC HISTORY

1.	88	Daniel Carlson (Auburn) (2014-2017) (As Of Nov. 11)
2.	87	Billy Bennett (Georgia) (2000-2003)
3.	83	Leigh Tiffin (Alabama) (2006-2009)
4.	78	Phillip Doyle (Alabama) (1987-1990)
5.	77	Kevin Butler (Georgia) (1981-1984)
6.	76	Blair Walsh (Georgia) (2008-2011)
7.	71	Austin MacGinnis (Kentucky) (2014-2017)
	71	Fuad Reveiz (Tennessee) (1981-1984)

SINGLE-SEASON RECORDS

MOST RUSH ATTEMPTS, SEASON

1.	294	Moe Williams (1600 yards), 1995
2.	283	Artose Pinner (1414 yards), 2002
3.	256	Benny Snell Jr. (1318 yards), 2017
4.	253	George Adams (1085 yards), 1984
5.	248	Sonny Collins (1150 yards), 1975

MOST RUSHING YARDS, SEASON

1.	1600	Moe Williams (294 att.), 1995
2.	1414	Artose Pinner (283 att.), 2002
3.	1318	Benny Snell Jr. (256 att.), 2017
4.	1278	Mark Higgs (193 att.), 1987
5.	1213	Sonny Collins (224 att.), 1973
6.	1170	Stanley "Boom" Williams (171), 2016
7.	1150	Sonny Collins (248), 1975

MOST TOUCHDOWNS RUSHING, SEASON

1.	18	Benny Snell Jr., 2017
2.	17	Moe Williams, 1995
3.	13	Benny Snell Jr., 2016
	13	Artose Pinner, 2002
	13	George Adams, 1984
	13	Derrick Ramsey, 1977
	13	Sonny Collins, 1973

MOST 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES, SEASON

1.	8	Artose Pinner, 2002
2.	7	Benny Snell Jr., 2017
	7	Moe Williams, 1995
4.	6	Rafael Little, 2007
	6	Mark Higgs, 1987
	6	George Adams, 1984
	6	Sonny Collins, 1975
8.	5	Stanley "Boom" Williams, 2015
	5	Benny Snell Jr., 2016

MOST POINTS SCORED, SEASON

1.	110	Benny Snell Jr. (18 td), 2017
2.	104	Austin MacGinnis (21fg/41pat), 2014
3.	102	Moe Williams (17td), 1995
4.	99	Lones Seiber (16fg/51pat), 2007
5	97	Austin MacGinnis (21fg/34pat), 2017

MOST POINTS SCORED BY KICKER, SEASON

1.	104	Austin MacGinnis (21fg/41pat), 2014
2.	99	Lones Seiber (16fg/51pat), 2007
3.	97	Austin MacGinnis (21fg/34pat), 2017
4.	92	Austin MacGinnis (16fg/44pat), 2016
5.	81	Seth Hanson (11 fg/48 pat), 1998
6.	77	Marc Samuel (14 fg/35 pat), 1999

MOST TOUCHDOWNS SCORED, SEASON

1.	18	Benny Snell Jr., 2017
2.	17	Moe Williams, 1995
3.	15	Randall Cobb, 2009
	15	Artose Pinner, 2002
	15	Craig Yeast, 1998

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE, SEASON

1.	21	Austin MacGinnis (27 att.), 2017
	21	Austin MacGinnis (27 att.), 2014
3.	19	Joey Worley (28 att.), 1985
4.	17	Ken Willis (22 att.), 1989
	17	Joey Worley (25 att.), 1986
6.	16	Austin MacGinnis (19 att.), 2016

MOST FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED, SEASON

1.	28	Joey Worley (19 made), 1985
2.	27	Austin MacGinnis (21 made), 2017
	27	Austin MacGinnis (21 made), 2014
	27	John Pierce (10 made), 1975
5.	25	Lones Seiber (16 made), 2007
	25	Joey Worley (17 made), 1986

CONSECUTIVE FIELD GOALS MADE

1.	11	Austin MacGinnis, 2016-17
	11	Austin MacGinnis, 2014-15
3.	9	Taylor Begley, 2005
4.	8	Craig McIntosh, 2010
5.	7	Craig McIntosh, 2011



KENTUCKY IN OVERTIME GAMES

• Kentucky is 3-6 in overtime all-time, including a 3-4 mark at home and 0-2 record away.

Table with 5 columns: Date, Opponent, Home/Away, Number of Overtimes, Final Score. Lists 12 overtime games from 1997 to 2015.

KENTUCKY'S ALL-TIME COMEBACK WINS

- 1. -18 Oct. 16, 2010: Trailed South Carolina 28-10 in the third quarter, went on to win 31-28 (at Kentucky)
2. -17 Sept. 19, 1998: Trailed Indiana 20-3 in the second quarter, went on to win 31-27 (at Kentucky)
...
22. -10 Nov. 26, 2016: Trailed Louisville 24-14 in the second quarter, went on to win 41-38 (at Louisville)
-10 Sept. 9, 2017: Trailed Eastern Kentucky 13-3 in the second quarter, went on to win 27-16 (at Kentucky)

Note - Games in bold under Coach Mark Stoops



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME ...

KENTUCKY

Scored 40 points: 44 vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017
 Scored 50 points: 62 vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Scored 60 points: 62 vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Scored 70 points: 77 vs. Texas El-Paso, Sept. 7, 2002
 Scored 80 points: 83 vs. North Dakota, Nov. 18, 1950
 Shut Out an Opponent: vs. Miami (42-0), Sept. 5, 2009
 Shut Out an Opponent in the 2nd half: vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016
 Scored on first series: FG vs. at Georgia, Nov. 18, 2017
 Scored on first play from scrimmage of game: at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Scored a TD on first series: at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 25 First Downs: 29 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 13, 2016
 Had 30 First Downs: 30 vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 25, 2015
 Had 250 yards rushing: 289 vs. Tennessee, Oct. 28, 2017
 Had 300 yards rushing: 443 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 13, 2016
 Had 400 yards rushing: 443 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 13, 2016
 Had below 50 yards rushing: 48 vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013
 Had 300 yards passing: 352 at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 400 yards passing: 401 vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 25, 2014
 Had below 50 yards passing: 49 vs. Vanderbilt, Oct. 8, 2016
 Had 300 yards rushing and passing: (381/311) vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Had 500 yards total offense: 581 at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 600 yards total offense: 635 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 13, 2016
 Had below 200 yards total offense: 161 at Alabama, Oct. 1, 2016
 Held opp. below 100 yards rushing: 60 vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017
 Held opp. below 50 yards rushing: 13 vs Eastern Michigan, Sept. 30, 2017
 Held opp. below 100 yards passing: 27 vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016
 Held opp. below 50 yards passing: 27 vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016
 Held opponent below 200 yards total offense: 139 vs. Vanderbilt, Sept. 27, 2014
 Held opp. below 100 yards total offense: 91 vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 16, 1996
 Recorded a safety: at Mississippi State, Nov. 24, 2013
 Recorded zero penalties: vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009
 Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 32 by Benny Snell at South Carolina, Sept. 16, 2017
 Had a player rush for 100 yards: 211, Benny Snell vs. Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
 Had 2 players rush for 100 yards: Benny Snell (192) and Boom Williams (182) vs. Missouri, Oct. 29, 2016
 Had 2 players rush for 175 yards or more: Benny Snell (192) and Boom Williams (182) vs. Missouri, Oct. 29, 2016
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in consecutive games: Benny Snell (twice in 2017)
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in four consecutive games: Derrick Locke, 2010
 Had a true freshman rush for 100 yards: 152 by Benny Snell vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016
 Had a player rush for 200 yards: 211, Benny Snell vs. Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
 Had 4 players with 50+ yards rushing in the same game: 5 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 12, 2016
 Had a player with 3 rushing touchdowns: 3 by Benny Snell vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017
 Had a player with 4 rushing touchdowns: 4 by Benny Snell vs. NM State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Had a player with 50 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012
 Had a player with 60 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012
 Had a player with 30 pass completions: 37 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012
 Had a player with 300 passing yards: 338 by Stephen Johnson at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 2 players pass for 100 yards: Maxwell Smith (109), Jalen Whitlow (105) vs. Louisville, Sept. 14, 2013
 Had a player with 3 or more touchdowns passes: 3 by Stephen Johnson vs. Florida, Sept. 23, 2017
 Had a player with 2 passing touchdowns and 2 rushing touchdowns: Patrick Towles, vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 25, 2014
 Had a player with 10 pass receptions: 10 by Ryan Timmons vs. Ohio, Sept. 6, 2014
 Had a player with 100 yards receiving: 111 by Garrett Johnson, vs. Missouri, Oct. 7, 2017
 Had a player with consecutive 100-yard receiving games: Jeff Badet, 2 (10/22-10/29/16)
 Had 2 players with 100 yards receiving: 116 by Matt Roark and 102 by La'Rod King, vs. Ole Miss, Nov. 5, 2011
 Had a player with 3 touchdowns receptions: 3 by C.J. Conrad vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Had a player with 100 rushing and 100 receiving yards in the same game: Rafael Little (132 rushing, 114 receiving) vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2006
 Had a 100-yard rusher and a 100-yard receiver in the same game: Benny Snell (117 rush), Garrett Johnson (111 receiving), vs. Missouri, Oct. 7, 2017
 Had a player score a TD by rushing and receiving in the same game: Boom Williams vs. Missouri, Oct. 29, 2016
 Had a player throw a TD pass and score a rushing and receiving TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. Auburn, Oct. 9, 2010
 Had a player throw at least two TD passes and score a rushing TD in consecutive games: Patrick Towles in 2015

Had a player throw a TD pass, score a receiving TD and score on a punt return for a TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. WKU, Sept. 11, 2010
 Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Derrick Locke (100 yards) vs. Louisville, Sept. 19, 2009
 Had a player return a punt for a TD: Charles Walker (65 yards) vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Had a player return an interception for a TD: Marcus McWilson, 45 yards, vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 22, 2016
 Had a player recover/return a fumble for a TD: Denzil Ware, at Southern Miss (20 yards), Sept. 2, 2017
 Had two defensive TDs in the same game: Mike Douglas (fumble) and Fred Tiller (interception) vs. Louisville, Nov. 29, 2014
 Had a player block a punt: Josh Paschal vs. Eastern Michigan, Sept. 30, 2017
 Had a player block a field goal: Lonnie Johnson Jr. vs. Missouri, Oct. 7, 2017
 Had a player block a PAT: Lonnie Johnson Jr. vs. E. Kentucky, Sept. 9, 2017
 Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: David Jones (57 yards) vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 15, 2008
 Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Andrew Hopewell (6 yards), vs. Arkansas, Nov. 1, 2006
 Had a player score a TD on a fake field goal: Joe Mansour (25 yards), vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013
 Had a field goal of 50 yards or more: Austin MacGinnis (53 yards) vs. Missouri, Oct. 7, 2017
 Played an overtime game: vs. ECU, Oct. 3, 2015 - (W, 34-27)
 Won an overtime game: vs. ECU, Oct. 3, 2015 - (W, 34-27)
 Won a game on the last play of regulation as time expired: vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 22, 2016 (51-yard FG)

OPPONENT

Scored 40 points: 44 by Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
 Scored 50 points: 52 by Tennessee, Oct. 31, 2015
 Scored 10 or less points: 10 by South Carolina, Sept 24, 2016
 Shut Out Kentucky: 0-40 by Vanderbilt, Nov. 3, 2012
 Shut Out Kentucky in 2nd half: by Mississippi State, Oct. 21, 2017
 Rushed for 300 yards: 346 by Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
 Passed for 300 yards: 308 by Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017
 Had 500 yards of total offense: 562 by Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
 Recorded a safety: Louisville, Aug. 31, 2008
 Blocked a Kentucky punt: Southern Miss, Sept. 3, 2016
 Blocked a Kentucky field goal: Florida, Sept. 25, 2010
 Blocked a Kentucky PAT: at Vanderbilt, Nov. 16, 2013
 Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 31, Dedrick Mills (Georgia Tech), Dec. 31, 2016
 Had a player with 100 yards rushing: 156, Lamar Jackson (Louisville), Nov. 25, 2017
 Had a player with 200 yards rushing: 252 by Anthony Dixon (MSU), Oct. 31, 2009
 Had two players with 100 yards rushing: 147, Josh Dobbs, 128 Alvin Kamara (Tennessee), Nov. 12, 2016
 Had a player with 40 pass attempts: 43 by Kyle Shurmur (Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017)
 Had a player with 25 pass completions: 30 by Kyle Shurmur (Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017)
 Had a player with 300 yards passing: 308 by Kyle Shurmur (Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2017)
 Had two players with 100 yards passing: 183 by Aaron Murray and 189 by Hutson Mason (Georgia), Nov. 23, 2013
 Had a player with 10 pass receptions: 10, Ryan Markush (EKU), Sept. 9, 2017
 Had a player with 100 yards receiving: 129, Emanuel Hall (Missouri), Oct. 7, 2017
 Had a player with 200 yards receiving: 216 by Demarcus Robinson (Florida), Sept. 13, 2014
 Had two players with 100 yards receiving: 111, Corey Robertson and 103, Quez Watkins (Southern Miss), Sept. 2, 2017
 Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Evan Berry (UT), 100 yards, Oct. 31, 2015
 Had a player return a punt for a TD: Cameron Sutton (UT), 84 yards, Oct. 31, 2015
 Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: Neiko Thorpe (69 yards) vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009
 Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Chris Rainey (23 yards) vs. Florida, Sept. 26, 2009
 Had a player return an interception for a TD: Gerri Green (Mississippi State), 84 yards, Oct. 21, 2017
 Had a player return a fumble for a TD: P.J. Davis (Georgia Tech), 38 yards, Dec. 31, 2016



2017 DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

Left Tackle

67 Landon Young, 6-7, 305, So-1L
or 73 Kyle Meadows, 6-5, 300, Sr-3L

Left Guard

71 Logan Stenberg, 6-6, 318, So-1L
79 Luke Fortner, 6-6, 305, Fr-RS

Center

52 Drake Jackson, 6-2, 290, Fr-RS
65 Bunchy Stallings, 6-3, 315, Jr-1L

Right Guard

65 Bunchy Stallings, 6-3, 315, Jr-1L
77 Mason Wolfe, 6-6, 310, So-Sq

Right Tackle

73 Kyle Meadows, 6-5, 300, Sr-3L
or 64 George Asafo-Adjei, 6-5, 315, Jr-2L

Tight End

85 Greg Hart, 6-5, 245, Sr-1L
83 Justin Rigg, 6-6, 246, So-1L

Wide Receiver (X)

19 Kayaune Ross, 6-6, 225, Sr-Sq
6 Blake Bone, 6-5, 213, Sr-3L

Wide Receiver (Y)

88 Charles Walker, 5-11, 203, Sr-3L
18 Clevan Thomas Jr., 5-11, 205, Fr-RS

Wide Receiver (F)

9 Garrett Johnson, 5-11, 175, Sr-3L
1 Lynn Bowden Jr., 6-1, 190, Fr-HS

Wide Receiver (Z)

11 Tavin Richardson, 6-3, 214, So-1L
81 Isaiah Epps, 6-2, 185, Fr-HS
or 82 Josh Ali, 6-0, 180, Fr-HS

Quarterback

15 Stephen Johnson, QB, 6-2, 185, Sr-1L
7 Drew Barker, 6-3, 225, Jr-2L

Running Back

26 Benny Snell Jr., 5-11, 223, So-1L
22 Sihiem King, 5-9, 172, Jr-2L

SPECIALISTS

Kicker

99 Austin MacGinnis, 5-10, 185, Sr-3L
95 Miles Butler, 5-9, 171, Jr-1L

Punter

93 Matt Panton, 6-4, 230, Sr-TR
95 Miles Butler, 5-9, 171, Jr-1L

Long Snapper

42 Tristan Yeomans, PS, 6-2, 190, Jr-1L
53 Blake Best, FG, PAT, 6-1, 246, So-1L

Punt Return

88 Charles Walker, 5-11, 203, Sr-3L
1 Lynn Bowden Jr., 6-1, 190, Fr-HS

Kickoff Return

22 Sihiem King, 5-9, 172, Jr-2L
1 Lynn Bowden Jr., 6-1, 190, Fr-HS

Holder

42 Tristan Yeomans, PS, 6-2, 190, Jr-1L
93 Matt Panton, 6-4, 230, Sr-TR

DEFENSE

Strongside Linebacker

41 Josh Allen, 6-5, 230, Jr-2L
31 Jamar "Boogie" Watson, 6-3, 240, Fr-RS

Defensive Tackle

99 Adrian Middleton, 6-3, 275, Jr-2L
59 Kordell Looney, 6-3, 293, Fr-RS

Nose Guard

95 Quinton Bohanna, 6-4, 320, Fr-HS
77 Naquez Pringle, 6-3, 320, Sr-1L
69 Matt Elam, 6-7, 360, Sr-3L

Defensive End

90 T.J. Carter, 6-4, 280, So-1L
20 Kengera Daniel, 6-5, 260, Jr-2L

Defensive End/ Outside Linebacker

35 Denzil Ware, 6-2, 245, Jr-2L
4 Josh Paschal, 6-3, 270, Fr-HS

Nickelback

5 Kendall Randolph, 6-0, 183, Sr-3L
or 7 Mike Edwards, 6-0, 200, Jr-2L

Middle Linebacker

51 Courtney Love, 6-2, 242, Sr-1L
56 Kash Daniel, 6-1, 235, So-1L

Weakside Linebacker

34 Jordan Jones, 6-2, 221, Jr-2L
32 Eli Brown, 6-2, 215, So-1L

Cornerback

8 Derrick Baity, 6-3, 186, Jr-2L
3 Jordan Griffin, 6-0, 186, So-1L

Cornerback

6 Lonnie Johnson, 6-3, 203, Jr-JC
or 21 Chris Westry, 6-4, 195, Jr-2L

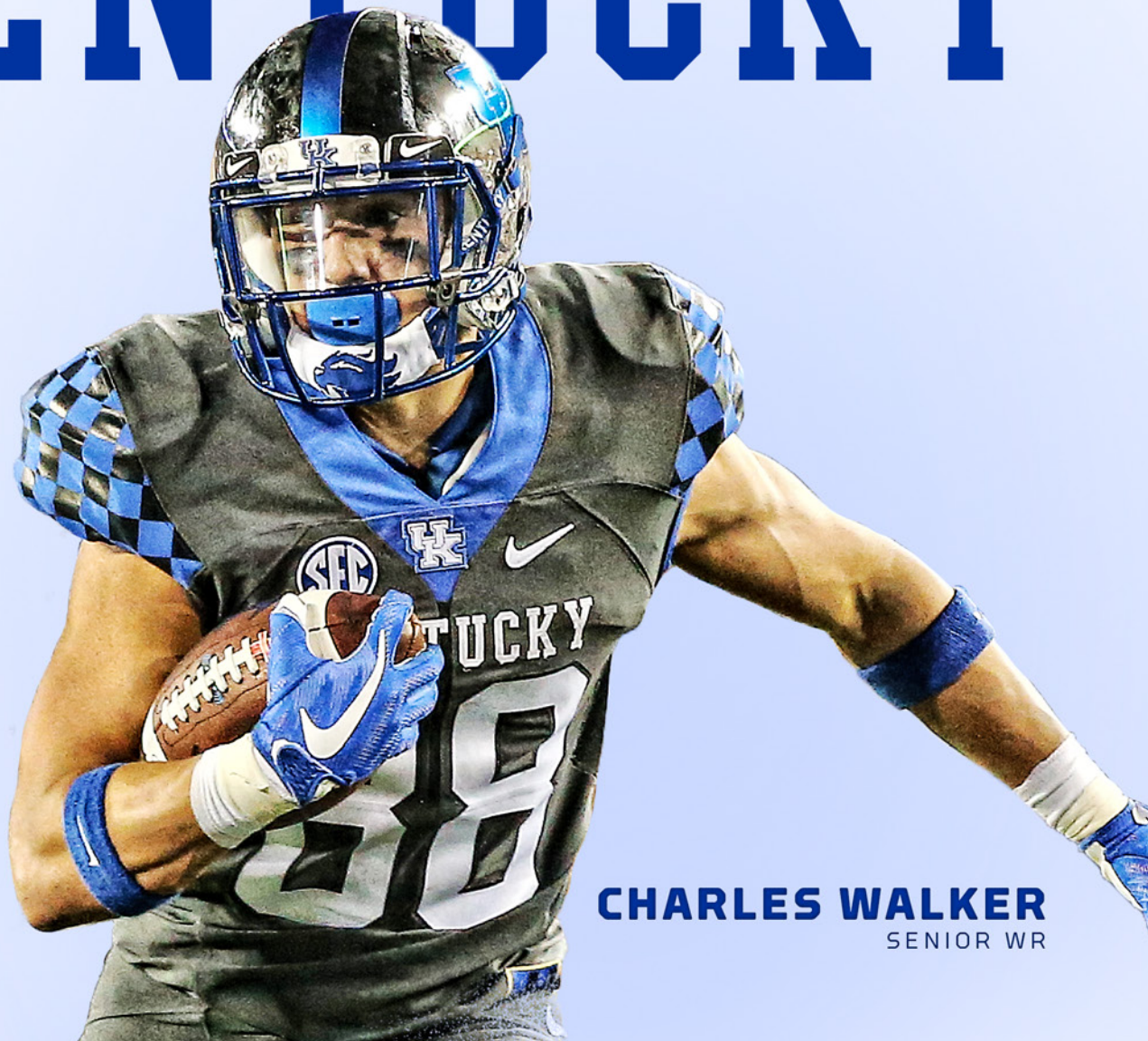
Strong Safety

7 Mike Edwards, 6-0, 200, Jr-2L
5 Kendall Randolph, 6-0, 183, Sr-3L

Free Safety

25 Darius West, 6-0, 210, Jr-2L
9 Davonte Robinson, 6-2, 187, Fr-RS

KENTUCKY



CHARLES WALKER
SENIOR WR



2017 SEASON



2017 GAME RECAPS

1

KENTUCKY 24, SOUTHERN MISS 17

SEPT. 2, 2017 • HATTIESBURG, MISS.
M.M. ROBERTS STADIUM (22,761)



Stephen Johnson threw for 176 yards and a touchdown and Kentucky's defense recovered two crucial fumbles in the second half to lead the Wildcats over Southern Mississippi 24-17.

Kentucky was clinging to a 17-10 lead in the third quarter when Darius West slammed his helmet into Southern Miss quarterback Kwadra Griggs' arm, forcing a fumble that Denzil Ware scooped up and ran 20 yards for the touchdown.

Then with the Wildcats leading 24-17 in the fourth quarter, the Kentucky defense killed another Southern Miss drive when Chris Westry forced a fumble that was recovered by Courtney Love at midfield.

It wasn't a great day for the Kentucky offense, but coach Mark Stoops refused to do too much complaining.

"It was a thing of beauty to me," Stoops said. "I know a lot of people are going to have their own opinions, but I loved it."

Kentucky's offense had some success during the first half over the middle of the field on two pass plays from Johnson to tight end C.J. Conrad. The second completion was a 23-yard touchdown that put the Wildcats ahead 14-3 midway through the second quarter.

Johnson completed 11 of 20 passes and had no interceptions. Benny Snell led the Wildcats with 67 yards rushing.

"As a whole team, we can fight for 60 minutes," Johnson said. "If the offense isn't doing too well or the special teams isn't doing well, the defense can pick us up, which they did today."

The Southern Miss offense improved significantly in the second half when Griggs replaced Keon Howard at quarterback. Griggs hit Corey Robertson for two touchdowns -- one in the third quarter and another in the fourth. The second pulled the Golden Eagles within 24-17 with 12:42 remaining.

Griggs finished with 222 yards passing and two touchdowns, all in the second half.

SCORING SUMMARY

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Kentucky 24, Southern Miss 17.

- 2nd 14:54 UK - Stephen Johnson 8 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 3-14 1:16 7 - 0
08:21 USM - SHAUNFIELD, P. 22 yd field goal, 14-82 6:29 7 - 3
07:01 UK - C.J. Conrad 23 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 3-37 1:09 14 - 3
3rd 10:40 USM - ROBERTSON, K. 42 yd pass from GRIGGS, Kwadra (SHAUNFIELD, P. kick), 6-85 2:12 14 - 10
02:03 UK - A. MacGinnis 41 yd field goal, 7-31 3:27 17 - 10
00:49 UK - Denzil Ware 20 yd fumble recovery (A. MacGinnis kick) 24 - 10
4th 12:42 USM - ROBERTSON, K. 26 yd pass from GRIGGS, Kwadra (SHAUNFIELD, P. kick), 11-75 3:07 24 - 17

TEAM STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Stat, UK, USM. Rows include First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, Passing C/A/I, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
UK - Snell 20-67, King 8-12, S. Johnson 5-10-1
USM - Smith 16-37, Howard 10-18, Daniels 3-3, Adams 1-2, Bourgeois 1- (-1), Griggs 7-(-4)

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
UK - S. Johnson 11-20-0-176-1
USM - Griggs 15-26-0-222-2, Howard 7-14-0-87-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
UK - Conrad 3-97-1, G. Johnson 2-22, C. Walker 1-21, Snell 1-13, Ross 1-8, Epps 1-6, Richardson 1-5, Thomas 1-4
USM - Smith 9-78, Robertson 7-111-2, Watkins 4-103-0, Jones 2-17

TACKLES
UK - Love 9, West 6, Allen 5, Jones 5, Middleton 5
USM - Moore 8, Boothe 7

2

KENTUCKY 27, EASTERN KENTUCKY 16

SEPT. 9, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY.
KROGER FIELD (54,868)



Kentucky's upside while digging out of yet another double-digit hole against Eastern Kentucky was having time to get things right.

The Cats took nothing for granted though, and rallied with an urgency that helped them finish better than they started and remain unbeaten despite their flaws.

"We could've done much better at the beginning of the game, but we picked it up eventually," said quarterback Stephen Johnson, who played perhaps the most critical role in the Wildcats' 27-16 win over the FCS Colonels on Saturday after trailing 13-3 in the second quarter.

Nearly two years after rallying late to eventually beat ECU 34-27 in overtime, Johnson and Kentucky (2-0) certainly had their work cut for them overcoming ineffective play on both sides of the ball.

Johnson threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to C.J. Conrad for Kentucky's first touchdown before spinning and tip-toeing along the right sideline for the final TD in the fourth quarter. In between was Benny Snell, Jr.'s 25-yard TD run late in the third for a 17-16 lead, a play set up by Johnson's 43-yard completion to Blake Bone.

Johnson - who was briefly replaced by Drew Barker in the second quarter in what he and coach Mark Stoops said was a planned substitution -- finished 15 of 22 passing for 224 yards and rushed for 48 yards. He improved to 10-4 as Kentucky's QB and 8-4 as the starter.

Snell returned from bruising his ribs early on to rush for 103 yards on 19 carries, a big improvement from his 67-yard debut last week at Southern Miss.

Kentucky's defense meanwhile stalled the Colonels (0-2) with two second-half takeaways, the last of which was Mike Edwards' interception of Tim Boyle with 4:13 remaining that shut the door.

The Wildcats outgained ECU 436-318 in their home opener and scored the game's final 17 points. Most important, they showed signs of the team that's expected to build on last year's bowl appearance.

It was better late than never, which coach Mark Stoops will take.

"We're 2-0. That feels very good," the coach said. "The nice thing is that we know, and our players know, there are a lot of things we need to improve on. And they'll do that. We'll get better."

SCORING SUMMARY

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Eastern Kentucky 16, Kentucky 27.

- 1st 10:31 UK - A. MacGinnis 39 yd field goal, 9-49 4:29 0 - 3
06:22 ECU - MARKUSH, Ryan 7 yd pass from BOYLE, Tim (WILLIAMS, Lucas kick), 9-75 4:09 7 - 3
05:44 ECU - SCOTT, LJ 7 yd run (WILLIAMS, Lucas kick blocked), 12-66 6:39 13 - 3
01:28 UK - C.J. Conrad 23 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-75 0:58 13 - 10
3rd 04:08 ECU - WILLIAMS, Lucas 31 yd field goal, 11-64 3:43 16 - 10
02:57 UK - Benny Snell 25 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 3-75 1:11 16 - 17
4th 10:09 UK - Stephen Johnson 21 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 9-85 4:02 16 - 24
00:23 UK - A. MacGinnis 39 yd field goal, 7-13 3:50 16 - 27

TEAM STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Stat, ECU, UK. Rows include First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, Passing C/A/I, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
EQU - Scott 9-40, Lewis 4-23, Booth 2-4, McCleskey 1-2, Boyle 4-(-7)
UK - Snell 19-103, King 9-61, S. Johnson 6-48, G. Johnson 1-11, A.J. Rose 1-2

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
EQU - Boyle 24-35-1-202-1, Scott 7-8-0-54-0
UK - S. Johnson 15-22-0-224-1, Barker 1-2-0-5-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
EQU - Markush 10-98-1, Creamer 8-82, McCleskey 4-31, Paul 3-6, Scott 2-20, Carter 2-6, Schmerber 1-5, Cabrera 1-(-2)
UK - Bone 3-93, King 3-13, G. Johnson 2-42, Walker 2-38, Conrad 2-28-1, Richardson 2-10, Snell 2-5

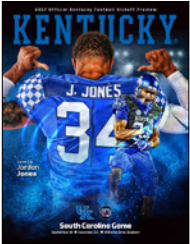
TACKLES
EQU - Grace 15, Canady 13
UK - West 11, Allen 8, Baity 8, Jones 8, Love 8



2017 GAME RECAPS

3

KENTUCKY 23, SOUTH CAROLINA 13
SEPT. 16, 2017 • COLUMBIA, S.C.
WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM (82,493)



Benny Snell, Jr. rushed for two touchdowns and Kentucky's defense held off South Carolina to win its fourth straight over the Gamecocks, 23-13.

Snell, whose status was in doubt earlier in the week due to bruised ribs, rushed for scores of 5 and 1 yard in leading the Wildcats to their first 3-0 start since 2010. Two years ago, Kentucky snapped a 22-game SEC road losing streak at South Carolina.

This time, the Wildcats left no doubt about who was the better team.

It did not start that way, though.

South Carolina electrified a sold-out stadium with a 68-yard TD catch by receiver Deebo Samuel on the opening play, then got an interception and a fumble from the Wildcats' first two drives. But Kentucky's defense held the Gamecocks to one touchdown after that.

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops was proud of his players for absorbing South Carolina's fast start and punching back. "Everybody wants to panic because you got to look pretty all the time," he said. "Winning is what matters."

Snell and the offense took over with two long, first-half scoring drives for a 14-6 lead. Snell ended a 13-play series with his 5-yard touchdown. He capped an 11-play sequence with his second touchdown.

"This says we've got a little bit of dog in us, I guess," quarterback Stephen Johnson said. "Everybody wants to do well on this team. We know what we can do."

Kentucky made the critical plays when it needed. Facing fourth-and-goal from the Wildcats 1 in the fourth quarter, Gamecock tailback Rico Dowdle was stopped cold by linebacker Jamar Watson and cornerback Derrick Baity.

Then when the Gamecocks closed it to 20-13 on OrTre Smith's 9-yard touchdown grab with 6:26 left, Kentucky quarterback Stephen Johnson scrambled on third down for a 54-yard run that led to Austin MacGinnis' third field goal with two minutes left that sealed the win.

Snell finished with 102 yards on 32 carries.

Samuel had five catches for 122 yards and his sixth touchdown of the season. But he left the game in the third quarter with a broken leg and Gamecocks coach Will Muschamp said he'll miss the rest of the season.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	7	7	3	6	-	23
South Carolina	6	0	0	7	-	13

- 1st 14:47 SC - Deebo Samuel 68 yd pass from Jake Bentley (A. Woznick kick failed), 1-68 0:13 0 - 6
01:05 UK - Benny Snell 5 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 13-75 6:33 7 - 6
- 2nd 08:37 UK - Benny Snell 1 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 11-67 5:32 14 - 6
- 3rd 05:25 UK - A. MacGinnis 27 yd field goal, 12-42 5:29 17 - 6
- 4th 08:59 UK - A. MacGinnis 44 yd field goal, 6-49 3:23 20 - 6
06:26 SC - OrTre Smith 9 yd pass from Jake Bentley (Parker White kick), 7-77 2:33 20 - 13
02:07 UK - A. MacGinnis 21 yd field goal, 9-77 4:19 23 - 13

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	USC
First Downs	20	14
Rush Att./Net Rush	47/219	20/61
Passing C/A/I	16/26/1	24/37/2
Offensive Plays	73	57
Total Offense	353	358
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	0-0
Penalties/Yards	4/10	7/45
Punts/Average	4/44.5	3/40.7
Third-Down Conv.	9 of 16	3 of 12
Time of Possession	36:49	23:11

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UK - Snell 32-102-2, S. Johnson 7-74, 2-15, Bowden 3-10, Team 3-(-17)
 USC - Dowdle 8-23, Bentley 7-19, Turner 5-12

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

UK - S. Johnson 16-25-1-169-0, Snell 0-1-0-0-0
 USC - Bentley 24-36-2-304-2

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UK - G. Johnson 4-41, Conrad 2-36, Richardson 2-29, Ross 2-14, Walker 2-13, King 1-18, Bone 1-9, Rigg 1-6, Hart 1-3
 USC - Samuel 5-122-1, Edwards 5-57, Hurst 4-39, Dowdle 3-25, Williams 2-7, Smith 1-25, Smith 1-9, Davis 1-9, Turner 1-6, Terrell 1-5

TACKLES

UK - Baity 8, Edwards 7, West 6, Brown 6, Love 6
 USC - Brunson 10, Moore 7, Wonnun 7, Lammons 7

4

#20 FLORIDA 28, KENTUCKY 27
SEPT. 23, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY.
KROGER FIELD (62,945)



Kentucky dropped its first game of the year, falling to Florida 28-27 at Kroger Field.

The Wildcats had a chance to win on the game's final play, but Austin MacGinnis came up just short on a 57-yard field goal attempt as time expired.

After the teams traded punts to start the game, Kentucky got the scoring started on its second drive. The Wildcats marched 75 yards in eight plays, culminating with a 14-yard touchdown pass from Johnson to Blake Bone. MacGinnis nailed the point after to give Kentucky a 7-0 lead.

The Wildcats took that lead into the second quarter, but that's when Florida scored its first points. The Gators went 58 yards in just four plays, with Kadarius Toney rushing 36 yards for a touchdown to tie the score at 7-7 with 14:16 left in the second quarter.

UK regained the lead later in the second quarter, when Johnson connected with Garrett Johnson on a nine-yard fade in the corner of the end zone to make it 14-7 UK.

Florida answered later in the quarter when, on fourth down and three from the 45 yard line, quarterback Feleipe Franks found a wide-open Tyrie Cleveland to tie the score 14-14 with 3:16 left in the half.

The Wildcats had a chance to take the lead into the locker room right before the half, but MacGinnis' 48-yard field goal glanced off the right upright with 16 seconds remaining, and the score remained 14-14 at the break.

Florida received the second-half kickoff, but went three-and-out, as the Wildcat defense forced a punt. Kentucky took over on its own 38 and went 62 yards in just four plays. And when Johnson hit tight end C.J. Conrad with a 23-yard scoring pass, the Cats grabbed a 21-14 advantage.

Kentucky extended its lead later in the quarter on a 42-yard MacGinnis field goal, giving the Wildcats a 24-14 lead with 5:51 left in the third quarter.

In the fourth, MacGinnis added to the lead with a season-long 50-yard strike, giving Kentucky a 27-14 lead with 11:33 left in the game. It was MacGinnis' 58th career field goal, breaking the Kentucky record of 57 previously held by Joe Worley.

But Florida was not done. The Gators took the ensuing kickoff and marched 80 yards in seven plays, keyed by a Toney end around pass to Cleveland for 50 yards. Brandon Powell finished the drive with a six-yard rush out of the wildcat formation to cut Kentucky's lead to 27-21 with 7:58 left in the game.

After a Kentucky punt, the Gators mounted what turned out to be the game-winning drive. Florida assembled a 13-play, 58-yard drive that ended with a Luke Del Rio five-yard scoring pass to Freddie Swain. Eddie Pineiro nailed the extra point to give Florida a 28-27 lead with just 43 seconds remaining.

UK was able to drive the ball into Florida territory on its final possession of the game. And with three seconds left, MacGinnis' attempt came up just short, ending the game.

SCORING SUMMARY

Florida	0	14	0	14	-	28
Kentucky	7	7	10	3	-	27

- 1st 05:06 UK - B. Bone 14 yd pass from S. Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 8-75 4:39
- 2nd 14:16 UF - Toney, K. 36 yd run (Pineiro, E. kick), 4-58 1:02
07:24 UK - G. Johnson 9 yd pass from S. Johnson (MacGinnis kick), 2-10 0:39
03:16 UF - Cleveland, T. 45 yd pass from Franks, F. (Pineiro, E. kick), 8-75 4:08
- 3rd 12:11 UK - C.J. Conrad 23 yd pass from S. Johnson (MacGinnis kick), 4-62 1:48
05:54 UK - A. MacGinnis 42 yd field goal, 8-41 4:51
- 4th 11:33 UK - A. MacGinnis 50 yd field goal, 5-16 1:52
07:58 UF - Powell, B. 6 yd run (Pineiro, E. kick), 7-80 3:29
00:43 UF - Swain, F. 5 yd pass from Del Rio, L. (Pineiro, E. kick), 13-58 5:48

TEAM STATISTICS

	UF	UK
First Downs	20	21
Rush Att./Net Rush	36/186	32/120
Passing C/A/I	17/27/1	18/27/0
Offensive Plays	63	59
Total Offense	395	340
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	0-0
Penalties/Yards	8/72	7/55
Punts/Average	5/52.2	5/40.6
Third-Down Conv.	5 of 14	1 of 10
Time of Possession	30:05	29:55

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UF - Davis 21-93, Toney, 2-39, Perine 5-27, Thompson 3-14, Powell 2-10
 UK - King 5-64, Snell 14-59, Bowden, 2-13

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

UF - Del Rio 9-14-1-74-1; Franks 7-12-0-1, Toney 1-1-0-0
 UK - S. Johnson 17-25-0-3; Bowden 1-1-0-24-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UF - Cleveland 4-110-1, Toney 4-35, Powell 3-24, Goolsby 2-18, Davis 1-11
 UK - G. Johnson 4-56-1, C. Walker 4-28, Richardson 3-21, Conrad 2-34-1, Snell 2-22, King 1-24, Ross 1-21, Bone 1-14-1

TACKLES

UF - Reece 8, Washington 6, Bryan 6
 UK - Edwards 11, Allen 8, West 8, Love 7, Ware 7





2017 GAME RECAPS

5

KENTUCKY 24, EASTERN MICHIGAN 20

SEPT. 30, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY
KROGER FIELD (50,593)



Benny Snell scored on a 12-yard run early in the fourth quarter after the second of Kentucky's big special teams plays provided a cushion, and the Wildcats survived Eastern Michigan 24-20.

With both schools looking to get back on track after tough conference losses, the Wildcats (4-1) eventually succeeded despite uneven play throughout their inaugural non-conference meeting with the Eagles (2-2). A game that was tied at 14 at halftime began turning the Wildcats' way when Tristan Yeomans recovered a muffed punt at EMU's 42 and led to Austin MacGinnis' 39-yard field goal.

Josh Paschal's blocked punt early in the fourth was downed at EMU's 12, and Snell busted through on the next play for a 10-point

lead that stood just a week after Kentucky yielded 14 unanswered fourth-quarter points in a 28-27 loss to No. 21 Florida.

"We found ways to win the football game when we didn't play our best," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops said. "There's no excuse for not playing our best at home. I appreciate 4-1 because it's better than 3-2."

Ian Eriksen's 2-yard TD run got EMU within 24-20 and gave the Eagles one last chance, but Brogan Roback's desperation pass was intercepted by Mike Edwards in the end zone in the final seconds.

SCORING SUMMARY

Table with 5 columns: Team, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Total. Rows for Eastern Michigan and Kentucky.

- 1st 14:45 EMU - BAILEY, Sergio 20 yd pass from ROBACK, Brogan (FRICANO, Paulie kick), 1-23 0:05 7 - 0
10:55 UK - Greg Hart 20 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 8-75 3:50 7 - 7
2nd 10:53 UK - T. Richardson 7 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 8-71 3:14 7 - 14
09:55 EMU - NIUPALAU, J. 43 yd pass from JOHNSON, Jaron (FRICANO, Paulie kick), 3-83 0:53 14 - 14
3rd 06:17 UK - A. MacGinnis 39 yd field goal, 10-21 4:43 14 - 17
4th 11:56 UK - Benny Snell 12 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 1-12 0:06 14 - 24
02:34 EMU - ERIKSEN, Ian 2 yd run (FRICANO, Paulie kick failed), 6-40 1:58 20 - 24

TEAM STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Team, EMU, UK. Rows for First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, Passing C/A/I, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
EMU - Eriksen 18-40-1, Turner 2-4
UK - Snell 21-75-1, King 7-7, Bowden 1-5, Johnson 8 (-34)

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
EMU - 26-43-2-1
UK - S. Johnson 18-27-0-2

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
EMU - Bailey 8-80-1, Porter 5-58, Eriksen 4-56, Niupalau 3-47, Johnson 2-30, Sexton 2-19, Turner 2-4, Aristilde 1-5
UK - G. Johnson 8-61, Ross 2-40, Bowden 2-19, King 2 (-2), Hart 1-20, Epps 1-18, Walker 1-12, Richardson 1-7

TACKLES
EMU - Spearman 8, Moody 7, Crosby 6, Calhoun 6, Rachwal 6
UK - Edwards 8, Allen 7, Brown 6

6

KENTUCKY 40, MISSOURI 34

OCT. 7, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY
KROGER FIELD (57,476)



Austin MacGinnis kicked four field goals, including two in the fourth quarter, and Stephen Johnson and Benny Snell each had two touchdowns as Kentucky outlasted Missouri 40-34 in a back-and-forth marathon.

Kentucky led by double digits three times but allowed Missouri to eventually tie the game at 27 late in the third quarter and 34 early in the fourth. MacGinnis' 53-yard field goal with 9:40 remaining provided a three-point edge before Lonnie Johnson blocked Tucker McCann's 45-yard field goal attempt with 6:15 left, setting up MacGinnis' 20-yard kick with 1:48 left that gave the Wildcats a cushion in a game that lasted nearly four hours.

"We've found ways to win and we're responding to adversity," said Kentucky coach Mark Stoops, whose five victories have come by a combined margin of 38 points.

"We've got to find ways to clean those things up. But I'm proud of our fight, I'm proud of our effort."

Before that Johnson threw touchdown passes of 14 and 64 yards while Snell ran for scores of 71 and 6 yards. Those scores merely provided breathing room as Tigers quarterback Drew Lock threw TD passes of 50, 58 and 75 yards, the last of which tied the game. Lock's 48-yard completion set up his 1-yard TD run.

Lock's final pass attempt to Al Okwuegbunam in the final seconds fell a few yards short of the end zone.

Missouri outgained Kentucky 568-486 but lost its fourth in a row.

SCORING SUMMARY

Table with 5 columns: Team, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Total. Rows for Missouri and Kentucky.

- 1st 11:20 UK - Blake Bone 14 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 3-19 1:38 0 - 7
03:41 UK - A. MacGinnis 21 yd field goal, 14-81 6:27 0 - 10
2nd 09:41 UK - A. MacGinnis 35 yd field goal, 13-63 5:09 0 - 13
07:13 MU - Moore, J'Mon 50 yd pass from Lock, Drew (McCann, Tucker kick), 7-78 2:22 7 - 13
05:36 UK - Benny Snell 71 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 3-79 1:31 7 - 20
00:40 MU - Hall, Emanuel 58 yd pass from Lock, Drew (McCann, Tucker kick), 1-58 0:09 14 - 20
3rd 11:45 MU - McCann, Tucker 27 yd field goal, 13-65 3:08 17 - 20
06:39 UK - Benny Snell 6 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 9-66 4:25 17 - 27
05:30 MU - Lock, Drew 1 yd run (McCann, Tucker kick), 4-65 1:02 24 - 27
00:24 MU - McCann, Tucker 25 yd field goal, 11-47 3:32 27 - 27
4th 14:09 UK - Garrett Johnson 64 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-75 1:15 27 - 34
13:46 MU - Johnson, Johnat 75 yd pass from Lock, Drew (McCann, Tucker kick), 3-75 0:23 34 - 34
09:40 UK - A. MacGinnis 53 yd field goal, 9-30 4:06 34 - 37
01:48 UK - A. MacGinnis 20 yd field goal, 9-63 4:27 34 - 40

TEAM STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Team, UM, UK. Rows for First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, Passing C/A/I, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
UM - Witter 17-139, Crockett 12-74, Lock 4-5-1
UK - Snell 20-117-2, S. Johnson 11-44-0, King 6-20, Ka. Daniel 1-6, G. Johnson 1-1

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
UM - Lock 22-42-0-355-3
UK - S. Johnson 22-36-1-298-2

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
UM - Moore 7-86-1, Johnson 6-97-1, Hall 4-129-1, Witter 3-24, Floyd 1-16, Okwuegbunam 1-3
UK - G. Johnson 7-111-1, Ross 4-77, Bowden 3-49, Blone 3-30, Snell 3(-2), T. Richardson 1-27, King 1-6

TACKLES
UM - Hall 12, Perkins 10, Lee 7
UK - Edwards 11, Love 10



2017 GAME RECAPS

7

MISSISSIPPI STATE 45, KENTUCKY 7

OCT. 21, 2017 • STARKVILLE, MISS.
DAVIS WADE STADIUM (58,963)



Quarterback Stephen Johnson passed for 117 yards and rushed for 54 more, but the Kentucky football team lost at Mississippi State 45-7.

Kentucky was only able to amass 260 yards of total offense in the game against a stout MSU defense.

After Kentucky punted on its first possession, Mississippi State marched 78 yards in 12 plays, capped by a three-yard touchdown run by quarterback Nick Fitzgerald. The extra point from Jace Christmann made it 7-0 MSU. That would be the score at the end of the first period.

Kentucky tied the game in the second quarter on a play that's not seen often. Quarterback Stephen Johnson scrambled toward the end zone, but was hit inside the five yard line, forcing him to fumble the ball forward into the end zone where wide receiver Blake Bone caught it on one hop for the score. Austin MacGinnis nailed the point after to tie the game at 7-7.

MSU took the lead back with 3:14 to go in the half on a 31-yard field goal by Christmann, which gave the Bulldogs a 10-7 lead.

After Kentucky was forced to punt, MSU rallied for another score. On fourth-and-one from the Kentucky 40 yard line, Fitzgerald broke loose and rambled for a touchdown to make it 17-7 just before the half.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	0	7	0	0	-	7
Mississippi State	7	10	7	21	-	45

- 1st 07:43 MS - Fitzgerald, Nick 3 yd run (Christmann, Jace kick), 12-78 4:43
- 2nd 07:13 UK - Blake Bone 0 yd fumble recovery (A. MacGinnis kick), 7-78 2:50 7 - 7
03:14 MS - Christmann, Jace 31 yd field goal, 9-44 3:51 7 - 10
01:05 MS - Fitzgerald, Nick 40 yd run (Christmann, Jace kick), 5-72 1:10 7 - 17
07:07 MS - Thomas, Jordan 10 yd pass from Fitzgerald, Nick (Christmann, Jace kick), 13-75 7:53 7 - 24
- 3rd 12:20 MS - Thompson, K. 9 yd run (Christmann, Jace kick), 9-38 3:42 7 - 31
- 4th 10:29 MS - Green, Gerri 84 yd interception return (Christmann, Jace kick) 7 - 38
03:56 MS - Thompson, K. 40 yd run (Christmann, Jace kick), 6-62 2:35 7 - 45

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	MSU
First Downs	14	25
Rush Att./Net Rush	29/115	48/282
Passing C/A/I	14/30/2	19/27/0
Offensive Plays	59	75
Total Offense	260	441
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	4/41	5/55
Punts/Average	7/45.1	2/37.5
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 14	12 of 18
Time of Possession	25:11	34:49

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
UK - S. Johnson, 6-54, Rose 9-26, King, 5-24, Snell 7-18
MSU - Fitzgerald 12-115-2, Williams 20-71, Thompson 4-65-2, Hill 2-16, Lee 3-10, Gibson 4-9

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
UK - S. Johnson 13-28-2-117-0
MSU - Fitzgerald 18-26-0-155-1, Thompson 1-1-0-4-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
UK - G. Johnson 5-36, Bowden 3-38, Bone 2-17, C. Walker 1-17, T. Richardson 1-17, Snell 1-14, Ali 1-6
MSU - Gray 6-51, Myles 4-30, Thomas 3-28-1, Jackson 3-24, Couch 1-12, Thomas 1-10, Mitchell 1-4

TACKLES
UK - West 7.5, Edwards 7.5
MSU - McLaurin 7.5, Thompson 6.0

8

KENTUCKY 29, TENNESSEE 26

OCT. 28, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY.
KROGER FIELD (57,543)



Quarterback Stephen Johnson scrambled 11 yards for a touchdown with 33 seconds left in the game, lifting UK to a 29-26 win over Tennessee at Kroger Field.

Kentucky trailed 26-21 with 4:43 left in the game. That's when Johnson, who had been injured and forced to go to the locker room in the third quarter, led the Cats on what would be a game-winning drive. The senior made a number of key plays on the drive, including 16-yard pass completion to Tavin Richardson and a 12-yard rush to get the Cats inside Tennessee territory.

Sophomore running back Benny Snell, Jr. carried the Wildcats' offense, literally, for much of the night. Snell rushed 27 times for 180 yards and three touchdowns. Snell accounted for 33 rushing yards on Kentucky's game-winning drive.

Tennessee got on the board first, taking advantage of a UK turnover to grab an early lead. After Snell fumbled, Tennessee recovered inside the Kentucky 20. But the Vols could not do anything with the possession, gaining just three yards in three plays before settling for a 30-yard field goal from Brent Cimaglia to take a 3-0 lead.

UK answered with a six-play, 60-yard scoring drive, capped by a six-yard TD run from Snell.

The back-and-forth between the teams continued through the first half, as Tennessee promptly drove into Kentucky territory, and it was Chandler scoring from the one-yard line again, cutting Kentucky's lead to 21-20 with 1:25 left in the first half. That would be the halftime score.

UT punted to start the second half, but was able to pin Kentucky inside its own 10 yard line. Johnson got UK out of trouble with a 34-yard scramble, but the UK quarterback was injured on the play. Backup Drew Barker entered the game and fumbled on his second play from scrimmage, giving the Vols the ball at their own 44.

The Vols drove inside the Kentucky 10, but the Wildcats defense stood tall again, forcing another Tennessee field goal. Cimaglia was good, this time from 30 yards, to give UT a 23-21 lead with 3:40 left in the third quarter.

Johnson returned during Kentucky's next drive, but the Cats turned the ball over again to end any threat. Johnson hit Garrett Johnson with a pass near midfield, but the ball popped loose, and the Vols recovered.

Using the short field to its advantage again, UT quickly moved into the red zone. But an intentional grounding penalty stalled the drive, forcing another Cimaglia field goal attempt. The UT kicker was good again, this time from 45 yards out, giving the Vols a 26-21 lead with 13:24 remaining in the game.

UK was forced to punt again on its next possession, and UT drove into Kentucky territory again. The Wildcats forced another field goal, but Cimaglia missed from 43 yards, giving the ball back to UK at their own 25 yard line with 8:22 left.

SCORING SUMMARY

Tennessee	6	14	3	3	-	26
Kentucky	7	14	0	8	-	29

- 1st 13:26 UT - Cimaglia, B. 30 yd field goal, 4-3 1:28 3 - 0
10:16 UK - Benny Snell 6 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 6-60 3:01 3 - 7
04:34 UT - Cimaglia, B. 24 yd field goal, 11-69 5:42 6 - 7
- 2nd 14:57 UK - Benny Snell 2 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-74 2:15 6 - 14
08:37 UT - Chandler, T. 1 yd run (Cimaglia, B. kick), 7-75 2:38 13 - 14
05:58 UK - Benny Snell 1 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 7-75 2:39 13 - 21
01:25 UT - Chandler, T. 1 yd run (Cimaglia, B. kick), 10-71 4:28 20 - 21
- 3rd 03:40 UT - Cimaglia, B. 30 yd field goal, 9-44 4:32 23 - 21
- 4th 13:24 UK - Cimaglia, B. 45 yd field goal, 7-22 2:42 26 - 21
00:33 UK - S. Johnson 11 yd run (Snell pass from S. Johnson), 10-72 4:10 26 - 29

TEAM STATISTICS

	UT	UK
First Downs	27	17
Rush Att./Net Rush	55/203	36/289
Passing C/A/I	18/23/0	7/16/0
Offensive Plays	78	52
Total Offense	445	371
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	4/4
Penalties/Yards	9/54	4/44
Punts/Average	3/37.0	4/41.5
Third-Down Conv.	6 of 16	3 of 7
Time of Possession	38:25	21:35

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
UT - Chandler 22-120-2, Fils-Aime 13-73, Jordan 3-11, Byrd 1-4
UK - Snell 27-191-3, S. Johnson 6-84-1, King 2-17, Barker 1-8

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
UT - Guarantano 18-230-0-242-0
UK - S. Johnson 6-15-0-46-0, Bowden 1-1-0-36-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
UT - Johnson 3-40, Wolf 3-33, George 2-59, Chandler 2-33, Palmer 2-31, Callaway 2-16, Jordan 2-5
UK - Richardson 3-52, Bone 2-26, King 1-2, G. Johnson 1-2

TACKLES
UF - Reece 8, Washington 6, Bryan 6
UK - Edwards 11, Allen 8, West 8, Love 7, Ware 7





2017 GAME RECAPS

9 OLE MISS 37, KENTUCKY 34 NOV. 4, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY. KROGER FIELD (55,665)



Ole Miss quarterback Jordan Ta'amu connected with wide receiver D.K. Metcalf on a seven-yard touchdown pass with five seconds remaining in the game, lifting Ole Miss to a 37-34 win over Kentucky.

Kentucky had rallied to take a 34-30 lead with 2:14 remaining on a Benny Snell, Jr. touchdown run, but the Rebels executed the two-minute drill to perfection at the end of the game. Ole Miss went 71 yards in 14 plays behind 8-of-11 passing from Ta'amu, who also rushed for 10 yards on the drive.

Ta'amu was 31-of-40 through the air for 382 yards and four TDs in the game. Metcalf caught two of those touchdown passes in the game for Ole Miss.

The Wildcats got a huge effort from sophomore running back Snell, who rushed 28 times for 176 yards and three touchdowns in the game. Quarterback Stephen Johnson was 19-of-24 passing for 204 yards and a touchdown. He also rushed 11 times for 22 yards.

Kentucky would mount its best drive of the game late in the fourth quarter. The Wildcats marched 95 yards in 12 plays, a drive that lasted 6:22 and that ended with a one-yard Snell touchdown, giving UK a 34-30 lead with 2:14 to go.

SCORING SUMMARY table with columns for team, time, yardage, and score.

- 1st 09:45 UK - A. MacGinnis 36 yd field goal, 8-47 3:59 0 - 3
05:35 OM - A.J. Brown 13 yd pass from Jordan Ta'amu (Wunderlich kick), 10-75 4:10 7 - 3
2nd 14:15 UK - A. MacGinnis 34 yd field goal, 13-65 6:14 7 - 6
12:45 OM - Gary Wunderlich 33 yd field goal, 6-59 1:30 10 - 6
08:09 UK - Benny Snell 2 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 9-75 4:36 10 - 13
06:18 OM - Van Jefferson 20 yd pass from Jordan Ta'amu (Wunderlich kick), 6-69 1:44 17 - 13
00:13 UK - Benny Snell 1 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 13-79 5:57 17 - 20
3rd 12:27 UK - C.J. Conrad 46 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-80 2:28 17 - 27
03:43 OM - Gary Wunderlich 38 yd field goal, 12-74 5:16 20 - 27
01:59 OM - D.K. Metcalf 58 yd pass from Jordan Ta'amu (Gary Wunderlich kick), 3-76 0:49 27 - 27
4th 14:16 OM - Gary Wunderlich 49 yd field goal, 4-6 1:24 30 - 27
02:14 UK - Benny Snell 1 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 12-95 6:22 30 - 34
00:05 OM - D.K. Metcalf 7 yd pass from Jordan Ta'amu (Gary Wunderlich kick), 14-71 2:09 37 - 34

TEAM STATISTICS table comparing OM and UK stats like First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
OM - Wilkins 8-44, Pennamon 7-42, Ta'amu 10-8, Swinney 1(-3)
UK - Snell 28-176-3, S. Johnson, 11-22, King 4-18, Bowden 2-3

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
OM - Jordan Ta'amu 31-40-0-382-4
UK - S. Johnson 19-24-0-204-1, Bowden 1-1-0-32-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
OM - Brown 7-65-1, Metcalf 5-83-2, Jefferson 5-82-1, Knox 5-73, Lodge 5-46, Wilkins 3-27, Pennamon 1-6
UK - Conrad 5-75-1, G. Johnson 3-17, Epps 2-31, Richardson 2-30, Bowden 2-22, King 2-8, S. Johnson 1-32, Ali 1-14, C. Walker 1-5, Hart 1-2

TACKLES
OM - Gates 14, Moore 6, Hampton 6
UK - Edwards 11, Jones 8

10 KENTUCKY 44, VANDERBILT 21 NOV. 11, 2017 • NASHVILLE, TENN. VANDERBILT STADIUM (27,346)



Benny Snell, Jr. rushed for 116 yards and three touchdowns and Siihem King added two rushing TDs, leading Kentucky to a 44-21 win at Vanderbilt. Snell, who entered the game as the SEC's leading rusher, became the ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 career yards. The 5-foot-11, 223-pound sophomore also became the first Kentucky player to rush for consecutive 1,000-yard seasons.

UK's Austin MacGinnis kicked three field goals and the Wildcats rambled for 428 yards in total offense.

Kyle Shurmur threw four interceptions and one TD, and was sacked five times. He is tied for second with Jay Cutler (21) for most single-season TD passes in Vanderbilt history.

Ralph Webb rushed for 70 yards and one TD for the Commodores. The senior passed Florida's Emmitt Smith in career yards and moved into the top 10 in SEC rushing history.

Kentucky spotted Vanderbilt a 7-0 lead in the first quarter before rallying for 34 consecutive points to take control.

Vanderbilt struck first on Webb's 37-yard run with 5:37 left. The Wildcats tied it at 7 on King's 22-yard run to the right late in the quarter and went ahead 14-7 on Snell's 22-yard TD run early in the second quarter.

Two Kyle Shurmur interceptions late in the first half set up a pair of Kentucky field goals by MacGinnis. Derrick Baitey's interception and 44-yard return to the Vanderbilt 20 set up MacGinnis' 42-yard field goal that increased the Wildcats' lead to 17-7 with 2:09 left in the first half. Mike Edwards' pick gave Kentucky the ball on the Vanderbilt 43 and MacGinnis capitalized with a 40-yard field goal that stretched Kentucky's lead to 20-7 as time expired in the half.

The momentum remained in the Wildcats' favor as Snell's 2-yard TD run extended their lead to 27-7 early in the third quarter. The Cats struck again when King's 7-yard run gave the visitors a 34-7 advantage with 8:29 left in the third quarter.

Vanderbilt finally struck back on Shurmur's 14-yard TD run that narrowed the deficit to 34-14 with 8:29 left in the third quarter. But Lynn Bowden answered with a 93-yard kickoff return to the Commodores 6. On the next play, Snell's 6-yard TD run extended the Wildcats' lead to 41-14 with 3:53 left in the third quarter.

Shurmur's 17-yard TD pass to Kalija Lipscomb narrowed the deficit to 41-21 with 13 seconds left in the third quarter.

MacGinnis' third field goal, this one from 39 yards out, increased the Wildcats' lead to 44-21 with 7:56 remaining.

SCORING SUMMARY table with columns for team, time, yardage, and score.

- 1st 1st 05:37 VANDY - Ralph Webb 37 yd run (T. Openshaw kick), 4-62 1:50 0 - 7
02:14 UK - Siihem King 22 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 7-75 3:23 7 - 7
2nd 11:15 UK - Benny Snell 22 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 8-74 3:50 14 - 7
02:09 UK - A. MacGinnis 42 yd field goal, 4-4 1:06 17 - 7
00:00 UK - A. MacGinnis 40 yd field goal, 6-21 1:57 20 - 7
3rd 12:57 UK - Benny Snell 2 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-80 2:03 27 - 7
08:29 UK - Siihem King 7 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 5-56 2:51 34 - 7
04:14 VANDY - Kyle Shurmur 14 yd run (T. Openshaw kick), 9-75 4:15 34 - 14
03:53 UK - Benny Snell 6 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 1-6 0:21 41 - 14
00:13 VANDY - Kalija Lipscomb 17 yd pass from Kyle Shurmur (T. Openshaw kick), 11-75 3:40 41 - 21
4th 07:56 UK - A. MacGinnis 39 yd field goal, 11-54 7:17 44 - 21

TEAM STATISTICS

Table comparing UK and VU stats like First Downs, Rush Att./Net Rush, etc.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)
UK - Snell 17-116-3, King 15-69-2, S. Johnson 9-44
VU - Webb 9-70-1, Sherfield 1-9

PASSING (COMP-ATT-INT-YARDS-TD)
UK - S. Johnson 13-17-195
VU - Shurmur 30-43-4-308-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)
UK - G. Johnson 6-76, Bowden 3-79, Ross 2-11, Snell 1-20, Conrad 1-9
VU - Sherfield 8-81, Duncan 7-70, Webb 3-17, Lipscomb 2-44, Rivers 2-14

TACKLES
UK - Edwards 5, Jones 5, Robinson 5
VU - Burks 12, Griffin 12



2017 GAME RECAPS

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#7 GEORGIA 42, KENTUCKY 13

NOV. 18, 2017 • ATHENS, GA.
SANFORD STADIUM (92,746)



Benny Snell, Jr. rushed for 94 yards and a touchdown, but the Kentucky football team lost at No. 7 Georgia 42-13.

Quarterback Stephen Johnson was 12 of 22 through the air for 138 yards, including a spectacular 45-yard connection with Blake Bone.

Kentucky scored first in the game, taking advantage of good field position set up by a Josh Allen interception of Georgia quarterback Jake Fromm. The Wildcats took a 3-0 lead on a 37-yard field goal by Austin MacGinnis.

Georgia scored on its next drive with Nick Chubb scoring from eight yards out to make it 7-3 Bulldogs. Kentucky then drove 63 yards in seven plays before settling for another MacGinnis field goal, this one from 35 yards, to cut the lead to 7-6.

The Bulldogs added a pair of touchdowns to lead 21-6 at the half. Kentucky had the first possession of the second half, and the Wildcats marched 75 yards in eight plays, capped by a Snell touchdown from one yard out, cutting the lead to 21-13. Kentucky would get no closer.

SCORING SUMMARY

Kentucky	6	0	7	0	-	13
Georgia	7	14	7	14	-	42

- 1st 09:40 UK - A. MacGinnis 37 yd field goal, 7-12 2:30 3 - 0
03:19 UGA - Nick Chubb 8 yd run (R. Blankenship kick), 12-75 6:21 3 - 7
00:11 UK - A. MacGinnis 35 yd field goal, 7-63 3:04 6 - 7
- 2nd 04:56 UGA - Javon Wims 27 yd pass from Jake Fromm (R. Blankenship kick), 6-80 2:42 6 - 14
01:51 UGA - Sony Michel 37 yd run (R. Blankenship kick), 4-51 1:27 6 - 21
- 3rd 11:29 UK - Benny Snell 1 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 8-75 3:31 13 - 21
08:16 UGA - Sony Michel 8 yd run (R. Blankenship kick), 6-60 3:06 13 - 28
- 4th 14:17 UGA - Nick Chubb 55 yd run (R. Blankenship kick), 6-88 3:33 13 - 35
10:59 UGA - Sony Michel 4 yd run (R. Blankenship kick), 4-60 1:44 13 - 4

TEAM STATISTICS

	UK	UGA
First Downs	17	25
Rush Att./Net Rush	37/124	44/381
Passing C/A/I	12/23/1	9/14/1
Offensive Plays	60	58
Total Offense	262	504
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	2/30	7/59
Punts/Average	5/42.2	2/48.0
Third-Down Conv.	4 of 13	4 of 8
Time of Possession	29:40	30:20

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

UK - Snell 22-94-1, King 7-26, S. Johnson 8-4
UGA - Chubb 15-151-2, Michel 12-87-3, Swift 7-66, Herrien 3-48, Fromm 2-18, Holyfield 2-16

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

UK - S. Johnson 12-22-0-138-0, Bowden 0-1-1-0-0
UGA - Fromm 9-14-1-123-1

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

UK - G. Johnson 4-36, T. Richardson 3-43, Bowden 2-3, Bone 1-45, Conrad 1-7, Ross 1-4
UGA - Wims 6-83-1, Hardman 2-24, Godwin 1-16

TACKLES

UK - West 7, Love 5, Jones 5, Allen 5
UGA - Smith 9, Patrick 7, Parrish 6

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LOUISVILLE 44, KENTUCKY 17

NOV. 25, 2017 • LEXINGTON, KY.
KROGER FIELD (56,186)



Benny Snell, Jr. carried 29 times for a career-high 211 yards and two touchdowns, but Kentucky fell to Louisville 44-17 at Kroger Field.

For Snell, it was his seventh game this season with at least 100 yards rushing, and the 12th such game in his two-year UK career. He also became the first Wildcat to rush for more than 200 yards in a game since Artose Pinner did so against Vanderbilt in 2002.

Snell's two touchdowns give him 18 for the season, breaking the school record for rushing touchdowns in a season. The record was previously set by Moe Williams in 1995.

Senior QB Stephen Johnson passed for 110 yards in his final home game, while Kayaune Ross and Tavin Richardson each caught three passes for the Wildcats.

UL got the ball first, and the Cardinals marched 75 yards in seven plays, ending with an 18-yard touchdown run by Reggie Bonnafon, giving the Cards a 7-0 lead.

After Kentucky went three-and-out on its first series, the Cardinals struck again. This time, it was a 69-yard drive, culminating in a one-yard touchdown run by Dae Williams to make it 14-0 U of L.

UK took the ensuing drive down the field on the legs of Snell and Johnson, who each had big rushing plays on the drive. Snell had a 41-yard scamper to get the Cats into Louisville territory, while Johnson had a 25-yard carry to get UK into the red zone. Snell capped off the drive with a two-yard touchdown run, and Austin MacGinnis nailed the extra point to make it 14-7 Cardinals with 2:30 left in the first quarter. Snell's 17th touchdown of the season tied the UK school record for rushing touchdowns in a season.

Louisville mounted another drive before the end of the quarter, ending with a 38-yard field goal by Blanton Creque to give U of L a 17-7 lead. That would be the score at the end of one period.

Kentucky took the opening drive of the second quarter 62 yards in 13 plays, but MacGinnis' field goal from 32 yards out hit the right upright and bounded away, keeping the score at 17-7.

The Cards wasted no time taking advantage, using just four plays to cover 80 yards, ending with a Bonnafon touchdown rush from 11 yards out, giving U of L a 24-7 advantage. The Cards would score again before the half to make it 31-7, but UK got a MacGinnis field goal as time expired, making the score 31-10 at the break.

In the second half, Louisville extended its lead to 44-10 before Snell scored his second touchdown of the game from four yards out, cutting the lead to 44-17 with 5:12 to go in the game.

SCORING SUMMARY

Louisville	17	14	3	10	-	44
Kentucky	7	3	0	7	-	17

- 1st 11:03 LOU - Bonnafon, Reg. 18 yd run (Creque, Bla. kick), 7-75 3:57 7 - 0
05:56 LOU - Williams, Dae 1 yd run (Creque, Bla. kick), 9-69 4:03 14 - 0
02:30 UK - Benny Snell 2 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 7-80 3:19 14 - 7
00:21 LOU - Creque, Bla. 38 yd field goal, 6-44 2:09 17 - 7
- 2nd 05:48 LOU - Bonnafon, Reg. 11 yd run (Creque, Bla. kick), 4-80 1:45 24 - 7
00:39 LOU - Fitzpatrick, 29 yd pass from Jackson (Creque, Bla. kick), 6-77 1:16 31 - 7
00:00 UK - A. MacGinnis 45 yd field goal, 4-48 0:32 31 - 10
- 3rd 10:09 LOU - Creque, Bla. 35 yd field goal, 8-51 3:07 34 - 10
- 4th 14:51 LOU - Creque, Bla. 42 yd field goal, 12-37 5:14 37 - 10
10:12 LOU - Smith, Jay. 14 yd pass from Jackson, Lam. (Creque, Bla. kick), 7-99 2:46 44 - 10
05:12 UK - Benny Snell 4 yd run (A. MacGinnis kick), 9-73 4:53 44 - 17

TEAM STATISTICS

	LOU	UK
First Downs	32	20
Rush Att./Net Rush	43/346	43/228
Passing C/A/I	15/21/0	8/19/0
Offensive Plays	64	62
Total Offense	562	338
Fumbles/Lost	2/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	6/55	7/86
Punts/Average	0/0	4/42.2
Third-Down Conv.	6/11	6/13
Time of Possession	29:29	30:31

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (ATT.-YD.-TD)

LOU - Jackson, 18-156, Bonnafon 9-63-2, Williams 6-62-1
UK - Snell 29-211-2, Bowden 1-7, S. Johnson 10-6

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

LOU - Jackson 15-21-0-216-2
UK - S. Johnson 8-19-0-110-0

RECEIVING (REC-YARDS-TD)

LOU - Smith 6-75, Fitzpatrick 2-37, Dawkins 2-27, Samuel 2-26, Bonnafon 1-27
UK - Ross 3-44, Richardson 3-41, Walker 1-19

TACKLES

LOU - Thomas 10, Etheridge 8, Alexander 6, Washington 6, Williams 6
UK - Love 10, L. Johnson 7, Ware 6, Edwards 6





2017 KENTUCKY FOOTBALL STATISTICS

RECORD	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	7-5-0	4-3-0	3-2-0	0-0-0
CONFERENCE	4-4-0	2-2-0	2-2-0	0-0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	3-1-0	2-1-0	1-0-0	0-0-0

DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTENDANCE
Sept 2, 2017	at Southern Miss	W	24-17	22761
Sep 09, 2017	EASTERN KENTUCKY	W	27-16	54868
* Sep 16, 2017	at South Carolina	W	23-13	82493
* Sep 23, 2017	#20 FLORIDA	L	27-28	62945
Sep 30, 2017	EASTERN MICHIGAN	W	24-20	50593
* Oct 07, 2017	MISSOURI	W	40-34	57476
* Oct 21, 2017	at Mississippi State	L	7-45	58963
* Oct 28, 2017	TENNESSEE	W	29-26	57543
* Nov 04, 2017	OLE MISS	L	34-37	55665
* Nov 11, 2017	at Vanderbilt	W	44-21	27346
* Nov 18 2017	at #7 Georgia	L	13-42	92746
Nov 25, 2017	LOUISVILLE	L	17-44	56186

RUSHING	GP	ATT	GAIN	LOSS	NET	AVG	TD	LONG	AVG/G
Benny Snell	12	256	1349	31	1318	5.1	18	71	109.8
Stephen Johnson	12	97	535	177	358	3.7	3	54	29.8
Sihiem King	12	72	358	24	334	4.6	2	30	27.8
Lynn Bowden Jr.	12	12	40	3	37	3.1	0	9	3.1
Asim Rose	6	13	38	6	32	2.5	0	9	5.3
Garrett Johnson	12	2	12	0	12	6.0	0	11	1.0
Kash Daniel	12	1	6	0	6	6.0	0	6	0.5
Kayaune Ross	12	1	3	0	3	3.0	0	3	0.2
Total	12	466	2349	312	2037	4.4	24	71	169.8
Opponents	12	410	2228	282	1946	4.7	21	55	162.2

PASSING	G	EFFIC	CMP-ATT-INT	PCT	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/G
Stephen Johnson	12	131.08	170-280-4	60.7	2048	10	64	170.7
Drew Barker	3	119.30	2-4-0	50.0	33	0	28	11.0
Lynn Bowden Jr.	12	218.20	3-4-1	75.0	92	0	36	7.7
Benny Snell	12	0.00	0-2-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Team	6	0.00	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	12	130.77	175-291-5	60.1	2173	10	64	181.1
Opponents	12	142.34	265-406-11	65.3	3162	21	75	263.5

RECEIVING	G	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG	AVG/G
Garrett Johnson	12	46	500	10.9	2	64	41.7
Tavin Richardson	12	22	282	12.8	1	36	23.5
C.J. Conrad	11	16	286	17.9	4	59	26.0
Kayaune Ross	12	16	219	13.7	0	27	18.2
Lynn Bowden Jr.	12	15	210	14.0	0	35	17.5
Blake Bone	11	13	234	18.0	2	45	21.3
Charles Walker	11	13	153	11.8	0	27	13.9
Sihiem King	12	12	75	6.2	0	24	6.2
Benny Snell	12	10	72	7.2	0	22	6.0
Isaiah Epps	12	4	55	13.8	0	28	4.6
Greg Hart	12	3	25	8.3	1	20	2.1
Josh Ali	8	2	20	10.0	0	14	2.5
Stephen Johnson	12	1	32	32.0	0	32	2.7
Justin Rigg	12	1	6	6.0	0	6	0.5
Clevan Thomas Jr.	8	1	4	4.0	0	4	0.5
Total	12	175	2173	12.4	10	64	181.1
Opponents	12	265	3162	11.9	21	75	263.5

PUNTING	NO.	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD	FC	I20	+50	BLKD
Matt Panton	57	2432	42.7	71	3	20	20	5	0
Miles Butler	3	116	38.7	45	0	0	3	0	0
Total	60	2548	42.5	71	3	20	23	5	0
Opponents	44	1835	41.7	66	3	17	13	11	1

TEAM STATISTICS	UK	OPP
FIRST DOWNS	225	269
Rushing	102	111
Passing	100	140
Penalty	23	18
RUSHING YARDAGE	2037	1946
Rushing Attempts	466	410
Average Per Rush	4.4	4.7
Average Per Game	169.8	162.2
TDs Rushing	24	21
PASSING YARDAGE	2173	3162
Comp-Att-Int	175-291-5	265-406-11
Average Per Pass	7.5	7.8
Average Per Catch	12.4	11.9
Average Per Game	181.1	263.5
TDs Passing	10	21
TOTAL OFFENSE	4210	5108
Average Per Play	5.6	6.3
Average Per Game	350.8	425.7
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	43-926	32-643
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	6-104	18-82
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	11-90	5-103
FUMBLES-LOST	13-8	14-7
PENALTIES-Yards	66-561	84-717
PUNTS-AVG	60-42.5	44-41.7
TIME OF POSSESSION/GAME	30:51	29:09
3RD-DOWN CONVERSIONS	65/158	69/168
4TH-DOWN CONVERSIONS	5/9	17/24

INTERCEPTIONS	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
Mike Edwards	4	1	0.2	0	1
Derrick Baity	2	48	24.0	0	45
Darius West	1	21	21.0	0	21
Josh Allen	1	14	14.0	0	14
Denzil Ware	1	1	1.0	0	1
Kendall Randolph	1	3	3.0	0	3
Jordan Griffin	1	2	2.0	0	2
Total	11	90	8.2	0	45
Opponents	5	103	20.6	1	84

PUNT RETURNS	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
Charles Walker	5	86	17.2	0	52
Joshua Paschal	1	18	18.0	0	0
Total	6	104	17.3	0	52
Opponents	18	82	4.6	0	20

KICK RETURNS	NO.	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
Lynn Bowden Jr.	35	807	23.1	0	93
Sihiem King	4	107	26.8	0	46
Benny Snell	1	-13	-13.0	0	0
Charles Walker	1	1	1.0	0	1
Asim Rose	1	9	9.0	0	9
Zach Johnson	1	15	15.0	0	15
Total	43	926	21.5	0	93
Opponents	32	643	20.1	0	53

FIELD GOALS	FGM-FGA	PCT	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	LG	BLK
A. MacGinnis	21-27	77.8	0-0	4-4	9-10	6-8	2-5	53	0



SCORING	TD	FGS	PATS				DXP	SAF	PTS
			KICK	RUSH	RCV	PASS			
Benny Snell	18	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0	0	0	110
A. MacGinnis	0	21-27	34-34	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	97
C.J. Conrad	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	24
Blake Bone	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	18
Stephen Johnson	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1-1	0	0	18
Sihiem King	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Garrett Johnson	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Greg Hart	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Denzil Ware	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Tavin Richardson	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Total	35	21-27	34-34	0-0	1	1-1	0	0	309
Opponents	43	15-22	40-43	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	343

SCORE BY QUARTER	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	OT	TOTAL
Kentucky	64	106	75	64	309	296
Opponents	71	106	67	99	343	329

ALL PURPOSE	G	RUSH	REC	PR	KOR	IR	TOT	AVG/G
Benny Snell	12	1318	72	0	-13	0	1377	114.8
Lynn Bowden Jr.	12	37	210	0	807	0	1054	87.8
Sihiem King	12	334	75	0	107	0	516	43.0
Garrett Johnson	12	12	500	0	0	0	512	42.7
Stephen Johnson	12	358	32	0	0	0	390	32.5
Total	12	2037	2173	104	926	90	5330	444.2
Opponents	12	1946	3162	82	643	103	5936	494.7

TOTAL OFFENSE	G	PLAYS	RUSH	PASS	TOTAL	AVG/G
Stephen Johnson	12	377	358	2048	2406	200.5
Benny Snell	12	258	1318	0	1318	109.8
Sihiem King	12	72	334	0	334	27.8
Lynn Bowden Jr.	12	16	37	92	129	10.8
Asim Rose	6	13	32	0	32	5.3
Total	12	757	2037	2173	4210	350.8
Opponents	12	816	1946	3162	5108	425.7

DEFENSIVE LEADERS	GP-GS	TACKLES					PASS DEF		QBH	FUMBLES		BLKD KICK	SAF
		SOLO	AST	TOTAL	TFL/YDS	SACKS NO-YARDS	INT-YDS	BRUP		RCV-YDS	FF		
7 Mike Edwards	12-12	48	42	90	4.0-20	1.0-13	4-1	6	1	.	.	.	.
51 Courtney Love	12-12	31	51	82	3.5-12	1.0-9	.	2	.	2-0	.	.	.
25 Darius West	12-11	49	26	75	3.5-9	.	1-21	1	.	.	2	.	.
41 Josh Allen	12-11	27	31	58	9.5-53	7.0-48	1-14	3	4	.	2	.	.
34 Jordan Jones	8-7	28	27	55	6.5-18	2.0-11	.	1	2	.	1	.	.
35 Denzil Ware	12-7	20	27	47	9.0-53	6.5-47	1-1	1	2	2-20	2	.	.
8 Derrick Baity	12-11	33	14	47	0.5-1	.	2-48	5	.	1-0	1	.	.
6 Lonnie Johnson Jr.	12-4	33	6	39	3.0-13	1.0-10	.	5	.	.	.	2	.
32 Eli Brown	11-5	21	16	37	2.0-2	.	.	2	1	.	.	.	.
21 Chris Westry	12-8	20	14	34	0.5-2	.	.	2	.	.	1	.	.
5 Kendall Randolph	12-6	20	8	28	1.0-1	.	1-3	1	.	.	.	.	.
99 Adrian Middleton	12-12	12	11	23	3.0-15	1.0-11	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
3 Jordan Griffin	12-1	14	7	21	.	.	1-2	3	.	.	.	.	.
91 Calvin Taylor	10-0	5	14	19	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
9 Davonte Robinson	12-1	14	5	19	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90 T.J. Carter	12-12	10	6	16	3.0-17	3.0-17	.	1	2	.	.	.	.
4 Joshua Paschal	12-0	10	4	14	3.5-17	2.5-14	.	.	2	.	.	1	.
77 Naquez Pringle	12-7	5	9	14	0.5-1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
90 Quinton Bohanna	11-2	3	8	11	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
59 Kordell Looney	10-0	3	7	10	1.0-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
84 Charles Moushey	12-0	7	3	10	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.
69 Matt Elam	9-1	4	4	8	1.0-4	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
56 Kash Daniel	12-0	5	2	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
31 Jamar Watson	12-0	5	2	7	2.0-14	2.0-14	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
20 Kengera Daniel	11-0	5	1	6	1.0-10	1.0-10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
16 Marcus Walker	11-0	5	.	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
27 Cedrick Dort, Jr.	8-0	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
47 Jordan Bonner	4-0	1	3	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TM TEAM	6-0	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
92 Phil Hoskins	6-0	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	1	1-0	.	.	.
28 Zach Johnson	7-0	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
42 Tristan Yeomans	12-0	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
99 A. MacGinnis	12-0	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
6 Blake Bone	11-3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
98 Tymere Dubose	5-0	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
93 Matt Panton	11-0	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
83 Justin Rigg	12-0	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13 Zy'Aire Hughes	7-0	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
71 Logan Stenberg	12-12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
68 Nick Haynes	8-6	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
17 Tobias Gilliam	5-0	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	12-0	458	350	808	58-263	28-204	11-90	37	18	7-20	10	3	.
Opponents	12-0	455	338	793	69.0-268	29-184	5-103	38	19	8-3	11	.	.



2017 TEAM GAME HIGHS

KENTUCKY TEAM GAME HIGHS

Rushes	47	at South Carolina (Sep 16, 2017)
		at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Yards Rushing	289	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Yards Per Rush	8.0	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
TD Rushes	5	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Pass attempts	37	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Pass completions	22	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Yards Passing	298	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Yards Per Pass	11.5	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
TD Passes	3	vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)
Total Plays	76	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Total Offense	486	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Yards Per Play	7.1	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Points	44	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Sacks By	7	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
First Downs	23	vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Penalties	9	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Penalty Yards	86	vs Louisville (Nov 25, 2017)
Turnovers	4	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Interceptions By	4	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Punts	9	at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017)
Punting Avg	47.2	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Long Punt	71	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punts inside 20	5	at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017)
Long Punt Return	52	vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)

OPPONENT TEAM GAME HIGHS

Rushes	55	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Yards Rushing	381	at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
Yards Per Rush	8.7	at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
TD Rushes	5	at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
Pass attempts	47	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Pass completions	31	vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
		vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Yards Passing	382	vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Yards Per Pass	10.5	vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
TD Passes	4	vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Total Plays	78	at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017)
		vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Total Offense	568	vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Yards Per Play	8.8	vs Louisville (Nov 25, 2017)
Points	45	at Mississippi State (Oct 21, 2017)
Sacks By	5	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
First Downs	32	vs Louisville (Nov 25, 2017)
Penalties	11	vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
Penalty Yards	90	vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
Turnovers	4	at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Interceptions By	2	at Mississippi State (Oct 21, 2017)
Punts	9	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punting Avg	52.2	vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)
Long Punt	66	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punts inside 20	2	vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)





2017 INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

KENTUCKY INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Rushes	32	Benny Snell at South Carolina (Sep 16, 2017)
Yards Rushing	211	Benny Snell vs Louisville (Nov 25, 2017)
TD Rushes	3	Benny Snell vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017) Benny Snell vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017) Benny Snell at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Long Rush	71	Benny Snell vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Pass attempts	36	Stephen Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Pass completions	22	Stephen Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Yards Passing	298	Stephen Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
TD Passes	3	Stephen Johnson vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)
Long Pass	64	Stephen Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Receptions	8	Garrett Johnson vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Yards Receiving	111	Garrett Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
TD Receptions	1	C.J. Conrad at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017) C.J. Conrad vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017) Blake Bone vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017) Garrett Johnson vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017) C.J. Conrad vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017) Greg Hart vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017) Tavin Richardson vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017) Blake Bone vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017) Garrett Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017) C.J. Conrad vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Long Reception	64	Garrett Johnson vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Field Goals	4	A. MacGinnis vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Long Field Goal	53	A. MacGinnis vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Punts	9	Matt Panton at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017)
Punting Avg	47.2	Matt Panton vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Long Punt	71	Matt Panton vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punts inside 20	5	Matt Panton at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017)
Long Punt Return	52	Charles Walker vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)
Long Kickoff Return	93	Lynn Bowden Jr. at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Tackles	13	Jordan Jones vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Sacks	2.0	Denzil Ware at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Tackles For Loss	3.0	Jordan Jones vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Interceptions	1	11 Times, last Josh Allen at #7 Georgia (Nov 18, 2017)

OPPONENT INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Rushes	22	Chandler, T., vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Yards Rushing	156	Jackson, Lam., vs Louisville (Nov 25, 2017)
TD Rushes	3	Sony Michel, at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
Long Rush	55	Nick Chubb, at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
Pass attempts	43	ROBACK, Brogan, vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017) Kyle Shurmur, at Vanderbilt (Nov 11, 2017)
Pass completions	31	Jordan Ta'amou, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Yards Passing	382	Jordan Ta'amou, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
TD Passes	4	Jordan Ta'amou, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Long Pass	75	Lock, Drew, vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Receptions	10	MARKUSH, Ryan, vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
Yards Receiving	129	Hall, Emanuel, vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
TD Receptions	2	ROBERTSON, K., at Southern Miss (Sept 2, 2017) D.K. Metcalf, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Long Reception	75	Johnson, Johnat, vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Field Goals	4	Cimaglia, B., vs Tennessee (Oct 28, 2017)
Long Field Goal	49	Gary Wunderlich, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Punts	6	JULIEN, Jake, vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punting Avg	52.2	Townsend,J., vs Florida (Sep 23, 2017)
Long Punt	66	TEAM, vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Punts inside 20	2	Fatony, Corey, vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017)
Long Punt Return	20	Mecole Hardman, at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)
Long Kickoff Return	53	SCOTT, LJ, vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
Tackles	15	GRACE, Kobie, vs Eastern Kentucky (Sep 09, 2017)
Sacks	2.0	HARRIS, J., vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017) CROSBY, Maxx, vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017) Josiah Coatney, vs Ole Miss (Nov 04, 2017)
Tackles For Loss	3.5	HARRIS, J., vs Eastern Michigan (Sep 30, 2017)
Interceptions	1	Skai Moore, at South Carolina (Sep 16, 2017) Garrett, Cale, vs Missouri (Oct 07, 2017) Green,Gerri, at Mississippi State (Oct 21, 2017) Hoyett,Braxton, at Mississippi State (Oct 21, 2017) Aaron Davis, at #7 Georgia (Nov 18 2017)



2017 GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

Table with 9 columns: Game, Score, First Downs, Time of Possession, Rushing (No-Yds-TD), Passing (Cmp-Att-Int-Yds-TD), Total Offense (Plays-Yds-TD), 3rd Down Conversions, Fumbles-Lost. Rows include games like KENTUCKY at Southern Miss, KENTUCKY vs. EKU, KENTUCKY at S. Carolina, etc.

GAME-BY GAME RUSHING

Table with 8 columns: (No-Yds-TD), Barker, Bowden, Johnson, King, Rose, Snell. Rows list rushing stats for players across various games.

GAME-BY GAME RECEIVING

Table with 14 columns: (Rec-Yds-TD), Ali, Bone, Bowden, Conrad, Epps, Hart, G.Johnson, King, T.Richardson, Ross, Snell, Thomas, Walker. Rows list receiving stats for players across various games.



GAME-BY-GAME PASSING

(Cmp-Att-Int-Yds-TD)	Barker	Johnson
vs. Southern Miss	DNP	11-20-0-176-1
vs. ECU	1-2-0-5-0	15-22-0-224-1
at South Carolina	DNP	16-25-1-169-0
vs. Florida	DNP	17-25-0-196-3
vs. E. Michigan	DNP	18-27-0-175-2
vs. Missouri	DNP	22-36-1-298-2
at Miss. State	1-2-0-28-0	13-28-2-117-0
vs. Tennessee	0-0-0-0-0	6-15-0-46-0
vs. Ole Miss	DNP	19-24-0-204-1
at Vanderbilt	DNP	13-17-0-195-0
at Georgia	DNP	12-22-0-138-0
vs. Louisville	DNP	8-19-0-110-0

GAME-BY-GAME PUNTING

(No-Yds-Avg-LG-In20)	Panton	Butler
at Southern Miss	9-378-42.0-50-5	DNP
vs. ECU	4-155-38.8-47-1	DNP
at South Carolina	4-178-44.5-54-1	DNP
vs. Florida	5-203-40.6-53-2	DNP
vs. E. Michigan	8-378-47.2-71-3	DNP
vs. Missouri	3-110-36.7-44-0	DNP
at Miss. State	7-316-45.1-67-3	DNP
vs. Tennessee	4-166-41.5-47-1	DNP
vs. Ole Miss	4-168-42.0-46-1	DNP
at Vanderbilt	DNP	3-116-38.7-45-3
at Georgia	5-211-42.2-46-2	DNP
vs. Louisville	4-169-42.2-49-1	DNP

GAME-BY-GAME FIELD GOALS

FG Made (Miss)	MacGinnis
at Southern Miss	41
vs. ECU	39 (48) 39
at South Carolina	27, 44, 21
vs. Florida	(48), 42, 50, (57)
vs. E. Michigan	(53), 39, (53)
vs. Missouri	21, 35, 53, 20
at Miss. State	-
vs. Tennessee	-
vs. Ohio Miss	36, 34
at Vanderbilt	42, 40, 39
at Georgia	37, 35
vs. Louisville	(32), 45

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

Game	Bohanna	Bonner	Carter	Ke. Daniel	Elam	Looney	Middleton	Paschal	Pringle	Taylor	Ware
at Southern Miss	2-0-0	2-0-0	2-0-0	2-0-0	4-1-0	2-0-0	5-0-0	1-1-0	1-0-0	4-0-0	2-1-1
vs. ECU	0-0-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-5-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at South Carolina	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	1-0-5-0-5	2-0-0	0-0-0	4-0-5-0-5
vs. Florida	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	7-1-0-0
vs. E. Michigan	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	1-1-1	1-0-0	1-0-0	5-2-1	1-0-5-0-5	1-0-0	1-0-0	3-1-0-1-0
vs. Missouri	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-5-0
at Miss. State	3-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	5-0-0	2-0-0	2-0-0	6-0-0	6-0-0
vs. Tennessee	2-0-0	0-0-0	4-1-1	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-1-0	3-0-5-0-5	2-0-0	2-0-0	9-2-1
vs. Ole Miss	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-1-1
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-1	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-1-1	0-0-0	1-0-0	3-2-2
at Georgia	1-0-0	0-0-0	1-1-1	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-0	3-0-0
vs. Louisville	0-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-1-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	2-0-0	2-0-0	6-0-0

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

Game	Allen	Bannerman	Brown	Ka. Daniel	Jones	Love	Watson
at Southern Miss	4-2-1-0	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-1	1-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	9-1-0-0	0-0-0-0
vs. ECU	8-1-1-1	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	8-0-5-0-1	8-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
at South Carolina	3-1-1-0	0-0-0-0	6-1-0-0	2-0-0-0	DNP	6-0-0-1	1-0-0-0
vs. Florida	8-1-1-0	0-0-0-0	3-0-0-1	1-0-0-0	DNP	7-1-0-1	0-0-0-1
vs. E. Michigan	7-1.5-1.5-0	0-0-0-0	6-1.0-0-0	0-0-0-0	DNP	3-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
vs. Missouri	5-1-1-0	0-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	DNP	10-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
at Miss. State	5-1-0-2	0-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	7-1-0-0	8-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
vs. Tennessee	7-1-0-5-0	0-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	13-2-1-0	7-0-0-0	1-1-1-0
vs. Ole Miss	4-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	8-3-1-0	6-1-1-0	1-0-0-0
at Vanderbilt	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	3-1-1-0
at Georgia	5-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	0-0-0-0
vs. Louisville	2-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	10-0-5-0-0	1-0-0-0

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

Game	Baity	Edwards	Griffin	L. Johnson	Randolph	Robinson	Walker	West	Westry
at Southern Miss	4-0-0	4-0-0	2-1-0	4-0-0	4-0-0	2-0-0	1-0-0	7-0-0	2-0-0
vs. ECU	8-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	4-1-0	1-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	11-0-0	4-0-0
at South Carolina	8-0-1	7-0-1	2-0-0	2-0-0	4-1-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	6-0-0	4-1-0
vs. Florida	2-0-0	11-1-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	8-0-1	2-0-0
vs. E. Michigan	2-2-0	8-2-1	2-0-0	3-1-0	2-0-1	0-0-0	1-0-0	3-0-0	4-0-0
vs. Missouri	6-3-0	11-1-0	6-1-0	6-0-0	2-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	5-0-0	1-0-0
at Miss. State	3-0-0	11-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0	9-1-0	5-0-0
vs. Tennessee	3-0-0	10-0-0	0-0-0	3-1-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	1-0-0	8-0-0	0-0-0
vs. Ole Miss	5-0-0	11-0-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	4-0-0	1-0-0	0-0-0	5-0-0	4-0-0
at Vanderbilt	1-0-1	5-0-1	1-0-1	2-0-0	4-0-0	5-0-0	2-0-0	3-0-0	1-1-0
at Georgia	3-0-0	4-1-0	2-0-0	3-1-0	1-0-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	7-0-0	2-0-0
vs. Louisville	2-0-0	6-0-0	0-0-0	7-0-0	0-0-0	4-0-0	0-0-0	3-0-0	5-0-0



2017 GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

OFFENSIVE STARTERS

	TE/WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	WR	WR/TE	WR	RB	QB
Southern Miss	Conrad	Meadows	Stenberg	Stallings	Haynes	Asafo-Adjei	Ross	Walker	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Eastern Kentucky	Conrad	Young	Stenberg	Haynes	Asafo-Adjei	Meadows	Ross	Walker	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
South Carolina	Conrad	Young	Stenberg	Stallings	Haynes	Meadows	Ross	Hart	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Florida	Conrad	Young	Stenberg	Stallings	Haynes	Meadows	Ross	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Eastern Michigan	T. Richardson	Young	Stenberg	Stallings	Haynes	Meadows	Ross	Walker	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Missouri	Conrad	Young	Stenberg	Haynes	Stallings	Meadows	Ross	Bone	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Mississippi State	Conrad	Young	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Meadows	Ross	Bone	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Tennessee	Conrad	Meadows	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Asafo-Adjei	Bone	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Ole Miss	Conrad	Meadows	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Asafo-Adjei	Ross	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Vanderbilt	Conrad	Meadows	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Asafo-Adjei	C. Walker	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Georgia	Conrad	Meadows	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Asafo-Adjei	Ross	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson
Louisville	Hart	Meadows	Stenberg	Jackson	Stallings	Asafo-Adjei	C. Walker	T. Richardson	G. Johnson	Snell	S. Johnson

DEFENSIVE STARTERS

	DE	DE/NICK	NG	DT	SLB	WLB	MLB	CB	SS	FS	CB
Southern Miss	Carter	Ware	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Eastern Kentucky	Carter	Randolph	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	E. Brown	Love	Baity	Edwards	D. Robinson	Westry
South Carolina	Carter	Ware	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	E. Brown	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Florida	Carter	Randolph	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	E. Brown	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Eastern Michigan	Carter	Randolph	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	E. Brown	Love	Griffin	Edwards	West	Westry
Missouri	Carter	Randolph	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	E. Brown	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Mississippi State	Carter	Ware	Elam	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Tennessee	Carter	Ware	Pringle	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	Westry
Ole Miss	Carter	Ware	Bohanna	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	L. Johnson
Vanderbilt	Carter	Ware	Bohanna	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	L. Johnson
Georgia	Carter	Randolph	Bohanna	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	L. Johnson
Louisville	Carter	Randolph	Bohanna	Middleton	Allen	Jones	Love	Baity	Edwards	West	L. Johnson





2017 SCORING DRIVE ANALYSIS

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING DRIVES

Game	Plays/Yards	Time (Poss.)	Qtr./Clock	Res.	Scoring Play
USM	3/14	1:16	2/14:54	TD	Johnson 8 yd TD rush
USM	3/37	1:09	2/7:01	TD	Conrad 23 yd pass from S. Johnson
USM	7/31	3:27	3/2:03	FG	MacGinnis 41 yd FG
EKU	9/49	4:29	1/10:31	FG	MacGinnis 39 yd FG
EKU	5/75	0:58	2/1:28	TD	Conrad 23 yd pass from S. Johnson
EKU	3/75	1:11	3/2:57	TD	Snell 25 yd TD rush
EKU	9/85	4:02	4/10:09	TD	S. Johnson 21 yd rush
EKU	7/13	3:50	4/0:23	FG	MacGinnis 39 yd FG
SC	13/75	6:33	1/1:05	TD	Snell 5 yd rush
SC	11/67	5:32	2/8:37	TD	Snell 1 yd rush
SC	12/42	5:29	3/5:25	FG	MacGinnis 27 yd FG
SC	6/49	3:23	4/8:59	FG	MacGinnis 44 yd FG
SC	9/77	4:19	4/2:07	FG	MacGinnis 21 yd FG
UF	8/75	4:39	1/5:06	TD	Bone 14 yd pass from S. Johnson
UF	2/10	0:39	2/7:24	TD	G. Johnson 9 yd pass from S. Johnson
UF	4/62	1:48	3/12:11	TD	Conrad 23 yd pass from S. Johnson
UF	8/41	4:51	3/5:54	FG	MacGinnis 42 yd FG
UF	7/80	3:29	4/11:33	FG	MacGinnis 50 yd FG
EMU	8/75	3:50	1/10:55	TD	Hart 20 yd pass from S. Johnson
EMU	8/71	3:14	2/10:53	TD	T. Richardson 7 yd pass from S. Johnson
EMU	10/21	4:43	3/6:17	FG	MacGinnis 39 yd FG
EMU	1/12	0:06	4/11:56	TD	Snell 12 yd TD rush
MIZZ	3/19	1:38	1/11:20	TD	Bone 14 yd pass from S. Johnson
MIZZ	14/81	6:27	1/3:41	FG	MacGinnis 21 yd FG
MIZZ	13/63	5:09	2/9:41	FG	MacGinnis 35 yd FG
MIZZ	3/79	1:31	2/5:36	TD	Snell 71 yd rush
MIZZ	9/66	4:25	3/6:39	TD	Snell 6 yd rush
MIZZ	5/75	1:15	4/14:09	TD	G. Johnson 64 yd pass from S. Johnson
MIZZ	9/30	4:06	4/9:40	FG	MacGinnis 53 yd FG
MIZZ	9/63	4:27	4/1:48	FG	MacGinnis 20 yd FG
MSU	7/78	2:50	2/7:13	TD	Bone 0 yd fumble recovery
UK	6/60	3:01	1/10:16	TD	Snell 6 yd rush
UK	5/74	2:15	2/14:57	TD	Snell 2 yd rush
UK	7/75	2:39	2/5:58	TD	Snell 1 yd rush
UK	10/72	4:10	4/3:33	TD	S. Johnson 11 yd rush
MISS	8/47	3:59	1/9:45	FG	MacGinnis 36 yd FG
MISS	13/65	6:14	2/14:15	FG	MacGinnis 34 yd FG
MISS	9/75	4:36	2/8:09	TD	Snell 2 yd rush
MISS	13/79	5:57	2/0:13	TD	Snell 1 yd rush
MISS	5/80	2:28	3/12:27	TD	Conrad 46 yd pass from S. Johnson
MISS	12/95	6:22	4/2:14	TD	Snell 1 yd rush
VU	7/75	3:23	1/2:14	TD	King 22 yd rush
VU	8/74	3:50	2/11:15	TD	Snell 22 yd rush
VU	4/(-4)	1:06	2/2:09	FG	MacGinnis 42 yd FG
VU	6/21	1:57	2/00:00	FG	MacGinnis 40 yd FG
VU	5/80	2:03	3/12:57	TD	Snell 2 yd rush
VU	5/56	2:51	3/8:29	TD	King 7 yd rush
VU	1/6	0:21	3/3:53	TD	Snell 6 yd rush
VU	11/54	7:17	4/7:56	FG	MacGinnis 39 yd FG
UGA	7/12	2:30	1/9:40	FG	MacGinnis 37 yd FG
UGA	7/63	3:04	1/0:11	FG	MacGinnis 35 yd FG
UGA	8/75	3:31	3/11:29	TD	Snell 1 yd rush
LOU	7/80	3:19	1/2:30	TD	Snell 2 yd rush
LOU	4/48	0:32	2/00:00	FG	MacGinnis 45 yd FG
LOU	9/73	4:53	4/5:12	TD	Snell 4 yd TD rush

GAME-BY-GAME TD DRIVES

Yds	TD	Drive	Poss. Time	TDs	Plays	TDs
0-9	18	1	00:00-00:59	4	1	2
10-19	4	4	01:00-01:59	7	2	1
20-29	7	-	02:00-02:59	6	3	5
30-39	-	1	03:00-03:59	7	4	1
40-49	1	-	04:00-04:59	6	5	6
50-59	-	1	05:00-05:59	2	6	1
60-69	1	4	06:00-06:59	2	7	4
70-79	3	18	07:00-07:59	-	8	5
80-89	-	4	08:00-08:59	-	9	4
90-99	-	1	09:00-09:59	-	10	1
Total	34	34	10:00-10:59	-	11	1
			11:00-11:59	-	12	1
			12:00-12:59	-	13	2
			13:00-13:59	-	14	-
			14:00-14:59	-	15	-
			15:00 - +	-	16	-

GAME OPENING DRIVES

Game	KENTUCKY		OPPONENT	
	Res/Pts	Yds	Res/Pts	Yds
Southern Miss	Punt/0	-3	Punt/0	-2
Eastern Kentucky	FG/3	49	TD/7	75
South Carolina	INT/0	16	TD/7	68
Florida	Punt/0	24	Punt/0	20
Eastern Michigan	Fumble/0	0	TD/7	20
Missouri	Punt/0	0	Fumble/0	-2
Mississippi State	Punt/0	18	TD/7	78
Tennessee	Fumble/0	(-10)	FG/3	3
Ole Miss	FG/3	47	Punt/0	-3
Vanderbilt	Punt/0	19	Punt/0	7
Georgia	FG/3	12	INT/0	17
Louisville	Punt/0	6	TD/7	75
Total/Avg	9/0.75	168/14	38/3.1	356/29.6

2ND HALF OPENING DRIVES

Game	KENTUCKY		OPPONENT	
	Res/Pts	Yds	Res/Pts	Yds
Southern Miss	Punt/0	-4	Punt/0	-7
Eastern Kentucky	Punt/0	47	Fumble/0	44
South Carolina	Punt/0	2	Downs/0	19
Florida	TD/7	62	Punt/0	3
Eastern Michigan	Punt/0	7	Punt/0	33
Missouri	INT/0	4	FG/3	65
Mississippi State	Punt/0	15	TD/7	75
Tennessee	Fumble/0	50	Punt/0	34
Ole Miss	TD/7	80	Punt/0	-2
Vanderbilt	TD/7	80	Punt/0	-6
Georgia	TD/7	75	TD/7	60
Louisville	Punt/0	-8	FG/3	51
Total/Avg	28/2.3	410/34.1	20/1.6	366/30.5

DRIVE ANALYSIS

Game	Total Drive	TD	FG	MFG	P	TO	4DN
Southern Miss	14	2	1	0	9	1	0-0
Eastern Kentucky	11	3	2	1	4	0	0-1
South Carolina	12	2	3	0	4	2	0-0
Florida	12	3	2	2	5	0	1-1
Eastern Michigan	15	3	1	2	8	1	0-0
Missouri	13	4	4	0	3	1	2-2
Mississippi State	11	1	0	0	7	2	0-1
Tennessee	12	4	0	0	4	4	0-0
Ole Miss	10	4	2	0	4	0	0-0
Vanderbilt	13	5	3	0	3	1	0-0
Georgia	10	1	2	0	5	1	1-2
Louisville	9	2	1	1	4	0	1-2
Totals	142	34	21	6	60	13	5-9



MISCELLANEOUS STATS

TURNOVERS

Opponent	FORCED BY KENTUCKY					FORCED BY OPPONENT			
	Fum	Int	Tot	Margin	UK Pts Off	Fum	Int	Tot	Opp Pts Off
Southern Miss	3	0	3	+2	14	1	0	1	0
Eastern Kentucky	1	1	2	+2	3	0	0	0	0
South Carolina	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	0
Florida	0	1	1	+1	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Michigan	1	2	3	+2	3	1	0	1	7
Missouri	2	0	2	+1	14	0	1	1	0
Mississippi State	0	0	0	-2	0	0	2	2	14
Tennessee	0	0	0	-4	0	4	0	4	9
Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanderbilt	0	4	4	+3	6	1	0	1	7
Georgia	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	7
Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	7	11	18	+5	43	8	5	13	44

KENTUCKY BIG PLAYS

Opponent	RUSHING					PASSING				SPECIAL TEAMS	
	15+	20+	30+	40+	50+	20+	30+	40+	50+	Block	Return for TD
Southern Miss	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0
Eastern Kentucky	5	4	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	0
South Carolina	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Florida	2	2	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
Missouri	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	0
Mississippi State	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tennessee	5	4	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Ole Miss	4	2	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Vanderbilt	4	3	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Louisville	4	3	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	30	22	8	4	2	31	9	4	2	3	0

OPPONENT BIG PLAYS

Opponent	RUSHING					PASSING				SPECIAL TEAMS	
	15+	20+	30+	40+	50+	20+	30+	40+	50+	Block	Return for TD
Southern Miss	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	2	0	0	0
Eastern Kentucky	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	1	0	0
Florida	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	0	0
Eastern Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0
Missouri	3	2	0	0	0	4	4	4	3	0	0
Mississippi State	3	3	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tennessee	2	2	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0
Ole Miss	1	1	0	0	0	4	2	2	1	0	0
Vanderbilt	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	7	7	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Louisville	8	3	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	26	20	8	4	1	38	15	13	6	0	0

DRIVE CHART STATISTICS

Opponent	No.	Avg Plays	Avg Yds	Avg Time	For TD	Avg Plays	Avg Yds	Avg Time
Southern Miss	14	3.9	18.1	2:04.3	2	3.0	25.5	1:12.5
Eastern Kentucky	11	5.7	39.6	2:51.6	3	5.6	78.3	2:03.6
South Carolina	12	6.1	29.4	3:04.1	2	12.0	71.0	6:02.5
Florida	12	4.9	28.3	2:29.5	3	4.6	49.0	2:02.0
Eastern Michigan	15	4.3	15.2	2:00.3	3	5.7	52.7	2:26.7
Missouri	13	5.8	37.4	2:46.8	4	5.0	59.8	1:12.2
Mississippi State	11	5.3	23.6	2:17.3	1	7.0	78.0	2:50.0
Tennessee	12	4.3	30.9	1:47.9	4	7.0	70.2	3:01.2
Ole Miss	10	7.0	45.5	3:37.5	4	9.7	82.2	4:50.7
Vanderbilt	13	4.9	32.8	2:34.5	5	5.2	58.2	2:53.6
Georgia	10	6.0	26.2	2:58.0	1	8.0	75.0	3:31.0
Louisville	9	6.8	43.1	3:23.4	2	8.0	76.5	4:06.0



EXPLOSIVE PLAYS

RUNS 10+

King, 26 yards
 King, 18 yards
 King, 20 yards
 King, 21 yards
 King, 30 yards
 King, 14 yards
 King, 22 yards*
 King, 10 yards
(8 rush for 161 yards, 20.1 avg., 1 TD)

G. Johnson, 11 yards
(1 rush for 11 yards, 11.0 avg., 0 TD)

S. Johnson, 22 yards
 S. Johnson, 21 yards*
 S. Johnson, 22 yards
 S. Johnson, 54 yards
 S. Johnson, 12 yards
 S. Johnson, 23 yards
 S. Johnson, 19 yards
 S. Johnson, 11 yards
 S. Johnson, 34 yards
 S. Johnson, 17 yards
 S. Johnson, 12 yards
 S. Johnson, 11 yards*
 S. Johnson, 16 yards
 S. Johnson, 14 yards
 S. Johnson, 12 yards
 S. Johnson, 25 yards
(16 rush for 325 yards, 20.3 avg., 2 TD)

Snell, 10 yards
 Snell, 25 yards*
 Snell, 16 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 11 yards
 Snell, 12 yards*
 Snell, 71 yards*
 Snell, 10 yards
 Snell, 27 yards
 Snell, 48 yards
 Snell, 23 yards
 Snell, 11 yards
 Snell, 11 yards
 Snell, 22 yards
 Snell 13 yards
 Snell, 19 yards
 Snell, 21 yards
 Snell, 13 yards
 Snell, 16 yards
 Snell, 22 yards*
 Snell, 38 yards
 Snell, 11 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 41 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
 Snell, 10 yards
 Snell, 16 yards
 Snell, 33 yards
 Snell, 12 yards
(33 rush for 646 yards, 19.5 avg., 4 TD)

Total: 58 rush for 1143 yards, 19.7 avg, 5 TD

RECEIVING 20+

Bone, 31 yards
 Bone, 43 yards
 Bone, 45 yards
(3 rec. for 119 yards, 39.6 avg., 0 TD)

Bowden, 22 yards
 Bowden, 20 yards
 Bowden, 28 yards
 Bowden, 35 yards
(4 rec. for 105 yards, 26.2 avg., 0 TD)

Conrad, 54 yards
 Conrad, 23 yards*
 Conrad, 23 yards*
 Conrad, 20 yards
 Conrad, 23 yards*
 Conrad, 46 yards*
(6 rec. for 189 yards, 31.5 avg., 4 TD)

Epps, 28 yards
(1 rec. for 28 yards, 28.0 avg., 0 TD)

Hart, 20 yards*
(1 rec. for 20 yards, 20.0 avg., 4 TD)

G. Johnson, 27 yards
 G. Johnson, 64 yards*
 G. Johnson, 25 yards
 G. Johnson, 32 yards
(4 rec. for 148 yards, 37.0 avg., 1 TD)

King, 24 yards
(1 rec. for 24 yards, 24.0 avg., 0 TD)

S. Johnson, 32 yards
(1 rec. for 32 yards, 32.0 avg., 0 TD)

Snell, 22 yards
 Snell, 20 yards
(2 rec. for 42 yards, 21.0 avg., 0 TD)

Richardson, 36 yards
 Richardson, 23 yards
(2 rec. for 59 yards, 29.5 avg., 0 TD)

Ross, 21 yards
 Ross, 22 yards
 Ross, 27 yards
 Ross, 22 yards
 Ross, 20 yards
(5 rec. for 112 yards, 22.4 avg., 0 TD)

Walker, 21 yards
 Walker, 27 yards
(2 rec. for 48 yards, 24.0 avg., 0 TD)

Total: 32 rec. for 926 yards, 28.9 avg., 5 TD)

KICK RETURNS 30+

King, 46 yards
(1 return for 46 yards, 46.0 avg.)

Bowden, 30 yards
 Bowden, 35 yards
 Bowden, 33 yards
 Bowden, 33 yards
 Bowden, 93 yards
(5 returns for 191 yards, 38.2 avg.)
Total: 6 returns for 237 yards, 39.5 avg, 0 TD

PUNT RETURNS 20+

Walker, 52 yards
(1 return for 52 yards, 52.0 avg.)
Total: 1 return for 52 yards, 52.0 avg.

DEFENSIVE RETURNS 20+

Ware, 20 yards*
 West, 21 yards
 Baity, 45 yards
(3 returns for 86 yards, 28.6 avg.)

Total: 100 plays for 2,444 yards, 24.4 avg.
** denotes a touchdown scoring play*

OPPONENT BIG PLAYS

Total:
 Run (10+) 56 for 1060 yds
 Receiving (20+) 38 for 1264 yds
 Kick Returns (30+) 5 for 168 yds
 Punt Returns (20+) 0 for 0 yds
 Defensive Returns (20+) 1 for 84 yds
TOTAL: 100 for 2,576 yards (25.7 avg.)

UK LONG PLAYS (20+) BY THE NUMBERS

20+ Plays By Yards	No.	TD
100+	0	0
90-99	1	0
80-89	0	0
70-79	1	1
60-69	1	1
50-59	2	0
40-49	7	1
30-39	12	0
20-29	38	9
TOTAL	62	12

20+ Plays By Type	No.	TD
Rushing	22	5
Passing	33	6
Punt returns	0	0
Kick returns	5	0
Interceptions	1	0
Fumble returns	1	1
TOTAL	62	12



ALL-SEC HONORS



JOSH ALLEN

ASSOCIATED PRESS ALL-SEC SECOND TEAM
PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM

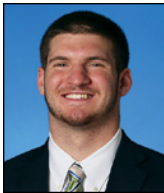
- Ranks tied for sixth in the SEC and 36th nationally in sacks per game (0.58)
- Got his first career interception at No. 7 Georgia, returning it 14 yards
- Has totaled 19.5 career TFL, 14.5 career sacks
- Ranks fourth in career sacks (14.5) in the SEC among active players behind Ole Miss' Marquis Haynes (32), LSU's Arden Key (21.0), Missouri's Marcell Frazier (16.5)
- On the season, has 58 tackles (fourth on the team), 9.5 tackles for loss, 7.0 sacks, a team-high four QB hurries, 3 PBU's, two forced fumbles and one interception



LYNN BOWDEN JR.

COACHES' SEC ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

- Averaging 23.1 yards per kick return with a team-high 35 returns which ranks sixth in the SEC
- The former quarterback has completed 3-of-4 pass attempts this season (92 yards)
- Had a career-high 192 all-purpose yards in the win over Vanderbilt
- Had a 93-yard kickoff return against the 'Dores, UK's longest since 2009, to set up a touchdown
- Also caught three passes for a career-high 79 yards ... All three receptions were good for first downs, two of which came on touchdown drives
- Named SEC Freshman of the Week (Oct. 9) after leading UK with 128 all-purpose yards in the Wildcats' 40-34 win over Missouri



C.J. CONRAD

PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM

- Second on the team in receiving yards with 286 yards on 16 catches ... Averaged 17.9 yards per catch (2nd on the team)
- Has nine career touchdown catches
- Had a season-high five catches for 75 yards and a score vs. Ole Miss
- Had a receiving TD in the UK's first two games, becoming the first UK tight end with a receiving touchdown in consecutive games since Jacob Tamme on Nov. 24 and Dec. 31, 2007



MIKE EDWARDS

PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC FIRST TEAM

- Leads the team and ranks tied for ninth in the SEC in tackles per game with 7.5
- Has a team-high four INTs and team-high six PBU's
- On pace to be just the fourth player in school history to lead the team in both interceptions and tackles in the same season, joining Darryl Bishop in 1972, Quentus Cumby in 2002 and Danny Trevathan in 2011
- Ranks 38th nationally and tied for second in the SEC in total interceptions (4)
- Ranks tied for 12th in the SEC in passes defended (.83 per game)
- Has five double-figure tackle games this season and nine in his career



AUSTIN MacGINNIS

PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM

- UK's career leading scorer with 354 points which ranks tied for 10th in SEC history for scoring and scoring by kicking
- Ranks tied for seventh in SEC history for most FG goals made in a career (71)
- Ranks sixth in the SEC in scoring (8.1 ppg) and fourth in scoring by kick (8.1 ppg)
- Ranks seventh nationally and leads the SEC in field goals made with Auburn's Daniel Carlson (1.75 per game)
- Leads the SEC in FG percentage with Carlson (77.8)
- Is 21 of 27 on field goals for the season with the only misses coming from 32, 48, 48, 53, 53 and 57 yards
- His 21 field goals this season ties his previous school record for most field goals in a season (21, 2014)
- Scored a career-high tying 16 points against Missouri and earned one of three "Stars of the Week from the Lou Groza Award
- The 16 points against Missouri were the second-most points for a kicker in a single game in school history
- Holds the school records for career field goals made (71), career FGs attempted (90), most field goals made in a season (21 in 2014 and 2017), consecutive FGs made (11, twice) and longest FG (54 yards)



BENNY SNELL JR.

ASSOCIATED PRESS ALL-SEC FIRST TEAM
COACHES' ALL-SEC SECOND TEAM
PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC SECOND TEAM

- Ended the regular season leading the SEC in rushing yards (1,318) on a league-high 256 carries with an SEC-high 18 touchdowns
- Second in the SEC in rushing yards per game (109.8)
- Ranks fifth nationally in rushing TDs (18), eighth in total TDs (18), 17th in total points scored (110), 15th in scoring per game (9.2), 23rd in rushing yards (1,318) and rushing yards per game (109.8)
- In the last five games, totaled 777 yards and 12 touchdowns on 123 carries (6.3 yards per carry) ... the only other SEC players to ever accomplish those numbers or better in a five-game span are LSU's Leonard Fournette and Auburn's Tre Mason
- Ranks third in the SEC in scoring (9.2) and second in the SEC scoring by touchdowns (9.2) ... Ranks third in the SEC in all-purpose yards (114.8)
- In just 25 career games, has 2,409 rushing yards which ranks eighth all-time in program history
- Ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 in his career and 19th player in SEC history to reach 2,000 career rushing yards prior to his junior season
- First player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons
- Holds the school records for points in a season (110), TDs in a season (18), rushing TDs in a season (18), rushing TDs in a career (31) and rushing yards by a sophomore (1,318)
- Just the third player in SEC history to have at least 1,000 rushing yards and at least 13 rushing TDs in both his freshman and sophomore seasons, joining Herschel Walker (Georgia, 1980-1981) and Knowshon Moreno (Georgia, 2007-2008)
- Only the third player in SEC history to have at least 2,409 yards and at least 31 career rushing touchdowns before his junior season, joining Georgia's Herschel Walker and LSU's Leonard Fournette
- First player in school history with at least five 100-yard rushing games in back-to-back seasons
- First player in school history with 10 or more career 100-yard rushing games prior to his junior season



DENZIL WARE

PHIL STEELE ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM

- Second on the team in tackles for loss (9.0) and sacks (7.0)
- Ranks tied for 10th in the SEC in sacks
- Has recorded a sack in six games this season, including three of the last five
- Has two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries this season
- Caught a pass batted by junior DT Adrian Middleton for the first interception of his career in the win over Vanderbilt ... Also notched two of UK's five quarterback sacks, tying his career high
- Named SEC Defensive Lineman of the Week two times during the season (Vanderbilt and Southern Miss)

KENTUCKY



DENZIL WARE

JUNIOR DE/LB
ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM
BY PHIL STEELE



COACHES & STAFF



HEAD COACH MARK STOOPS / FIFTH SEASON / IOWA, 1989



Mark Stoops likes to challenge his team to do things that have never been done at the University of Kentucky, or, haven't been done in a long time. His Wildcats are responding nicely to that challenge.

Since Stoops took over as coach of the Cats in 2013, UK is one of only two schools in the nation that has tied or improved its win total in each of the last five seasons.

That steady progression has culminated in multiple achievements:

- In 2016 and '17, UK posted consecutive seven-win seasons, along with 4-4 records in the Southeastern Conference. It's the first time UK has won seven games and finished at least .500 in the league in back-to-back seasons in 40 years.
- The Wildcats placed third in the SEC Eastern Division this season and second a year ago, the team's best back-to-back finishes since the league split into divisions in 1992.
- UK's 2016-17 bowl appearances mark only the fifth time in school history that the school has earned bowl bids in at least two consecutive seasons.
- UK won three road games this year, the first time that has happened since 2009.
- The Wildcats are 8-3 in games decided by seven points or less over the past two seasons.

The methodical advancement made by Stoops' teams is a reflection of the coach's rock-steady work ethic, tireless recruiting, and ability to adapt.

Stoops' ability to adjust when necessary shone its brightest at the beginning of the 2016 season. After losing the first two games of the schedule, *and* seeing his starting quarterback out for the season with an injury, *and* seeing his defense struggle in the early stages, Stoops didn't retreat. The Wildcat coach chose determination over despair and went back to work.

Stoops re-tooled the offense with then-backup quarterback Stephen Johnson, going to a more physical, ground-based attack. With a history of success as a defensive coordinator, Stoops returned to his roots by becoming more involved with the planning and play-calling on that side of the ball.

The results? The Wildcats went 7-3 in the last 10 regular-season games, topped by a win at No. 11-ranked Louisville and their inaugural appearance in the TaxSlayer Bowl. Stoops was named SEC Coach of the Year runner-up by Athlon Sports.

Returning the Wildcats to the bowl scene again this season, Stoops' progress at Kentucky continues his history of coaching success.



STOOPS AND CO. MAKING A HIT IN RECRUITING

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

Outlet	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Rivals	#29	#17	#35	#29	#26
ESPN	#36	#20	#43	#34	#30
247Sports	#41	#23	#38	#34	#29
Scout.com	#38	#21	#45	#39	#35

Most Wins By A Head Coach, School History

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

Most Wins By A Head Coach At Kroger Field

- 32 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
- 29 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
- 25 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)
- 21 Bill Curry (1990-1996)
- 20 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)**

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

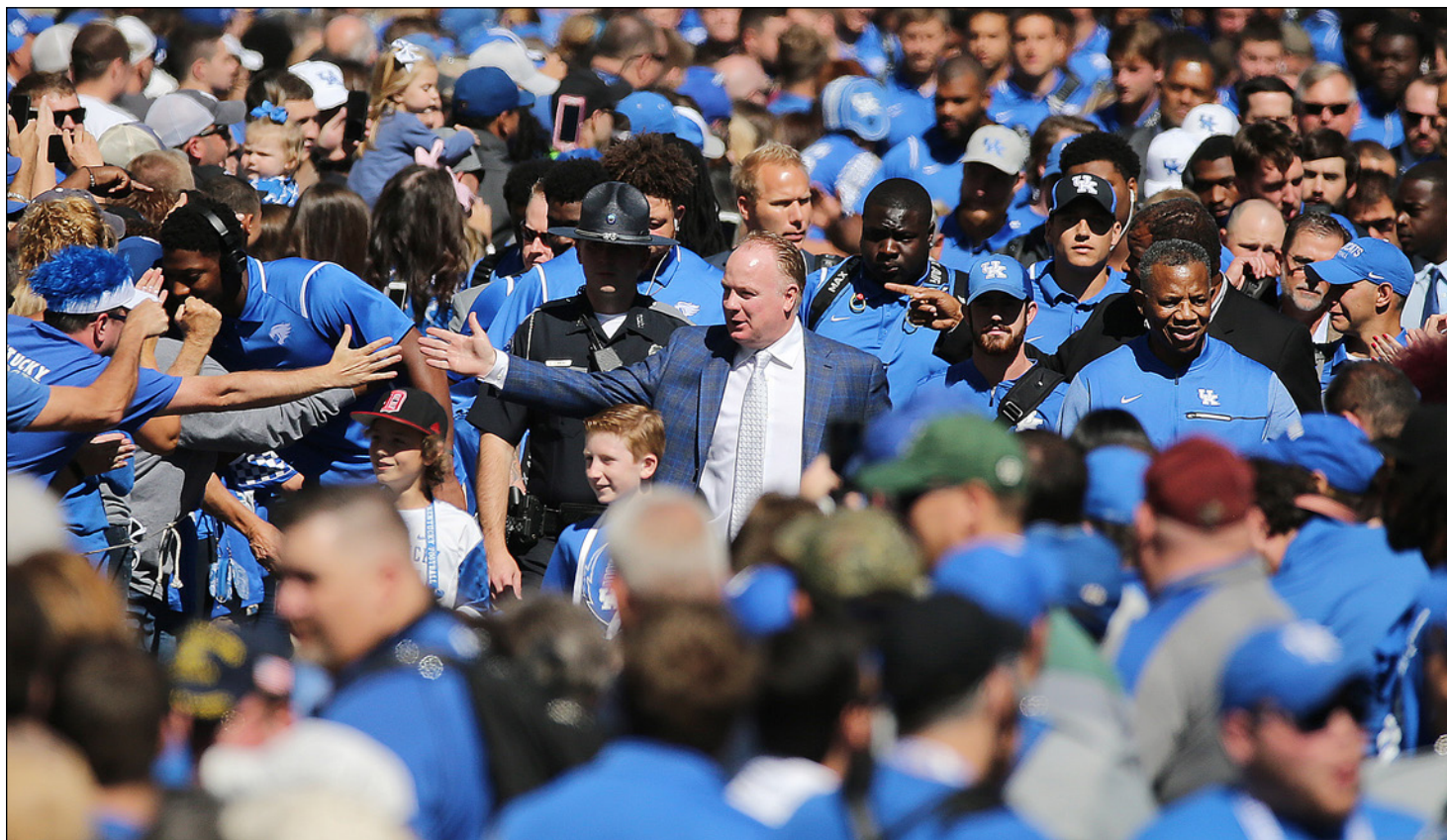
Eight Seminoles on defense earned 2012 All-ACC honors, including four first-team se-

lections, highlighted by one of the nation's top defensive end duos in Bjoern Werner and Cornellius Carradine, who combined for 24 sacks and 31 tackles for loss. Werner was a finalist for the 2012 Bronko Nagurski Award as the National Defensive Player of the Year and was among the national leaders in sacks with 13. Stoops also coached cornerback Ronald Darby to ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year.

The Seminoles' prowess was a continuation of the 2011 season, when Stoops' defenders led the nation in fewest yards allowed per carry (2.3), ranked fourth in the nation in total defense (275 yards per game), second in rushing defense (82.7 ypg), fourth in scoring defense (15.1 points per game), and eighth in tackles for

loss (8.6 per game) and quarterback sacks (3.1 per game). FSU led the ACC in eight defensive categories.

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





loss. In the secondary, Stoops coached Xavier Rhodes to ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year honors and National Defensive Freshman of the Year accolades.

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

Stoops was defensive coordinator and DBs coach at Arizona from 2004-09, working for his brother, Mike, who was head coach of the Wildcats. During Mark's time there, Arizona's records improved steadily, going 3-8, 3-8, 6-6, 5-7, 8-5 and 8-5. The Wildcats advanced to the Las Vegas Bowl and Holiday Bowl during the last two years. Mark and Mike are also brothers of Bob Stoops, who has retired after 18 years as the Sooners' head coach. Mike is currently the defensive coordinator at Oklahoma. The eldest Stoops brother, Ron Jr., is special teams coordinator at Youngstown State.

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

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

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

Stoops got his first experience in leading a defense as co-defensive coordinator at Houston in the 2000 season. He coached the secondary at Wyoming from 1997-99 and the Cowboys notched three straight winning seasons. A highlight of his time there was a school-record 24 interceptions in the '97 season. His first full-time coaching job was in 1996 at South Florida, helping USF in the start-up of its program before the Bulls had their first kickoff in '97.

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

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

STOOPS VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Opponent	Record
Alabama	0-2
Alabama State	1-0
Auburn	0-1
Austin Peay	1-0
Charlotte	1-0
Eastern Kentucky	2-0
Eastern Michigan	1-0
Florida	0-5
Georgia	0-5
Georgia Tech	0-1
Louisiana-Lafayette	1-0
Louisiana-Monroe	1-0
Louisville	1-4
LSU	0-1
Miami (Ohio)	1-0
Mississippi State	1-4
Missouri	3-2
New Mexico State	1-0
Ohio	1-0
Ole Miss	0-1
South Carolina	4-1
Southern Miss	1-1
Tennessee	1-4
Tennessee-Martin	1-0
Vanderbilt	3-2
Western Kentucky	0-1
Totals:	26-35

1990 Big Ten title and played in the Rose Bowl, duplicating feats Stoops also achieved as a player. Stoops went on to coach four years in high school before entering the collegiate ranks.

Mark and his wife, Chantel, have two sons, Will and Zack.





ELEVEN FIRST ROUND DRAFT PICKS



COACHED BY MARK STOOPS SINCE 2001



WHO WANTS TO BE NEXT?



PHILLIP BUCHANON
2002
17TH OVERALL



ED REED
2002
24TH OVERALL



MIKE RUMPH
2002
27TH OVERALL



SEAN TAYLOR
2004
5TH OVERALL



ANTREL ROLLE
2005
8TH OVERALL



KELLY JENNINGS
2006
31ST OVERALL



BRANDON MERIWEATHER
2007
24TH OVERALL



ANTOINE CASON
2008
27TH OVERALL



BJOERN WERNER
2013
24TH OVERALL



XAVIER RHODES
2013
25TH OVERALL



BUD DUPREE
2015
22ND OVERALL

THE MARK STOOPS COACHING FILE

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

STOOPS' IMPROVEMENTS AS DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

* indicates the season before Stoops arrived

ARIZONA - NATIONAL RANKINGS

	Total Defense	Scoring Defense	Rush Defense	Pass Defense	Pass Efficiency Def.
2003*	109	107	84	112	112
2004	61	55	30	101	83
2005	86	64	93	72	66
2006	49	35	42	69	62
2007	53	59	47	71	33
2008	24	33	39	23	14
2009	25	53	29	33	37

FLORIDA STATE - NATIONAL RANKINGS

	Total Defense	Scoring Defense	Rush Defense	Pass Defense	Pass Efficiency Def.
2009*	108	94	108	77	110
2010	42	20	29	71	37
2011	4	4	2	20	25
2012	2	7	4	6	4



ASSISTANT COACHES



STEVE CLINKSCALE
DEFENSIVE BACKS

Clinkscale's defensive backs combined to intercept 11 passes in 2017, and as a unit, the UK defense ranks fifth in the SEC in pickoffs. Safety Mike Edwards has intercepted four passes and leads the SEC's defensive backs in total tackles for the second season in a row. He was named first-team All-SEC by Phil Steele's College Football.

2001-06	Ashland	Defensive Backs
2007	Ashland	Linebackers
2008	Western Carolina	Defensive Backs
2009	Toledo	Cornerbacks
2010-11	Toledo	Special Teams Coordinator, Cornerbacks
2012	Illinois	Cornerbacks
2013-14	Cincinnati	Defensive Backs
2015	Cincinnati	Co-Defensive Coordinator, Defensive Backs
2016-present	Kentucky	Defensive Backs



Eddie Gran



EDDIE GRAN
ASSISTANT HEAD COACH FOR
OFFENSE/RUNNING BACKS

Under Gran's leadership, UK had more than 2,000 rushing yards and 2,000 passing yards in both 2016 and 2017, the first time in school history that UK has done that in back-to-back seasons. Gran has guided Benny Snell to 1,318 rushing yards and 18 touchdowns this season, setting several school records en route to first-team AP All-SEC honors.

1987-88	California Lutheran	Wide Receivers
1989	Southeast Missouri	Running Backs
1989	East Carolina	Graduate Assistant
1990-91	Miami (Fla.)	Graduate Assistant
1992-93	Cincinnati	Wide Receivers
1994	Idaho State	Wide Receivers
1995-98	Ole Miss	Special Teams Coordinator, Running Backs
1999-2008	Auburn	Special Teams Coordinator, Running Backs
2009	Tennessee	Special Teams Coordinator, Running Backs
2010-12	Florida State	Associate Head Coach, Offensive Coordinator, Running Backs
2013-15	Cincinnati	Offensive Coordinator, Running Backs
2016-present	Kentucky	Assistant Head Coach for Offense, Running Backs



Matt House



DEAN HOOD
SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR/
OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

Hood's special teams blocked three kicks this season, two of which were crucial plays in Wildcat wins, while kicker Austin MacGinnis continued his record-setting performances. UK special teams have not allowed any blocked kicks this season or allowed a punt or kickoff return for a touchdown. Under Hood's tutelage, LB Josh Allen and DE/LB Denzil Ware earned All-SEC recognition.

1987-88	Fairmont (W.Va.)	Secondary Coach
1989	Colgate	Assistant Secondary Coach
1990-93	Glennville State (W.Va.)	Defensive Coordinator/Assistant Head Coach
1994-96	Eastern Kentucky	Secondary Coach
1997-98	Eastern Kentucky	Defensive Coordinator/ Secondary Coach
1999-2000	Ohio	Secondary Coach
2001-07	Wake Forest	Defensive Coordinator/Secondary Coach
2008-15	Eastern Kentucky	Head Coach
2016	Charlotte	Assistant Head Coach/Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends
2017	Kentucky	Special Teams Coordinator/Outside Linebackers



MATT HOUSE
DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR/
INSIDE LINEBACKERS

House's defense kept six opponents under 100 rushing yards, the first time in school history that has been achieved. UK has improved in points allowed and third-down efficiency since last season and as a team the Cats are fourth in the SEC in turnover margin (+5). Individually, Courtney Love led the UK linebackers with 82 tackles.

2001-02	Michigan State	Graduate Assistant, Secondary
2003-04	North Carolina	Defensive Assistant
2005	Gardner-Webb	Defensive Line
2006-07	Buffalo	Defensive Backs, Recruiting Coordinator
2008	Carolina Panthers	Special Teams Assistant, Strength and Conditioning Assistant
2009-11	St. Louis Rams	Quality Control, Def. Assistant Linebackers
2012	Pittsburgh	Secondary
2013-14	Pittsburgh	Defensive Coordinator
2015	Florida International	Defensive Coordinator, Linebackers
2016	Kentucky	Special Teams Coord, Inside Linebackers
2017	Kentucky	Defensive Coordinator, Inside Linebackers



DARIN HINSHAW

**CO-OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/
QUARTERBACKS**

Hinshaw has worked with Eddie Gran on an offense that has generated 2,000 rushing yards and 2,000 passing yards in back-to-back seasons, the first time in school history that has been accomplished. Despite playing only two seasons, QB Stephen Johnson ranks in the top 10 in school history for passing yardage and TD passes.

1999	Central Florida	Graduate Assistant
2000	Central Florida	Quarterbacks
2001-02	Middle Tennessee	Running Backs
2003-05	Middle Tennessee	Co-Offensive Coordinator
2006	Georgia Southern	Offensive Coordinator, Quarterbacks
2007-09	Memphis	Wide Receivers
2010-11	Tennessee	Quarterbacks
2012	Tennessee	Wide Receivers
2013-15	Cincinnati	Passing Game Coordinator, Quarterbacks
2016-present	Kentucky	Co-Offensive Coordinator, Quarterbacks



Darin Hinshaw



DERRICK LeBLANC

DEFENSIVE LINE

LeBlanc's young defensive line played a key role in helping UK hold six opponents under 100 rushing yards, the first time in school history that has been accomplished. UK also has improved points allowed and third-down efficiency since last season. With no senior starters, the Wildcat line should continue to improve when looking ahead to 2018.

2000	LSU	Defensive Graduate Assistant/ Defensive Line
2001-04	Henderson State	Defensive Line
2005	Arkansas Tech	Defensive Line
2006-07	Missouri State	Defensive Line
2008-11	LSU	Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coord.
2012	Wyoming	Defensive Line
2013-14	Southern Miss	Defensive Line
2016	North Texas	Defensive Line
2017	Kentucky	Defensive Line



JOHN SCHLARMAN

OFFENSIVE LINE

Schlarmann's line paved the way for Benny Snell to rush for 1,318 yards and a school-record 18 touchdowns. The O-Line has helped UK surpass 2,000 rushing yards and 2,000 receiving yards in each of the last two seasons, the first time in school history that has been accomplished.

1998-99	Bourbon County HS	Defensive Line
2000-01	Kentucky	Graduate Assistant / Offensive Line
2002	Kentucky	Graduate Assistant / Tight Ends, Offensive Line
2003-04	Campbell County HS	Head Coach
2005-06	Newport HS	Head Coach
2007-09	Troy	Offensive Line
2010-12	Troy	Offensive Line, Running Game Coordinator
2013-present	Kentucky	Offensive Line



VINCE MARROW

**TIGHT ENDS/
RECRUITING COORDINATOR**

Under Marrow's guidance, C.J. Conrad caught 16 passes and led the Wildcats with four touchdown receptions. He also provided outstanding blocking for Benny Snell's record-setting season and Conrad received third-team All-SEC honors from Phil Steele's College Football.

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



LAMAR THOMAS

WIDE RECEIVERS

Thomas helped Garrett Johnson become only the fourth player in school history to surpass the 2,000-yard mark in career receiving yards. Thomas also began the collegiate development of Lynn Bowden, who was named Freshman All-SEC by league coaches and was chosen SEC Freshman of the Week after the win over Missouri.

2008-10	Boynton Beach HS	Passing Game Coordinator
2011-12	Hampton	Wide Receivers
2013	Western Kentucky	Wide Receivers
2014-15	Louisville	Wide Receivers
2016-present	Kentucky	Wide Receivers



SUPPORT STAFF



GABE
AMPONSAH
Head Athletic
Trainer/Football



ALLEN "TINK"
BELCHER
Assistant Equipment
Manager



DAN
BEREZOWITZ
Director of Football
Recruiting Operations



TIM
BERNAL
Executive Associate
AD/External
Operations



W. SCOTT
BLACK, M.D.
Team Physician
Univ. Health Service



CHATHAM
BOYER
Academic
Counselor



FRANK J.
BUFFANO
Director of Football
Operations



MICHAEL
CAPPETTO
Director of SEC
Network Production
Operations



SHAE
CARSON
Graduate Assistant/
Performance Dietitian



MICHAEL
COLOSIMO
Graduate Assistant/
Offense



MISTY
CONRAD
Staff Assistant
Athletic Training



EVAN
CRANE
Associate MR
Director/Press Box
Coordinator



JASON
CUMMINS
Impact Leadership



JON
DENIO
Director of
Equipment
Operations



COREY
EDMOND
Director of
Performance



JOSH
ESTES-WAUGH
Assistant Director of
Recruiting Operations



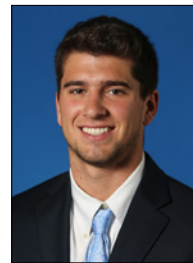
SHANE
FANNIN
Director of Sports
Video



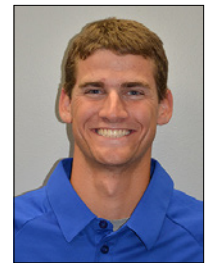
CHRISTIAN
FIERO
Football Coaching
Video Coordinator



MONICA
FOWLER
Registered Dietitian



JOHNNY
FRENCH
Student Recruiting
Assistant



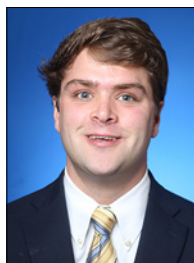
ALEX
GREEN
Assistant Athletic
Trainer



SANDY
GRIFFIN
Staff Support
Associate



GREG
GORHAM
Sports Video
Production
Coordinator



CHASE
HEUKE
Graduate Assistant/
Special Teams



JON
HILL
Assistant Strength
and Conditioning
Coach



MARC
HILL
Executive Associate
AD/Administration
and Performance



MARK
HILL
Dir. of Performance/
Head Strength and
Conditioning Coach



ROB
HOSEY, M.D.
Head Team Physician



SUPPORT STAFF



CATHY HURST
Assistant AD for Ticket Operations



DARREN JOHNSON, M.D.
Professor/Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery



KIMBERLY KAISER, M.D.
Primary Care Team Physician



IAN KALINOWSKI
Graduate Assistant/ Recruiting



TOM KALINOWSKI
Equipment Manager



BRANDON KOLDITZ
Creative Director



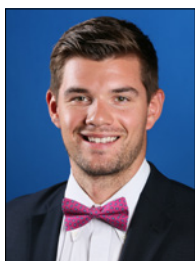
CHRISTIAN LATTERMANN, M.D.
Asst. Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery



SUSAN LAX
Associate Media Relations Director



TIM LETCHER
Website Coordinator



TYLER LINDON
Graduate Assistant/ Performance Science



DEONTE MACK
Assistant Director of Performance/ Integration



JIM MADALENO
Director of Sports Medicine



SCOTT MAIR, M.D.
Asst. Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery



JALYN MASON
Graduate Assistant/ Performance Dietitian



TOMMY MANGINO
Quality Control



LOUIE MATSAKIS
Quality Control



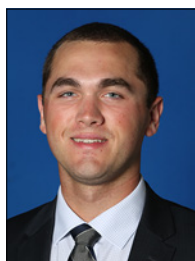
MATT MAY
Assistant Media Relations Director



HEATHER McATEE
Assistant AD for Academics & Eligibility



EVAN MCKISSACK
Graduate Assistant/ Offense



JONATHAN McMURTRIE
Graduate Assistant/ Athletic Trainer



DR. CHRIS MORRIS
Director of Applied Sports Science



TONY NEELY
Assistant AD for Media Relations



JACOB NOGER
Football Creative Coordinator



RAY "ROCK" OLIVER
Student Engagement and Development Director



TRA VAUGHN PASCHAL
Graduate Assistant



DeWAYNE PEEVY
Deputy Athletics Director



MIKE PIRRMAN
Academic Counselor



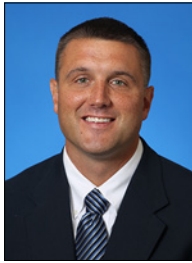
JOSH PRUITT
Director of Player Development



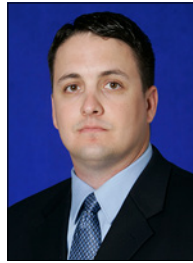
SUPPORT STAFF



GUY RAMSEY
Director of Strategic Communications



JON ROSS
Academic Counselor



KEVIN SAAL
Executive Associate AD/Internal Operations



DILLON SANDERS
Quality Control



JASON SCHLAFER
Executive Associate AD/Chief Revenue Officer



NATHAN SCHWAKE
Associate AD for Marketing and Promotions



KYLE SMOOT, M.D.
Associate Head Team Physician



KIM SPENCER
Insurance Coordinator



ABBY STOVER
Assistant to the Head Coach



RAVEN TIMMONS
Student Recruiting Assistant



LUKE WALERIUS
Graduate Assistant/ Recruiting



THOMAS WELLS
Graduate Assistant/ Defense

DR. ELI CAPILOUTO, PRESIDENT



Dr. Eli Capilouto became the 12th President of the University of Kentucky on July 1, 2011. Under his leadership, the \$3.7 billion flagship and land grant research university has gained significant momentum in fulfilling its multi-faceted mission of teaching, research, service and health care.

MITCH BARNHART, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



Singularly committed to the development of Wildcat students and to building the department he leads into one of the nation's elite, Mitch Barnhart is in his 16th year as University of Kentucky athletics director.

Barnhart has improved the Kentucky Athletics program across the board, including facilities, coaching staffs and support staff, which has resulted in significant improvements in the fields and arenas of competition. In 2016-17, UK was 10th in the Directors' Cup national all-sports standings, the first top-10 finish in school history.



KENTUCKY



LYNN BOWDEN JR.
FRESHMAN WR
SEC ALL-FRESHMAN



2017 WILDCATS



NUMERICAL ROSTER

Table with 2 columns: Player Number and Player Name/Position/Location. Includes players like Lynn Bowden Jr., Dorian Baker, Jordan Griffin, etc.

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Position, Jersey Number, and Location. Lists players alphabetically by name, including Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald, Tyrell Ajian, Josh Ali, etc.



NUMERICAL ROSTER

41	Josh Allen, LB, Montclair, N.J.
42	Tristan Yeomans, LS, Waycross, Ga.
43	Logan Blue, LB/LS, Owensboro, Ky.
44	Jamin Davis, LB, Ludowici, Ga.
45	Jaylin Bannerman, TE, Pickerington, Ohio
46	Drew Schlegel, LB, Parker, Colo.
48	Brett Slusher, DB, Fort Mitchell, Ky.
51	Courtney Love, LB, Youngstown, Ohio
52	Drake Jackson, C, Versailles, Ky.
53	Blake Best, LS, Duluth, Ga.
55	David Baumer, OT, Cincinnati, Ohio
56	Kash Daniel, LB, Paintsville, Ky.
58	Alex King, OLB, Mason, Ohio
59	Kordell Looney, DT, Springfield, Ohio
61	Austin Dotson, OT, Belfry, Ky.
62	Dylan Greenberg, RG, Tucson, Ariz.
64	George Asafo-Adjei, OT, West Chester, Ohio
65	"Bunchy" Stallings, C, McComb, Miss.
66	Naasir Watkins, OL, Laurel, Md.
67	Landon Young, OT, Lexington, Ky.
68	Nick Haynes, OG, Niceville, Fla.
69	Matt Elam, NG, Elizabethtown, Ky.
70	E.J. Price, OT, Lawrenceville, Ga.
71	Logan Stenberg, OG, Madison, Ala.
73	Kyle Meadows, OT, West Chester, Ohio
74	Cole Mosier, OT, Walton, Ky.
76	Sebastien Dolcine, OT, Hollywood, Fla.
77*	Naquez Pringle, DT, Georgetown, S.C.
77*	Mason Wolfe, OT, Henderson, Ky.
79	Luke Fortner, OT, Sylvania, Ohio
80	Javonte Richardson, WR, Maple Heights, Ohio
81	Isaiah Epps, WR, Jenks, Okla.
82	Josh Ali, WR, Hollywood, Fla.
83	Justin Rigg, TE, Springboro, Ohio
84	Charles Moushey, WR, Westerville, Ohio
85	Greg Hart, TE, Dayton, Ohio
86	Grant McKinniss, P, Findlay, Ohio
87	C.J. Conrad, TE, LaGrange, Ohio
88	Charles Walker, WR, Louisville, Ky.
89	Will Roden, TE, Lexington, Ky.
90	T.J. Carter, DE, Mableton, Ga.
91*	Calvin Taylor Jr., DE, Augusta, Ga.
91*	Tyler Pack, K, Paintsville, Ky.
92	Phil Hoskins, DL, Toledo, Ohio
93*	Ja'Quize Cross, DL, 6-3, New Market, Ala.
93*	Matt Panton, K/P, Melbourne, Aus.
94	Colin Goodfellow, P, Cleveland, Ohio
95*	Quinton Bohanna, DL, Cordova, Tenn.
95*	Miles Butler, K, Paducah, Ky.
96*	Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald, DL, Lakeland, Fla.
96*	Matt Ruffolo, K, Centerville, Ohio
97	Chris Whittaker, DL, Hollywood, Fla.
98	Tymere Dubose, DT, Youngstown, Ohio
99*	Austin MacGinnis, K, Wedowee, Ala.
99*	Adrian Middleton, DT, Bowling Green, Ky.

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

99*	Austin MacGinnis	K	5-10	185	Sr-3L	Wedowee, Ala. (Prattville)
32*	William Mahone	RB	5-9	200	Sr-Sq	Cincinnati, Ohio (Lakota East)
86	Grant McKinniss	P	6-1	210	So-1L	Findlay, Ohio (Findlay)
73	Kyle Meadows	OT	6-5	300	Sr-3L	West Chester, Ohio (Lakota West)
99*	Adrian Middleton	DT	6-3	275	Jr-2L	Bowling Green, Ky. (South Warren)
74	Cole Mosier	OT	6-6	335	Sr-3L	Walton, Ky. (Walton-Verona)
84	Charles Moushey	WR	6-0	180	Sr-1L	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville Central)
38	William Nalty	LB	6-0	210	Fr-HS	Metairie, La. (Metairie Park Country Day)
26*	Michael Nesbitt	DB	6-0	185	Fr-HS	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Boyd Anderson)
91*	Tyler Pack	K	6-4	275	Fr-RS	Paintsville, Ky. (Johnson Central)
93*	Matt Panton	K/P	6-4	230	Sr-TR	Melbourne, Aus. (Melbourne Grammar School/Columbia)
4	Joshua Paschal	OLB	6-3	270	Fr-HS	Olney, Md. (Our Lady of Good Counsel)
70	E.J. Price	OT	6-6	311	So-TR	Lawrenceville, Ga. (Archer/Southern California)
77*	Naquez Pringle	DT	6-3	320	Sr-1L	Georgetown, S.C. (Carvers Bay/Itawamba CC)
5	Kendall Randolph	CB	6-0	183	Sr-3L	Tallahassee, Fla. (Lincoln)
80	Javonte Richardson	WR	6-4	230	Fr-HS	Maple Heights, Ohio (Maple Heights)
11	Tavin Richardson	WR	6-3	214	So-1L	Greer, S.C. (Byrnes)
83	Justin Rigg	TE	6-6	246	So-1L	Springboro, Ohio (Springboro)
9*	Davonte Robinson	CB	6-2	187	Fr-RS	Lexington, Ky. (Henry Clay)
89	Will Roden	TE	6-3	230	Fr-HS	Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic)
10	Asim "A.J." Rose	RB	6-1	212	Fr-RS	Cleveland, Ohio (Garfield Heights)
19	Kayaune Ross	WR	6-6	225	Sr-Sq	West Chester, Ohio (Lakota West/Phoenix College)
96*	Matt Ruffolo	K	5-11	185	Fr-HS	Centerville, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)
46	Drew Schlegel	LB	5-11	221	Fr-RS	Parker, Colo. (Regis Jesuit)
48	Brett Slusher	DB	6-2	196	Fr-RS	Fort Mitchell, Ky. (Beechwood)
30	Donald Smith	RB	5-6	170	Fr-HS	Harrodsburg, Ky. (Mercer County)
26*	Benny Snell Jr.	RB	5-11	223	So-1L	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville Central)
65	"Bunchy" Stallings	C	6-3	315	Jr-1L	McComb, Miss. (Spain Park)
71	Logan Stenberg	OG	6-6	318	So-1L	Madison, Ala. (James Clemens)
91*	Calvin Taylor Jr.	DE	6-9	305	So-Sq	Augusta, Ga. (Augusta Christian)
18	Clevan Thomas Jr.	WR	5-11	205	Fr-HS	Miami, Fla. (Charles W. Flanagan)
25*	Harold Turks	RB	5-10	182	Fr-RS	Nashville, Tenn. (Montgomery Bell Academy)
88	Charles Walker	WR	5-11	203	Sr-3L	Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
16	Marcus Walker	S	6-1	212	So-1L	Lake Wales, Fla. (Lake Wales)
35	Denzil Ware	DE/LB	6-2	245	Jr-2L	Opp, Ala. (Senior)
66	Naasir Watkins	OL	6-5	300	Fr-HS	Laurel, Md. (Our Lady of Good Counsel)
31	Jamar "Boogie" Watson	LB	6-3	240	Fr-RS	Forestville, Md. (Bishop McNamara)
25*	Darius West	S	6-0	210	Jr-2L	Lima, Ohio (Central Catholic)
21	Chris Westry	CB	6-4	195	Jr-2L	Orange Park, Fla. (Oakleaf)
97*	Chris Whittaker	DL	6-3	260	Fr-HS	Hollywood, Fla. (Chaminade-Madonna)
77*	Mason Wolfe	OT	6-6	310	So-Sq	Henderson, Ky. (Henderson County)
17*	Walker Wood	QB	6-0	181	Fr-HS	Lexington, Ky. (Lafayette)
15*	Jordan Wright	OLB	6-5	250	Fr-HS	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard)
14	Luke Wright	QB	6-4	206	Jr-Sq	Atlanta, Ga. (Holy Innocents' Episcopal/Cincinnati)
42	Tristan Yeomans	LS	6-2	198	Jr-1L	Waycross, Ga. (Ware County/New Mexico Military Institute)
67	Landon Young	OT	6-7	305	So-1L	Lexington, Ky. (Lafayette)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald: ah-BOO-lay ah-BODY
 Tyrell Ajian: a-jun
 George Asafo-Adjei: ah-SAH-fo ad-JAY
 Derrick Baity: same as "batey"
 Bryan and Brayden Berezowitz: BREZ-o-wits
 David Bouvier: Boo-VEE-ay (long "a" sound)
 Lynn Bowden: BO-den
 Yusuf Corker: YOU-suf
 Kengera Daniel: ken-JAIR-uh
 Jamin Davis: JAY-min
 Sebastien Dolcine: dole-SEEN
 Tymere Dubose: du-BOSE

Zy'Aire Hughes: ZY-air
 Sihiem King: sah-HEEM
 Cole Mosier: MO-zher
 Charles Moushey: Moo-SHAY
 Javonte Richardson: Jay-VEE-on-tay
 Tavin Richardson: TAY-vin
 Kayaune Ross: KAY-juan
 Jervontius Stallings: jer-VON-tee-us
 Clevan Thomas: clee-VAN
 Denzil Ware: den-ZEL
 Tristan Yeomans: YO-mans



2017 PLAYER BIOS



41

JOSH ALLEN

LINEBACKER

6-5 • 230 • Junior-2L
Montclair, N.J. (Montclair)

- AP All-SEC Second Team
Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
Butkus Award Semifinalist
AP Midseason Second-Team All-American
Sports Illustrated Midseason Second-Team All-American
First-team Midseason All-SEC by The All-American

2017 - Junior

- Ranks tied for sixth in the SEC and 36th nationally in sacks per game (0.58)
Got his first career interception at No. 7 Georgia, returning it 14 yards
Has totaled 19.5 career TFL, 14.5 career sacks
Ranks fourth in career sacks (14.5) in the SEC among active players behind Ole Miss' Marquis Haynes (32), LSU's Arden Key (21.0), Missouri's Marcell Frazier (16.5)
On the season, has 58 tackles (fourth on the team), 9.5 tackles for loss, 7.0 sacks, a team-high four QB hurries, 3 PBUs, two forced fumbles and one interception
Had 8.5 TFL and 7.0 sacks last season

Personal

- Has five siblings, including four sisters ... Josh's sister, Myisha Hines-Allen, plays basketball at Louisville ... Has a fraternal twin brother, Isaiah, who plays basketball at Passaic County Community College in New Jersey
Played tight end for three seasons at Abbeville High School in Abbeville, Alabama before moving back to New Jersey as a senior where he switched to defense
Major is pre-media arts studies with a minor in digital media and design

ALLEN'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, Sacks-Yds., TFL-Yds., Int., FF, PBU, QBH

ALLEN'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkls, Sacks, TFL-Y, FF, PBU, QBH, Int.-Yds

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int.-Yds

ALLEN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 9, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016 (4-5)
Sacks: 1.5, three times, last vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Tackles for loss: 2.0, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017 (2.0-9)
Fumbles forced: 1, six times, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Quarterback Hurries: 2, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017 (2.0-9)
Pass breakups: 2, at Mississippi State, Oct 21, 2017
Interceptions: 1, at Georgia, Nov 18, 2017 (1-14)



29

DERRICK BAITY JR.

CORNERBACK

6-3 • 186 • Junior-2L
Tampa, Fla. (H.B. Plant)

2017 - Junior

- Has 47 tackles this season, seventh on the team
Two interceptions (South Carolina and Vandy) and five PBUs
Had six tackles and a career-high three pass breakups vs. Missouri
Responsible for three defensive takeaways in the second half of Kentucky's 23-13 win at South Carolina, including a pair of tackles on 4th-and-1 and a pass interception
Name SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week for his play at USC
Led the Wildcats with eight tackles at USC
Had eight tackles and one fumble recovery vs. EKU ... The fumble recovery was Baity's first of his career

Personal

- Has a son, Derrick Baity III or "Champ"
Major is community and leadership development

BAITY'S CAREER STATISTICS

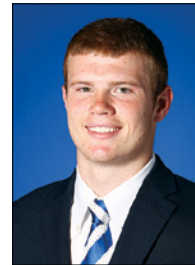
Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds., Int., FC, FR, PBU

BAITY'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC/FR, PBU, Int.-Yds

BAITY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 8, twice, last at South Carolina, Sept 16, 2017 (6-2)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, three times, last vs. Georgia Tech, Dec 31, 2016 (1-3)
Pass breakups: 3, vs. Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Interceptions: 1, five times, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Fumble forced: 1, vs. Louisville, Nov 25, 2017
Fumble recovery: 1, vs. EKU, Sept. 10, 2017



7

DREW BARKER

QUARTERBACK

6-3 • 222 • Junior-2L
Burlington, Ky. (Conner)

2017 - Junior

- Has seen action in three games this season
Missed the final nine games of 2016 with a back injury
Had surgery in November of 2016

Personal

- Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in integrated strategic communication and is currently working on a master's degree in public financial management at the Martin School of Public Administration

BARKER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, G-GS, Comp., Att., Int., Pct., Yds., TD, Long



BARKER'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Comp-Att-Int.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rush	Yards	TD
vs. EKU	1-2-0	5	0	5	2	-15	0
at Miss. State	1-2-0	28	0	28	1	-6	0
vs. Tennessee	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	8	0
Totals	2-4-0	33	0	28	4	13	0

BARKER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Pass attempts: 29, Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015
 Pass completions: 16, Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015
 Pass yards: 323, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016
 Pass TDs: 4, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016
 Had intercepted: 3, at Florida, Sept 10, 2016
 Long pass: 72, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016
 Total offense plays: 35, Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015 (6 rush, 29 pass)
 Total offense yards: 318, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016 (-5 rush, 323 pass)
 All-purpose yards: 26, at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2015
 Rushing Touchdowns: 1, Louisville, Nov 28, 2015
 Rush attempts: 12, Louisville, Nov 28, 2015
 Rush yards: 26, at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2015 (4 carries)
 Long rush: 17, at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2015



95

QUINTON BOHANNA

NOSE GUARD

**6-4 • 320 • Freshman-HS
Cordova, Tenn. (Cordova)**

2017 - Freshman

- Earned his first career start vs. Ole Miss and has started since
- Had a career-best three tackles at Mississippi State
- One of seven true freshmen to see action in the season opener at Southern Miss
- Recorded two tackles in his first collegiate action at Southern Miss
- Also had two tackles vs. Eastern Michigan and Tennessee
- Athlon Sports Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Personal

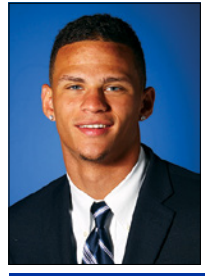
- Major is undecided
- One thing most people don't know is that he is also a good basketball player and he played quarterback in middle school

BOHANNA'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	QBH	Int.	PBU
at Southern Miss	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. EKU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Miss. State	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	11	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1

BOHANNA'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 3, at Miss. State, Oct 21, 2017 (0-3)
 PBU: 1, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017



6

BLAKE BONE

WIDE RECEIVER

**6-5 • 213 • Senior-3L
Woodruff, S.C. (Woodruff)**

2017 - Senior

- Has two TD receptions this season
- Fourth on the team in receiving yards with 234
- Averaging a team-high 18.0 yards per catch
- Made a crazy catch for a career-long 45-yard play in the first quarter at Georgia, helping set up a field goal
- Recovered a UK fumble in the end zone for a touchdown at Mississippi State
- Had three catches for 30 yards, including a 14-yard TD catch to open the scoring vs. Missouri
- Caught a 14-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter vs. Florida, his first TD since 2015
- Had a career-high 93 yards receiving on three catches vs. EKU ... His 93 yards exceeded his season total of 82 yards last season

BONE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	FR/TD	Long
2014	WR	11-0	14	194	13.9	2	0/0	36
2015	WR	11-1	20	210	10.5	1	0/0	40
2016	WR	11-0	5	82	16.4	0	0/0	37
2017	WR	12-3	13	234	18.0	2	1/1	45
Totals		45-4	52	720	13.8	5	1/1	43

BONE'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long	FR/TD
at Southern Miss	0	0	0	0	0/0
vs. EKU	3	93	0	43	0/0
at South Carolina	1	9	0	9	0/0
vs. Florida	1	14	1	14	0/0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0	0/0
vs. Missouri*	3	30	1	14	0/0
at Miss. State*	2	17	0	9	1/1
vs. Tennessee*	2	26	0	19	0/0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0	0	0	0/0
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0	0/0
at Georgia	1	45	0	45	0/0
at Louisville	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	13	234	2	45	1/1

Receptions: 7, Eastern Kentucky, Oct 3, 2015
 Receiving yards: 93, Eastern Kentucky, Sept 9, 2017 (3 receptions)
 Receiving TDs: 1, five times, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
 Long reception: 45, at Georgia, Nov 19, 2017
 All-purpose yards: 93, Eastern Kentucky, Sept 9, 2017
 Fumble Recovery: 1, at Mississippi State, Oct 21, 2017



1

LYNN BOWDEN JR.

WIDE RECEIVER

**6-1 • 190 • Freshman-HS
Youngstown, Ohio (Warren Harding)**

Coaches' All-SEC Freshman Team

2017 - Freshman

- Averaging 23.1 yards per kick return with a team-high 35 returns which ranks sixth in the SEC
- The former quarterback has completed 3-of-4 pass attempts this season (92 yards)
- Had a career-high 192 all-purpose yards in the win over Vanderbilt
- Had a 93-yard kickoff return against the 'Dores, UK's longest since 2009, to set up a touchdown
- Also caught three passes for a career-high 79 yards ... All three receptions were good for first downs, two of which came on touchdown drives
- Named SEC Freshman of the Week (Oct. 9) after leading UK with 128 all-purpose yards in the Wildcats' 40-34 win over Missouri
- Caught three passes for 49 yards ... All three catches went for first downs on UK scoring drives
- In the fourth quarter, he caught a pass in the flat and apparently was tackled for no gain when he broke the tackle, zig-zagged all the way across the field, and broke another tackle before finally being stopped for a 20-yard gain
- Played quarterback in high school
- Ranked one of the top 100 players in the 2017 class by ESPN and Scout
- Ended his senior season throwing for 1,366 yards, rushing for 2,277 yards and accounting for 57 total TDs

Personal

- Name is pronounced "Bowden (BO-den)"
- Has a son, Lynn Bowden III

BOWDEN'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD	Pass Att./Comp./Yds
at So. Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/0/0
vs. EKU	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	51	0	0/0/0
at USC	3	10	0	0	0	0	1	16	0	0/0/0
vs. Florida	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/1/24
vs. EMU	1	5	0	2	19	0	1	26	0	0/0/0
vs. Mizzou	0	0	0	3	49	0	3	79	0	0/0/0
at Miss. St.	1	-1	0	3	38	0	5	112	0	0/0/0
vs. UT	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	123	0	1/1/36
vs. Ole Miss	2	3	0	2	22	0	6	108	0	1/1/32
at Vandy	2	0	0	3	79	0	2	113	0	0/0/0
at Georgia	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	69	0	0/0/0
vs. UoFl	1	7	0	0	0	0	7	110	0	0/0/0
Totals	12	37	0	15	210	0	35	807	0	3/4/92





BOWDEN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Rush attempts: 3, at South Carolina, Sept 16, 2017
Rush yards: 13, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017 (2 carries)
Rush TDs: n/a
Long rush: 9, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Receptions: 3, three times, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Receiving yards: 79, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Long reception: 35, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
All-purpose yards: 192, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Kick returns: 6, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017
Kick return yards: 123, vs Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017
Long kick return: 93, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017



90

T.J. CARTER

DEFENSIVE END

6-4 • 280 • Sophomore-1L
Mableton, Ga.
(Whitefield Academy)

2017 - Sophomore

- Started in all 12 games this season
Had a career-high four tackles, including his first career sack for a loss of 11 yards vs. Tennessee
Had a sack and a QBH in the win at Vanderbilt
Recorded two tackles in the season opener at Southern Miss, vs. ECU and at Mississippi State

Personal

- Major is pre-information communications

CARTER'S CAREER STATISTICS

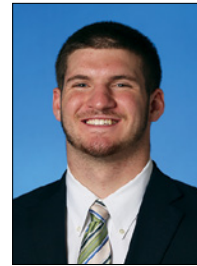
Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds., Sacks-Yds., FC, QBH, PBU

CARTER'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FC, QBH, PBU

CARTER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 4, vs Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017 (4-0)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, 3x, last at Georgia, Nov 19, 2017
Sacks: 1.0, 3x, last at Georgia, Nov 19, 2017
Pass breakups: 1, twice, last at South Carolina, Sept 16, 2017
Quarterback Hurries: 1, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017



87

C.J. CONRAD

TIGHT END

6-5 • 245 • Junior-2L
LaGrange, Ohio (Keystone)

- Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
John Mackey Award Watch List
Coaches' Preseason All-SEC Third Team

2017 - Junior

- Suffered a season-ending foot injury in the Georgia game ... Had surgery on Nov. 21
Was second on the team in receiving yards with 286 yards on 16 catches ... Averaged 17.9 yards per catch (2nd on the team)
Has nine career touchdown catches
Had a season-high five catches for 75 yards and a score vs. Ole Miss
Had a receiving TD in the UK's first two games, becoming the first UK tight end with a receiving touchdown in consecutive games since Jacob Tamme on Nov. 24 and Dec. 31, 2007

Personal

- Brother, Austin, is a redshirt freshman defensive end (formerly a tight end) at Ohio
Participated in a one-week service/educational trip with teammates Denzil Ware and Jordan Bonner to the Dominican Republic in May of 2017 where he interacted with residents of impoverished communities, visited an orphanage, constructed park benches in a sugar cane village, distributed food to the hungry and visited a nursing home and a daycare for special needs children
Major is pre-communications

CONRAD'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Rec., Yds., Avg., TD, Long

CONRAD'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long



32

ELI BROWN

LINEBACKER

6-2 • 215 • Sophomore-1L
Bowling Green, Ky. (Warren East)

2017 - Sophomore

- Has 37 tackles this season
Had six tackles, including 1.0 TFL vs. E. Michigan
Also had six tackles, including 1.0 TFL in the win at South Carolina
Started in five games for an injured Jordan Jones

Personal

- Major is family science

BROWN'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds., Sacks-Yds., FR, QBH, PBU

BROWN'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, FR, QBH, Int., PBU

BROWN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 7, at Alabama, Oct 1, 2016 (6-1)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, twice, last vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017 (1.0-1)
Fumbles recovered: 1, vs Vanderbilt, Oct 8, 2016
Pass breakups: 1, twice, last vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Quarterback Hurries: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017



CONRAD'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME				
at Georgia*	1	7	0	7
vs. Louisville		DNP	(Injury)	
Totals	16	286	4	59

CONRAD'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Receptions: 6, at Mississippi State, Oct 24, 2015
Receiving yards: 133, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016 (5 receptions)
Receiving TDs: 3, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Long reception: 72, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
All-purpose yards: 133, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016



56

KASH DANIEL

LINEBACKER

**6-1 • 248 • Sophomore-11
Paintsville, Ky. (Paintsville)**

2017 - Sophomore

- Rushed six yards on a fake punt to give the Wildcats a first down during a crucial part of the fourth quarter vs. Missouri ... The first down led to a 53-yard field goal by Austin MacGinnis, the eventual game winner
- Had two tackles in the win at South Carolina

Personal

- Major is health promotions with a minor in communications
- Avid fisherman ... Dad, Scott, is a former professional bass fisherman

KA. DANIEL'S CAREER STATISTICS								
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FR	QBH	PBU
2016	LB	13-0	19	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2017	LB	12-0	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals		25-0	26	0-0	0-0	0	0	0

KA. DANIEL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME							
Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	QBH	Int.	
at Southern Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E.KU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0

DANIEL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Tackles: 7, vs. Austin Peay, Nov 19, 2016 (2-5)



20

KENGERA DANIEL

DEFENSIVE END

**6-5 • 260 • Junior-2L
Raleigh, N.C. (Millbrook)**

2017 - Junior

- Got his first career sack vs. E. Michigan
- Had a career-best two tackles in the opener at Southern Miss

Personal

- Name is pronounced "ken-JAIR-ah" (jair like hair with a "j" sound)
- Name is combination of his mom and dad's name
- Major is health promotions with a minor in communications

KEN. DANIEL'S CAREER STATISTICS								
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC	FR	PBU
2015	DE	3-0	1	0-0	0.0-0	0	0	0
2016	DE	8-0	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2017	DE	11-0	6	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	0
Totals		22-0	10	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	0

KEN. DANIEL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME							
Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	QBH	Int.	
at Southern Miss	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E.KU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville			DNP				
Totals	6	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	0	0

KEN. DANIEL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Tackles: 2, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017 (2-0)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017 (1.0-10)
Sacks: 1.0, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017 (1.0-10)



7

MIKE EDWARDS

SAFETY

**6-0 • 200 • Junior-2L
Cincinnati, Ohio (Winton Woods)**

- *Phil Steele All-SEC First Team*
- *Jim Thorpe Preseason Watch List*

2017 - Junior

- Leads the team and ranks tied for ninth in the SEC in tackles per game with 7.5
- Has a team-high four INTs and team-high six PBUs
- On pace to be just the fourth player in school history to lead the team in both interceptions and tackles in the same season, joining Darryl Bishop in 1972, Quentus Cumby in 2002 and Danny Trevathan in 2011
- Ranks 38th nationally and tied for second in the SEC in total interceptions (4)
- Ranks tied for 12th in the SEC in passes defended (.83 per game)
- Has five double-figure tackle games this season and nine in his career
- Had 11 tackles and his first career QBH vs. Ole Miss
- Recorded 10 tackles, one sack and 1.5 tackles for loss in the win over Tennessee
- His end zone interception on the game's final play clinched the win over Eastern Michigan
- Sealed UK's win over E.KU with a late interception in the fourth quarter
- Athlon Sports Preseason All-SEC Second Team
- Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Media)
- Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Personal

- His nickname is "The Badger"
- Wears a pink mouthpiece in memory of his aunt, Angie Evans, who passed away from breast cancer in 2013
- Major is family sciences with a minor in criminology

EDWARDS' CAREER STATISTICS										
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls	Int.-Yds.	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	QBH	PBU	
2015	S	12-5	39	1-20	0-0	2.0-4	1/0	0	2	
2016	S	13-13	100	3-46	0.5-4	5.5-14	0/0	0	8	
2017	S	12-12	90	4-1	1.0-13	4.0-20	0/0	1	6	
Totals		37-30	229	8-67	1.5-17	11.5-38	1/0	1	16	

EDWARDS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME									
Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	Int.	QBH		
at Southern Miss *	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0	0		
vs. E.KU*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	1-0	0		
at South Carolina*	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	1-1	0		
vs. Florida*	11	0-0	0-0	0	1	0-0	0		
vs. E. Michigan*	8	0-0	0-0	0	2	1-0	0		
vs. Missouri*	11	0-0	0-0	0	1	0-0	0		



EDWARDS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

vs. Miss. State*	11	0-0	1.0-1	0	1	0-0	0
vs. Tennessee*	10	1.0-13	1.5-15	0	0	0-0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0	1
at Vanderbilt*	5	0-0	1.0-3	0	0	1-0	0
at Georgia*	4	0-0	0-0	0	1	0-0	0
vs. Louisville*	6	0-0	0.5-1	0	0	0-0	0
Totals	90	1.5-17	3.5-19	0	6	4-1	1

EDWARDS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 13, vs Georgia, Nov 5, 2016 (4-9)
Tackles for loss: 1.5, vs Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017 (1.5-15)
Sacks: 1.0, vs. Tennessee, Oct. 28, 2017 (1.0-13)
Fumbles forced: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2015
Pass breakups: 3, vs New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Touchdowns: 1, vs Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015
All-purpose yards: 46, vs Austin Peay, Nov 19, 2016
Interceptions: 2, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Long interception return: 46, vs Austin Peay, Nov 19, 2016



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MATT ELAM

NOSEGUARD

6-7 • 360 • Senior-3L
Elizabethtown, Ky. (John Hardin)

2017 - Senior

- Earned his first starting assignment of the season at Mississippi State
- At Southern Miss, recorded a season-high four tackles, including a tackle for loss

Personal

- Major is communications

ELAM'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC	FR	PBU
2014	DT	12-0	10	0-0	0-0	0	0	2
2015	DT	12-4	23	0-0	0.5-1	0	0	0
2016	DT	12-5	9	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2017	DT	9-1	8	0-0	1.0-4	0	0	1
Totals		45-10	50	0-0	1.5-5	0	0	3

ELAM'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	FC	FR	PBU	QBH
at Southern Miss	4	1.0-4	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. EKU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
vs. Florida	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee							
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt							
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0

vs. Louisville								DNP
Totals	8	1.0-4	0-0	0	0	1	0	

ELAM'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 6, 2x, last vs. UL Lafayette, Sept 5, 2015
Tackles for loss: 1.0, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2016 (1.0-4)
Pass breakups: 1, 3x, last at South Carolina, Sept 16, 2017



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ISAIAH EPPS

WIDE RECEIVER

6-2 • 185 • Freshman-HS
Jenks, Okla. (Jenks)

2017 - Freshman

- Had a career-best two catches for 31 yards vs. Ole Miss
- One of seven true freshmen to see action in the season opener at Southern Miss
- Caught one pass for 18 yards in the win over Eastern Michigan

Personal

- Older brother, Carson, and cousin, Denver Johnson are currently wide receivers at Iowa State
- Major is psychology

EPPS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	1	6	0	6
vs. EKU	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	18	0	18
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	2	31	0	28
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0	0	0
Totals	4	55	0	28

EPPS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 2, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017
Receiving yards: 31, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017 (2 receptions)
Receiving TDs: n/a
Long reception: 28, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017



3

JORDAN GRIFFIN

CORNERBACK

6-0 • 186 • Sophomore-1L
Riverdale, Ga. (Jonesboro)

2017 - Sophomore

- Has 21 tackles, three PBU's and one INT this season
- Got his first career interception in the win over Vanderbilt
- Charted a career-high six tackles vs. Missouri with one PBU
- Had two tackles and a PBU in the opener at Southern Miss ... Also had two tackles at South Carolina and vs. Eastern Michigan
- Earned his first career start vs. Eastern Michigan
- SEC First-year Academic Honor Roll (2016-17)

Personal

- Major is pre-integrated strategic communications

GRIFFIN'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Y	Int.-Yds.	PBU	FR	FC	QBH
2016	DB	8-0	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
2017	DB	12-1	21	0-0	1-2	3	0	0	0
Totals		20-1	27	0-0	1-2	3	0	0	0

GRIFFIN'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FR	FC	PBU	Int.
at Southern Miss.	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
vs. EKU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	-
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1-2
at Georgia	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	21	0-0	0.0	0	0	3	1-2

GRIFFIN'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 6, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2016 (5-1)
Pass breakups: 1, three times, last vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017
Interceptions: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017





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GREG
HART

TIGHT END

6-5 • 245 • Senior-1L
Dayton, Ohio (Archishop Alter/
Nebraska)

2017 - Senior

- Has seen action in all 12 games
- Earned his first career start vs. Louisville for an injured C.J. Conrad
- Caught his first collegiate touchdown pass with a career-long 20-yard scoring grab in the first quarter vs. Eastern Michigan
- Saw action in 12 games in 2016, catching six passes for 32 yards

Personal

- Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in marketing and is currently working on a second degree in communications
- Participated in a one-week service/educational trip to Ethiopia where he interacted with residents of impoverished communities, visited imprisoned men, helped widows, cared for orphans, and helped renovate houses (May of 2016)

HART'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2016	TE	12-0	6	32	5.3	0	11
2017	TE	11-0	3	25	8.3	1	20
Totals		23-0	9	57	6.3	1	20

HART'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	0	0	0	0
vs. E.KU*	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	3	0	3
vs. Florida	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	20	1	20
vs. Missouri	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	2	0	2
at Vanderbilt	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	25	0	3

HART'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 2, vs New Mexico State, Sept 16, 2016
Receiving yards: 20, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017 (1 rec.)
Receiving TDs: 1, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Long reception: 20, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017



9

GARRETT
JOHNSON

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 175 • Senior-3L
Winter Garden, Fla. (West Orange)

2017 - Senior

- Leads the team in receptions (46) and receiving yards (500 yards)
- Ranks 10th in the SEC in receptions per game (3.8)
- Led the team in receptions last season with 39 catches for 585 yards and five touchdowns
- Also led the team in 2015 with 694 receiving yards, collecting 46 catches for two touchdowns
- Has 2,050 receiving yards as a Wildcat and is just the fourth player in school history – also Craig Yeast, Keenan Burton, Derek Abney – to reach 2,000 in his career
- Has 153 career catches which ranks fifth on the UK career receptions list ... Needs 37 more to tie Keenan Burton (189 from 2003-07) at No. 4
- Just the fifth player in school history with at least 150 receptions (Joining Craig Yeast, Derek Abney, Anthony White, Keenan Burton)
- Ranks fourth on UK's career receiving yardage list with 2,050 career receiving yards ... Needs 289 more yards to tie Derek Abney (2000-03) at No. 3 with 2,339 yards
- Had seven catches for 111 yards and one TD in the win over Missouri ... Marked his first 100-yard game of the season and sixth of his career
- Has had at least one 100-yard receiving game each of his four seasons; he and Rafael Little are the only two Wildcats in school history to do so
- Had a 64-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter vs. Mizzou, marking his sixth catch of at least 60 yards in his career, four of which have been touchdowns from Stephen Johnson
- His eight catches vs. Eastern Michigan were the most receptions for a Wildcat since he had nine vs. Auburn in 2015
- Has 11 career touchdown catches

Personal

- Nickname is "Juice"
- Major is communications

G. JOHNSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

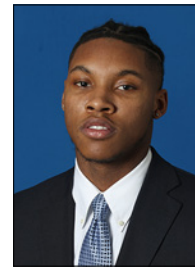
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2014	WR	12-2	22	271	12.3	2	60
2015	WR	12-11	46	694	15.1	2	39
2016	WR	13-9	39	585	15.0	5	75
2017	WR	12-12	46	500	10.9	2	64
Totals		49-34	153	2,050	13.4	11	75

G. JOHNSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss *	2	22	0	14
vs. E.KU*	2	42	0	30
at South Carolina*	4	41	0	14
vs. Florida*	4	56	1	27
vs. E. Michigan*	8	61	0	16
vs. Missouri*	7	111	1	64
at Miss. State*	5	36	0	12
vs. Tennessee*	1	2	0	2
vs. Ole Miss*	3	17	0	11
at Vanderbilt*	6	76	0	32
at Georgia*	4	36	0	18
vs. Louisville*	0	0	0	0
Totals	46	500	2	64

G. JOHNSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 9, Auburn, Oct 15, 2015
Receiving yards: 164, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016 (5 receptions)
Receiving TDs: 2, three times, last at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Long reception: 75, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
All-purpose yards: 164, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016



6

LONNIE
JOHNSON JR.

CORNERBACK

6-3 • 215 • Junior-JC
Gary, Ind. (Garden City CC/Gary West Side)

2017 - Junior

- Started the last four games
- Charted a career-high seven tackles vs. Louisville
- Earned his first career start vs. Ole Miss, charting five tackles, a TFL and a PBU
- Had six tackles along with a blocked field goal in the win over Missouri
- Also had a blocked extra point vs. Eastern Kentucky
- Had three tackles and his first career sack in the win over Tennessee

Personal

- Major is community and leadership development

JOHNSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FR	FC	PBU	Int.	Blks
at Southern Miss.	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E.KU	4	0-0	1.0-2	0	0	1	0	1
at South Carolina	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
vs. Missouri	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	3	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	1	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	5	0-0	1.0-1	0	0	1	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0



JOHNSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for game location, G-GS, Rush, Yds, TD, Comp., Att., Int., Pct., Yds., TD, Long. Rows include Georgia*, Louisville*, and Totals.

JOHNSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 7, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (5-2)
Tackles for loss: 1.5, vs EKU, Sept 9, 2017
Sacks: 1.0, vs Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017 (1.0-10)
Blocks: 1, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 9, 2017 (punt)
PBU: 1, 5x, last at Georgia, Nov 18, 2017



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STEPHEN JOHNSON II

QUARTERBACK

6-2 • 185 • Senior-1L
Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.
(Los Osos/Grambling/
College of the Desert)

Johnny Unitas Golden Top 20 Watch List

2017 - Senior

- UK is 14-9 with Johnson as primary QB, including 12-9 as the starter and 2-0 as the team's primary QB in a relief role
Ranks 10th in the SEC in total offense (200.5) and passing yards per game (170.7)
Has thrown or rushed for a touchdown in 11 of the last 16 games
Over the last 15 games he has thrown 16 touchdowns with only five interceptions
Ranks second on the team in rushing with 358 yards on 97 carries (3.7 yards per carry)
Has the most rushing yards in a single season (358) by a Kentucky quarterback with at least 250 passing attempts
Is the only UK quarterback since 1966 with four career games of at least 224 passing yards and 44 rushing yards
Completed 12 straight passes in the Ole Miss game, the fifth-longest completion streak in a game in program history
Completed six passes for 46 yards, while rushing six times for 84 yards and a touchdown in the win over Tennessee
His touchdown rush with :33 left vs. UT was the game-winner
Had 84 rushing yards vs. the Vols, which is the most by a UK quarterback in an SEC game since Matt Roark against Tennessee in 2011 ... Roark had 124 that day against the Vols
Completed 22 of 36 passes for a season-high 298 yards and two touchdowns in the win over Mizzou
His three TD passes vs. Florida tied a career high and were the most for a UK quarterback against Florida since Andre' Woodson on Oct. 20, 2007 when he had five TDs
Completed 16 of 25 passes for 169 yards in the win over South Carolina ... Also had 74 yards rushing on seven carries

- First Kentucky quarterback since 1993 to win four of his first six career true road game starts
First Kentucky quarterback since 1993 to win eight of his first 11 career regular season starts

Personal

- Suffered from Tourette Syndrome until the age of 13
Major is agricultural economics with a minor in business

S. JOHNSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, G-GS, Rush, Yds, TD, Comp., Att., Int., Pct., Yds., TD, Long. Rows include 2013*, 2014*, 2016, 2017, at UK, and Totals.

* at Grambling

S. JOHNSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Comp.-Att.-Int., Yds., TD, Long, Rush, Yds., TD, Long. Rows include Southern Miss*, EKU*, South Carolina*, Florida*, E. Michigan*, Missouri*, Miss. State*, Tennessee*, Ole Miss*, Vanderbilt*, Georgia*, Louisville*, and Totals.

S. JOHNSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Pass attempts: 34, Georgia Tech, Dec 31, 2016
Pass completions: 19, Georgia Tech, Dec 31, 2016
Pass yards: 338, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Pass TDs: 3, three times, last vs. Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Long pass: 75, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Total offense plays: 48, Georgia Tech, Dec 31, 2016 (14 rush, 34 pass)
Total offense yards: 421, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016 (83 rush, 338 pass)
All-purpose yards: 83, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Rushing Touchdowns: 1, four times, last at Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2017
Rush attempts: 14, Georgia Tech, Dec 31, 2016
Rush yards: 84, Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017 (6 carries)
Long rush: 75, at Tennessee, Nov 12, 2016
Consecutive completions: 12, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017



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JORDAN JONES

LINEBACKER

6-2 • 221 • Junior-2L
Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)

- Bednarik Award Watch List
Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List

2017 - Junior

- Returned to action at Mississippi State on Oct. 21 after missing four games with an injured shoulder
Had seven tackles, including one for loss, and had a quarterback hurry in his return
Led all players with 13 tackles in the win over Tennessee, adding one sack and two tackles for loss
His 13 tackles were a season high and the most in his career in a SEC game
Earned Co-SEC Defensive Player of the Week for this play against the Vols
Has recorded 10 or more tackles in five career games
Recorded eight tackles, a career-high 3.0 TFL and 1.0 sacks in the Ole Miss game
Has forced two fumbles this season
Athlon Sports Preseason All-SEC First Team
Athlon Sports Preseason All-America Third Team
Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Media)
Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Coaches)
Southern Pigskin All-SEC Preseason First Team
Led the team and ranked third in the SEC in tackles per game with 8.4 (109 total) in 2016
Led the SEC and ranked 16th nationally in solo tackles per game (5.7) in 2016
Led the team with nine QB hurries in 2016
Led the team and ranked sixth in the SEC in tackles for loss with 15.5 in 2016

Personal

- Major is community and leadership development

JONES' CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds., Sacks-Yds., PD, FF, FR, QBH. Rows include 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

JONES' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF, FR, Int., QBH. Rows include Southern Miss*, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, and Missouri.



JONES' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME									
at Miss. State*	7	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
vs. Tennessee*	13	2.0-4	1.0-3	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	8	3.0-11	1.0-8	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	55	6.5-18	2.0-11	1	1	0	0	0	2

JONES' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Tackles: 19, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016 (13-6)
Sacks: 1.0, six times, last vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017 (8 yards)
Tackles for loss: 3.0, vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017 (11 yards)
Fumbles forced: 1, twice, last vs. EKU, Sept 9, 2017
Fumbles recovered: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 14, 2015
QB Hurries: 3, at Alabama, Oct 1, 2016



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SIHIEM KING

RUNNING BACK

5-9 • 172 • Junior-2L
Colquitt, Ga. (Colquitt County)

2017 - Junior

- Rushed 72 times for 334 yards and two scores in the regular season
- Rushed 15 times for 69 yards and a career-high two touchdowns in the win over Vanderbilt
- Ran for 64 yards on five carries vs. Florida ... Also caught a pass for a career-high 24-yard gain
- Last year, King carried the ball just 11 times for 81 yards

Personal

- Name pronounced "sah-HEEM"
- His nickname is "Sifi"
- Major is community and leadership development
- Writes left-handed

KING'S CAREER STATISTICS											
Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2015	12-0	11	127	11.5	1	62	4	6	1.5	0	6
2016	13-0	11	81	7.4	1	24	3	14	4.7	0	11
2017	12-0	72	334	4.6	2	30	12	75	6.2	0	24
Totals	37-0	94	542	5.8	4	62	19	95	5.0	0	24

KING'S KOR CAREER STATISTICS					
Year	KOR	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2015	23	498	21.7	0	48
2016	10	213	21.3	0	27
2017	3	91	30.3	0	46
Totals	36	802	22.3	0	48

KING'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME									
Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Rec.	Yds.	TD	KR	Yds	TD
at Southern Miss	8	12	0	0	0	0	2	69	0

vs. EKU	9	61	0	3	13	0	1	22	0
at South Carolina	2	15	0	1	18	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	5	64	0	1	24	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	7	9	0	2	-2	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	6	20	0	1	6	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	5	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	2	17	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	4	18	0	2	8	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	15	69	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	7	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	2	1	0	1	6	0	0	0	0
Totals	72	334	2	12	75	0	3	91	0

KING'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Rush attempts: 15, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Rush yards: 91, vs Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015 (5 carries)
Rush TDs: 2, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Long rush: 62, vs Charlotte, Nov 21, 2015
Receptions: 3, vs EKU, Sept 9, 2017
Receiving yards: 24, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Long reception: 24, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
All-purpose yards: 118, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Kick returns: 6, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Kick return yards: 118, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016 (6 returns)
Long kick return: 48, vs. Missouri, Sept 26, 2015



59

KORDELL LOONEY

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

6-3 • 293 • Freshman-RS
Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)

2017 - Freshman - RS

- Charted a career-high three tackles along with a tackle for loss vs. Louisville
- Had two tackles in the season opener vs. Southern Miss and at Mississippi State

Personal

- Major is undecided

LOONEY'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME									
Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF	FR	Int.	QBH	
at Southern Miss	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. EKU			DNP						
at South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee			DNP						
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	3	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	10	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LOONEY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS
Tackles: 3, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (1-2)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (1 yard)



51

COURTNEY LOVE

LINEBACKER

6-2 • 242 • Senior-1L
Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney/Nebraska)

- **2017 Wuerffel Trophy Winner**
- **2017 Allstate AFCA Good Works Team member**
- **Lott IMPACT Trophy Quarterfinalist**
- **2017 Capital One Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award Nominee**

2017 - Senior

- Has been a starter and team captain in all 12 games
- Second on the team in tackles with 82
- Tied for 23rd in the NCAA in fumble recoveries with two
- Had a career-high tying 10 tackles against Louisville
- Got his first sack of the season for a loss of nine yards vs. Ole Miss
- Recorded a career-high 10 tackles and a fumble recovery in the win over Missouri
- Started in all 13 games and named a team captain in 12 games last season
- Ranked third on the team in tackles with 76 in 2016

Personal

- Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in community and leadership development and is currently working on a second degree in communications
- Leads the team in community service hours ... Won the Wuerffel Trophy and was named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, just one of 11 FBS student-athletes on the prestigious team, for his work in the community ... Took a week-long service trip to Ethiopia in May of 2016 ... Currently volunteers with Amachi Central Kentucky, a mentoring program that seeks to pair caring, positive adults with children and youth in the Bluegrass who have one or both parents in state or federal prison or are affected by incarceration in some way
- Co-representative on UK football's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

LOVE'S CAREER STATISTICS											
Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds	QBH	FC	FR	PBU		
2014*	LB	12-0	6	1.0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2016	LB	13-13	76	1.0-5	1.0-5	2	1	1	1	1	1
2017	LB	12-12	82	3.5-12	1.0-9	0	0	2	2	2	2
Totals	at UK	25-25	158	4.5-17	2.0-14	2	1	3	2	2	2
All*		37-25	164	5.5-18	2.0-14	2	1	3	3	3	3





LOVE'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tackles, Sacks, TFL-Y, QBH, PBU, FF/FR, Int. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, Missouri, Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.

LOVE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 10, twice, last vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (2-8)
Sacks: 1.0, twice, last vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017
Tackles for loss: 1.0, four times, last vs Ole Miss, Nov 4, 2017 (1.0-9)
Fumbles Caused: 1, vs Georgia Tech, Dec. 31, 2016
Fumbles recovered: 1, three times, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
QB Hurries: 1, twice, last vs Georgia Tech, Dec. 31, 2016
PBU: 1, twice, last vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017



99

AUSTIN MacGINNIS

KICKER

5-10 • 185 • Senior-3L
Wedowee, Ala. (Prattville)

- Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team
Campbell Trophy Award Semifinalist
Lou Groza Award Watch List
CoSIDA Academic All-District Team

2017 - Senior

- UK's career leading scorer with 354 points which ranks tied for 10th in SEC history for scoring and scoring by kicking
Ranks tied for seventh in SEC history for most FG goals made in a career (71)
Ranks sixth in the SEC in scoring (8.1 ppg) and fourth in scoring by kick (8.1 ppg)
Ranks seventh nationally and leads the SEC in field goals made with Auburn's Daniel Carlson (1.75 per game)
Leads the SEC in FG percentage with Carlson (77.8)
Is 21 of 27 on field goals for the season with the only misses coming from 32, 48, 48, 53, 53 and 57 yards
His 21 field goals this season ties his previous school record for most field goals in a season (21, 2014)
Scored a career-high tying 16 points against Missouri and earned one of three "Stars of the Week from the Lou Groza Award

- The 16 points against Missouri were the second-most points for a kicker in a single game in school history
Made a 53-yarder for the go-ahead score in the fourth quarter vs. the Tigers, becoming the first player in school history with three field goals in his career of at least 53 yards
Holds the school records for career field goals made (71), career FGs attempted (90), most field goals made in a season (21 in 2014 and 2017), consecutive FGs made (11, twice) and longest FG (54 yards)
Has a career total of 141 PATs which ranks second all-time at UK ... Needs 17 more to tie Lones Seiber for the most all time at 158
Has hit 65 consecutive PATs, dating back to 2016, including all 34 this season (school record is 92)
Scored all of UK's points in the second half at South Carolina with his trio of field goals, keeping the Gamecocks at bay
Named SEC Special Teams Player of the Week and earned one of three "Stars of the Week from the Lou Groza Award for his play at USC
Made a pair of potentially touchdown-saving tackles on long kickoff returns vs. EKU
Athlon Sports Preseason All-SEC Fourth Team
Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Personal

- Graduated in May of 2017 with a degree in finance and is currently working on a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics
Set to graduate in one year (May of 2018) with his MBA ... Is taking 19 credit hours this semester and 22 next semester

MacGINNIS' CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, FGM/FGA, PAT, Points, Long FG, TB. Rows include 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

MacGINNIS' FIELD GOALS BY DISTANCE

Table with columns: Year, 1-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50+, Total, Long. Rows include 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

MacGINNIS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Points scored: 16, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Kick PATs: 8, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Points by kicking: 16, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Field goals made: 4, three times, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Field goal attempts: 5, vs Mississippi State, Oct 22, 2016
Longest field goal: 54, at Tennessee, Nov 15, 2014**
Kickoffs: 10, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Touchbacks: 7 vs. UT Martin, 2014
Consecutive FG made: 11** (2014-15, 2017)
** denotes school record



99

ADRIAN MIDDLETON

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

6-3 • 275 • Junior-2L
Bowling Green, Ky. (South Warren)

2017 - Junior

- Has started in all 12 games
Had five tackles vs. Eastern Michigan, including a career-best 2.0 TFL and a sack for a loss of 11 yards
Played in all 13 games in 2016, earning a starting nod in the final 12 games of the season

Personal

- Major is media arts and studies with a minor in digital media and design

MIDDLETON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds, Sacks-Yds, FC, FR, PBU. Rows include 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

MIDDLETON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF, FR, Int., QBH. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, Missouri, Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.

MIDDLETON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 6, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016 (3-3)
Tackles for loss: 2.0, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Sacks: 1.0, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
PBU: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017



84

CHARLES
MOUSHEY

WIDE RECEIVER

6-0 • 180 • Senior-1L
Westerville, Ohio
(Westerville Central)

2017 - Senior

- A walk-on wide receiver who has emerged as a special teams star, charting 10 tackles this season, two of them inside the opponent's 20-yard line
- Has helped down three punts on the 1-yard line
- Came to UK in 2014 as a member of UK's track and field team
- Set the UK Freshman record in the pole vault at SEC Championships and earned SEC All-Freshman honors

Personal

- His nickname is "Moosh"
- If not playing in the NFL, he plans to join the Navy after college
- High school teammates with Benny Snell Jr.
- Father, Charles, was a wide receiver at Dayton



93

MATT
PANTON

KICKER/PUNTER

6-4 • 230 • Senior-TR
Melbourne, Australia
(Melbourne Grammar School/Columbia)

- Ray Guy Award Watch List

2017 - Senior

- Averaging 42.7 yards per punt on the season which ranks 10th in the SEC
- Has 20 punts inside the 20-yard line ... Three punts have been downed at the 1-yard line
- Had his best game as a Wildcat, punting eight times for a 47.2-yard average vs. Eastern Michigan
- Booted a career-long 71-yard punt vs. the Eagles
- Marked the longest for a UK player since Ryan Tydlacka had a 73-yarder at Ole Miss in 2010
- It was UK's longest punt at Kroger Field since Bill Hawk had a 75-yarder vs. Tennessee in 1991
- It was UK's best punting performance since Landon Foster averaged 47.8 against Mississippi State in 2014
- Transferred to Kentucky after playing two seasons at Columbia University in New York City

Personal

- Was a member of Columbia's heavyweight rowing program and Sigma Chi Fraternity
- Experienced Australian Rules Football player
- Graduated with a degree in psychology from Columbia in 2017 and is currently working on a master's degree in business administration at UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics

PANTON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G	Punts	Yds.	Avg.	TBs	FC	Inside 20	Long	50+
2015*	9	19	667	35.1	1	9	12	54	33
2016*	10	42	1,703	40.5	4	13	29	70	29
2017	11	57	2,432	42.7	3	20	20	71	5
at UK	11	57	2,432	42.7	3	20	20	71	5
Totals*	30	118	4,802	40.7	8	42	61	71	67

PANTON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Punts	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Inside 20
at Southern Miss*	9	378	42.0	50	5
vs. EKU*	4	155	38.8	47	1
at South Carolina *	4	178	44.5	54	1
vs. Florida*	5	203	40.6	53	2
vs. E. Michigan*	8	378	47.2	71	3
vs. Missouri*	3	110	36.7	44	0
at Miss. State*	7	316	45.1	67	3
vs. Tennessee*	4	166	41.5	47	1
vs. Ole Miss*	4	168	42.0	46	1
at Vanderbilt		DNP			
at Georgia*	5	211	42.2	46	2
vs. Louisville*	4	169	42.2	49	1
Totals	57	2,432	42.7	71	20

PANTON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Punts: 9, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017
Single-game Avg: 47.2, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Long: 71, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017



4

JOSHUA
PASCHAL

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

6-3 • 270 • Freshman-HS
Olney, Md. (Our Lady of Good Counsel)

2017 - Freshman

- Recorded a career-high three tackles along with a sack in the win over Tennessee and Vanderbilt
- Named SEC Special Teams Player of the week for his game-changing blocked punt vs. EMU
- First UK player to block a punt since Josh Forrest vs. Alabama State in 2013
- With UK clinging to a 17-14 lead in the fourth quarter, Paschal deftly broke through the line and punter shield, also deducing the correct place and time to block a running rugby punt

- The blocked punt went for an 18-yard loss back to the EMU 12-yard line, setting up Benny Snell's 12-yard TD run on the next play
- On the play before the blocked punt, forced a third-down incompletion with a quarterback hurry
- Finished the EMU game with a tackle and a QB hurry, and shared a quarterback sack
- Athlon Sports Preseason SEC All-Freshman Third Team

Personal

- Older brother, Travaughn, was a linebacker for the Wildcats from 2011-14
- Major is undecided

PASCHAL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Y	Sacks-Y	PBU	FF/FR	Blks	Int.	QBH
at Southern Miss	1	1.0-3	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. EKU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	1	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0/0	1	0	1
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	3	0.5-3	0.5-3	0	0/0	0	0	1
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0/0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	2	0-0	0-0	0	0/0	0	0	0
Totals	14	3.5-17	2.5-14	0	0/0	1	0	2

PASCHAL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 3, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Sacks: 1.0, two times, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
Tackles for loss: 1.0, twice, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017 (1.0-7)



77

NAQUEZ
PRINGLE

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

6-3 • 320 • Senior-1L
Georgetown, S.C.
(Carvers Bay/Itawamba CC)

2017 - Senior

- Has 12 career starts at the nose position
- Had three tackles, including one for loss vs. EKU
- Posted two tackles at South Carolina, at Mississippi State, vs. Tennessee and vs. Louisville

Personal

- Major is community leadership and development

PRINGLE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Sacks-Yds.	TFL-Yds.	FC	FR	PBU
2016	NG	12-5	39	1.0-6	2.0-7	0	0	0
2017	NG	12-7	14	0-0	0.5-1	0	0	0
Totals		24-12	53	1.0-6	2.5-8	0	0	0



PRINGLE'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF, FR, Int., QBH. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, Missouri, Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.

PRINGLE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 6, vs. Georgia Tech, Dec. 31, 2016 (4-2)
Sacks: 0.5, twice, last at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016 (1.0-5)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, at Florida, Sept. 19, 2016 (1.0-1)



5

KENDALL RANDOLPH

CORNERBACK

6-0 • 183 • Senior-3L
Tallahassee, Fla. (Lincoln)

2017 - Senior

- Had the first interception of his career vs. Eastern Michigan
Has charted a season-high four tackles three times this season (Southern Miss, South Carolina and Vanderbilt)
Has started in four games

Personal

- Major is communications

RANDOLPH'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, TFL-Yds, Int.-Yds, PBU, FR, FC, QBH. Rows for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

RANDOLPH'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Yds, Sacks, PBU, FR/FF, Int.Yds, QBH. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, and Missouri.

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks, PBU, FR, FF, Int., QBH. Rows include games against Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.

RANDOLPH'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 5, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016 (1-4)
Sacks: 1.0, Mississippi State, Oct 25, 2014 (1-0)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, 4x, last vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017 (1-1)
Fumbles forced: 1, UT Martin, Aug 30, 2014
Fumbles recovered: 1, twice, last at Georgia, Nov 7, 2015
Pass breakups: 1, 3x, last vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Interceptions: 1, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017



11

TAVIN RICHARDSON

WIDE RECEIVER

6-3 • 214 • Sophomore-1L
Greer, S.C. (Byrnes)

2017 - Sophomore

- Played in all 12 games with seven starting assignments
Team's second-leading receiver with 22 catches for 282 yards and one TD
Caught a season-long 36-yard pass from Stephen Johnson on the game-winning drive in the fourth quarter vs. UT, making the catch while dragging his toe inbounds at the Vols' 5-yard line
Scored his first collegiate touchdown on a seven-yard pass reception in the second quarter vs. Eastern Michigan
Recorded a career-high three catches for 21 yards vs. Florida
Caught two passes for 29 yards in the win at South Carolina
Has seven starts this season

Personal

- Name pronounced "TAY-vin"
Major is community leadership and development

RICHARDSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns: Year, Pos., G-GS, Rec., Yds., Avg., TD, Long. Rows for 2016, 2017, and Totals.

RICHARDSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, and E. Michigan.

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks, PBU, FR, FF, Int., QBH. Rows include games against Missouri, Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.

RICHARDSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 3, 4x, last vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017
Receiving yards: 74, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016 (2 receptions)
Touchdowns: 1, E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
Long reception: 41, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016
All-purpose yards: 74, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016



9

DAVONTE ROBINSON

CORNERBACK

6-2 • 187 • Freshman-RS
Lexington, Ky.
(Henry Clay)

2017 - Freshman-RS

- Has seen action in all 12 games
Recorded a career-high five tackles in the win over Vanderbilt

Personal

- Major is pre-integrated strategic communications

ROBINSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns: Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Yds, Sacks, PBU, FR, FF, QBH. Rows include games against Southern Miss, EKU, South Carolina, Florida, E. Michigan, Missouri, Miss. State, Tennessee, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and Louisville.



10

ASIM "A.J."
ROSE

RUNNING BACK

6-1 • 200 • Freshman-RS
Cleveland, Ohio
(Garfield Heights)

2017 - RS Freshman

- Had nine carries for 26 yards at Mississippi State
- Was hampered by an ankle injury in fall camp
- Recorded his first carry in the EKU game

ROSE'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. EKU	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida				DNP				
vs. E. Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri				DNP				
at Miss. State	9	26	0	9	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee				DNP				
vs. Ole Miss				DNP				
at Vanderbilt	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	0
at Georgia				DNP				
vs. Louisville				DNP				
Totals	13	32	0	9	0	0	0	0



19

KAYAUNE
ROSS

WIDE RECEIVER

6-6 • 225 • Senior-SQ
West Chester, Ohio
(Lakota West/Phoenix College)

2016 - Junior

- Third on the team in catches (16), fifth in receiving yards (219) ... Averages 13.7 yards per catch
- Had a career-high four catches for a career-best 77 yards in the win over Missouri
- Caught a career-long 27-yard pass vs. the Tigers
- Had two catches for 14 yards in the win at South Carolina
- Dean's List (Spring 2017)
- SEC First-year Academic Honor Roll (2016-17)

Personal

- Pronounced KAY-waun
- Major is community and leadership development

ROSS' CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
2016	WR	6-0	2	10	5.0	1	9
2017	WR	12-9	16	219	13.7	0	27
Totals		18-9	18	229	12.7	1	27

ROSS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss*	1	8	0	8
vs. EKU*	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina*	2	14	0	8
vs. Florida*	1	21	0	21
vs. E. Michigan*	2	40	0	22
vs. Missouri*	4	77	0	27
at Miss. State*	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	2	11	0	6
at Georgia*	1	4	0	4
vs. Louisville	3	44	0	20
Totals	16	219	0	27

ROSS' SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 4, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
 Receiving yards: 77, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017 (4 receptions)
 Receiving TDs: 1, Southern Miss, Sept 3, 2016
 Long reception: 27, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
 All-purpose yards: 77, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017



26

BENJAMIN
SNELL JR.

RUNNING BACK

5-11 • 223 • Sophomore-1L
Westerville, Ohio
(Westerville Central)

- Associated Press All-SEC First Team
- Coaches' All-SEC Second Team
- Phil Steele All-SEC Second Team
- Maxwell Award Watch List
- Doak Walker Award Watch List

2017 - Sophomore

- Ended the regular season leading the SEC in rushing yards (1,318) on a league-high 256 carries with an SEC-high 18 touchdowns
- Second in the SEC in rushing yards per game (109.8)
- Ranks fifth nationally in rushing TDs (18), eighth in total TDs (18), 17th in total points scored (110), 15th in scoring per game (9.2), 23rd in rushing yards (1,318) and rushing yards per game (109.8)
- In the last five games, totaled 777 yards and 12 touchdowns on 123 carries (6.3 yards per carry) ... the only other SEC players to ever accomplish those numbers or better in a five-game span are LSU's Leonard Fournette and Auburn's Tre Mason

- Ranks third in the SEC in scoring (9.2) and second in the SEC scoring by touchdowns (9.2) ... Ranks third in the SEC in all-purpose yards (114.8)
- In just 25 career games, has 2,409 rushing yards which ranks eighth all-time in program history ... Needs 102 yards move up to No. 7 with Boom Williams (2,511 from 2014-16)
- Ninth player in school history to reach 2,000 in his career
- 19th player in SEC history to reach 2,000 career rushing yards prior to his junior season
- First player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons ... Ran for 1,091 last year and has 1,318 this season
- Holds the school records for points in a season (110), TDs in a season (18), rushing TDs in a season (18), rushing TDs in a career (31) and rushing yards by a sophomore (1,318)
- Just the third player in SEC history to have at least 1,000 rushing yards and at least 13 rushing TDs in both his freshman and sophomore seasons, joining Herschel Walker (Georgia, 1980-1981) and Knowshon Moreno (Georgia, 2007-2008)
- Only the third player in SEC history to have at least 2,409 yards and at least 31 career rushing touchdowns before his junior season, joining Georgia's Herschel Walker and LSU's Leonard Fournette
- Only SEC player since 2000 to have at least 116 rushing yards and at least three rushing TDs in three consecutive games
- Has seven 100-yard games this season (tied for second in school history with Moe Williams) and 12 in his career (fourth in school history)
- First player in school history with at least five 100-yard rushing games in back-to-back seasons
- First player in school history with 10 or more career 100-yard rushing games prior to his junior season
- Named SEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week by the league office and SEC Offensive Player of the Week by College Sports Madness for his play vs. Tennessee
- Set six UK freshman records in 2016, including most rushing TDs in a game (4), most rushing yards by a freshman (1,091), most rushing TDs by a freshman (13), most total TDs by a freshman (13), most 100-yard rushing games (5) and most rushing yards by a freshman in a single game (192)
- Athlon Sports Preseason All-SEC Third Team
- Preseason All-SEC Third Team (Coaches)

Personal

- Major is pre-media arts studies

SNELL'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G-GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2016	13-1	186	1,091	5.9	13	48	2	39	19.5	0	28
2017	12-12	256	1,318	5.1	18	71	10	72	7.2	0	22
Totals	25-13	442	2,409	5.5	31	71	12	111	9.2	0	28

SNELL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Att.	Yds.	TD	Long	Rec.	Yds.	TD	Long
at Southern Miss*	20	67	0	10	1	13	0	13
vs. EKU*	19	105	1	25	2	5	0	4
at South Carolina*	32	102	2	12	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	14	59	0	12	2	22	0	22



SNELL'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for opponent, G-GS, Tackles, Sacks-Yds, TFL-Yds, FC/FR, QBH, PBU. Rows include vs. E. Michigan, vs. Missouri, at Miss. State, vs. Tennessee, vs. Ole Miss, at Vanderbilt, at Georgia, vs. Louisville, and Totals.

SNELL'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Rush attempts: 38, at Missouri, Oct 29, 2016
Rush yards: 211, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (29 carries)
Rush TDs: 4, vs New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Long rush: 71, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Receptions: 3, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Receiving yards: 28, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Long reception: 28, at Louisville, Nov 26, 2016
Total offense yards: 211, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (211 rush)
All-purpose yards: 211, vs Louisville, Nov 25, 2017 (211 rush)
Kick returns: 2, Tennessee, Nov 12, 2016
Kick return yards: 35, Tennessee, Nov 12, 2016 (2 returns)
Long kick return: 32, South Carolina, Sept 24, 2016



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CALVIN TAYLOR JR.

DEFENSIVE END

6-9 • 305 • Sophomore-SQ
Augusta, Ga. (Augusta Christian)

2017 - Sophomore

- Charted a career-high six tackles at Mississippi State
Had a QB hurry in the win over Missouri
Recorded a career-high four tackles in the win over Southern Miss

Personal

- Major is agricultural economics

TAYLOR'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns for Year, Pos., G-GS, Tackles, Sacks-Yds, TFL-Yds, FC/FR, QBH, PBU. Rows for 2016, 2017, and Totals.

TAYLOR'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for Opponent, Tkl., TFL-Y, Sacks-Y, PBU, FF, FR, Int., QBH. Rows include at Southern Miss, vs. ECU, at South Carolina, vs. Florida, vs. E. Michigan, vs. Missouri, at Miss. State, vs. Tennessee, vs. Ole Miss.

Table with columns for Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long. Rows include at Vanderbilt, at Georgia, vs. Louisville, and Totals.

TAYLOR'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 6, at Mississippi State, Oct 21, 2017 (1-5)
QB Hurry: 1, vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017



18

CLEVAN THOMAS JR.

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 205 • Freshman-HS
Miami, Fla. (Charles W. Flanagan)

2017 - Freshman

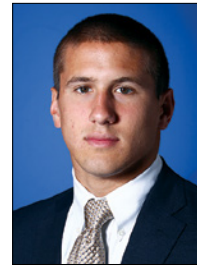
- One of seven true freshmen to see action in the opening game
Had one catch for four yards vs. Southern Miss
Graduated a semester early and enrolled at Kentucky in January of 2017

Personal

- Name is pronounced "cle-VAN"
Major is pre-integrated strategic communications

THOMAS' 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, Long. Rows include at Southern Miss, vs. ECU, at South Carolina, vs. Florida, vs. E. Michigan, vs. Missouri, at Miss. State, vs. Tennessee, vs. Ole Miss, at Vanderbilt, at Georgia, vs. Louisville, and Totals.



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CHARLES WALKER

WIDE RECEIVER

5-11 • 203 • Senior-3L
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)

- Burlsworth Trophy Candidate
CoSIDA Academic All-District Team

2017 - Senior

- Recorded a career-high four catches for 28 yards vs. Florida
Was excellent on special teams as well, charting 87 yards on three punts, including a 57-yard return
Racked up a career-best 115 all-purpose yards vs. the Gators
Two catches for 13 yards in the win over South Carolina
Former walk-on who earned a scholarship during the 2016 preseason camp
Two-time SEC Academic Honor Roll member
Dean's List (Spring 2016, Fall 2016)
A nominee for the Burlsworth Trophy which is given to the most outstanding football player who began his career as a walk-on and has shown outstanding performance on the field

Personal

- His nickname is "Chuck"
Major is finance and marketing

C. WALKER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Table with columns for Year, G-GS, Rec., Yds., Avg., TD, LG, PR, Yds., Avg., TD, LG. Rows for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and Totals.

C. WALKER'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Table with columns for Opponent, Rec., Yds., TD, LG, PR, Yds., Avg., TD, LG. Rows include at Southern Miss, vs. ECU, at South Carolina, vs. Florida, vs. E. Michigan, vs. Missouri, at Miss. State, vs. Tennessee, vs. Ole Miss, at Vanderbilt, at Georgia, vs. Louisville, and Totals.



C. WALKER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Receptions: 4, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
 Receiving yards: 38, vs ECU, Sept 9, 2017 (2 receptions)
 Long reception: 27, vs ECU, Sept 9, 2017
 All-purpose yards: 115, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
 Punt returns: 5, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
 Punt return yards: 101, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
 Long punt return: 65, New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
 Tackles: 3, at Georgia, Nov 7, 2015 (2-1)



16

MARCUS
WALKER

SAFETY

6-1 • 212 • Sophomore-1L
 Lake Wales, Fla. (Lake Wales)

2017 - Sophomore

- Had a season-high two tackles in the win over Vanderbilt

Personal

- Major is communications

M. WALKER'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC	FR	PBU
2016	S	9-0	12	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
2017	S	11-0	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals		20-0	17	0.0	0.0	0	0	0

M. WALKER'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC	FR	Int.	QBH
at Southern Miss	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
vs. ECU	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State			DNP				
vs. Tennessee	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	5	0.0-0	0.0	0	0	0	0

M. WALKER'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 7, Austin Peay, Nov 19, 2016 (3-4)



35

DENZIL
WARE

DEFENSIVE END/LB

6-2 • 245 • Junior-2L
 Opp, Ala. (Senior)

- Phil Steele All-SEC Third Team

2017 - Junior

- Second on the team in tackles for loss (9.0) and sacks (7.0)
- Ranks tied for 10th in the SEC in sacks
- Has recorded a sack in six games this season, including three of the last five
- Has two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries this season
- Caught a pass batted by junior DT Adrian Middleton for the first interception of his career in the win over Vanderbilt ... Also notched two of UK's five quarterback sacks, tying his career high
- Named Co-Defensive Lineman of the Week for his play against the Commodores
- Recorded a career-high tying nine tackles with one sack and two tackles for loss in the win over Tennessee ... His 10-yard sack was on Tennessee's final possession as UK held on to win
- Charted a season-high seven tackles, including a TFL for four yards vs. Florida
- Named SEC Defensive Lineman of the Week in Week 1 after finishing with two tackles, a tackle for loss, a sack, a forced fumble and two fumble recoveries vs. Southern Miss
- Late in the third quarter, Darius West made a jolting tackle that caused a fumble, which Ware scooped and scored from 20 yards out
- Marked his first collegiate touchdown but his second collegiate score ... Also had a fumble return for a 2-point defensive PAT at South Carolina in 2015
- Athlon Sports Preseason All-SEC Third Team
- Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Media)
- Preseason All-SEC Second Team (Coaches)

Personal

- Major is community and leadership development
- Participated in a one-week service/educational trip with teammates Jordan Bonner and C.J. Conrad to the Dominican Republic in May of 2017 where he interacted with residents of impoverished communities, visited an orphanage, constructed park benches in a sugar cane village

WARE'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tkls	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC/FR	PBU	QBH	INT
2015	DE/LB	12-11	39	5.5-13	1.0-4	1/1	0	2	0
2016	DE/LB	13-13	70	12.0-75	5.5-61	0/0	0	5	0
2017	DE/LB	12-6	47	9.0-53	6.5-47	2/2-20	1	2	1-1
Totals		37-30	156	26.5-141	13.0-112	3/3-20	1	9	1-1

WARE'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH
at USM *	2	1.0-10	1.0-10	1	2	0	0	0
vs. ECU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at USC*	4	0.5-1	0.5-1	0	0	0	1	0
vs. Florida	7	1.0-4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan	3	1.0-7	1.0-7	1	0	0	0	2
vs. Missouri	1	0.5-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	9	2.0-12	1.0-10	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	3	1.0-6	1.0-6	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	3	2.0-13	2.0-13	0	0	1-1	0	0
at Georgia	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	47	9.0-53	6.5-47	2	2	1-1	1	2

WARE'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 9, three times, last vs Tennessee, Oct 28, 2017 (6-3)
 Sacks: 2.0, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017
 Tackles for loss: 2.5, twice, last at Tennessee, Nov 12, 2016
 Fumbles forced: 1, twice, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
 Fumbles recovered: 2, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017 (20 yds)
 Quarterback hurry: 2, vs E. Michigan, Sept 30, 2017
 Interceptions: 1, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017



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JAMAR
WATSON

LINEBACKER

6-3 • 240 • Freshman-RS
 Forestville, Md.
 (Bishop McNamara)

2017 - Freshman-RS

- Got his first career sack in the win over Tennessee
- Also had a sack in the Vanderbilt win
- SEC First-year Academic Honor Roll (2016-17)

Personal

- His nickname is "Boogie"
- Major is sociology with a minor in criminology
- One thing most people don't know about him is that he is great tap dancer

WATSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tkls.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.	FC	FR	Int.	PBU	QBH
at Southern Miss	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. ECU	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0
vs. E. Michigan	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Miss. State	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee	1	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	3	1.0-7	1.0-7	1	0	0	0	0
at Georgia	0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0





WATSON'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

vs. Louisville	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	7	2.0-14	2.0-14	1	0	0	1	0

WATSON'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 3, at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017 (3-0)
Sacks: 1.0, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017 (1.0-7)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, twice, last at Vanderbilt, Nov 11, 2017 (1.0-7)
PBU: 1 vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017



25

DARIUS WEST

SAFETY

6-0 • 210 • Junior-2L
Lima, Ohio (Central Catholic)

2017 - Junior

- Ranks third on the team in tackles with 75
- Had a game-high seven tackles at Georgia
- Has two forced fumbles this season
- Made his first career interception in the third quarter and returned it 21 yards vs. Florida
- Led the Wildcats in tackles with a career-high 11 stops vs. ECU
- In addition to causing a fumble at Southern Miss, he also made seven tackles, including one for loss

Personal

- Has a son, Keon J. West
- Majoring in community and leadership development

WEST'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	TFL-Y	Int.-Yds.	PBU	FR	FC
2015	S	10-0	17	0	0-0	0	0	0
2016	S				DNP			
2017	S	12-11	75	3.5-9	1-21	1	0	2
Totals		22-11	92	3.5-9	1-21	1	0	2

WEST'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Southern Miss*	7	0-0	1.5-6	1	0	0	0
vs. ECU	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at South Carolina*	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Florida*	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
vs. E. Michigan*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	5	0-0	0.5-1	1	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	9	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	8	0-0	1.0-1	0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss*	5	0-0	0.5-1	0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
at Georgia*	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville*	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	75	0-0	3.5-9	2	1	1	0

WEST'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 11, vs. ECU, Sept 9, 2017
Tackles for loss: 1.5, twice, last at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017
Fumbles forced: 1, twice, last vs Missouri, Oct 7, 2017
Interceptions: 1, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Long interception return: 21, vs Florida, Sept 23, 2017
Pass breakups: 1, at Mississippi State, Oct 21, 2017



21

CHRIS WESTRY

CORNERBACK

6-4 • 195 • Junior-2L
Orange Park, Fla. (Oakleaf)

2017 - Junior

- Recorded a season-high five tackles at Mississippi State and again vs. Louisville
- Posted four tackles vs. ECU, at South Carolina and vs. Eastern Michigan
- Had two tackles in the opener vs. Southern Miss, along with one forced fumble
- Has three career interceptions

Personal

- Major is pre-media arts studies with a minor in digital media and design

WESTRY'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	Pos.	G-GS	Tackles	Int.-Yds.	TFL	PBU	FR	FC	QBH
2015	CB	12-12	36	2-3	1.5-9	8	0	0	1
2016	CB	13-13	43	1-0	0.5-1	3	1	0	0
2017	CB	12-8	34	0-0	0.5-2	2	0	1	0
Totals		37-33	113	3-3	2.5-12	13	1	1	1

WESTRY'S 2017 GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Tackles	Sacks	TFL-Y	FC/FR	PBU	Int.	QBH
at Southern Miss*	2	0-0	0-0	1/0	0	0	0
vs. ECU*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at South Carolina*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
vs. Florida*	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. E. Michigan*	4	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Missouri*	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
at Miss. State*	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Tennessee*	0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Ole Miss	4	0-0	0.5-2	0/0	0	0	0
at Vanderbilt	1	0-0	0-0	0/0	1	0	0
at Georgia	2	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
vs. Louisville	5	0-0	0-0	0/0	0	0	0
Totals	34	0-0	0.5-2	1/0	2	0	0

WESTRY'S SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Tackles: 7, vs. Mississippi State, Oct 22, 2016
Interceptions: 1, three times, last vs Austin Peay, Nov 19, 2016
Long interception return: 3, at South Carolina, Sept 12, 2015
Sacks: 1.0, at South Carolina, Sept 12, 2015 (1-0)
Tackles for loss: 1.0, at South Carolina, Sept 12, 2015 (1-0)
Pass breakups: 2, twice, last vs New Mexico State, Sept 17, 2016
Forced fumble: 1, at Southern Miss, Sept 2, 2017

KENTUCKY



DERRICK BAITY JR
JUNIOR CB



BOWL HISTORY



KENTUCKY BOWL HISTORY

Kentucky in the Bowls

All-Time Record: 8-8

Great Lakes Bowl

Dec. 6, 1947: UK 24, Villanova 14

Orange Bowl

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

Sugar Bowl

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

Cotton Bowl

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

Peach Bowl

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

Hall of Fame Bowl

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

Hall of Fame Bowl

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

Peach Bowl

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

Outback Bowl

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

HomePoint.com Music City Bowl

Dec. 29, 1999: Syracuse 20, UK 13

Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl

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

Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl

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

AutoZone Liberty Bowl

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

Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl

Dec. 27, 2009: Clemson 21, UK 13

BBVA Compass Bowl

Jan. 8, 2011: Pittsburgh 27, UK 10

TaxSlayer Bowl

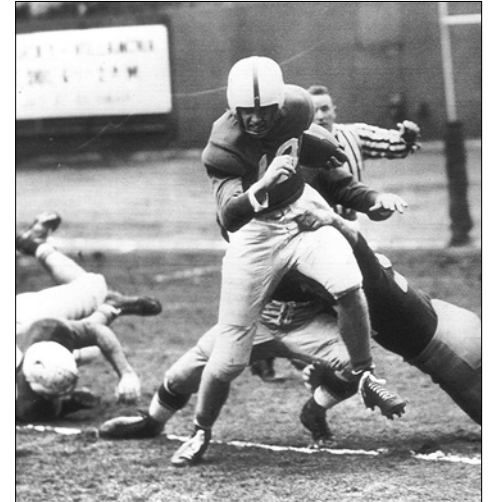
Dec. 31, 2016: Georgia Tech 33, UK 10



Andre' Woodson was named Most Valuable Player of Kentucky's 2006 and 2007 Music City Bowl championships.



Walt Yowarsky was named the Most Valuable Player of UK's 1951 Sugar Bowl triumph over Oklahoma, ending the Sooners' 31-game win streak.



Jim Howe returns a kickoff in Kentucky's first bowl appearance, a 24-14 victory over Villanova in the 1947 Great Lakes Bowl.



The Wildcats celebrate their 20-19 win over Wisconsin in the 1984 Hall of Fame Bowl.



KENTUCKY BOWL SUMMARIES

1947 • Great Lakes Bowl // Kentucky 24, Villanova 14

The Kentucky Wildcats made their first appearance on the bowl scene in the 1947 Great Lakes Bowl and came away with a 24-14 victory over Villanova before a crowd of 14,908 at Cleveland Municipal Stadium.

Kentucky, in its second year under head coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, finished at 8-3 on the season with the victory.

Quarterback/kicker George Blanda gave Kentucky a 3-0 lead in the first quarter. Blanda connected on a 27-yard field goal to put the Cats up and it remained that way until halftime.

In the third quarter, UK's Jim Howe scampered 29 yards for a score. Kentucky led 10-0 after three periods.

Bill Boller scored both Kentucky touchdowns in the fourth period, romping 15 yards on a handoff

from Blanda and racing 49 yards to paydirt with an interception. Blanda added both PATs to round out the Kentucky scoring.

Villanova also added a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns, but it was not enough as Kentucky captured its first bowl victory in school history.

SCORING SUMMARY

VILLANOVA	0	0	0	14	—	14
KENTUCKY	3	0	7	14	—	24

- UK - Blanda, 27 FG
- UK - Howe, 29 run (Blanda PAT)
- UK - Boller, 15 run (Blanda PAT)
- UK - Boller, 49 interception return (Blanda PAT)
- VU - Shehhan, 9 pass from Gordon
- VU - Pasquariello, 10 run
- Attendance - 14,908



All-America quarterback Vito "Babe" Parilli led the Wildcats to the Orange, Sugar, and Cotton bowls in consecutive seasons.

1950 • Orange Bowl // Santa Clara 21, Kentucky 13

Kentucky committed three turnovers and let a seven-point halftime lead slip away in dropping its first major bowl game, 21-13, to Santa Clara in the 1950 Orange Bowl before a crowd of 64,816.

The Wildcats, 9-3, scored their first touchdown early in the second quarter as a result of a Santa Clara turnover. UK's John Netoskie recovered at fumble at the Wildcat 49 to set up Kentucky's first score. The Wildcats drove 51 yards in 14 plays as Wilbur Jamerson hammered over from two yards. Bobby Brooks added the PAT to make it 7-0.

Kentucky wasted a golden scoring opportunity late in the second quarter when Babe Parilli found Bill Leskovar for a 45-yard completion to the SC 3 with time running out. Leskovar and runningmate Don Phelps each were stopped short on their respective rush attempts and the clock ran out before UK could score. The Wildcats led 7-0 at halftime.

UK coach Paul "Bear" Bryant said afterward he should have sent in a pass play just before the half. "If it failed," he said, "the clock was killed then we could have tried a field goal."

A short 9-yard punt by Phelps set up Santa Clara's first score in the third quarter. After taking over on the SC 46, Bronco quarterback John Pasco hit Larry

Williams on a 25-yard pass. Santa Clara eventually scored on a 1-yard sneak by Pasco to tie the game, 7-7.

Santa Clara scored again later in the third period, thanks in part to a pass interference call against Kentucky. Hall Haynes went over from 4 yards to make it 14-7 after three quarters.

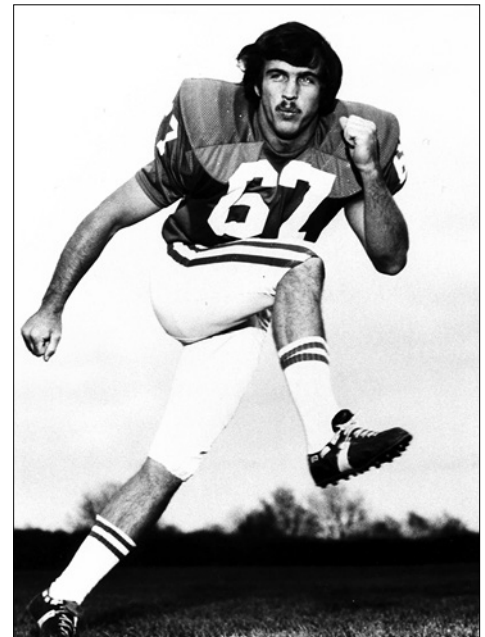
Parilli led Kentucky right back, hitting Emery Clark on a 52-yard touchdown strike. Brooks, however, missed the tying PAT, breaking a personal streak of 18 straight, as Santa Clara led 14-13 with 12 minutes left in the contest.

Santa Clara managed to hold off the Cats and added an insurance score with less than a minute left, a 16-yard TD run by Buster Wraith.

SCORING SUMMARY

KENTUCKY	0	7	0	6	—	13
SANTA CLARA	0	0	14	7	—	21

- UK - Jamerson, 2 run (Brooks PAT)
- SC - Pasco, 1 run (Vargas PAT)
- SC - Haynes, 4 run (Vargas PAT)
- UK - Clark, 52 pass from Parilli (PAT missed)
- SC - Wraith, 16 run (Vargas PAT)
- Attendance - 64,816



Mike Martin was the Defensive Most Valuable Player of the 1976 Peach Bowl when the Wildcats shut out North Carolina.

1951 • Sugar Bowl // Kentucky 13, Oklahoma 7

Kentucky arrived on the national football scene and stunned national champion Oklahoma, 13-7, to capture the 1951 Sugar Bowl before 82,000 in New Orleans.

The Wildcats, 11-1, displayed a tough defense and opportunistic offense in snapping Oklahoma's 31-game winning streak, the longest in the nation at that time. More than 13,000 Kentucky fans made the long trip to New Orleans to watch the Southeastern Conference champions pick up their school record 11th win.

Under the direction of coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, Kentucky continually confused the favored Sooners with different defensive looks. The Wildcats used three tackles much of the time, causing OU quarterback Claude Arnold to hasten his playmaking.

Inflicting the most damage on the Sooners was

Walt Yowarsky, a tackle who had played less than five minutes on the defensive side of the football in 1950. Yowarsky operated at left end, next to Outland Trophy winner Bob Gain, and repeatedly sliced into the Sooner backfield to break up passes and to make Arnold hurry his handoffs and laterals.

Yowarsky recovered a fumble on the OU 22 that set up UK's first touchdown. On the very next play, Babe Parilli hit Wilbur Jamerson in the right corner of the end zone for the score. Gain added the PAT to make it 7-0 in the first quarter.

Kentucky marched 81 yards in the second quarter to go up 13-0. Jamerson dove over from the one to cap the drive, but Gain missed wide on the PAT.

The Wildcat defense, ranked number two in the nation, showed Oklahoma why late in the third quarter. The Sooners drove 67 yards with the second-half



Marc Logan was the MVP of Kentucky's 1984 Hall of Fame Bowl win over Wisconsin.



kickoff, sitting at the UK 3 with a first-and-goal. Yowarsky helped UK turn back the Sooners, throwing an OU runner for a 5-yard loss on third down and Oklahoma eventually turned the ball over on downs.

Yowarsky, voted the game's MVP, thwarted another Oklahoma scoring threat in the fourth quarter as he recovered a fumbled punt.

Oklahoma did score with seven minutes to play as Billy Vessels hit Merrill Green on a 17-yard pass for the touchdown. Jim Weatherall added the PAT.

The Wildcats managed to hold on to the football for all but one play the rest of the way to claim a stirring 13-7 win.

1952 • Cotton Bowl // Kentucky 20, TCU 7

Quarterback Babe Parilli threw for two touchdowns to lead the Kentucky Wildcats to a 20-7 victory over the TCU Horned Frogs in the 1952 Cotton Bowl before a crowd of 75,349 in Dallas, Texas.

Parilli, who completed 8-of-20 passes for 85 yards, tossed both touchdown strikes to Emery Clark. With the victory, the Wildcats ended the season at 8-4.

Kentucky got on the scoreboard first, as Parilli found Clark for the first of two TDs. Parilli hit Clark with a 5-yard toss to culminate a 53-yard scoring march. Harry Jones added the PAT and Kentucky led 7-0 after one quarter.

In the second period, UK got its second touchdown when Parilli and Clark hooked up again. This time, Parilli found Clark on a 13-yard TD strike to cap a 57-yard drive. Jones missed on the PAT attempt and UK settled for a 13-0 lead in the second period with a little over 10 minutes left.

The Wildcat defense made that 13-point lead stand up until halftime as the Horned Frogs drove four times deep into UK territory. Led by All-American guard Ray Correll, the Wildcats turned TCU away on drives to the UK 4, 24, 5 and 2-yard lines to take a 13-0 lead at intermission.

TCU's Bobby Jack Floyd sliced the UK lead to 13-7 when he galloped 43 yards on a sweep. Floyd's run capped an 80-yard scoring drive which took only four plays. Keith Flowers added the PAT with 1:12 left in the third period.

Kentucky ended any thoughts of a TCU comeback, thwarting the only two Horned Frog offensive drives in the fourth period and scoring an insurance touchdown as well. Ed Hamilton sealed the UK victory with a 3-yard score off left tackle with 3:33 left. Jones added the PAT for the final 20-7 score.

SCORING SUMMARY table for 1952 Cotton Bowl: OKLAHOMA 0 0 0 7 - 7, KENTUCKY 7 6 0 0 - 13. Includes UK - Jamerson, 22 pass from Parilli (Gain PAT), UK - Jamerson, 1 run (PAT missed), OU - Green, 17 pass from Vessels (Weatherall PAT), Attendance - 82,000.

SCORING SUMMARY table for 1952 Cotton Bowl: KENTUCKY 7 6 0 7 - 20, TCU 0 0 7 0 - 7. Includes UK - Clark, 5 pass from Parilli (Jones PAT), UK - Clark, 13 pass from Parilli (PAT missed), TC - Floyd, 43 run (Flowers PAT), UK - Hamilton, 3 run (Jones PAT), Attendance - 75,349.



The Wildcats celebrate a victory over TCU in the 1952 Cotton Bowl.

1976 • Peach Bowl // Kentucky 21, North Carolina 0

Kentucky tailback Rod Stewart scored three touchdowns to lead the Wildcats to a 21-0 blanking of North Carolina before a sellout crowd of 54,132 in the 1976 Peach Bowl in Atlanta, Ga.

The Wildcats, after a 25-year absence from the postseason bowl scene, returned in fine fashion as Kentucky completely smothered the Tar Heels. Kentucky outgained North Carolina 334-108 in total yards, limiting the Tar Heels to just five first downs and forcing five UNC turnovers.

After a scoreless first half, Kentucky went to work in the third period after UNC quarterback Matt Kupec fumbled at the Tar Heel 21. UK's James Ramey recovered and the Wildcats were in business.

Seven plays later, Stewart busted over from the one for the touchdown. John Pierce added the PAT and Kentucky led 7-0 after three quarters.

Stewart sent the 37,000-plus Kentuckians, who had followed UK to the Peach Bowl, into a frenzy with his second touchdown early in the fourth quarter. The Wildcats marched 57 yards in 9 plays as Stewart capped the drive with a 13-yard gallop behind All-American tackle Warren Bryant.

Pierce was good on the PAT and Kentucky led 14-0 with 13:01 left to play. The Big Blue had to go only 47 yards for their final score. Kentucky faced a fourth-and-one from the UNC 3 with a little over three minutes remaining. Once again, Stewart (104 yards on 19 carries) got the call and he picked up both - the first down and the touchdown. Pierce was true on the PAT and UK had put the game away. Stewart tied the Peach Bowl record for most touchdowns and scoring with the three TDs and 18 points. He was named the game's MVP. The Most Valuable Defensive Player of the game was UK linebacker Mike Martin, who helped hold UNC to just over 100 yards.

SCORING SUMMARY table for 1976 Peach Bowl: N. CAROLINA 0 0 0 0 - 0, KENTUCKY 0 0 7 14 - 21. Includes UK - Stewart, 1 run (Pierce PAT), UK - Stewart, 13 run (Pierce PAT), UK - Stewart, 3 run (Pierce PAT), Attendance - 54,132.

Bowl Game Records

Team Records

Rushing statistics: Rush Attempts: 42 (Music City, 2009), Net Rushing Yards: 318 (Peach, 1976), Touchdowns Rushing: 3 (Great Lakes, 1947; Peach, 1976)

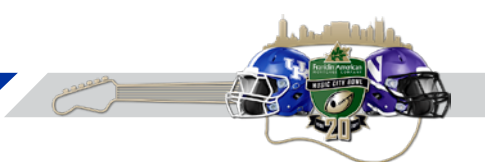
Passing statistics: Pass Attempts: 50 (Music City, 2007), Pass Completions: 32 (Music City, 2007), Had Intercepted: 2 (Orange, 1950; Outback, 1999), Passing Yards: 358 (Music City, 2007), Touchdowns Passing: 4 (Music City, 2007)

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

Scoring statistics: Points Scored: 35 (Music City, 2007), Most Touchdowns: 5 (Music City, 2007), Most Field Goals: 2 (Hall of Fame, 1984; Peach, 1993; Music City, 1999, 2009; Liberty, 2009)

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

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



1983 • Hall of Fame Bowl // West Virginia 20, Kentucky 16

Kentucky won much of the statistical battle but lost the war in dropping a tough 20-16 decision to the West Virginia Mountaineers in the 1983 Hall of Fame Bowl in Birmingham, Ala.

The Wildcats, in a bowl for the first time since 1976, out-gained West Virginia 306-288 in total offense and held the edge in first downs 19-18 and passing yards 216-88. But 17 second-half points by West Virginia were too much for the Wildcats to overcome.

WVU scratched first as placekicker Paul Woodside connected on a 39-yard field goal late in the first quarter.

Kentucky countered with 10 points in the second stanza to take a 10-3 lead at halftime.

The Wildcats marched 54 yards in eight plays for their first score. Facing a third-and-three from the Mountaineers' 26, Kentucky used some razzle-dazzle as Tony Mayes swept right, then threw-back to quarterback Randy Jenkins in the left corner of the endzone for the TD. John Hutcherson added the PAT and UK led 7-3 with 10:59 left in the second period.

Jenkins hit two big passes late in the second quarter to help set up a 32-yard field goal by Hutcherson. Jenkins connected with Joe Phillips for a 19-yard pass play and then hit George Adams for a 14-yarder as Hutcherson connected with 38 seconds left in the half.

WVU kicker Paul Woodside fooled everyone to begin the second half. Woodside tried an on-side kick to start the half and then recovered it to give the Mountaineers the football at the UK 48. Eight plays later, QB Jeff Hostetler found Rich Hollins for a 16-yard TD strike. Woodside added the PAT and it was 10-10 with 11:10 left in the third quarter.

West Virginia scored twice in a span of two minutes early in the fourth quarter to take a commanding 20-10 lead.

Hostetler capped off a 10-play, 81-yard drive with a 2-yard scoring toss to Rob Bennett to make it 17-10 with 11:15 left to play.

Two plays later, West Virginia took over after an interception of a Jenkins pass at the UK 16. The interception set up a 23-yard field goal by Woodside as the Mountaineers went up 20-10 with 9:18 remaining.

Kentucky freshman quarterback Bill Ransdell led the Wildcats back, marching UK 92 yards in 11 plays following the kickoff. Ransdell hit Phillips for a 13-yard scoring toss to make it 20-16 with 5:50 left. Hutcherson missed the PAT.

The Wildcats got one more shot, but could get no further than the UK 37.

SCORING SUMMARY

W. VIRGINIA	3	0	7	10	—	20
KENTUCKY	0	10	0	6	—	1

WV - Woodside, 39 FG 3:54-1Q
 UK - Jenkins, 26 pass from Mayes (Hutcherson PAT) 10:59-2Q
 UK - Hutcherson, 32 FG 0:38-2Q
 WV - Hollins, 16 pass from Hostetler (Woodside PAT) 11:10-3Q
 WV - Bennett, 2 pass from Hostetler (Woodside PAT) 11:15-4Q
 WV - Woodside, 23 FG 9:18-4Q
 UK - Phillips, 13 pass from Ransdell (PAT missed) 5:50-4Q
 Attendance - 42,000

1984 • Hall of Fame Bowl // Kentucky 20, Wisconsin 19

Kentucky's Joey Worley booted a career-long 52-yard field goal with just under nine minutes remaining to give the Wildcats a thrilling 20-19 victory over the Wisconsin Badgers in the 1984 Hall of Fame Bowl in Birmingham, Ala.

Worley, a freshman, helped Kentucky overcome a nine-point deficit in the second half with his school and bowl record field goal.

Wisconsin jumped on top early, scoring twice in the first quarter. Todd Gregoire nailed a 40-yard field goal just under four minutes into the game and Michael Howard hit Thad McFadden with a 3-yard TD pass. Gregoire added the PAT and the Badgers led 10-0 with 5:34 left in the opening period.

Gregoire added another field goal, this one from 27 yards, to make it 13-0 with 7:05 left in the second period.

Kentucky got on the board after safety Paul Calhoun intercepted a Howard pass to give UK possession at the Badger 42. It took Kentucky just five plays to score as Marc Logan went over from nine yards. Worley added the PAT to cut the deficit to 13-7 with 1:29 left in the half.

Wisconsin was not through. The Badgers used four running plays, two passes and a costly 15-yard penalty to move the football to the UK 3 with two seconds left in the half. From there, Wisconsin decided on a Gregoire field goal (20-yarder) to take a 16-7 edge at halftime.

Kentucky narrowed the gap to 16-10 on a 22-yard field goal by Worley with 11:28 left in the third quarter. But Gregoire responded with a 40-yarder two minutes later to move the count back to nine, 19-10.

Behind UK quarterback Bill Ransdell, the Wildcats marched 82 yards in 11 plays later in the quarter to get within two, 19-17. Ransdell hit Logan on a screen pass to cover the final 27 yards and with the Worley PAT, UK was back in it

with 26 seconds left in the third quarter.

The next time Kentucky got the ball, Ransdell moved the Cats into position for Worley's 52-yarder. Starting from the UK 22, tailback Mark Higgs got the call four consecutive times, then it was Adams' turn the next four plays. Facing a fourth-and-two at the UW 34, Worley nailed the game-winner with 8:55 left.

Wisconsin came back and marched to the UK 8 with less than two minutes left. With the Badgers facing a fourth-and-six, Gregoire was called on for his fifth field goal attempt. This time, the snap from center was bobbled and UK sealed the victory.

SCORING SUMMARY

WISCONSIN	10	6	3	0	—	19
KENTUCKY	0	7	10	3	—	20

UW - Gregoire, 40 FG 11:32-1Q
 UW - McFadden, 3 pass from Howard (Gregoire PAT) 5:34 -1Q
 UW - Gregoire, 27 FG 7:05-2Q
 UK - Logan, 9 run (Worley PAT) 1:29-2Q
 UW - Gregoire, 20 FG 0:02-2Q
 UK - Worley, 22 FG 11:28-3Q
 UW - Gregoire, 40 FG 9:04-3Q
 UK - Logan, 27 pass from Ransdell (Worley PAT) 0:26-3Q
 UK - Worley, 52 FG 8:55-4Q
 Attendance - 47,300

Bowl Game Records

Individual Records

Rushing

- 152 Rafael Little (28 att.)
Music City, 2007
- 104 Rod Stewart (19 att.)
Peach, 1976
- 89 Tony Dixon (28 att.)
Liberty, 2009

Pass Attempts

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

Pass Completions

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

Passing Yards

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

Offensive Plays

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

Total Yards

- 344 Tim Couch (8 rush, 336 pass),
Outback, 1999
- 332 André Woodson (-26 rush,
358 pass), Music City, 2007
- 324 Dusty Bonner (16 rush, 308 pass),
Music City, 1999

Receptions

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

Receiving Yards

- 124 Steve Johnson (7 rec.),
Music City, 2007
- 85 Anthony White (8 rec.),
Music City, 1999
- 79 James Whalen (4 rec.),
Music City, 1999



1993 • Peach Bowl // Clemson 14, Kentucky 13

The Wildcats met the 24th-ranked Clemson Tigers in the 26th annual Peach Bowl and came within one minute of winning their sixth bowl in eight tries. But a Clemson TD in the closing seconds sent UK home with a 14-13 loss.

Kentucky took the opening kickoff and marched down the field to the Clemson 2-yard line, where what appeared to be a QB Pookie Jones-to-WB Alfonso Browning TD was instead a turnover when Browning fumbled the ball while attempting to extend it over the goal line.

Clemson took over on its own one and proceeded to march 99 yards for the game's first score, a 2-yard TD plunge by TB Emory Smith. The PAT gave the Tigers a 7-0 lead. Clemson ran the ball 15 times and attempted only three passes in the drive. Kentucky was stopped again at the 1-yard line before the Wildcats finally scored on Nicky Nickels' 34-yard FG in the second period, making the score Clemson 7, Kentucky 3.

UK captured the lead early in the fourth quarter when Jones hit WR Mark Chatmon with a 5-yard TD pass, making it UK 10, Clemson 7. Nickels added another FG, this one from 26 yards, to extend UK's lead to 13-7. But after Dan Ariza's 55-yard punt pinned the Tigers inside their own 18-yard line, QB Patrick Sapp hit Smith with a 57-yard screen pass to move Clemson into scoring position. With less than a minute remaining, LB Marty Moore intercepted a Sapp pass, but fumbled it back, giving Clemson a second chance. The Tigers capitalized when Sapp

hit WR Henry Smith with the game-winning 21-yard TD pass. Kentucky got the ball back with less than 20 seconds remaining, but could move no farther than its own 40.

SCORING SUMMARY

CLEMSON	7	0	0	7	—	14
KENTUCKY	0	3	0	10	—	13

CU - Smith, 2 run (Welch PAT)-1Q
UK - Nickels, 34 FG-2Q
UK - Chatmon, 5 pass from Jones (Nickels PAT)-4Q
UK - Nickels 26 FG-4Q
CU - Smith, 21 pass from Sapp (Welch PAT)-4Q
Attendance - 63,416



Pookie Jones threw for 154 yards and a touchdown in the 1993 Peach Bowl.

1999 • Outback Bowl // Penn State 26, Kentucky 14

Playing on New Year's Day for the first time in 47 years, the Kentucky Wildcats jumped out to an early lead, but the Penn State Nittany Lions rallied for a 26-14 victory in the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Fla.

Although the game was played in Tampa, the Wildcats certainly felt at home. Heavy ticket demand gave the Outback Bowl its first sellout ever, as more than 40,000 UK fans were packed among the 66,005 patrons in Raymond James Stadium.

Kentucky got on the board first with 7:36 remaining in the first quarter. At the PSU 36-yard line, under heavy pressure, quarterback Tim Couch lofted a rainbow into the end zone that wide receiver Lance Mickelsen caught for a touchdown.

Later in the opening period, UK stretched the lead to 14-3 with a 64-yard drive, capped by a 16-yard TD pass from Couch to halfback Anthony White. Key plays on the drive included a 22-yard pass from Couch to wide receiver Kevin Coleman and a 30-yard aerial to Mickelsen.

From the second quarter, however, Penn State chipped away. Quarterback Kevin Thompson hit flanker Joe Nastasi with a 56-yard touchdown bomb. A second field goal from Travis Forney narrowed the UK advantage to 14-13 at halftime.

The Nittany Lions took the lead for good in the third quarter on two more field goals by Forney, giving him four on the day. Penn State put the game away in the fourth quarter with a 19-yard end-around TD run by Chafie Fields.

Meanwhile, the PSU defense shut out the Wildcats the last three quarters. Kentucky continued to move the ball, but three scoring opportunities came up empty - one on an interception, one on a missed field

goal, and the other when the Wildcats were held on downs.

Kentucky actually outgained Penn State, 441 yards to 420. UK might have done even better, but the Wildcats offensive line was missing three senior starters, all of whom were replaced by freshmen.

Couch paced the attack by completing 30-of-48 passes for 336 yards and two TDs, completing his streak of at least 300 passing yards and at least one TD pass in every game of the season. Running backs Anthony White and Derek Homer caught seven balls each. White totaled 101 yards on the day, with eight rushes for 61 yards and seven receptions for 40 yards.

SCORING SUMMARY

KENTUCKY	14	0	0	0	—	14
PENN STATE	3	10	6	7	—	26

UK - Mickelsen, 36 pass from Couch (Hanson kick), 7:43 1Q
PSU - Forney, 43 FG, 5:25 1Q
UK - A. White, 16 pass from Couch (Hanson kick), 3:51 1Q
PSU - Nastasi, 56 pass from Thompson (Forney kick), 12:33 2Q
PSU - Forney, 26 FG, 1:03 2Q
PSU - Forney, 21 FG, 7:51 3Q
PSU - Forney, 25 FG, 0:13 3Q
PSU - Fields, 19 run (Forney kick), 11:03 4Q
Attendance - 66,005



Lance Mickelsen made a beautiful leaping catch for a 36-yard touchdown reception against Penn State in the Outback Bowl.



1999 • HomePoint.com Music City Bowl // Syracuse 20, Kentucky 13

Playing in back-to-back bowl games for the first time since 1983-84, the Kentucky Wildcats went down to the wire before falling to Syracuse, 20-13, in the HomePoint.com Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tenn. Kentucky played before a heavily partisan crowd, as almost all of the 59,221 fans were pulling for the Wildcats.

Kentucky blazed to a 10-0 lead in the first quarter. The Wildcats took the opening kickoff and maneuvered 79 yards for a touchdown. Tight end James Whalen set up the TD with a 45-yard reception and Kendrick Shanklin ran it in from the 3-yard line.

The Wildcats held on defense, forcing a punt. Quarterback Dusty Bonner again drove the Wildcats inside the 10-yard line before settling for a 22-yard field goal by Marc Samuel. Whalen, however, was injured during the series and was lost for the remainder of the game. Already having caught four passes for 79 yards midway through the first quarter, his presence was sorely missed.

The Kentucky defense continued to stop Syracuse, including two fumble recoveries and a blocked field goal, but the Orangemen got on the board late in the second quarter. The Wildcats led at halftime, 10-7.

A scoreless third quarter led to a dramatic final stanza. Samuel extended the UK lead to 13-7 with a 35-yard field goal. Syracuse countered with two scoring runs by James Mungro, taking a 20-13 lead.

Kentucky got its last chance by taking over on its own 4-yard line with only 1:35 remaining and no timeouts.

Bonner did a great job of moving the team to the Syracuse 41-yard line, but ran out of time, and a desperation heave on the game's final play fell incomplete.

Bonner led the UK attack by completing 30 of 43 passes for 308 yards and he also ran for 16 yards. In his final game as a Wildcat, running back Anthony White caught eight passes for 85 yards – both figures setting UK bowl records.

Linebacker Ryan Murphy led the defense in tackles with a career-high 15 stops. Linebacker Marlon McCree had an outstanding game. He tied his career high for tackles with 10, including two tackles for loss and a quarterback sack, caused two fumbles and recovered a fumble. Defensive tackle George Massey (nine) and free safety Anthony Wajda (eight) each tied his career high for tackles.

The Wildcats blocked two field goals, one each by defensive end Dennis Johnson and another by linebacker Jamal White.

SCORING SUMMARY

SYRACUSE	0	7	0	13	—	20
KENTUCKY	10	0	0	3	—	13

UK – Shanklin 3 run (Samuel kick)...11:58 1st Qtr
 UK – Samuel 22 FG...6:31 1st Qtr
 SU – Johnson 2 run (Trout kick)...1:56 2nd Qtr
 UK – Samuel 35 FG...10:39 4th Qtr
 SU – Mungro 32 run (Trout kick)...9:08 4th Qtr
 SU – Mungro 20 run (Brown run failed)...1:42 4th Qtr
 Attendance - 59,221



Team Stats

	UK	Syracuse
First Downs	18	19
Rush Attempts/		
Net Rushing Yds	23/57	47/276
Passing C/A/I	30/43/1	11/15/0
Net Passing Yrds	308	128
Offensive Plays	68	62
Total Offense	365	404
Fumbles/Lost	3/1	3/2
Penalties/Yards	4/20	3/20
Punts/Average	4/45	3/33
Third Down	8 of 17	6 of 12
Conversions		
Time of Possession	28:36	31:24

Individual Stats

Rushing

Kentucky:	Homer	1-24
	Bonner	9-16
	Pinner	7-5
	Shanklin	1-3-1
Syracuse:	Mungro	12-162-2
	Brown	22-87
	Johnson	6-28-1

Passing

Kentucky:	Bonner	30/43/1/308/0
	team	0/2/0/0/0
Syracuse:	Nunes	11/15/0/128/0

Receiving

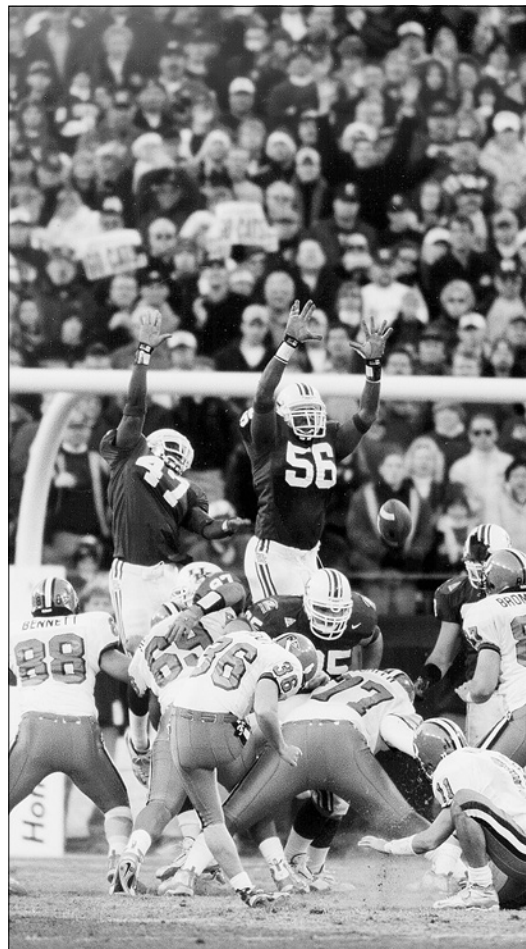
Kentucky:	White	8-85
	D. Smith	5-56
	Shanklin	5-34
	Whalen	4-79
Syracuse:	Spotwood	5-77
	Woodcock	2-37

Tackles

Kentucky:	Murphy	15
	McCree	10
	Massey	9
	Wajda	8
Syracuse:	Bullock	20
	Pettijohn	10
	Ford	8
	McIntosh	8



Kendrick Shanklin bulled his way into the end zone for a 3-yard touchdown run.



Dennis Johnson (56) blocked this Syracuse field goal attempt. Later in the game, Jamal White (47) also blocked a field goal attempt.



2006 • Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl // Kentucky 28, Clemson 20

Kentucky quarterback André Woodson threw for 299 yards with three touchdowns and the Wildcats won their first bowl game in 22 years with a 28-20 victory over Clemson in front of a record 68,024 fans at the 2006 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tenn.

Woodson, the game's Most Valuable Player, completed 20-of-28 passes and finished the season with 31 touchdown strikes, joining Tim Couch as the only Wildcats in school history to reach 30 TD tosses in a season. Woodson directed an offense that gave the Wildcats their sixth bowl win in school history by setting a UK record for most points scored in a bowl game.

Kentucky, making its first postseason appearance since 1999, used some offensive wrinkles to score its first-half points. The Wildcats quickly got on the board with a one-yard run by Micah Johnson less than four minutes into the game. Johnson, normally a linebacker, was called upon in the short-yardage situation and the 270-pounder bulldozed his way into the end zone for his first collegiate score.

The Wildcat defense gave ground early, but Clemson stayed off the scoreboard after a pair of missed field goals. The Tigers finally tallied and came within one, 7-6, after a 32-yard pass by quarterback Will Proctor to Durrell Barry in the second quarter.

From there, both teams combined for four turnovers on the next seven plays, but UK closed the half with another surprise maneuver. Facing fourth down and four yards to go from his own 20-yard line, Wildcat punter Tim Masthay faked

a punt and completed a 10-yard pass to Marcus McClinton for the first down. On the next play, Woodson followed with a 70-yard bomb to receiver DeMoreo Ford to go into the locker room up 14-6.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky defense stiffened, stopping the Tigers on six consecutive possessions in the second and third quarters. The Wildcat offense took advantage, making it 21-6 early in the second half after a Clemson fumble. Woodson found wide receiver Dicky Lyons Jr. on a short sideline pass and Lyons took it the rest of the way for a 24-yard score. UK built its lead to 28-6 with a touchdown pass to tight end Jacob Tamme with 11:29 remaining in the game.

Trading yardage for time, Kentucky gave up a pair of clock-eating scoring drives and clinched the victory when Tamme recovered an onside kick with less than a minute to go. That set off a wild celebration among the Wildcats and the 50,000-plus UK fans who packed LP Field.

SCORING SUMMARY					
CLEMSON	0	6	0	14	20
KENTUCKY	7	7	7	7	28

UK – M. Johnson 1 run (Seiber kick) ... 11:04 1st qtr.
 CU – Barry 32 pass from Proctor (Early kick failed) ... 8:14 2nd qtr.
 UK – Ford 70 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 2:14 2nd qtr.
 UK – Lyons 24 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 8:09 3rd qtr.
 UK – Tamme 13 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 11:29 4th qtr.
 CU – Grisham 17 pass from Proctor (Proctor rush failed) ... 7:25 4th qtr.
 CU – Kelly 17 pass from Proctor (Palmer pass from Proctor) ... 0:44 4th qtr.
 Attendance - 68,024



Team Stats

	Clemson	UK
First Downs	19	21
Rush Attempts/ Net Rushing Yds.	25/130	40/100
Passing C/A/I	23/39/1	21/29/0
Net Passing Yards	272	309
Offensive Plays	64	69
Total Offense	402	409
Fumbles/Lost	3/3	2/2
Penalties/Yards	5/50	8/84
Punts/Average	3/43.7	4/25.0
Third-Down Conv.	4-of-11	7-of-14
Time of Possession	26:16	33:44

Individual Stats

Rushing		
Kentucky:	Little	17-57
	Bankhead	3-37
	Dixon	8-29
	Conner	1-1
	M. Johnson	2-1-1
	team	1-0
	Woodson	8-(-22)
Clemson:	Davis	8-53
	Proctor	9-32
	Spiller	5-24
	Ford	1-15
	Stuckey	1-5
	Merriweather	1-1

Passing		
Kentucky:	Woodson	20-28-0-299-3
	Masthay	1-1-0-10-0
Clemson:	Proctor	23-39-1-272-3

Receiving		
Kentucky:	Burton	5-30
	Tamme	4-59-1
	S. Johnson	3-67
	Lyons	2-50-1
	Little	2-15
	Dixon	2-2
	Ford	1-70-1
	McClinton	1-10
	Pulley	1-6
Clemson:	Kelly	6-66-1
	Stuckey	5-93
	Grisham	5-49-1
	Davis	2-13
	Barry	1-32-1
	Ford	1-8
	Harris	1-5
	Merriweather	1-4
	Palmer	1-2

Tackles		
Kentucky:	Woodyard	12
	McClinton	9
	R. Williams	7
Clemson:	Hamlin	13
	Scott	8
	Adams, Watkins, Gaddis	6



2007 • Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl // Kentucky 35, Florida State 28

It was a case of "Deja Blue" as Kentucky defeated perennial national power Florida State, 35-28, in the 2007 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl.

For the second consecutive year, the Wildcats claimed the Music City Bowl championship, quarterback Andre' Woodson won the Most Valuable Player Award and a heavily blue-tinted record sellout crowd of 68,661 packed LP Field in Nashville, Tenn.

Woodson capped his UK career in fine fashion, completing 32 of 50 passes for 358 yards and four touchdowns. And, as was typical of the season, a variety of players contributed to UK tallying its most points ever in a bowl game.

Versatile tailback Rafael Little had one of his best games as a Wildcat, rushing for 152 yards while catching eight passes for 50 yards and a touchdown. Wide receiver Steve Johnson caught seven balls for 124 yards and two TDs. Not expected to participate because of a knee injury, determined wideout Keenan Burton played anyway and also snagged seven passes. Linebacker Wesley Woodyard checked in with his usual solid performance, a game-high 15 tackles.

Kentucky struck quickly and never trailed. Safety Roger Williams blocked a punt on the first possession of the game and tight end Jacob Tamme got the Wildcats on the board with a 14-yard touchdown catch. However, a fumble near the FSU goal line and a missed field goal ruined other UK scoring chances and the teams were tied at 14 apiece at halftime.

Like the year before, Kentucky took control in the third quarter. Woodson directed a pair of 80-yard touchdown

drives, with Little scoring on a two-yard pass reception and tailback Tony Dixon running it home from four yards away.

UK made the score 35-21 in the fourth quarter on a 38-yard pass to Johnson, but just like the previous year, the opponent rallied late. FSU drove for a touchdown, got the ball back and was able to throw a bomb to the end zone on the game's final play, but cornerback David Jones knocked down the pass to preserve the victory.

The win marked some big milestones for the Kentucky football program. This was the first time since the 1950 and '51 seasons that the Wildcats notched bowl victories in consecutive years. It was the first time since 1976-77 that UK won eight games in back-to-back seasons.

SCORING SUMMARY

KENTUCKY	7	7	14	7	—	35
FLORIDA ST.	7	7	0	14	—	28

UK – Tamme 14 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 10:39 1st qtr.
 FSU – Weatherford 6 run (Cismesia kick) ... 1:49 1st qtr.
 UK – S. Johnson 13 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 8:28 2nd qtr.
 FSU – Carter 24 interception return (Cismesia kick) ... 3:28 2nd qtr.
 UK – Little 2 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 6:49 3rd qtr.
 UK – Dixon 4 run (Seiber kick) ... 0:04 3rd qtr.
 FSU – Weatherford 1 run (Cismesia kick) ... 8:02 4th qtr.
 UK – S. Johnson 38 pass from Woodson (Seiber kick) ... 5:19 4th qtr.
 FSU – Carr 7 pass from Weatherford (Cismesia kick) ... 2:14 4th qtr.
 Attendance - 68,661



Team Stats

	UK	FSU
First Downs	29	22
Rush Attempts/		
Net Rushing Yds.	36-143	33-204
Passing C/A/I	32/50/1	22/50/2
Net Passing Yards	358	276
Offensive Plays	86	83
Total Offense	501	480
Fumbles/Lost	5-3	1-0
Penalties/Yards	7/45	10/102
Punts/Average	5/39.8	6/41.7
Third-Down	6-of-14	6-of-16
Conversions		
Time of Possession	30:25	29:35

Individual Stats

Rushing

Kentucky:	Little	28-152
	Dixon	4-17-1
	Woodson	4-(-26)
FSU:	Smith	17-156
	Weatherford	12-48-2
	Parker	2-1
	Holloway	1-0
	team	1-(-1)

Passing

Kentucky:	Woodson	32-50-1-358-4
FSU:	Weatherford	22-48-2-276-1
	Parker	0-1-0-0-0

Receiving

Kentucky:	Little	8-50-1
	S. Johnson	7-124-2
	Burton	7-56
	Lyons	5-78
	Tamme	3-35-1
	Dixon	1-8
	Grinter	1-7
FSU:	Parker	8-105
	Carr	6-99-1
	Fagg	5-51
	Owens	2-10
	Smith	1-11

Tackles

Kentucky:	Woodyard	15
	Kelley	6
	Moore	6
	Warford	5
	McClinton	5
FSU:	Nicholson	13
	Williams	10
	Rolle	8
	Hayes	8



Defensive tackle Corey Peters enjoyed a rare treat for a defensive lineman when he intercepted a pass.



Andre' Woodson was the Music City Bowl Most Valuable Player for the second-consecutive year.



2009 • AutoZone Liberty Bowl // Kentucky 25, East Carolina 19

Defensive end Ventrell Jenkins scored the game-winning touchdown on a 56-yard fumble return as the Kentucky Wildcats defeated East Carolina 25-19 in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl and won their third-straight bowl game for the first time in school history.

With the game tied at 19 and less than four minutes remaining, UK defensive tackle Myron Pryor knocked the ball away from an ECU running back. The 6-foot-2, 285-pound Jenkins scooped up the ball, stiff-armed a Pirate lineman, and thundered his way down the sideline towards the end zone. The senior from Columbia, S.C., pulled a double move on East Carolina quarterback Patrick Pinkney with a devastating stiff arm – knocking an earpad out of Pinkney’s helmet – and a high step. Jenkins said the next thing he remembered was lying in the end zone with his teammates on top of him.

Jenkins’ return capped a big Kentucky comeback. East Carolina led 16-3 at halftime, but senior cornerback David Jones gave a huge lift to the Wildcats by opening the second half with a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. It set a record for the longest kickoff return in the 50-year history of the Liberty Bowl.

Kentucky’s lone offensive touchdown came minutes after Jones’ kickoff return. Sophomore wide receiver Kyrus Lanxter caught a pass from quarterback Mike Hartline, broke a tackle, and made a nice inside move to avoid another defender and get into the end zone for a 19-yard touchdown reception. Lones Seiber’s extra point tied the game at 16 and the teams traded field goals before Jenkins’ game-winning fumble rumble.

Following Jenkins’ TD, Kentucky got a huge break when East Carolina accidentally downed the kickoff on its own one-yard line. With the help of two pass breakups from freshman cornerback Randall Burden, who was subbing for injured All-American Trevard Lindley, the UK defense forced a punt. UK took over with 2:34 to play and senior tailback Tony Dixon clinched the victory with six straight running plays, grinding out two first downs to run out the clock.



David Jones changed the game’s momentum by opening the second half with a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, the longest return in the 50-year history of the Liberty Bowl.

Dixon led all rushers with 89 yards on a career-high 28 carries. Hartline completed 19 of 31 passes for 204 yards and a touchdown. Lanxter set career highs with five catches for 46 yards.

Kentucky’s defense held up its end of the bargain with several big plays, totaling nine tackles for loss, three quarterback sacks, seven pass breakups and the game’s decisive touchdown. Senior linebacker Braxton Kelley made eight tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and one sack. Defensive tackle Myron Pryor went out with a bang with a career-high seven tackles, one for loss, the caused fumble and a pass breakup.

East Carolina took an early 10-0 lead in the first quarter after a Ben Hartman field goal and a 28-yard rushing touchdown by Brandon Simmons. Kentucky got on the board midway through the second quarter with a 21-yard field goal by Seiber, but 12 seconds later East Carolina increased its lead with an 80-yard touchdown pass from Pinkney to Darryl Freaney. That gave the Pirates a 16-3 lead at halftime and set the stage for UK’s second-half heroics.

Jenkins was named the game’s overall Most Valuable player, while Hartline and Kelley were selected UK’s most outstanding offensive and defensive players, respectively. After all the bowl games were completed, Jones and Pryor were named to “All-Bowl Teams” by various college football websites in honor of their outstanding performances.

SCORING SUMMARY

Table with 6 columns: Team, Points, Field Goals, Touchdowns, Extra Points, Total Points. Rows for Kentucky and E. Carolina.

ECU – Hartman 22 FG ... 5:39 1st qtr.
ECU – Simmons 28 run (Hartman kick) ... 14:14 2nd qtr.
UK – Seiber 21 FG ... 8:59 2nd qtr.
ECU – Freaney 80 pass from Pinkney (kick blocked) ... 8:47 2nd qtr.
UK – Jones 99 kickoff return (kick blocked) ... 14:48 3rd qtr.
UK – Lanxter 19 pass from Hartline (Seiber kick) ... 8:13 3rd qtr.
ECU – Hartman 43 FG ... 0:06 3rd qtr.
UK – Seiber 34 FG ... 14:07 4th qtr.
UK – Jenkins 56 fumble return (kick blocked) ... 3:02 4th qtr.
Attendance - 56,125



Defensive end Ventrell Jenkins scored the game-winning touchdown with his 56-yard “fumble rumble,” including a stiffarm that knocked an earpad out of the opponent’s helmet.



Team Stats

Table comparing UK and ECU stats: First Downs, Rushing Attempts, Net Rushing Yards, Passing C/A/I, Net Passing Yards, Offensive Plays, Total Offense, Fumbles/Lost, Penalties/Yards, Punts/Average, Third-Down, Conversations, Time of Possession.

Individual Stats

Table for Rushing stats: Kentucky (Dixon, Smith, Conner, Hartline) and E. Carolina (Simmons, Whitley, Rogers, Bowman, Pinkney 1).

Table for Passing stats: Kentucky (Hartline) and E. Carolina (Pinkney).

Table for Receiving stats: Kentucky (Lanxter, McCaskill, Dixon, Smith, Adeyemi, Grinter, Drake, Conner) and E. Carolina (Drew, Freaney, Simmons, Bowman, Womack, Gidrey, Rogers).

Table for Tackles stats: Kentucky (Kelley, Pryor, McClinton, M. Johnson, Harrison, Jarmon).



2009 • Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl // Clemson 21, Kentucky 13

The exciting duo of Derrick Locke and Randall Cobb combined for 224 all-purpose yards and senior Lones Seiber kicked two field goals, but Clemson downed the Kentucky 21-13 in what would turn out to be head coach Rich Brooks' final game on the sidelines.

Played at Nashville's LP Field before a crowd of 57,280, the game was primarily dominated by the defenses. Kentucky gained 277 total yards and Clemson's potent attack was limited to 321 total yards.

Kentucky got on the board on its first possession of the game. True freshman quarterback Morgan Newton drove the Wildcats 61 yards, the final 17 on a touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Chris Matthews. Seiber provided the rest of the scoring for the Wildcats, booting field goals of 39 and 44 yards.

Clemson, champion of the Atlantic Division of the Atlantic Coast Conference, gradually moved back into contention. The Tigers tied the score at 7-7 on a 32-yard touchdown pass from Kyle Parker to Jacoby Ford, then went ahead 14-10 at halftime with one-yard run by Jamie Harper.

Trailing 14-13 to start the fourth quarter, the Wildcats forced a three-and-out and took over at their own 13-yard line. Newton completed a short pass, but Clemson linebacker Kavell Konnor forced the ball loose and the Tigers recovered the only turnover of the game. All-America tailback C.J. Spiller scored three plays later as Clemson went up 21-13.

Kentucky tried to battle back on the following possession, keeping the drive alive on a fourth-down conversion by punter Ryan Tydlacka. Four plays later, Newton came up inches short on a fourth-and-eight scramble, and the Wildcats

turned the ball over on downs. Clemson was able to run out the remaining time on the clock.

Spiller, the ACC Player of the Year, was the game's Most Valuable Player. Despite his gaudy numbers entering the game and Heisman-caliber resume, the Kentucky defense did a solid job on Spiller, allowing him just 67 rushing yards and one TD.

Sophomore linebacker Danny Trevathan led the UK defense with eight tackles, including one for loss, and caused one fumble. Junior cornerback Paul Warford and senior linebacker Micah Johnson added five tackles each.

The loss snapped Kentucky's three-game bowl winning streak, the longest in school history. Following the game, Brooks announced he probably would step down as head coach and turn the headset over to offensive head coach, and selected coach-in-waiting, Joker Phillips. Brooks finalized the decision a week later.

The game marked the second time in four seasons Kentucky played Clemson in the Music City Bowl. The Wildcats won the previous meeting in 2006, 28-20.

SCORING SUMMARY

KENTUCKY	7	3	3	0	-	13
CLEMSON	7	7	0	7	-	21

UK – Matthews 17 pass from Newton (Seiber kick) ... 10:08 1st qtr.

CU – Ford 32 pass from Parker (Jackson kick) ... 0:16 1st qtr.

UK – Seiber 39 FG ... 7:29 2nd qtr.

CU – Harper 1 run (Jackson kick) ... 5:19 2nd qtr.

UK – Seiber 44 FG ... 10:15 3rd qtr.

CU – Spiller 8 run (Jackson kick) ... 10:14 4th qtr.

Attendance - 57,280



Team Stats

	UK	Clemson
First Downs	19	14
Rush Attempts/		
Net Yards	42-167	33-180
Passing C/A/I	15/26/0	8/14/0
Net Passing Yards	110	141
Offensive Plays	68	47
Total Offense	277	321
Fumbles/Lost	1-1	2-0
Penalties/Yards	3-15	7-75
Punts/Average	4-29.2	4-36.5
Third-Down		
Conversions	6 of 16	4 of 10
Time of Possession	34:26	25:34

Individual Stats

Rushing

Kentucky:	Locke	18-64
	Newton	10-37
	R. Cobb	10-36
	Allen	2-19
	Tydlacka	1-9
	Conner	1-2
Clemson:	Harper	8-79-1
	Spiller	15-67-1
	Ellington	4-20
	Parker	3-16
	Ford	1-2
	team	2(-4)

Passing

Kentucky:	Newton	13-23-0-98-1
	R. Cobb	2-3-0-12-0
Clemson:	Parker	8-14-0-141-1

Receiving

Kentucky:	Locke	6-30
	McCaskill	4-31
	R. Cobb	2-20
	Grinter	2-12
	Matthews	1-17-1
Clemson:	Spiller	3-58
	Ford	3-44-1
	Palmer	2-39

Tackles

Kentucky:	Trevathan	8
	P. Warford	5
	M. Johnson	5
	Peters	4



Chris Matthews got the scoring started with a 17-yard touchdown reception from Morgan Newton.



Coach Rich Brooks concluded his career by taking Kentucky to a school-record four-straight bowl games.



2010 • BBVA Compass Bowl // Pittsburgh 27, Kentucky 10

In what would eventually be his final game as a Kentucky Wildcat, UK All-American Randall Cobb earned a game-high 204 all-purpose yards, breaking the Southeastern Conference single-season record as Kentucky fell 27-10 to Big East tri-champion Pittsburgh in the 2011 BBVA Compass Bowl.

The bowl appearance was the school-record fifth consecutive for the Wildcats, who have now appeared in postseason play a total of 15 times with an 8-7 record. The bowl appearance for head coach Joker Phillips marked the first time in school history that a UK coach has gone to a bowl game in his first season on the job.

Kentucky entered the game with new faces on the coaching staff and at quarterback as co-defensive coordinator Rick Minter coached his first game with the Wildcats, while sophomore Morgan Newton gained his first start of the season at quarterback after the suspension of senior Mike Hartline.

Minter's defense performed well in the game, limiting Pittsburgh to 96 passing yards on just nine completions while Randall Burden grabbed a key interception in the first quarter. Danny Trevathan led UK in tackles with 14, while Winston Guy had eight tackles, a tackle-for-loss and a pass breakup.

On the offensive side, Newton was 21-for-36 for 211 yards, while senior Derrick Locke paced UK in rushing and receiving with 12 rushes for 71 yards and six receptions for 61 yards. Cobb ended his UK career with three rushes for 23 yards and five catches for 62 yards.

The game started with Pittsburgh receiving the ball and marching 53 yards down the field before Tino Sunseri was picked off by Burden to swing momentum to the Wildcats. After Newton completed three consecutive passes and Locke

had a brilliant 28-yard rush into Pitt territory, the Wildcats made their only turnover of the game and fumbled the ball. The Panthers then went three and out and on the ensuing position, Craig McIntosh drilled a 50-yard field goal to give the Wildcats their lone lead of the game 3-0.

Pittsburgh took the lead late in the second quarter 6-3 after Dan Hutchins hit back-to-back field goals from 21 and 33 yards. The Panthers scored their first touchdown late in the quarter on a one-yard quarterback sneak by Sunseri to go up 13-3 at halftime.

The teams traded touchdowns in the third quarter. On Pitt's first possession of the half, Sunseri hit Brock DeCicco for a touchdown to give the Panthers their biggest lead of the game at 20-3.

The Wildcats put together a good drive later in the quarter. Newton guided the Cats 74 yards on 14 plays, capped when senior fullback Moncell Allen bulldozed in from one-yard out to cut the lead to 20-10. Pittsburgh tacked on its final touchdown in the fourth quarter.

SCORING SUMMARY						
PITTSBURGH	0	13	7	7	-	27
KENTUCKY	3	0	7	0	-	10

UK – McIntosh 50 FG ... 3:15 1st qtr.
 PITT – Hutchins 21 FG ... 11:29 2nd qtr.
 PITT – Hutchins 33 FG ... 3:30 2nd qtr.
 PITT – Sunseri 1 run (Hutchins kick) ... 00:34 2nd qtr.
 PITT – DeCicco 13 pass from Sunseri (Hutchins kick) ... 10:47 3rd qtr.
 UK – Allen 1 run (McIntosh kick) ... 00:41 3rd qtr.
 PITT – Lewis 2 run (Hutchins kick) ... 10:26 4th qtr.
Attendance - 41,207



Team Stats

	PITT	UK
First Downs	20	20
Rush Attempts/ Net Yards	46-261	32-104
Passing C/A/I	9/19/1	21/36/0
Net Passing Yards	96	211
Offensive Plays	65	68
Total Offense	357	315
Fumbles/Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties/Yards	3-30	5-55
Punts/Average	3-39.3	2-25.0
Third-Down Conversions	6 of 12	5 of 13
Time of Possession	32:38	27:22

Individual Stats

Rushing

Kentucky:	Locke	12-71
	Cobb	3-23
	Newton	12-18
	Sanders	3-3
	Allen	1-1-1
	Roark	1-(-12)
Pittsburgh:	Lewis	22-105-1
	Graham	17-90
	Sunseri	4-53-1
	Street	2-15
	Team	1-(-2)

Passing

Kentucky:	Newton	21-36-0-211-0
Pittsburgh:	Sunseri	9-19-1-96-1

Receiving

Kentucky:	Locke	6-61
	Cobb	5-62
	Matthews	4-28
	King	3-42
	Kendrick	2-19
	Sanders	1-(-1)
Pittsburgh:	Cruz	2-24
	Hynoski	2-19
	Graham	1-14
	DeCicco	1-13
	Baldwin	1-12
	Shanahan	1-12
	Street	1-2

Tackles

Kentucky:	Trevathan	14
	Guy	8
	Wilson	6



Randall Cobb broke the SEC single-season record for all-purpose yardage, finishing the season with 2,396 all-purpose yards.



Moncell Allen celebrates his touchdown run.



2016 • TaxSlayer Bowl // Georgia Tech 33, Kentucky 18

Stephen Johnson passed for 175 yards and a touchdown and rushed for a team-high 49 yards and another score, but Kentucky came up short, falling to Georgia Tech 33-18 in the TaxSlayer Bowl at EverBank Field.

Georgia Tech was able to contain Kentucky's rushing duo of Boom Williams and Benny Snell. Williams carried 11 times for 35 yards, while Snell was held to 34 yards on seven carries.

Kentucky was able to match Georgia Tech's potent offense, as the Yellow Jackets had 371 yards, while the Wildcats had 324. Tech's offense came largely on the ground, as the Yellow Jackets rushed for 266 yards, compared to Kentucky's 149. The Yellow Jackets passed for just 105 yards, while Kentucky threw for 175.

Kentucky got the ball first and the Wildcats moved the ball into Georgia Tech territory. But on a third-and-two from the Tech 49, Johnson was stripped, and Tech's P.J. Davis scooped up the fumble and returned it 38 yards for a touchdown, giving the Yellow Jackets an early 7-0 lead.

After a Kentucky punt, Georgia Tech drove 75 yards in 12 plays, but the Kentucky defense held. Tech got a 23-yard field goal by Harrison Butker, giving the Yellow Jackets a 10-0 lead.

On Kentucky's next drive, the Wildcats drove into the red zone, but the drive stalled, and Kentucky was forced into a 37-yard field goal by Austin MacGinnis, cutting the Georgia Tech lead to 10-3.

The Wildcat defense then forced Georgia Tech into a three-and-out and a punt, giving Kentucky the ball at their own 28 yard line. From there, the Wildcats marched into Georgia Tech territory and when senior running back Jojo Kemp ran right for 25 yards, the Wildcats were in business at the Georgia Tech 14. But on a fourth-and-one from the Georgia Tech five-yard line, Kemp was caught in the backfield and stopped short of the marker, giving the ball back to GT.

Georgia Tech took advantage, driving 94 yards in 11 plays and 4:29, ending with a 21-yard touchdown rush, giving the Yellow Jackets a 17-3 lead just before the half.

Kentucky seemed to have the last possession of the half, but on fourth-and-two, Grant McKinniss had his punt blocked, giving Tech one more possession and 24 seconds. As

the half expired, Butker hit a 52-yard field goal to extend the Tech lead to 20-3 at the break.

Neither team could get anything going until late in the third quarter, when Tech got good field position, beginning its drive inside Kentucky territory at the 45-yard line. But after driving inside the Kentucky 25, Tech was forced into another field goal from Butker, who connected from 44 yards to increase the Yellow Jackets' advantage to 23-3.

Early in the fourth quarter, Johnson hit Dorian Baker in the corner of the end zone for a 21-yard touchdown, cutting Tech's lead to 23-10 with 13:40 to go. UK went 75 yards in 12 plays in 3:33 to score its first touchdown of the game.

Tech responded with a 12-play, 68-yard drive, covering 7:18 and ending with a 26-yard Butker field goal, extending the lead to 26-10.

But Kentucky was not finished. The Wildcats drove 75 yards in nine plays, culminating in a 21-yard scoring scamper by Johnson. Kentucky converted on a two-point conversion when Johnson hit C.J. Conrad, cutting the lead to 26-18 with 3:57 left in the game.

The Wildcats needed a stop on Georgia Tech's next drive, but the Yellow Jackets drove for a touchdown by Dedrick Mills to seal the game.

Kentucky finished the season at 7-6, marking the program's first winning season since 2009.

SCORING SUMMARY

GEORGIA TECH	10	10	3	10	-	33
KENTUCKY	0	3	0	15	-	18

GT - Davis, P. 38 yd fumble recovery (Butker, H. kick) ... 13:10 1st qtr.

GT - Butker, H. 23 yd field goal ... 3:30 1st qtr.

UK - Austin MacGinnis 37 yd field goal ... 11:36 2nd qtr.

GT - Thomas, J. 21 yd run (Butker, H. kick) ... 00:49 2nd qtr.

GT - Butker, H. 52 yd field goal ... 00:00 2nd qtr.

GT - Butker, H. 44 yd field goal ... 2:15 3rd qtr.

UK - Dorian Baker 20 yd pass from Stephen Johnson (Austin MacGinnis kick) ... 13:40 4th qtr.

GT - Butker, H. 26 yd field goal ... 6:13 4th qtr.

UK - Stephen Johnson 21 yd run (C.J. Conrad pass from Stephen Johnson) ... 3:57 4th qtr.

GT - Mills, D. 3 yd run (Butker, H. kick) ... 2:18 4th qtr.

Attendance - 43,102



Team Stats

	GT	UK
First Downs	21	20
Rush Attempts/		
Net Yards	51-266	36-149
Passing C/A/I	6/14/0	19/34/0
Net Passing Yards	105	175
Offensive Plays	65	70
Total Offense	371	324
Fumbles/Lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties/Yards	9-84	5-51
Punts/Average	3-25.3	4-25.5
Third-Down		
Conversions	5 of 13	6 of 16
Time of Possession	32:22	27:38

Individual Stats

Rushing

Kentucky:	S. Johnson	14-65-1
	S. Williams	11-36
	Snell	7-34
	Kemp	3-29
	Baker	1-3
GT:	Mills	31-169
	Thomas	9-42
	Lynch	2-23
	Green	2-20
	Allen	1-11
	Searcy	5-2
	Team	1-(-1)

Passing

Kentucky:	Johnson	19-34-0-175-1
GT:	Thomas	6-14-0-105-0

Receiving

Kentucky:	Badet	3-31
	Timmons	3-30
	G. Johnson	3-17
	Conrad	3-14
	Baker	2-38
	Bone	1-11
	Snell	1-11
	Bouvier	1-9
	S. Williams	1-8
	Walker	1-6
GT:	Jeune	3-59
	Stewart	2-10
	Searcy	1-36

Tackles

Kentucky:	Jones	9
	Ware	9
	Love	8
	Edwards	7
	Allen	7
	McWilson	7
	Pringle	6



Stephen Johnson was named UK's Most Valuable Player after completing 19 of 34 passes for 175 yards and a TD, and leading UK in rushing with 49 yards.



Sophomore linebacker Jordan Jones led UK, along with teammate Denzil Ware, with a game-high tying nine tackles. Jones finished the 2016 season with a team-high 109 total tackles, third in the SEC.



BOWL GAME RECORDS

TEAM RECORDS

Rushing

Rush Attempts	42	Music City, 2009
Net Rushing Yards	318	Peach, 1976
Touchdowns Rushing	3	Great Lakes, 1947; Peach, 1976

Passing

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

Total Offense

Offensive Plays	82	Music City, 2007
Total Yards	501	Music City, 2007

Scoring

Points Scored	35	Music City, 2007
Most Touchdowns	5	Music City, 2007
Most Field Goals	2	Hall of Fame, 1984; Peach, 1993; Music City, 1999, 2009; Liberty, 2009

First Downs

Most First Downs	29	Music City, 2007
First Downs by Rush	17	Peach, 1976
First Downs by Pass	19	Music City, 2007

Fumbles

Most Fumbles	5	Music City, 2007
Fumbles Lost	3	Music City, 2007

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Rushing Yards

152	Rafael Little (28 att.)	Music City, 2007
104	Rod Stewart (19 att.)	Peach, 1976
89	Tony Dixon (28 att.)	Liberty, 2009

Pass Attempts

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

Pass Completions

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

Passing Yards

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

Offensive Plays

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

Total Yards

344	Tim Couch (8 rush, 336 pass)	Outback, 1999
332	André Woodson (-26 rush, 358 pass)	Music City, 2007
324	Dusty Bonner (16 rush, 308 pass)	Music City, 1999

Receptions

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

Receiving Yards

124	Steve Johnson (7 rec.)	Music City, 2007
85	Anthony White (8 rec.)	Music City, 1999
79	James Whalen (4 rec.)	Music City, 1999

KENTUCKY



C.J. CONRAD

JUNIOR TE
ALL-SEC THIRD TEAM
BY PHIL STEELE



BENNY SNELL JR

SOPHOMORE RB
AP ALL-SEC FIRST TEAM



CLIPPINGS



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Doubt fuels Kentucky RB Benny Snell, aka 'Benny Tha Bandit'

By Greg Ostendorf
ESPN.com
March 7, 2017

"Been struggling all my life just to make it out.

More fans showing up to see what all the talk's about.

If football don't work, you know I've got to take the lyric route.

When against my team, boy, you know that's a three-and-out."

If you're curious as to who came up with these rap lyrics, it wasn't Kanye West or Kendrick Lamar. It wasn't Chance the Rapper or Kevin Gates. It was Kentucky running back Benny Snell, aka "Benny Tha Bandit."

Snell, a media major who loves music, released the track "Like I Do" last month. Most of the lyrics are fun, talking about college life and playing football at Kentucky. But more than once, he references his upbringing with lines like, "Most of you boys don't come up like I do," or the one above, "Been struggling all my life just to make it out."

"All through my childhood and all through high school, I've been doubted," Snell told ESPN.com this week. "I've been doubted by a lot of people. I've been doubted by people that shouldn't doubt me and that should be on my side. But I like to take that in consideration and when I put my mind to something, I'm going to do it. That's for sure."

Snell used those doubts as motivation. This past season, he set the Kentucky record for most rushing yards by a freshman with 1,091 yards. He also scored a team-high 13 rushing touchdowns and was one of two running backs named to the SEC All-Freshman team.

It was a surprise to most, even those around Lexington, because Snell was basically an unknown when he first arrived on campus. He was considered a three-star by most recruiting services coming out of high school, and ESPN had the Ohio product ranked No. 80 among all running backs in the 2016 class.

That, too, served as motivation for Snell this past season.

"I was happy I was unknown," he said. "I just knew that a camp or a rating wouldn't define how I am as a whole football player. It's impossible. So I just had so much to show, so much to prove, to myself and to everybody else. I just kept that [chip] on my shoulder as I played."

Like Kentucky, Snell enters the 2017 season with high expectations. Not only was he one of the SEC's best freshmen a year ago, but he's also the only player left from last year's backfield. Leading rusher Stanley "Boom" Williams left early for the NFL, and fellow running back Jojo Kemp graduated. That leaves Snell as the only player returning on the roster who had more than 11 carries last year.

As a result, the sophomore has taken it on himself to become a better player and more of a leader on the offense. He's breaking down games from last season in hopes of becoming a smarter runner, a more patient runner. He's also working on his speed and footwork.

"Benny is going into his first offseason, so we're going to continue to lean on him," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops told reporters Monday. "You know [offensive coordinator/running backs coach] Eddie [Gran] will continue to put pressure on him to be the best player he can be, but Benny has been the same as he always is -- relatively quiet, doing his job and going about his business. And I like that."

The rapping will have to be put on hold as the Wildcats began spring practice Sunday, but with the way Snell played last fall, his claim to fame is football. By the end of his second season, the college football world should know his name.

If it were up to him, though, he'd just as well stay under the radar.

"I would like to feel unknown for now," Snell said. "I'm not really into being a big back and being a name and everything. I'm not into any of that. I just like doing my thing and doing what I've got to do for my team."

Stephen Johnson stuffing himself to get SEC-sized

By Joe Mussatto
SEC Country
March 30, 2017

Stephen Johnson literally had his hands full Tuesday morning. Kentucky's starting quarterback held two smoothies and a sack full of snacks while speaking to reporters after the team's seventh practice of spring football.

"They really have me eating a lot of food," said Johnson, whose current nutrition plan calls for 5,000 calories a day. "It's tough getting it. During the day, you get tired of eating."

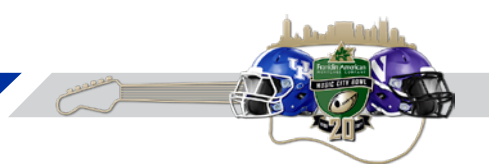
Oh, to be a skinny college quarterback. While most of America fights a losing battle against bulging bellies, Johnson is stuffing himself to get big and strong enough for a successful second season in the Southeastern Conference.

The junior-college transfer was listed at 6-2, 183 pounds in his first season as Kentucky's starter last fall. Johnson was effective — 2,037 yards passing, 327 yards rushing, 16 total touchdowns and only 6 interceptions in guiding the Wildcats to their first bowl game since 2010 — but coaches feared for his safety at that size. So did he.

"Definitely," Johnson said. "I try to play like I'm Cam Newton even though I'm not 250 pounds. I try to go out there and play with my heart out of my chest. If I do that, there's definitely a little bit of space to worry. But if I gain some more weight like I've been doing, everything can be just fine."

He said he's close to his goal weight of 195 pounds — although 200 would be ideal — and just as important, he's gaining strength. With a weaker grip last season, Johnson ranked third nationally in fumbles (10) and second in lost fumbles (6).

"Part of it is just the first time playing in the SEC and going through those situations and understanding how to protect the ball and when to get down," Kentucky QB coach Darin Hinshaw said. "And also with strength. Now we're at a point where he's going to be the strongest he's ever been in his life and now he knows what he needs to do to take care of the football. That's the



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No. 1 thing that we've been preaching all spring."

Johnson has spent a significant portion of the offseason carrying 45-pound plates around and around the Wildcats' weight room to strengthen his grip. He can already tell a difference in his fingers and wrists.

"When guys rush around me, sometimes swipe at the ball, it doesn't affect me at all," Johnson said.

Kentucky's coaches raved about the progress they've seen from the quarterback already this spring. He shined in the team's first scrimmage on Saturday.

"He is playing at a very, very high level," Hinshaw said. "I'm really, really pleased with where he is at. He's taken great leadership and ownership. He's mastering the offense and he's getting more and more comfortable there behind center. Now we've got Stephen, who has competed and won in the SEC and he's really learned what not to do and how to do it the right way, so it's a lot more fun for me with Stephen."

'I feel like a new guy': Kentucky lineman's appetite for success outweighs joys of junk food

By Jen Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
March 30, 2017

'Adrian Middleton does his best to avoid eye contact.

There's a lot of temptation wrapped up in the white package with the orange oval on it.

And the Kentucky defensive lineman has dropped 25 pounds by looking away from those white chocolate Reese's peanut butter cups in their various forms.

"They've got the Reese's milkshake and ice cream things," said Middleton, shaking his head. "I was tearing those up, too. Now if I want something like that now, I get a small or a mini. I'm just trying to eat better."

The peanut butter-centered, white chocolate goodness wasn't the only enticement for Middleton, who is down to a svelte 275 pounds after giving up much of what he loved this offseason.

"I was eating too much Chinese food," said Middleton, one of the Cats' top returning defensive linemen after starting 12 straight games last season. "Eating cheeseburgers, milkshakes. I live right beside a Sonic."

His worst vice now is a strawberry lemonade at Wendy's, which he declared "too good to give up."

In a lot of ways, Middleton thought he had to be bigger to be a top-level defensive lineman in the Southeastern Conference. It's a common misconception, said Derrick LeBlanc, his new defensive line coach.

"I think coming in he thought he had to be this big guy to hold up in the line of scrimmage," LeBlanc said of Middleton, a player he called a potential difference-maker for UK's line this season.

"He's realized that he can do it if he can move a little better, and I think the game's getting that way," LeBlanc continued.

"With the different personnel groups you see now, the game's getting faster. Not so much more physical, but a lot faster and guys got to be able to move, even the big guys."

That realization hit Middleton in waves.

"I felt kind of sloppy with my belly hanging out," he said of playing so heavy.

At various times in the past couple of years he's been at Kentucky, he'd wake up in the morning feeling sluggish and exhausted.

"I felt tired all the time," said Middleton, who had 35 tackles last season, including 5.5 for loss, fourth most on the team. "I wasn't myself. I had to change my life around."

He took a nutrition class and tried to learn how to become his own personal "Chef Boyardee at home," cooking a lot of chicken and fish dishes.

The former South Warren standout found the better his body felt, the better he played and practiced. It's something his coaches and teammates have noticed. He hopes it's something others will notice, too.

"I've gotten a lot stronger, cutting down some weight," he said. "I feel like a new guy out there, like I have more energy, more explosion."

There's more experience than in the past coming back on the defensive line, so

there's more expected.

"It was not a strength of ours last year at all," Kentucky head coach Mark Stoops said before the start of spring practice. "It was an area that we need to address, and we are addressing, and we expect to play better."

The line is still a work in progress, new defensive coordinator Matt House said Thursday.

"We need to see more," House said. "Those guys up front set the tone. Yesterday we didn't practice necessarily how we want to. I thought we were much better today. We came with a more physical mentality."

And as the player with the most starts under his now smaller-sized belt, Middleton is trying to lead the way.

"He's trying every day to be that guy, to be a strong leader of the D-line," nose guard Naquez Pringle said of Middleton. "He's trying to make sure everybody's working toward being better."

"He doesn't want to be the (part of) the team everybody talks about in a bad way. We're all trying to be that D-line everybody talks about in a good way."

Derrick LeBlanc brings new intensity to defensive line

By Joe Mussatto
SEC Country
April 2, 2017

Derrick LeBlanc doesn't yell. He doesn't like "gray area" either, he says. As new defensive line coach for Kentucky football, LeBlanc is taking his matter-of-fact approach into strengthening a position in need of improvement.

LeBlanc was hired on Feb. 15, and just a month and a half into his Kentucky tenure, Wildcats defensive linemen have already felt the impact of his arrival — quite literally for redshirt freshman defensive tackle Kordell Looney.

Looney missed study hour earlier in the week. It was a mistake that equaled "up-downs" — five of them every five yards for 100 yards.



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"It was crazy," Looney said. "(LeBlanc) said he could've did 100 more, but we couldn't take it. It was hard. I did my study hour yesterday."

It goes back to LeBlanc's distaste of gray area. It's either right or wrong.

"If there's something wrong, there's consequences," LeBlanc said. "If they do something right, we praise them. Everybody wants to be praised, nobody wants to be told I'm wrong. So, we just do physical punishment. Did I just say that on camera?" he asked with a laugh. "We do physical punishment when they're wrong, and we're gonna hold them to a standard, and that's it."

Former Kentucky defensive line coach Jimmy Brumbaugh left for the same position at Maryland after last season. The move led to LeBlanc's hiring. LeBlanc served as North Texas defensive line coach last year and had previous stops at Southern Miss and LSU.

Looney's missed study hour resulted in the "physical punishment" LeBlanc talked about, but it's a tough-love relationship between the coach and his position group. Looney and teammates welcomed LeBlanc's style.

"Not even trying to get on Coach Brumbaugh, but he used to yell at us," Looney said. "That used to make players frustrated. LeBlanc, he ain't gonna yell. He's just gonna want you to do the work. He's gonna teach you it, and then you're gonna have to do it."

Looney and sophomore defensive end T.J. Carter were young linemen that defensive coordinator Matt House singled out as players Kentucky needs next season.

Looney, a former 3-star recruit from Springfield, Ohio, redshirted last season but will look to be in the defensive tackle rotation behind returning starter Adrian Middleton.

"Last year I was mad at myself," Looney said. "I didn't do what I had to do last year. Now this year, I don't have no pressure. Now it's here. What am I going to do now? Am I going to do what I did last year, or am I gonna do different?"

LeBlanc hasn't been in Lexington long, but "he already cares about us," Looney said. Kentucky's defensive line combined for two sacks last season, and LeBlanc's strategy is to be more aggressive.

"We know how the game is — getting soft," LeBlanc said. "We've got to put the physical back in football. That's what I'm trying to do. So, teaching these guys where, they pushed a little high school kid around a year ago, how to fight and play football with men."

Kentucky freshman Josh Ali, son of a former college receiver, is starting his own legacy

**By Joe Mussatto
SEC Country
July 4, 2017**

One of the standout graduates of Faheem Ali's training program happens to be his son, Josh Ali, an incoming Kentucky freshman.

The two Alis are in opposite stages of their careers. Faheem's playing days are done, and he now runs Complete Athletes, an all-sports training program in South Florida. His college career spanned two schools, first Eastern Michigan and then Louisiana Tech, where he hauled in 21 catches and 4 touchdowns as a senior.

Faheem caught balls from a trio of NFL quarterbacks during college: Charlie Batch at Eastern Michigan then Tim Rattay and Luke McCown at Louisiana Tech, but the receiver couldn't stick with the league after tryouts with the Miami Dolphins, Seattle Seahawks and the New York Giants. He played short stints of arena league ball in Chicago and Las Vegas after that.

Seventeen years after his college career came to an end, his son's is set to begin. Faheem said he was good enough to play in the NFL, but acknowledged he could've done things differently in college. But now he's a guide for his son. Josh, who started at the bottom of his dad's Complete Athletes program, is ready to begin a career of his own.

The 6-foot, 180-pound receiver who prides himself on smooth routes and soft hands is one of two Chaminade-Madonna graduates starting at Kentucky this summer. He'll be joined by defensive end teammate Chris Whittaker. As for who's better: "Me of course," Josh says with a wide grin.

"Obviously."

The younger Ali was ranked a 3-star prospect and a top-100 Florida prospect in the 2017 class, according to the 247Sports composite rankings. He's not among the Wildcats' most heralded newcomers, but his dad believes he's ahead of his class, and maybe even a few current Kentucky wide-outs.

"I don't even know what's going on in practice," Faheem said. "I just know the skill set he has right now. Me watching them before I left, I watched Josh run routes with them, and already I knew that he's already ahead of a lot of receivers that are already there."

Then came the qualifier.

"That's just Daddy talking, but I'm also talking as a receiver," Faheem said.

Dad, mentor, coach, trainer — Faheem has played a slew of roles for his son. He's had custody of Josh since December 2004. Before that, Faheem was still moving around, clinging to the last chances of a fading football career.

The best of those roles, as Faheem cinematically put it, was like Mr. Miyagi's from *The Karate Kid*. Josh was Daniel LaRusso in those situations, and there were a few "wax on, wax off" type of sessions.

"He didn't understand what he was doing," Faheem says of the Daniel LaRusso character. "He was like, 'I'm not doing no karate.' But he was doing it over and over again. When the light switch came on to get there he was like, 'I got it.'"

And thus Josh's football prowess has gone the way of Daniel's crane kick. And that's why Faheem stays on Josh. Faheem tells his son about the mistakes he made along the way — the mistakes he hopes Josh can avoid.

"He's way better than I was and I was pretty good," Faheem said. "Now he has the attitude to go along with it. He's humble outside of the game, but when he gets on the field now he has a little more attitude. He's realizing right now he's better than a lot of guys out here."

A couple players stood out to Josh when he was watching Kentucky last season: Garrett Johnson and Jeff Badet. The latter transferred to Oklahoma in the offseason, and Ali may have the chance to step up in his absence. Kentucky has depth at receiv-



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er, but playing time was a priority during Josh's recruitment. Faheem said he'd be surprised if Josh redshirted.

Chaminade-Madonna coach Dameon Jones said the star receiver was a leader, but not vocally. It's the same approach Josh wants to take at Kentucky.

"I don't want to go up there acting like I'm that top guy," Josh said. "I just want to be quiet, ease myself into it, and then when it's that time I'll do what I have to do."

As for what that might look like?

"I have an attitude to where I'm gonna say like, 'You can't stop me,' basically," he said.

Josh committed to Kentucky before last season on June 27 after official visits to Kentucky and Central Florida. Almost a year later, with a gray Kentucky football lanyard draped around his neck, he spoke to SEC Country about his recruitment and what led him to Lexington.

He remembered the practice when Kentucky offensive coordinator Eddie Gran came down to watch. Another of Chaminade-Madonna's top receivers wasn't practicing, so Josh took over both spots. He had more routes and more balls thrown to him that day than usual.

Then came Kentucky's offer.

"Eddie Gran did a heckuva damn job on recruiting," Faheem said. "A lot of coaches don't recruit anymore. Everybody's stuck up on, 'Hey, I got an offer from here, I got an offer from here.' That's not recruiting. Recruiting is not only getting to know the kid outside the football realm, but getting to know the family."

Faheem did his research on Kentucky, and specifically Gran. He knew guys that played for him at Cincinnati and Florida State.

"Let me see if this guy is sitting back blowing smoke up the tail, or is this guy genuine and honest with what he's talking about," Faheem said. "Everybody I've talked to older and younger than me gave Eddie Gran an A+."

Besides the bond with Gran, Josh said the chance to play in the SEC lured him to Kentucky, but Utah would've been his second college choice and he grew up an Oregon and Pac-12 fan. Former Ducks standout Josh Huff, whose college career spanned from 2010-13, was his favorite receiver

to watch. Ali was listed as an "athlete" by 247Sports, but he smiled when asked what he'll play at Kentucky — receiver, no doubt about it.

"His hands are superb for a high schooler," Jones said. "You usually see that the second or third year a guy's in college."

Smooth is the word both Faheem and Jones use to describe Josh, but speed is what Josh wants to most improve before the season.

Josh said Kentucky's players "felt like brothers" to him on his official visit. That familial feeling plus his relationship with Gran helped him feel firm in his decision, as did Kentucky's seven-win season in 2016 capped with a win over Louisville in the regular-season finale.

"Seeing that and the class that's coming in really made me want to go there even more," Josh said. "I actually want to build my own legacy and help build that school to where it's supposed to be."

It's not the first time Josh has tried to build his own legacy.

"There was one time Josh used to get mad," Faheem recalled. "They called him 'Little Ali' or said, 'That's Faheem's son.' He would get mad at that, because he wanted it on his own."

And now Josh Ali has it.

There have been a few mishaps, like when Andre Woodson had to go buy a necktie at the nearby mall because he didn't have his or when Dicky Lyons Jr. swallowed a fly during interviews.

But this latest development left her fumbling for what to do next.

Lax grabbed some needle and thread from the airport desk, but she's no seamstress.

"I took home economics in high school," she smiled. "I was going to try and rig them together so he could at least walk in there."

Edwards, who said he heard the rip in the locker room earlier that morning when he bent over to tie his shoes, borrowed a pair of UK shorts while they decided what to do next.

UK made a call to the head of the Birmingham Alumni Association, where Edwards was scheduled to appear Wednesday morning along with Coach Mark Stoops, and asked if anyone there could help.

Next to the restaurant where the alumni group was meeting was a seamstress at Dang Alterations, who fixed the busted seam in just a few minutes for the Third Team All-SEC safety.

"We've had a little fun with it," Lax laughed. "Mike is a chill guy so he didn't worry about it too much."

Let her rip: Kentucky safety has unexpected mishap before SEC Media Days

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
July 12, 2017

Kentucky's football spokesman wasn't sure what to expect when Mike Edwards pulled her aside at the airport and said: "I need to show you something."

Next thing Susan Lax knew, the safety was bending over to reveal a large tear down the back of his new blue suit pants just as Kentucky was getting ready to leave for its turn at Southeastern Conference Media Days.

"It was bad, bad," said Lax, who has taken athletes to 20 straight SEC Media Days, the annual preseason kickoff event.

Benny being Benny: Kentucky teammates don't want star running back to change

By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
July 18, 2017

Benny Snell, Kentucky's rapping running back, had a lot going on this offseason.

He got a giant "Snell Yeah" tattoo stretched across his stomach. He posted and then took down a rap video starring Benny Tha Bandit. And then he felt underappreciated as an SEC running back. Still, the bulldozer of a back who logged the best freshman rushing campaign in school history seems headed for a star sophomore season.

A look at Snell's pinned tweet gives a glimpse into the underappreciated mind-



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set. It's a link to a list ESPN put out ranking the SEC's top-5 running backs. Snell isn't on it, and his absence elicited a three-letter, all caps response: L O L.

The confidence the tweet conveyed has been there since Snell arrived in Lexington. Kentucky safety Mike Edwards drew from a memory in fall camp last season when Snell was practicing with the third team.

"He was running the ball against the first team and got a big play and was just talking stuff," Edwards said at SEC Media Days. "I'm like, 'Who's that?' He's confident. I like that in him. I think it actually helps him."

Snell ran for 1,091 yards — eighth in the SEC — despite not touching the ball in his first two games. Not only did he run for the most yards of any freshman in Kentucky history, he also recorded the single-game record with 192 rushing yards against Missouri.

Pro Football Focus puts the Kentucky back in elite SEC company. The highest-rated returning running back in the conference is LSU's Derrius Guice. Snell is second.

"Benny's really maturing in his role of our starting running back," quarterback Stephen Johnson said at SEC Media Days. "I'm really proud of him cause he could be getting a big head right now, but he's not allowing that to happen."

Kentucky offensive coordinator Eddie Gran called Snell a "whoa guy" in the spring. The staff has a good problem with Snell; coaches must tell him to slow down rather than speed up.

"Benny's a passionate football player," Gran said at the time. "Not a lot of people have as much passion, but he's got to learn to control that."

Redskins executive Doug Williams was among first believers in UK's Stephen Johnson

By Jon Hale
Courier-Journal
August 3, 2017

In Kentucky quarterback Stephen Johnson's long journey from Rancho Cucamonga, California, to the Southeastern Conference, two phone calls played a pivotal role.

Former Super Bowl MVP Doug Williams was involved in both.

The first came during Johnson's senior year of high school. California junior college coach Jack Steptoe called Williams, his former NFL teammate and then coach at Grambling State University in Louisiana, to ask him to look at Johnson's highlight film at the request of a nephew who was helping train Johnson in high school. Johnson shined on a losing team as a senior at Los Osos High School but his status as a two-star recruit weighing well shy of 200 pounds did little to attract the interest of Division I programs.

But Williams, now a front-office executive with the Washington Redskins, was quickly convinced he'd found a player capable of starring in the Southwestern Conference.

"When he got (to Grambling) you could tell this kid had impeccable timing on throws and anticipation," Williams said. "He was smart, didn't have no problem picking stuff up. Just to watch him anticipate and throw the ball on time — having played in the league — was interesting because at the end of the day you know that's what it's all about."

But the time together at Grambling for Johnson and Williams proved short. Two games into Johnson's first season on campus, Williams was fired. Johnson would go on to win the starting job for Grambling as a redshirt freshman in 2014, but he missed time with an ankle injury midway through the season and never regained his job.

With Williams gone and his prospects for starting again bleak, Johnson returned to California to play for Steptoe at College of the Desert, where he starred for one season before Williams would again play an important role in his career.

Recruiters were slow to catch on to Johnson again as he did not arrive at the junior college until after the spring evaluation period. After Johnson threw for more than 3,000 yards and 30 touchdowns in his one season there, small schools like Hawaii, Arkansas State, and Eastern Michigan offered scholarships.

Meanwhile co-offensive coordinators Eddie Gran and Darin Hinshaw had inherited a roster with just one returning scholarship quarterback after being hired

at Kentucky. They needed a junior college quarterback to balance the depth chart.

Wondering if the lightly recruited Johnson could fit their needs, the UK coaches called Williams, who was by then working for the Redskins.

"I told them that Stephen could play," Williams said. "I told them the only drawback was his size. He proved one thing: He can overcome that. ... I said 'If Stephen was 200 pounds, you wouldn't have him. If he was 220, you definitely wouldn't have had him.'"

Gran and Hinshaw heard enough. They picked Johnson from a list of roughly 25 quarterbacks whose film they had evaluated.

Williams' endorsement proved key.

"He did say (Johnson) had a problem with gaining weight," Hinshaw said. "Well, Stephen has a problem gaining weight, but besides that the character and all the things he said about him, I said, 'This is our guy. This is a guy I think can come in and compete with Drew (Barker).'"

Barker had taken over the starting job late in his redshirt freshman season in 2015 and was expected to retain that role as a sophomore. Williams said he quickly understood Kentucky was recruiting Johnson for depth behind Barker, but he felt his former Grambling player could be even more.

It came as little surprise to him then that after Barker suffered a season-ending injury early in Kentucky's 2016 season, Johnson was able to lead the Wildcats to seven victories in 10 games as the No. 1 quarterback.

While many pundits expected little from Johnson at Kentucky, that performance validated the confidence he showed upon arriving at Kentucky.

"This whole deal has definitely been a process, definitely been a journey," Johnson said during his first news conference as a Wildcat. "My journey is not done yet."

Williams, who was recently promoted to become the Redskins' senior vice president of player personnel, said he is convinced if Johnson, who is listed at 6-foot-2, 185 pounds on UK's roster, were bigger he would have garnered recruiting interest from top programs around the country.

Instead, Johnson's route to the SEC was far from normal.



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"Growing up you dream of it, you think you want to go to the best school, but unfortunately for me, that didn't happen," said Johnson in July while sitting in front of a gaggle of cameras and lights as one of the featured players at the SEC's annual media days. "After getting to Grambling State, I couldn't have imagined all of this. It's really surreal and divine how it all came about. I'm really just excited for this journey I'm on right now."

Johnson and Williams have not had much contact in recent years, but both men said they hoped to reestablish that link in the near future.

Williams, who was rumored to be a candidate for the UK head coaching job when Rich Brooks was hired in 2002, said he plans to call Johnson before the season to let him know he's pulling for him at Kentucky.

"This kid, he's got impeccable character," Williams said. "I don't think you would ever have to worry about Stephen getting in trouble. If they tell me Stephen and somebody was involved in some incident, I'm going to blame the other person because it wasn't Stephen."

Johnson found himself in another quarterback competition as preseason camp opened earlier this week.

While UK coach Mark Stoops picked Johnson as one of three players to serve as the face of the 2017 team at SEC Media Days, he has gone out of his way to note Barker has a chance to win back the job now that he is healthy.

Johnson remains the favorite to start Kentucky's 2017 opener on Sept. 2, but being handed the job after his success last fall would have run counter to the theme of his college career.

Los Osos High School, Grambling State and College of the Desert are not what anyone would consider major college football factories. Nothing about Johnson's path to Kentucky was easy.

"I think what you see is a character kid with passion for what he does," Williams said. "He did whatever it took and stayed on track, didn't get off track from the education side of it. He stayed on track to take care of that but also make sure he did what he set out to do and get the opportunity to play."

"Let me tell you the biggest story here: For him to leave Grambling and go to the SEC ...to me that tells you the kid was a big-school talent that didn't have the big-school size."

Australian Matt Panton elevating UK punter competition

By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
August 11, 2017

The most notorious special teams moment of new UK assistant coach Dean Hood's career came while he was not even paying attention.

Then the head coach at Eastern Kentucky, Hood, who was hired as UK's special teams coordinator in February, was talking on the sideline late in a 2013 blowout of rival Morehead State when he heard players on the field scream, "Alert, alert," the signal for a unique fake punt play ECU punter Jordan Berry had been conditioned to audible into when one of his outside gunners was left uncovered.

Berry, an Australian rugby-style punter, had struggled to throw passes on normal fake punt calls since almost all his experience as an Australian rules football player involved his feet. After enduring frequent ribbing from Hood about his poor throwing arm, Berry made the strange request to let him punt the ball to the receiver instead of throw it.

"I said, 'OK, Billy Bad Butt, let me see you,'" Hood said.

The boast proved true. Berry could more accurately and quickly kick the ball to the receiver than throw it. A review of the rule book proved a ball punted behind the line of scrimmage could be advanced by either team.

The fake play was born but not used until Berry made the automatic call up 42-24 with less than five minutes remaining in the fourth quarter against Morehead. Hood thinks it was the first time the play had ever been used in a college football game.

"I took a lot of flack from that (because of the score), but actually it was by accident," Hood said.

Hood found success at ECU coaching Australian punters. Berry is entering his third season with the Pittsburgh Steelers now. Fellow Australian punter Keith Wrzuszczak, another Hood recruit, broke Berry's single-season punting record at ECU in 2015 and is set to punt for the Colonels as a senior this fall.

Now Hood will hope to duplicate that success at Kentucky, where Columbia University graduate transfer Matt Panton, another Australian rugby-style punter, was added to the roster this summer to push incumbent Grant McKinniss.

"We need to improve," UK coach Mark Stoops said. "I don't think there's any doubt about that. You've seen us punt and we need to do a better job. We need to be more consistent."

At Columbia, Panton was known for his ability to pin teams deep, placing 47.5 percent of his punts across two years inside the opponent's 20-yard line. He was more than a short-field punter though as a junior, averaging 40.5 yards per punt, two more yards per punt than McKinniss, a traditional pocket punter, averaged a year ago.

Rugby-style punters tend to try for a relatively short kick that bounces down the field away from the returner, but UK coaches are working Panton in more traditional situations as well during camp.

Hood reported both Panton and McKinniss are averaging around 42 yards per punt this preseason, but Panton has a slightly longer average hang-time.

"He can rugby it and go for distance. He can rugby it and bring it to the other side of the field," Hood said. "He brings more to it than just the rugby and the short stuff. He's getting better at the pocket stuff. A little different. He's getting it out there his own way, but he's hitting some."

Panton's path to Kentucky is a strange one.

He was actually recruited to Columbia as a member of the heavyweight rowing program before deciding to focus on football. When his personal coaches at Pro-Kick Australia, an academy designed to teach Australians American football, were approached by the UK staff to find a new punter to add competition to the roster, Panton, eligible to play immediately after graduating from Columbia, could not pass



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up the opportunity to play in the Southeastern Conference.

"After I graduated from Columbia I was looking to come to a big football school and was looking at a couple of schools, but Kentucky was the school that really wanted me," Pantan said. "I think that went into my decision."

McKinniss struggled for much of his freshman season at Kentucky, but coaches have suggested his problems centered on a lack of confidence instead of any mechanical issues or physical deficiencies. If he can make good on the talent that saw him rated as a four-star recruit by Scout.com, McKinniss could retain his starting job.

Hood also left open the possibility of using both punters depending on the type of punt needed in a given situation.

But if Hood needs to pull out the strange fake punt again, Pantan is likely his man. At Columbia, Pantan gained some notoriety with a video showing him punting a ball through field goal uprights from the back corner of the end zone.

"Let everybody out there know we've been working on it a bunch," Hood said with a laugh. "Watch the Morehead game."

Landon Young using wrestling past to get leg up on offensive line

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
August 15, 2017**

Landon Young found himself in the center of a circle again Tuesday, standing in the spotlight with all eyes focused squarely on the 6-foot-7, 305-pound Kentucky offensive tackle from Lafayette High School just two miles away. This was not an unfamiliar feeling for Young.

Surrounded by reporters who wanted to know what he thinks about a sudden promotion — he'll likely replace starting left tackle Cole Mosier, who tore his ACL on Saturday — Young wore a gray wrestling T-shirt from his days at Lafayette, where he was a heavyweight state champion as a senior. That experience helped prepare him for this new challenge.

Learning to stand in that circle, to battle mano a mano, with everyone watching

and nowhere to hide, helped turn him into a 5-star football recruit and, now, likely one of just 14 SEC starters at the most high-profile position on the offensive line. Young is a true sophomore, and now he'll be the primary protector of quarterback Stephen Johnson's blindside.

"I don't think I'd be the football player that I am unless I did wrestle," Young said. "That was a huge part of my high school career. Not only high school, but those things translate to the football field: The handwork, the footwork, just being able to be out there one-on-one like most left tackles."

Young said the close combat taught him to grow up, "to be a man."

His growing-up process at Kentucky has been accelerated since Week 2 of last season. As a true freshman, his first taste of college football came just as unexpectedly as this latest opportunity: Mosier went down with an ankle injury and in came Young — against the SEC East champion Florida Gators in The Swamp.

"It's like I was getting dipped in gas and thrown into the fire," Young said. "As you've seen from the game, I got in there and it was a little rough at first. I had to get my wits about me. But I felt like as I sort of got the experience and got to see everything, I sort of calmed down, settled down, got into my spot."

Young might've been soaked in fossil fuels once again with Mosier's season-ending injury, but he's hoping to avoid the fire this time. He's no longer a rookie. In fact, Kentucky offensive line coach John Schlarman estimated that Young played more snaps last season than Mosier, who ended up missing three games.

"You can't put [the value of that experience] in words," coordinator Eddie Gran said. "It's not going to be anything mind-boggling to him. He'll go out there and when you've got the bullets flying, I think he'll be a much better player this year. You can already see it right now in practice."

The nice (and relatively unusual) thing for Kentucky is that because of the depth and versatility it has cultivated in the offensive line, there are other options. Starting right tackle Kyle Meadows could move to left tackle and utility man George Asafo-Adjei could slide into the right-tackle spot.

Talented youngsters Naasir Watkins (a true freshman) and Mason Wolfe (a redshirt sophomore) have drawn praise and are also possibilities.

But Young doesn't expect the Wildcats will need to reach for the contingency plans.

He is "one hundred percent" expecting to seize this latest opportunity, Young said. "I'm going to do everything in my power to get that job."

Young came to Kentucky with a 5-star ceiling. Eric Shaw, his high school coach, said he sees Young playing on Sundays. That's putting a lot on a guy who still has to prove he can be a starting left tackle in the SEC, but if wrestling taught him anything, it's that he's only begun to discover his potential.

"It transforms you into a whole other person," Young said. "It pushes you past what you know you can go."

Logan Stenberg has become punisher on offensive line

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
August 18, 2017**

Kentucky linebacker Courtney Love knows what to expect when he sees No. 71 running downhill toward him. Fellow linebacker Denzil Ware says there's a mean streak behind the man who used to rock a ponytail. Josh Allen, another linebacker, is just happy he can stay out of the way.

The player they're talking about is Logan Stenberg. The sophomore left guard has become Kentucky's "punisher" and "enforcer" on the offensive line, as Ware put it.

The 6-foot-6, 318-pound sophomore from Madison, Ala., has the attention of teammates who have to face him every day, but outsiders have noticed as well. Stenberg was named to the SEC Coaches' All-Freshman team last season.

When SEC Country asked SEC Network analyst Cole Cubelic which Kentucky player he was most looking forward to watch this season, Stenberg was his answer. It was surprising at the time, but Ware, Love and



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the Wildcats' linebacker corps don't have to be convinced.

"He's got a ton of power," Cubelic said. "I went back and watched the Alabama game a couple weeks ago and he's moving some guys around, pushing some guys around. It's not something that you expect to see against that group.

Stenberg didn't start last season, but he was a key rotational piece for a Kentucky offensive line that helped running backs Boom Williams and Benny Snell run for 1,000-yard campaigns.

Now a redshirt sophomore, Stenberg is listed on the preseason depth chart as Kentucky's starter at left guard. He said the whole offensive line has to step up in the absence of former starting left tackle Cole Mosier.

"I like being in the interior," Stenberg said after practice Friday. "I like down blocking, pancaking. I like being the one that they want to run behind to get a yard or two."

Stenberg takes pride in being the so-called enforcer, but he hadn't heard Ware call him that before. As for the ponytail, Stenberg's hair is growing back to the point where he could sport it again. The hair style isn't meant to deceive. It's no more than a cost-cutting measure.

"I'd rather pay for a ponytail holder than haircuts," he said.

Stenberg has the unique ability to make Ware laugh and fear for his life at the same time.

"It makes me laugh, man, because he's a big dude with a ponytail, so it's hard to take him serious," Ware said. "But you know, when he put his hand down and comes off the ball, it's a big train coming to hit you. So you just gotta be careful what you say to him, because he might can end your life."

Love got in a recent scuffle with Stenberg during practice. The senior linebacker laughed it off Friday, and said the Cats need someone "nasty" like Stenberg.

But Love is just happy another team's going to be on the receiving end of the pony-tailed punisher on Sept. 2.

"You just gotta be careful when you see No. 71," Love said. "He's a big dude, and he's trying to eat."

Meet Logan Stenberg, Kentucky football's 'enforcer'

By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
August 18, 2017

Outside linebacker Denzil Ware is one of the most quotable players on the roster, so the fact he enjoys a bit of trash talk in practice comes as little surprise.

The same cannot be said for the player Ware identified as the best trash talker on the Kentucky offense.

"The whole O-line, especially Logan Stenberg," Ware said. "That's their guy, that's their punisher, that's their enforcer. That's him. That's what he do. He handles all trash talk."

Stenberg may not yet be a household name among Kentucky fans, but after earning SEC All-Freshman Team honors last season he looks set to take over the starting left guard job this fall. Stenberg was recently singled out by SEC Network analyst Cole Cubelic as the Kentucky player he was most excited to watch this fall, but the former three-star recruit has yet to start a game for the Wildcats.

It's Stenberg's flowing locks, not his lack of experience, that makes trash talking with him difficult, Ware said.

"It makes me laugh man because he's a big dude with a ponytail," Ware said. "It's hard to take him serious, but when he puts that hand down and comes off the ball it's a big train coming to hit you. So you just got to be careful what you say to him because it might could end your life."

For the record, Stenberg's hair is not quite long enough for a ponytail right now, but the offensive lineman hopes it will be soon.

"I'm proud of the ponytail," he said. "I'm trying to grow it back out. I'd rather pay for a ponytail holder than a haircut."

So much for that jab from Ware.

And as for the "enforcer" title Ware awarded him, Stenberg had not heard it before but is more than happy to live up to that reputation.

"I like being in the interior, I like down-blocking, pancaking, being the one they want to run behind to get a yard or two," he said. "I really take pride in that."

Stallings' story filled with faith, family and football

By Brian Rickerd
The Enterprise-Journal
August 20, 2017

Cynthia Stallings, the proud mother of UK junior center Jervontius "Bunchy" Stallings, was always his most vocal fan throughout Bunchy's football career, and while Cynthia won't be in the stands when the Wildcats open the college football season at Southern Mississippi on Sept. 2, her voice will still resonate in her son's ears.

Cynthia Stallings passed away on July 7, at age 53, after a two-year battle with cancer.

"When I say my mom was aggressive about the game of football, you could just hear her in the stands, fussing," said Stallings, a Pike County native, who played most of his prep football at South Pike High School. "She was like that - she was a big part of this game.

"So, it's tough ... a day to day deal right now. But at the same time, I understand the task at hand," he added. "Before my mom left here, we talked, and she let me know what I need to be doing. She told me, 'You know your abilities, you know what you have to do, so just go out and handle it to the best of your ability'. I'm just trying to make her happy while she's looking down on me."

Stallings comes from a very close knit family, one that includes his father Robert and older brothers Tre` and LaDarius - all three of whom played college football (Robert at Southern Miss, Tre' at Ole Miss and LaDarius at UT-Martin).

Two of the latter three went on to see time in the NFL - Robert with the Cardinals and Tre` with the Chiefs.

And both Tre` and LaDarius still make a living in football - Tre` as the director of football player development at Illinois and LaDarius as offensive coordinator at Division II, Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro.

And while Bunchy is tight with his father and brothers, one gets the feeling he has a special place in his heart for his mom.



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"All of the kids (Bunchy, Tre`, LaDarius) have had a different relationship with their mom, but with Bunchy being the baby, she just expected more out of him," said Robert Stallings, a McComb-area minister, in a recent phone interview. "It (Cynthia's passing) has been a big motivating thing for him. He's got to do what his mom told him to do with his career and his life before she passed."

Bunchy's story is one filled with faith, family and football.

It started from his days at South Pike, through high school graduation at Spain Park High in Hoover, Ala., (where he spent his last year of high school living with Tre`, who worked for the SEC at the time) and then on to Kentucky.

Bunchy has loved life wherever he's been, but he has a soft spot for the Pike County area where he grew up.

"I really realized how important it was when I moved away," Bunchy said when asked about his feelings towards the McComb area. "This has taught me to appreciate what I have and to take advantage of the things I have, because those things may not always be there.

"In Mississippi, everything is about family," he added. "Everybody is close down there. That's what I miss the most about it."

Bunchy said he left South Pike as a high school junior to gain more exposure for his blossoming football skills at Spain Park, just outside Birmingham, in addition to sharing quality time living with Tre`.

"In Alabama, I was going against the best people there were because we were in the highest division, which was a huge difference from where I came from," Bunchy said.

Bunchy narrowed his final college choices to Kentucky, Mississippi State and Colorado.

"To me, the further you are from home, the better man you'll be, because you have more responsibilities," Robert said of that decision, though he added, pointedly: "If you want to be there. He and I talked about how far Kentucky was, and he adjusted."

"I felt like in order to be successful, there was going to come a time when I was going to have to get away from home," Bunchy said. "And it's worked out."

Stallings redshirted as a freshman at UK, in 2014. As a redshirt freshman in 2015, he played as a reserve in three games on the offensive line and on special teams.

Last season was a breakout year for both Stallings and the Wildcats as Stallings started eight games at guard for a Kentucky team that finished 7-6 and went bowling for the first time in six seasons.

Stallings appears firmly entrenched as a starter now, this time back at his natural center position, with UK having lost All-SEC center Jon Toth to graduation a year ago.

"I see myself as the type of player who can play anywhere from center to guard, but this year I think my primary position is center where I can use my assets as much as possible," said Bunchy, who came to Kentucky in 2014 with 354 pounds on his 6-foot-3 frame and is closer to 315 now. "I'm a leader now, and at center, I'll be in control of the offensive line, which is a huge opportunity for me."

"We have a lot of confidence in Bunchy," said UK head coach Mark Stoops, who's grown as a coach as Stallings has as a player. "He's a very athletic man for a big guy, and he is very versatile."

Stallings said he loves Kentucky. He feels a kinship with Stoops' program dating back to 2013 when he committed to play here.

Stallings suggested the deal that clinched his decision to come here was a winter afternoon ice storm that hit the Birmingham area on the same day UK assistant coaches John Schlarman and Neal Brown were in town on a recruiting visit when Stallings was a senior at Spain Park.

"I knew Coach Schlarman and Coach Brown were coming that day, and they called me and said it was a bad storm, but they were going to try to make it," Bunchy said. "They wouldn't allow us to leave school, and that night (Schlarman and Brown) they ended up staying with me at the school. That put some reassurance in my heart that this (UK) was the place I wanted to come."

Brown is now the head coach at Troy, Ala., while Schlarman is Stallings' offensive line coach at Kentucky.

"They had closed off the road going to the school, so we had a choice

- we could stay in the car or get out and walk," Schlarman recalled with a smile. "It was probably about a mile, though I'm sure it's going to get longer every year.

"You hope it made an impression, but in reality it was just a situation we were in and we dealt with it," he added.

Stallings is having, by all accounts, an excellent pre-season - a fact made all the more remarkable given the weight of his heart these days.

"I know she's in a better place," he said of his mother. "She always told me to find peace in her, so when I think about her, I can look at it in a positive way now that she doesn't have cancer anymore.

She's in Heaven. It's a sign of peace that I can come out here (practice field), and if my frustrations are up, I can release them.

"I enjoy football because it takes away the pain."

Indeed, the UK coaches say they see no loss of focus or energy from Stallings in pre-season practice.

"He (Stallings) has been locked in," Schlarman said. "I've been very pleased with him. And I'm sure he's going to keep getting better as we move forward."

"When we talk about family and those types of things, it's not just coach-speak," Schlarman added. "We care about these guys on and off the field, and we make sure he understands that he has a great support system here."

For Bunchy, moving forward means life beyond Kentucky to the NFL, where he hopes to be the best Stallings of them all.

"I sure want to, and hopefully I'll have an opportunity," he said of his NFL prospects. "I know my brother and my dad did it, but I want to build my own legacy. I know at the end of the day, it's up to me."

"I think as long as he keeps humble and working on his craft, the sky's the limit for him," Tre` says. "I think, of all three boys, he's probably the most athletic guy to come from my father's roots. He has the total package, from the mental aspect to, as I said, being the most athletic."

Schlarman said Bunchy's gift package starts with energy.

"He's a leader because he's very energetic," Schlarman said. "And it's not just noise. The guys listen to him."



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"Plus, he's physical. Last year he really developed as the season went on, and showed that he can finish blocks on Saturday. And now he has some experience, too."

But, before all that, comes what promises to be an emotional day at USM's M.M. Roberts Stadium on Sept. 2 (4 p.m. kickoff) when Stallings and Kentucky hook up with the Golden Eagles maybe an hour from Bunchy's home turf.

"Honestly, that'll be fun because I know I'll have a lot of family and friends there, some of them who don't have the finances or ability to make it this far," Bunchy said.

Tre` Illini open their season that day vs. Ball State, so he won't be able to make it to Hattiesburg for the Kentucky game. But he suggests 'fun' may not be the operative word for his younger brother's day in Hattiesburg.

"Oh man, it's really going to be an emotional time for him," Tre` said. "There's a lot of family and friends there, and obviously with our parents being so supportive throughout our playing careers - being at every game - I think it will hit him harder than he's probably ever been hit just with the emotions of losing our mother.

"Because she was always there."

Amid protests, Kentucky football statue takes on more meaning in Lexington

By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
August 27, 2017

The two Confederate monuments the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council has voted to move from the downtown site of a former slave auction block are not the only statues concerning racial history in Lexington.

Fewer than three miles away from the statues of Confederate officers John Hunt Morgan and John C. Breckinridge at the old Fayette County courthouse, University of Kentucky football players walk by a statue of Nate Northington, Greg Page, Wilbur Hackett, and Houston Hogg every day as they enter the program's practice facility.

Just less than a year ago most of the UK team huddled outside that building alongside fans as four of their teammates pulled off the curtain of the statue depicting the four African-Americans who helped break the color barrier in Southeastern Conference football.

"They sacrificed for us to be here and all of us to play together," UK linebacker Josh Allen said. "... They were the firsts. They were the ones that started all that, and it happened here. That's just a blessing. We just can't forget that's how it started. They did that for us, to be together, play together."

Since Lexington Mayor Jim Gray announced he would move to relocate the two Confederate statues after a woman was killed when a car crashed into a crowd of counter-protesters at a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, earlier this month, white nationalists have threatened to bring protests to Lexington.

Hackett, a Dupont Manual High School graduate who was eventually elected the first black team captain in any SEC sport, said the UK statue has taken on greater significance for him in recent weeks.

"As I look around and I really start to think about people who have statues, it meant a great deal to me then but it means even more to me now because it's a symbol of something that is bigger than us," he said. "It's not the fact that it's Wilbur Hackett or Greg Page, Nate Northington or Houston Hogg. It's about what we represented and the things that occurred in our country that made our country better and stronger, people coming together."

When Hackett, who grew up in a family of UK fans in Winchester before moving to Louisville, decided to play for the Wildcats, Northington, a graduate of Louisville's Thomas Jefferson High School, and Page had already joined the team as the first African-Americans to sign scholarship papers to play football in the SEC. While Northington and Page had yet to play in a varsity game when Hackett arrived on campus, Hackett acknowledged the historical aspect of his decision was an afterthought for him at the time.

As his understanding of his own historical significance has evolved so too have his feelings about the Confederate statues.

"I never really thought about them up until now, but as I think about the statues of some of the persons that they have – the ones in Lexington they're talking about taking down and all the rest around the country – they are a sign of a negative time in our history of the United States," Hackett said. "What they represent, the people they have statues of, they were divisive. They were oppressing black people, and I have no problem with them taking them down. Matter of fact, I think they should take them down because it's a negative part of the history of the United States."

Hackett said he is particularly cognizant of the honor his statue has conveyed to Page and his family. A Middlesboro native, Page died on the eve of Northington breaking the SEC's color barrier after suffering a spinal injury during practice.

Northington transferred from UK just weeks after breaking the color barrier, in part because of his grief after Page's death. But before he left he encouraged Hackett and Hogg, members of UK's freshman team at the time, to remain with the program.

Racial tensions remained high as Hackett and Hogg played in SEC stadiums across the deep south, but Hackett said he saw progress during his time in college.

It's those lessons, he said, where sports can teach people to help bridge their differences.

"I had teammates tell me I have only seen African-Americans on television until I got to UK," Hackett said. "And they had a whole totally different picture because they saw riots, they saw demonstrations and marches. Then when they got to know us personally it was a whole totally different new experience for my teammates, and they embraced us and they took us in and it was good. That's why I have no regrets about going to UK."

During the statue's unveiling ceremony last fall, honorees voiced hope their story could continue to promote a message of inclusion.

The statue has brought additional attention to their story over the past year. A documentary is in the works and could be unveiled at film festivals next summer.

SEC commissioner Greg Sankey opened his annual media days address in July by announcing Northington, Hackett, Hogg



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and members of Page's family will be recognized at the SEC Championship game in December. In a long speech, he then listed athletes who had broken the color barrier at each of the SEC schools, including Stephen Martin, the first African-American to play any sport in the SEC when he appeared as a member of Tulane's freshman baseball team in 1965, and Perry Wallace, who broke the league's basketball color barrier at Vanderbilt in 1967.

"Within this list of names, there are stories of success and tragedy, achievement, and disappointment, heartache, and hurt, and yet, forgiveness and reconciliation, dignity, and grace," Sankey said. "The contributions to change go well beyond football, and the winds of change began earlier than the fall of 1967. But the seeds of change planted by Stephen Martin, Nate Northington and Perry Wallace and so many others have blossomed today into hundreds of opportunities in every SEC sport all across the campuses of our great universities."

Now more and more athletes are deciding to use platforms to promote change. NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick has garnered attention for his decision to kneel during the national anthem to protest the treatment of minorities. Several NBA players, including former UK stars Karl-Anthony Towns and DeMarcus Cousins, have spoken up in the wake of the Charlottesville rally.

And in the SEC, more than 30 football players at the University of Missouri in 2015 announced they would boycott practices and games in support of a student participating in a hunger strike until the university president resigned amid growing racial tensions on campus.

"That shows you the kind of power that African-American athletes have, and I'm so proud of those young men at the University of Missouri for making a stand and making a statement," Hackett said. "You see the result. We don't realize how much power we do have and how much power we have to make a change."

"When no one else would come together in the South, they came together to integrate the sport of football in the SEC. They wouldn't come together on any other terms, but integrating football brought people together that would never have been brought together. I think it's very im-

portant that these athletes use their position to bring about change and to have a voice."

After giving up basketball, Calvin Taylor showing promise for football Cats

**By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
August 27, 2017**

The University of Kentucky is used to finding recruits at the prestigious Peach Jam AAU tournament each summer.

They generally end up playing basketball for the Wildcats, though. Calvin Taylor bucked that trend.

Taylor, who spent his summers in high school traveling the AAU circuit in basketball and eventually made a cameo at Peach Jam, the crowning event in Nike's Elite Youth Basketball League, is a defensive end for the Wildcats' football program.

"Calvin coming through high school would have told you he was going to go play basketball," said Keith Walton, Taylor's football coach at Augusta Christian High School in Georgia. "As a football coach, I'm looking at this kid with all this size and thinking, 'You need to play football.' He's always played in high school, not necessarily committed his whole heart to it like he is now though because he always thought his bread was going to be buttered by basketball."

At 6-foot-9, Taylor reportedly elicited recruiting interest in basketball from Bowling Green and others. Temple accounted for the bulk of his football interest, but contact dropped amid turnover on the coaching staff and Taylor's inability to schedule an official visit to campus due to his basketball schedule.

By the time football signing day rolled around in Taylor's senior year, there was no Division I offer on the table. Grades were no issue for Taylor, a member of the Spanish club and Quiz Bowl team at Augusta Christian, but junior college seemed like the most likely route to continuing his football career.

A call from one of his junior-college contacts to former Kentucky defensive line

coach Jimmy Brumbaugh saved him from that detour.

"It was just like fate," Walton said. "Calvin goes up to visit, loves the school and says, 'This is home, this is where I need to be.'"

With a scholarship open at Kentucky, Taylor signed with the Wildcats almost seven weeks after signing day in 2015.

Even after signing with Kentucky, Taylor was considered a project who might develop into a useful player after committing to football full-time.

UK coaches initially considered playing him at offensive tackle before deciding he was a better fit on the defensive line. He redshirted in 2015 and recorded just one tackle in four games last season, but UK defensive coordinator Matt House and defensive line coach Derrick LeBlanc both pointed to him during preseason practices this month as a young player making strides for a much-maligned defensive line.

"Calvin is Mr. Coachable," LeBlanc said. "He does everything right, he's where he's supposed to be, he's in his gap, he can get off blocks. He's just so long every now and then he bats a ball or two down, so he's right where he needs to be. He's right on pace as a young sophomore of being a really good player for us. I'm excited about him."

Taylor's 6-foot-9 frame is both a strength and concern at defensive end.

Complaints from offensive linemen are common — "Man, your arms are so long," Taylor said — but he struggles at times to stay low enough to gain leverage against bulkier offensive tackles.

Taylor's Augusta Christian teammate Zach Giella signed with Clemson as a three-star offensive lineman in the 2015 class. Unlike Taylor, Giella was a frequent participant in summer football camps and recruiting events.

"Even when all the coaches would come through (to see Giella) — Michigan State, all of them — they all talked about Calvin could play on Sunday if all of his chips were in on the table for just football," Walton said. "... (Giella) says by far Calvin is the most difficult person I've ever had to block. Not because he's so powerful; he's so long it's awkward. It's awkward trying to block him."



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While Taylor works to break into the defensive line rotation, his height lends itself to a place on Kentucky's field-goal block team.

And if he does finally cash in on the football talent Walton projected in high school, it's fitting it would come at a school known for its basketball prowess.

"He's got a hooper body," LeBlanc said. "He probably should be on a basketball court somewhere, but he's almost 300 pounds. He's got so much length he can spread out and take up two gaps and stick his arms out and knock down passes. We're excited about Calvin."

'Big Bo' has big-time potential, Kentucky coaches say of rookie defensive lineman

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
August 29, 2017

Normally a man of few words (at least in interviews), Kentucky's defensive coordinator didn't even wait for the question to end before starting his reply.

"He's gotten better every practice," Matt House said in his rush to discuss true freshman defensive lineman Quinton Bohanna. "Sorry to cut you off."

There's just something special about the 6-foot-4, 320-pound nose tackle from Cordova, Tenn.

"He's a guy that's a big twitched up guy," House continued enthusiastically. "I mean for a big man he moves well. Another guy that I think football is really important to him, which if you're blessed with athleticism, size and it's really important to you, you've got a potential to be really good."

There is zero question that football is important to Bohanna, said his former high school head coach at Cordova. While some teams might leave their defensive calls to linebackers or safeties, it was Bohanna for his team.

"He's probably the smartest football player I've ever had the chance to coach," Coach Anthony Jones said of Bohanna, who recorded 91 tackles last season at Cordova. "He does all the small things right. He

knows where the play is going before the ball is even snapped."

Bohanna studies film in the same relentless way that he goes after opponents in the backfield, racking up 24 tackles for loss and 19 sacks last season, Jones said.

On national signing day just a few months ago, it was clear that House already was feeling good about the potential he saw in Bohanna, who was rated the No. 45 defensive tackle in the country by Rivals.

"Big Bo's got a chance to be a big-time player," House said that day.

But Kentucky's coaches weren't sure how long that process might take. It's always hard to know with freshmen, especially ones who play at a position so close to the ball.

Coach Mark Stoops erased much doubt about where Bohanna would be on game days this season: on the field.

"We really feel like he's got a great upside," Stoops said on his radio show Monday night. "He's a guy who's very big, but also very explosive. He's a little more twitchy than some of the nose guards we've had. So hopefully he can get in there and be a little more disruptive."

Bohanna isn't just a big body in there, Stoops continued, he's also "athletic for how big he is."

That athleticism is evident any time you watch him do anything, his high school coach said.

"Quinton was probably one of the most athletic kids we had, not only on our football team but one of the most athletic kids we had at the school," Jones said. "Quinton probably could go out on the basketball court and play basketball if he wanted to with his size. From a football standpoint, he probably had the best set of hands on the team. Of course he never played receiver, but he could catch the ball. He could actually throw the ball."

Bohanna never did actually throw the ball in a game, but he did serve as the backup quarterback for the middle school team before a significant growth spurt.

The freshman's emergence has created a greater "sense of competition" at that nose tackle spot where both junior college transfer Naquez Pringle and Matt Elam played last season, new defensive line coach Derrick LeBlanc said. Pringle fin-

ished with 39 tackles, including two tackles for loss last season, while starting in five games. Elam had nine tackles and also started five games.

Bohanna has rotated in with starters, backups and the third team at various points during fall camp and has made a serious push for playing time.

He's also created a sense of urgency for the veteran players at his position, Stoops said on Monday night.

"Playing time will solve a lot of problems," he said. "You've got guys who are sitting there and hungry to play that can replace you, then we're going to do it. There comes a point that either you can't or you won't. If that's the case then we have to move on and find somebody who can or will."

After slump, Kentucky football's Chris Westry finds motivation on his bedroom walls

By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
August 31, 2017

When Kentucky cornerback Chris Westry wakes up at his apartment each morning, the first thing he sees are the people closest to him.

His mother and grandmother are there. So are teammates Derrick Baity and Mike Edwards. UK assistant coaches Steve Clinkscale and Corey Edmond also make the cut.

The images of family, friends, teammates and teachers are part of more than 300 photographs affixed to Westry's bedroom walls. The wall to the left of his bed is filled with pictures of his life before Kentucky. The wall to the right is filled with memories from his time at UK.

"That's just motivation, and it shows you how far I've grown," Westry said. "It's pictures from my freshman year and from like two weeks ago. It's just something to remind me why I'm here."

There's no shortage of progress shown on the wall displaying his UK tenure alone.

Westry committed to Kentucky days before signing day in 2015 as Mark Stoops and his staff worked to overcome a rash of late decommitments that plagued the class. The one-time Auburn pledge made



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an immediate impact at Kentucky, starting all 12 games as a freshman that fall. He was named a third-team Freshman All-American by Athlon Sports after totaling two interceptions, eight pass breakups and 36 tackles.

That breakout season was a leading factor in Stoops' declaration his secondary contained "superstars in the making" heading into the 2015 season, but Westry and his fellow defensive backs struggled to match the hype.

"As coaches, we try to dismiss it a lot of times, but when guys have some success as true freshmen, their sophomore year sometimes they don't always live up to it," Stoops said. "That's been my experience, and that may have been the case in the secondary at times. We need to play better."

It's not like Westry was ineffective as a sophomore – he totaled 35 tackles with one interception and three pass breakups – but he failed to make the leap forward that Stoops and others projected for him.

Now Westry finds himself in a new situation as a junior.

"When you're a freshman, you look to the older guys," he said. "Now we are the older guys, so there's no looking around. It's like, 'Look in the mirror. You got to take it for what it is, and you've got to be the best role model you can possibly be, set that good example for younger guys.'"

Westry's stellar freshman season came under the direction of former Kentucky defensive backs coach Derrick Ansley, who left Lexington for a job on Nick Saban's staff at Alabama in February 2015.

Stoops hired Clinkscale, the former co-defensive coordinator at Cincinnati, to replace Ansley.

"Coaching Chris, he's a special player, but you've got to really find and have a great relationship with him for him to understand you, for him to trust you and believe in you," Clinkscale said. "We've got a great relationship ... It's a relationship, so sometimes there's ups and downs, but, again, most of them were ups and just kind of getting him to trust and believe. When he actually sees it on film, what we're talking about is a result, then it's easier for him to trust that."

With a season playing for Clinkscale under his belt, Westry said he has fully bought into his new coach's philosophy.

"The relationship excelled, and here we are today," Westry said.

Perhaps it's no surprise then that Clinkscale is among the people on Westry's wall.

Westry has long held a fondness for photography. He didn't start the photo wall until moving into his own apartment – "I don't think my mom would appreciate me putting pictures all on her walls when I was in high school," he said with a smile – but it has become an important part of his life.

His favorite picture is one of a group of teammates after a workout in the UK weight room. That memory reminds him of not only the bond they have forged through Stoops' rebuilding process but also the work needed to ensure his freshman season is not the peak of his UK career.

"He's grown from that," Clinkscale said. "He's taking the coaching very well. He's understanding the game. Over time, experience just makes them better if they keep continuing to put in the work, and he's done that. He's trying to increase different areas of his game so that he can continue to be one of the best."

Blitz brothers Josh Allen and Denzil Ware shine in season opener

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
September 3, 2017**

Kentucky outside linebackers Josh Allen and Denzil Ware put their arms around each other after beating Southern Miss on Saturday night, and chanted their two-word nickname opposing offenses might come to learn.

"Blitz brothers, blitz brothers, blitz brothers."

Ware and Allen swarmed Southern Miss' backfield all night. Their partnership was highlighted late in the first quarter. Allen forced a fumble, and Ware recovered it.

Ware's second fumble recovery came in the waning seconds of the third quarter when Southern Miss quarterback Kwadra Griggs was hit by Kentucky safety Darius West. The ball squirted loose and Ware

picked it up from 20 yards out and rumbled into the end zone. "Just score, just score, just score, just score," was the only thing going through his mind.

It was a needed defensive touchdown on a night when Kentucky's offense managed just 17 points.

The Wildcats got their Week 1 revenge against the Golden Eagles in a 24-17 win. The Blitz Brothers were to thank.

"I thought we were just more talented than they were and I thought we could get some pressure," outside linebackers coach Dean Hood said. "That was what we did. We were able to play coverage and let those guys go hunting."

Hunt they did. Allen had 5 total tackles, 3 for loss, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble. Ware added 3 tackles (1.5 for loss), 1 sack, a forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

As is common with brothers, the Blitz Brothers have their own rivalry. The only thing at stake? Bragging rights.

"He up one," Allen admitted after the game. "He got a little touchdown. But I think I had him on quarterback hits."

Ware had the touchdown, but it was Allen who proved himself unblockable at M.M. Roberts Stadium.

"He stood out to me," Kentucky coach Mark Stoops said of Allen.

An ugly win led to a giddy Stoops. The modest amount of points is just what the defensive-minded boss wanted.

"It was a thing of beauty to me," Stoops said with a grin. "I know a lot of people are gonna have their own opinions, but I loved it."

He surely loved the quandary the Blitz Brothers put the Southern Miss offense in.

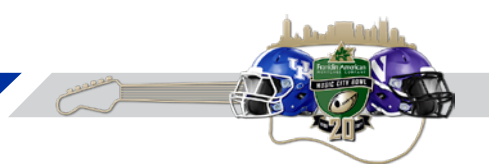
"Me and Denzil off the edge, they're gonna have to choose one," Allen said after the game. "And that's what they did. They chose not right. I'm not trying to say nothing," he said with a laugh.

Allen said he and Ware are "coming like that every week."

And as they rested their arms on each other's shoulders after the game, the confident duo pondered how good they might become weeks from now.

One of the best outside linebacker duos in the SEC? One of the best in the country?

"We ain't gonna say that we are," Ware said, "but we're trying to be."



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Freshman working his way into the brotherhood: 'They call me blitz baby'

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
September 6, 2017

Kentucky's self-proclaimed "blitz brothers" might be in the process of adopting.

Josh Paschal, who had a key stop at the end of the Southern Miss game and has drawn praise from coaches for his play as a freshman, said he's working his way into the blitz brothers family of fellow outside linebackers Denzil Ware and Josh Allen.

"They call me blitz baby," smiled Paschal, who hardly looks the part of baby at 6-foot-3, 270 pounds.

"They always say that because of my baby face, because I'm a freshman and I've got a baby face."

Lots of players want to get into the blitz brothers group, Ware joked, but there's still work to be done for Paschal, whom the two have been mentoring.

"You gotta work your ranks up," Ware said of Paschal. "So right now, he's blitz baby and if he keep on going up, he'll be on (the next) level, blitz cousin. He's just gotta work for it."

Ware may have elevated himself a little bit, too, after his fumble recovery for a touchdown against the Golden Eagles on Saturday.

"Oh, I'm blitz daddy now," Ware joked.

For Paschal to truly elevate himself to blitz brother status, he's got to start acquiring quarterback sacks, though.

"He's just gonna have to ball out, gonna have to stand out," Ware continued of the freshman. "Blitz bros stand out. It's all a team, though. ... He gotta get his name in that sack race. Until then he's going to be blitz baby. I got faith he'll come along."

In the sack race, Allen and Ware are tied at one apiece after one game. Allen had three tackles for loss and a forced fumble in the opener. Ware added a forced fumble and two fumble recoveries.

Both players have helped Paschal grow his game since he arrived on campus, the freshman said.

"Both of them are great with sacks and third-down pass rushers. They've really helped me a lot," he said. "There's really a brotherhood here."

From runaway child to senior leader, how former Nebraska linebacker Courtney Love found a home at Kentucky

By Connor O'Gara
SaturdayDownSouth.com
September 8, 2017

It was exactly what Courtney Love was looking for.

He and the rest of the Kentucky defense celebrated at M.M. Roberts Stadium after they forced a Southern Mississippi incompletion on fourth down. The Wildcats walked away from the 2017 season opener victorious. They had the defense to thank, unlike when they blew a 25-point lead and suffered an embarrassing home loss to the Golden Eagles in the 2016 opener.

Love finished the game with a team-high nine tackles, as well as a key fumble recovery that squashed the Golden Eagles' comeback attempt. It won't be remembered like Love's recovery of a fumble by Heisman Trophy winner Lamar Jackson that helped Kentucky stun Louisville, but it still left quite the impression.

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops went on to say that Love's performance on Saturday was the best of his Kentucky career. It was the type of effort Stoops hoped he'd see from the senior linebacker when he transferred from Nebraska two and a half years earlier.

"He's exactly what you want in the middle of that defense," Stoops said. "I think his mentality has rubbed off on our team and on our defense in particular. We definitely took the field (on Saturday) with a greater sense of passion and pride, and I think Courtney has a lot to do with that."

Love is one of the critical cogs of a Kentucky defense that's looking to do more than just avenge last year's Southern Miss loss. Surrounded by one of the SEC's best groups of linebackers, Love is in a perfect spot to succeed. He's settled in now in his third and final year in Lexington.

"It is home for me," he said. "I made a lot of great relationships, met a lot of great people, and this town is just awesome. I love it. It's been really great for me and my family. I'm just looking to finish here strong and hopefully help bring this town and this state some great victories this year."

Given his atypical circumstances as a child, just earning a scholarship was no small feat.

Every year, the winner of the Ron Stoops Scholarship is asked to attend a banquet and make a speech. The scholarship is in honor of Mark Stoops' father, Ron, who was a coach at Cardinal Mooney High in Youngstown, Ohio. The school produced a handful of big-time college coaches. Mark and Bob Stoops went to Cardinal Mooney, as did Bo and Carl Peline and Texas offensive coordinator Tim Beck.

Mark Stoops was in attendance at the annual Cardinal Mooney High School Hall of Fame banquet in 2012. At the time, he was the defensive coordinator at Florida State.

Also in attendance that night was Love. After all, he was the winner of the Ron Stoops Scholarship. He had a speech to give.

Stoops had met Love a few times because he had attended the Camp of Champions at Cardinal Mooney since he was 8 years old. There was no mistaking how good the star linebacker was on the field.

But Stoops had never seen Love speak in public before.

"He got up there," Stoops said, "and he just blew me away."

Love spoke eloquently about overcoming challenges, both on and off the field. He emphasized "do not mistake temptation for opportunity." That quote, Love said, hung on his fridge while he was in high school. It's what kept him disciplined.

Stoops saw a disciplined, well-spoken high school kid. When Love transferred from Nebraska to join Stoops at Kentucky in 2015, the Wildcats inherited the same



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polished leader who crushed his speech at Cardinal Mooney as a high school senior.

There was no sign that Love was the 8-year-old who ran away from home.

He was defiant little boy who, when things reached a boiling point with his mother, decided to run three houses down to his great grandmother's house and refused to go back. Love called his dad and asked him if he could move in. From that point on, Love was raised by his dad, Cory Love, his dad's girlfriend, Madison Faye (Courtney calls her his step mom), his grandmother, Sandra Penny, and his great-grandmother, Rose Allen.

But if Love was going to live under his dad's roof, he wasn't going to play by his own rules.

Cory Love was a former U.S. Marine and a strict disciplinarian. One time when Courtney was 11, he talked back to a school bus driver. That, plus his plummeting grades, led to a harsh punishment. Cory Love made his 11-year-old son beg for change outside of a Burger King and told him to "get used to being a bum."

That type of treatment had exactly the effect Cory Love hoped it would.

"It really just taught me to grow up quick and be a man," Courtney Love said.

"My dad stayed tough on me and just showed me that I had to do it for myself. Nobody else was gonna do it for me.

"Now, I carry that on. I just try and be a leader and help people out as much as I can."

Before the start of his senior season at Kentucky, Love wanted to get involved. He decided to join the group "Amachi Central Kentucky," which pairs young adults with children who have parents who are incarcerated. Love was paired with a boy named Antonio, who has a father who is in prison.

The two have a lot in common.

When Love was a teenager, Cory Love went to prison for two years on trafficking and drug conspiracy charges that stemmed from the 1990s. The responsibility of raising Courtney Love fell to Faye, Penny and Allen. Proper manners were enforced. Respecting women was a must. Love had to learn not to talk back to people.

It was "Yes, sir. No, sir." "Yes ma'am. No ma'am."

Those basic principles were ones Love wanted to pass down to Antonio. While Love had plenty of family support to help instill those values of respect, he knew the impact they would've had if he had a young adult who mentored him as a kid.

"It's something that I've been called to do," Love said. "And I want to answer that call."

Love and Antonio's relationship has grown in the short time they've known each other. They talk about serious stuff like treating Antonio's mom and older sister right and the importance of keeping grades up.

But they make plenty of time for fun stuff, too. They go to the dog park together and play with Courtney's dog. They grab burgers and milkshakes (Antonio's a big fan of that). They play catch at the Kentucky facility.

Love is hoping Antonio can make it to his first Kentucky game when the Wildcats take on Eastern Michigan on Sept. 30.

"Definitely gotta show out for him," Love joked. "Gotta show that his mentor is a great player. Definitely wanna do that."

There was an obvious tie that drew Love to Nebraska, and later to Kentucky. Both programs were coached by Cardinal Mooney graduates. When Bo Pelini was fired from Nebraska at the end of the 2014 season, it forced Love to re-evaluate.

As a redshirt freshman, he was still working his way up the depth chart. There was no guarantee that would change with a new coach.

Love enjoyed his Nebraska experience, but there was another factor at play. He wanted to be closer to his ailing grandmother. At Kentucky, which was only five and a half hours from Youngstown, he got that opportunity. He requested a hardship waiver from the NCAA so that he would be eligible to play immediately in Lexington instead of red-shirting a year.

The NCAA denied Love, and he was forced to sit out the 2015 season.

During that year, Love lost both his grandmother and great-grandmother. But the blessing was that he got to spend more time with them than he would've had he stayed in Lincoln.

On the field, Love had all the motivation he needed. He had something else that fueled his fire when he arrived in Lexington.

Love took advantage of every opportunity to establish himself as a leader. In May of 2016, he took a service trip to Ethiopia with two teammates. Shortly thereafter, Love was one of three Wildcats who were selected to represent the team at SEC Media Days in 2016. That was before he ever played a game in a Kentucky uniform.

"There were probably some question marks when I first got here. 'Oh, well he's a Youngstown guy. Throw him in because he's a Youngstown guy.' I don't want that to ever be an excuse: that I'm a Youngstown guy. I want to play because I earned it."

— Kentucky linebacker Courtney Love
Not surprisingly, Love was voted a team captain for 12 of 13 games in his first active season in Lexington. He finished the 2016 season ranked third on the team in tackles, which still paled in comparison to his off-the-field accomplishments. Love was named to the SEC Community Service team and the SEC Academic Honor Roll. He's on the watch list for the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team.

He proved he was more than just another Youngstown guy.

"He means an awful lot to me personally and to our program," Stoops said. "You can't even measure how much he's helped. It's hard to quantify that because he is just a great human being and he's a great football player."

Love has big plans for his future. He already has a degree in community and leadership development and he's working on a degree in communications. If an NFL career is in the cards, he'll pursue that as long as he can. He wouldn't mind one day taking over his dad's industrial cleaning business back in Youngstown, either.

Looking back, Love said that he doesn't regret the decision he made to run away from his mother's home. He believes it shaped him into the person that he became, though he hopes no child has to take that path to reach success. Love reached success at Kentucky.

More importantly, he found exactly the home he was looking for.



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Kentucky captains say handshake snub 'just fired us up even more'

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
September 17, 2017

A handshake had a hand in Kentucky's victory on Saturday night at South Carolina. More accurately: The lack of a handshake.

When Kentucky's four captains, Nick Haynes, Mike Edwards, Stephen Johnson and Courtney Love, met with the Gamecocks captains at midfield for the coin toss, the official told the players to shake hands.

But not this particular coin toss.

"They don't shake our hands to start," Coach Mark Stoops said after the Cats' 23-13 victory at Brice-Williams Stadium. "I've never seen that, the captains don't shake our hands. They wanted to go at it, but we were ready, too."

Edwards said it simply: "added fuel to the fire."

It specifically got normally reserved Love going before the starting whistle.

"I was really jacked up," Love said. "I got into the tight end's face and told him we're going to be here all night. They didn't want to shake hands. I didn't mind that."

It provided even more motivation for Johnson, who made sure he told his teammates about the slight.

"That just fired us up even more," the quarterback said. "Gave us even more motivation, which was pretty stupid on their part, but they just didn't want to shake our hands."

At first it looked like a move that was paying off for the Gamecocks, who won the coin toss and elected to receive the opening kickoff.

On the first play of their series, South Carolina needed just one 68-yard pass to Deebo Samuel to get on the board first 6-0.

But Kentucky bounced back and battled, which was exactly what Stoops wanted to see from his players.

"We're not going to take any steps back," the head coach said. "We play good competition every week. I just told this team 'We're going to keep our edge and our attitude, but you've gotta be humble and hungry.' Just keep on staying focused

and getting better and working. This team will do that."

Stephen Johnson's tongue-out photo shows trash talking side

By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
September 17, 2017

At some point in the Wildcats' 23-13 win Saturday, quarterback Stephen Johnson stuck out his tongue to South Carolina safety D.J. Smith on a run toward the sideline. The photo tells of Johnson's distaste for his South Carolina foe from a pregame ordeal, but more than that, it shows a wordless trash-talking swagger from Johnson that seems surprising from the outside, but not to his teammates.

Maybe Johnson would've stuck out his tongue to any South Carolina defender, but Smith was among the Gamecocks captains who refused to shake the hands of Kentucky's captains, at least according to coach Mark Stoops, Johnson and Mike Edwards. Johnson and Edwards were in the pregame captains huddle for the coin toss.

According to South Carolina alum and radio sideline reporter Langston Moore, Johnson and Smith were jawing early.

"Both captains approached, (Stephen) Johnson was mouthing something to D.J. Smith, I think," Moore told The Post and Courier. "It was too loud to hear at who, exactly. Because D.J. seemed kind of shocked that Johnson was talking to him."

Regardless of what happened in handshake gate, the account shows a side of Johnson not often seen from the outside. Calm might be the word most associated with the senior quarterback from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. Quiet and mild-mannered would be other descriptors.

But trash-talker?

"Stephen talk it, Stephen talk it," Kentucky cornerback Derrick Baity said after a recent practice. "He's competitive just like us. It's in the quarterback nature to just take it, but Stephen gives it right back."

Kentucky linebacker Denzil Ware said the trash-talking king of Kentucky football is linebacker Jordan Jones, but Ware said Johnson is in the top three.

"You've got Benny Snell and then you've got Stephen," Ware said. "But Stephen, he's the type of man, 'Oh they ain't man, they can't guard this man, touchdown.' And then he throws a touchdown. It's like, 'Dang, you know what I mean?'"

Ware described his quarterback as "sneaky."

"You've just got to watch Steve. Where he at right now?" Ware asked, looking over his shoulder across the practice field.

It's a contained sort of swagger only deployed at certain times. For example, when staring down a defender after a run.

Eyes wide. Tongue out.

Cats' defense makes critical stops in win over South Carolina

By Derek Terry
The Cats' Pause
September 17, 2017

It took one play for Deebo Samuel, a player Kentucky's defense knew it had to be well aware of on Saturday night, to make his presence felt. Samuel caught a pass from quarterback Jake Bentley and raced 68-yards in the game's opening minute.

The bad start could've rattled the defense, especially in the daunting atmosphere Williams-Brice Stadium presented. But it didn't

"We just all looked at each other and said 'we're good.'" linebacker Courtney Love said. "We can keep on playing."

That's what the defense did. The Cats forced a missed field goal and a turnover of its own on Mike Edwards' spectacular diving interception, keeping the game close when it could've gotten ugly.

"Like I said, we're gonna take a punch," head coach Mark Stoops said. "And our defense battled in there and kept us in the game early on."

The Gamecocks didn't score in the second or third quarter as the Cats' defense made several key stops, particularly on fourth down. South Carolina went for it on 4th and 1 from UK 49 early in the third quarter, but the Cats' defense held tight, stopping running back A.J. Turner from getting the first down. Kentucky's offense turned the solid field position into three



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points on an Austin MacGinnis 27-yard field goal.

In the fourth quarter, with the Cats leading 17-6, Will Muschamp again elected to go for it on fourth and goal from the 1-yard line. Cornerback Derrick Baity and linebacker Boogie Watson stopped Rico Dowdle again for no gain.

"Those are just sheer guts and determination," Stoops said. "The guys are just playing better up front. We have guys that are making plays. Those were big stops."

The Gamecocks only had 54 rushing yards, meaning Kentucky held its opponent to under 100 yards for the third straight week. It's the first time the Cats have held their opponent to under 100 yards in three straight games for the first time since the 2008 season. More impressive for Kentucky is it held South Carolina to 54 yards without star linebacker Jordan Jones (shoulder) in the lineup.

Sophomore Eli Brown made 6 tackles, including one tackle for loss, in Jones' place.

"He was phenomenal," Love said. "I was so happy with the way he played. I knew he was going to play like that. He had a great camp. He's a guy who just had to be patient and just ready to step up. That's the thing about our team this year. We have guys that can play and step up at any position."

Stoops is pleased with the way his defense is emerging this season.

"I think we're better," Stoops said. "We're closer. We're getting some basic things fixed and ironed out. Our position on the football was very good. Teams still put you in tough matchups."

Overcoming adversity, UK's West feeling good about being a difference-maker

By Jamie Vaught
KYForward.com
September 20, 2017

It is sure nice to see injury-plagued Darius West back in action.

After sitting out three of the past four seasons, including most of his senior year at Lima Central Catholic High School in Ohio, due to several injuries as well as a redshirt year as a freshman at Kentucky,

West is finally seeing lots of playing time for the Wildcats.

And the UK junior defensive back is off to a good start after missing the 2016 campaign due to a preseason knee injury.

In the season-opening contest at Southern Miss, West earned his first career start, getting seven tackles, team's second-highest, while causing a fumble.

That's not all. West also shined against Eastern Kentucky even though he didn't start. The 6-0, 210-pounder recorded 11 tackles – both a team-high and a career-high.

Also, in his latest outing, West had six tackles, including four solos, during UK's 23-13 surprising road victory over South Carolina this past weekend.

He currently leads team in tackles with 24. Going into Saturday night's UK-Florida showdown in Lexington, West is ranked among the SEC leaders in tackles, placing at No. 12 with an average of 8.0. (UK linebacker Courtney Love is No. 15 with a 7.7 average.)

When West first returned to action recently, he wasn't that concerned about getting hurt again.

"I just believe in God, myself and my trainers," said West, who has a son. "My trainers told me that I was going to be able to come back so I never doubted myself. It took a lot of people to push me though. I had to get over humps. My trainers, parents and the motivation of having a child all pushed me and gave me extra motivation."

During the preseason practices, Stoops was glad to see West back on the field. The coach likes West's toughness.

"I'm really excited about Darius and just having him out there and it was really good just to get through spring. Just to get some of the rust off, get his confidence back," commented Stoops. "He's just got to just go through the practice, get the reps, get the experience, take the coaching, and good things will happen to him."

"But he's a tough guy, he's worked really hard to get back on the field, he's a guy you all will root for because it's important to him and he's just got to get the experience. You've heard me talk a lot about it, but (as for) the safety position, you need some looks, you need some reps, you need some time and some guys it comes more natural

than others, but he'll work extremely hard at it."

Added UK defensive coordinator Matt House, "Darius, first and foremost, he brings a physical presence. He's a guy that likes to mix it up which is big, and believe it or not, in straight-line speed he's one of our faster guys and so just the depth and the physicality, all those things I look for him to kind of open up a little bit."

Before West selected Kentucky over schools like Louisville, Michigan State, Penn State, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and West Virginia, he was a four-star prepster by several recruiting services. He was listed as the nation's No. 21 safety. Because of injuries, he played only two games as a senior at Lima Central Catholic High.

In addition to football, he also played basketball as a forward and ran for the track team.

After signing with UK, West was expected to have some impact on the team immediately. Stoops called him a very explosive player.

For West, getting on the field is a great feeling after overcoming many injuries.

"It means a lot to me and it means a lot to my teammates also," he said. "I just want to come out, do my job and get better every time."

Well, you certainly have to agree West is a great comeback story for the Wildcats.

Suddenly, it's hard to run the ball against Kentucky. Here's why.

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
September 20, 2017

Need a little perspective on how far Kentucky's run defense has come?

Imagine this: In just three quarters last season, Florida rolled up as many yards on the ground against UK as all three Kentucky opponents have managed combined this season.

In that lopsided egg the Cats laid in Gainesville last season, Florida had 40 carries for 171 yards and two touchdowns in three quarters.

Kentucky's first three opponents this season —Southern Mississippi, Eastern



KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Kentucky and South Carolina — combined to run for 171 yards on their 78 attempts and scored just one rushing touchdown among them.

That's how dramatically different UK's run defense is compared to a year ago.

Coach Mark Stoops noted improved technique by the defensive line and some minor structural changes.

There are a few schematic tweaks from week to week, too, but there hasn't been a dramatic overhaul of the defense, the coaches and players said.

"It comes from guys being around, it comes from strength and depth," said Stoops, whose team went from the No. 110 rushing defense in the country a season ago, allowing 228.2 yards per game, to the No. 3 rushing defense this season giving up 57 on average.

The Cats haven't allowed an opponent to gain more than 62 yards on the ground this season as they prepare to take on No. 20 Florida on Saturday night at Kroger Field.

"There's a lot of things that go into it. But the number one thing it starts with is pride," Stoops said. "The guys have a great sense of pride about them to do things the right way."

Courtney Love, who is second on the team in tackles this season with 23 including a pass breakup and a forced fumble, said there's a different demeanor in the defensive room now.

"The biggest thing is our attitude, our straining, our want to go to the ball, our want to get to the play, doing our job and doing our job with an edge, with an attitude," Love said.

The senior leader pointed to himself as an example of a turnaround.

A season ago, he didn't trust his instincts as much. He worried about committing too quickly and getting burned downhill.

He started watching fellow inside linebacker Jordan Jones, who led the team in tackles last season, both in game and in film.

"As a linebacker, you've got to be able to get downhill and hit guys," he said. "I didn't do that enough. Jordan was doing that. He was getting downhill and blowing things up. He would just go. He trusted

his instincts. I didn't do that all the time. I didn't trust myself enough."

That's changed this season for Love. And because he's doing his job more effectively, the defensive line has been more effective, too.

"That's something that's really helping us because if I can get downhill, it's helping one of the blockers get freed up and they're not getting doubled as much."

And while these changes sound insignificant, they've been significant for Kentucky's defense, which at this point last season was allowing 243 rushing yards per game and had given up eight rushing touchdowns.

"These sound like really minute things, but they show up huge when you try to correct it," Love said. "For our defense, it's been the strain, the attitude, the willingness to prepare to win."

If those three things sound like a sign of maturity, that seems to be a key, too.

Kentucky's defense had to replace a huge chunk of its front seven a year ago. This season, the Cats returned seven of their top 10 tacklers from 2016, including their top four in Jones, Edwards, Love and Denzil Ware.

The man who had to game plan against Kentucky's run defense all preseason knew pretty early in fall camp that the group had improved.

"It's just the maturity," offensive coordinator Eddie Gran said when asked why the run defense is so much better. "You had guys last year that didn't play a lot of football that have one more year under their belt. They're doing a great job."

"It was harder this camp to run against our defense. That's a good thing. Hopefully they're saying the same thing about us."

Sophomore running back Benny Snell sees the difference every day in practice. Kentucky's defense makes it hard to get yards in bunches.

"They do a great job," Snell said of UK's run defense. "I don't know if they get the credit like they should, but they do a great job. I'm happy to have a defense like we do and going against them every day. They make me better. I hope I make them better. I'm very impressed."

So is Stoops, who doesn't impress easily. On Wednesday's league teleconference

he noted that the rush defense has "drastically improved."

Then he added of Saturday's game against Florida, which won 45-7 a season ago in Gainesville: "We'll get a real test this week."

So far, the Gators' offense hasn't been a machine. They are No. 122 (out of 130) nationally in total offense averaging just 286 yards per game, worst in the SEC.

They are averaging just 89 yards on the ground in two games and have zero rushing touchdowns.

Kentucky's head coach has been a part of building stout defenses at places like Florida State and Miami. He sees some similarities in what this defense is doing now and becoming, including players holding one another accountable.

"We have guys who take great pride in the way we're going about our work and each yard and each first down," Stoops said. "You've got to have a mentality that those yards and those first downs are personal and I'm starting to feel that from this group."

The other thing being overlooked is the depth Kentucky has displayed three games into the season. So far the Cats have used 24 different players on defense, which allows for fresher minds and bodies late in the game.

That will help a lot as UK gets into games against teams that play higher-tempo offenses, new defensive coordinator Matt House said.

And those backups that Kentucky is getting in the game are gaining confidence with each snap.

"There's not one guy in our two-deep that hasn't seen live game action when the game's in the balance, when snaps matter," House said. "I think that's huge."



KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

Ready, chute, go: Increased effort to stay low has helped Kentucky's defensive line

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
September 26, 2017

Kentucky's new defensive line coach takes his index finger and taps his temple a few times.

"Since I've been here, I've been working more on here," explained Derrick LeBlanc, "than the physical part of it."

What he doesn't say is that the mental part he is teaching comes from his players learning to live with a little bit of physical discomfort.

To become a top-10 rushing or a top-30 scoring defense — both of which Kentucky is four weeks into the season — the Cats' defensive line had to get back to some basics.

Those basics started with a need to get lower to the ground to gain the upper hand over opposing offensive linemen.

It sounds simple enough: getting a defensive lineman to play lower than the guy across the line from him for four quarters.

But it's not.

Enter the chute. It's not a new-fangled, complicated sports science device.

The chute is a flat, 5-foot-10 black, mesh tarp on top of metal poles that the UK players do their drills underneath.

Agility and footwork drills all happen under this tarp, which is shorter than all of the players practicing beneath it.

"That forces them to bend their knees, play with good pad level," LeBlanc said of his workout friend. "We do a lot of our work under there and enforce it."

An old coach of LeBlanc's used to remind him that "the hardest thing to do when you're tired is bend your knees and stay low in good football position," the UK coach said.

By forcing the players into the chute more than a few times daily, LeBlanc is trying to create some habits that they can maintain even when they're exhausted in the fourth quarter of a game

"It's more natural now," LeBlanc said of workouts under the chute. "They complained about it the first time we did it.

Now they just get under there and they get to work."

What kind of complaints did the new coach get?

"I can't say those words here," he smiled.

It isn't always fun, but defensive lineman Matt Elam said he can see a huge difference. It's helped the senior statistically, too. Just four games into the season, Elam is just two tackles shy of his total tackles last season (nine).

"We start off being under the chute, just getting low the whole time before we even come out to practice," Elam said. "Practice is going, we get back under the chute. Everything like stutter steps being low, working the base techniques just being low. It's helpful."

There's not a more important position to be technically sound at than the defensive line, Coach Mark Stoops said. He's seen a group that has improved in that area this season.

"There's a lot that goes into it that people really don't understand, and I think Derrick has done a nice job of organizing it and repping it and getting them better at some things," Stoops said of the defensive line. "They're much better."

The big push by Kentucky's defensive coaches is helping the defensive line create a new line of scrimmage, forcing the guys in front of them backward instead of just maintaining position.

So many times on film last season, coaches could point to an opposing offensive line moving UK's defensive front backward at the snap.

"Instead of just playing on the line of scrimmage, we're trying to get to them on their side of the ball," Elam said.

It's all with good reason, Stoops said, pointing to statistics from last season on rushing in the Southeastern Conference. The team that rushed for just one more yard than its opponent had an 80 percent chance of winning the game. If a team outgained its opponent by 50 yards or more, the win percentage jumped to 88 percent, Stoops said.

"So, rush defense and rushing the ball is pretty important," said the coach, whose team has outgained opponents by 58 yards per game on the ground. The Cats have

only been outgained by one team all season: Florida, which topped UK 28-27 last week.

This season, UK's defensive line is getting better initial push. And changing that line of scrimmage can mean the difference between allowing a 5-yard run and creating a negative-yardage play.

"That's huge for us because we've changed the line of scrimmage so much," linebacker Courtney Love said of watching game tape this season. "That comes with the first point of contact. That all starts with the defensive line. I think they're doing a wonderful job."

Celebrating Nate Northington, SEC's first black football player

By Fletcher Page
Louisville Courier-Journal
September 26, 2017

The story is about a kid from Louisville who decided to play football at the University of Kentucky.

That's an adventure.

The football player dislocated his shoulder during his freshman year. He hurt it again as a sophomore, the first week of preseason camp. He kept practicing so he could play.

That's grit.

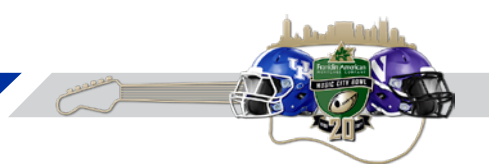
Also in preseason camp of sophomore year, his best friend, roommate and teammate was paralyzed from the neck down during a drill in practice, was hospitalized for 38 days and passed away on the eve of the first game. Another teammate broke his neck during a scrimmage, a few yards away from the football player, who watched the injury occur.

How do you put trauma like that into words?

Still, Nate Northington, the football player, persisted. He made his college football debut on Sept. 30, 1967, 50 years ago on Saturday.

The Wildcats lost and Northington's shoulder limited his snaps as a defensive back, but that's not what the story is about.

The story is about Northington, the first black athlete to compete in a Southeastern Conference athletic event.



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That's courage.

"We just felt that playing football and integrating the SEC was a way we could contribute," Northington said Monday at Kroger Field.

Thank you, Mr. Northington. For choosing Kentucky and the toughest possible path when Purdue, a good football program at the time, and the desegregated Big Ten asked you to come play there instead. For persevering, through the struggles of a college transition, undoubtedly full of nervousness, fear and uncertainty, the pain of a shoulder injury and the grief, still with you today, I'm sure, of losing a great friend in Greg Page.

"We were like brothers, the year we were here together, doing most things off the field together," Northington said. "... When Greg was injured, it all fell on me."

Thank you for showing the rest of the SEC, who needed somebody of Northington's strength and character, to play first for Kentucky, the northern-most school in the league, before any other blacks would be allowed to play at other institutions.

Thank you, Mr. Northington, for what started with you and Mr. Page, and continued at Kentucky the next season with Wilbur Hackett and Houston Hogg.

"I decided I couldn't just think about myself, but that I should do something to help the entire country," Northington said.

Thank you, Mr. Northington, and to the black football players who followed in the SEC:

- » Lester McClain, Tennessee, 1968.
- » James Owens, Auburn, 1969.
- » Willie Jackson, Leonard George, Florida, 1970.
- » James Hurley, Vanderbilt, 1970.
- » Robert Bell, Frank Dowsing, Mississippi State, 1970.
- » John Mitchell, Wilbur Jackson, Alabama, 1971.
- » Horace King, Richard Appleby, Larry West, Chuck Kinnebrew, 1971.
- » Mike Williams, LSU, 1972.
- » Ben Williams, Ole Miss, 1972.

Clearly, that Kentucky game against Ole Miss five decades ago was not a finish line. It was progress, but the story about Northington and that progress and football and Kentucky was not often discussed for a long, long time.

He left later in 1967, transferred to Western Kentucky and declined interviews from those seeking comment through the decades from the SEC's first black football player.

Page's death, the coach's decision to practice the afternoon of Page's funeral, Northington transferring – maybe many factors, some unknown to me and no longer revealed by Northington, played into the lack of recognition and discussion.

"I wasn't all that anxious going on interviews or talking about it that much," Northington said. "... I don't know if it was because of what happened to Greg or what. It seemed like there was not a lot of interest in really going back there to discuss those things that took place."

That changed in the 1990s, when Northington was invited back to the Kentucky campus and an award was named for him. Every day, Kentucky football players walk by a statue of Northington, Page, Hackett, and Hogg as they enter the program's practice facility. Fans see that statue every home game at Kroger Field.

"Who could ever dream something like that would take place? Would transpire?" Northington said. "I never would have thought, ever, something like that would happen."

Again, that day 50 years ago was not a finish line. NFL players last weekend continued to kneel during the national anthem, a peaceful protest started in 2016 by quarterback Colin Kaepernick to call attention to police brutality. President Donald Trump criticized those who do not stand during the national anthem, saying NFL owners should say, "'Get that son of a b***h off the field right now. Out! He's fired.'"

How much progress have we really made?

"I think we've made tremendous progress in the country," Northington said.

Northington, who was one of two black football players at Kentucky in 1966, the only one to play in a game in '67, remembers looking up into the stands at Auburn and seeing only white people watching the game.

"I didn't see any blacks at all," he said. "If you go now you can see the difference. Everybody has a common cause, they're there to root their team on, their universi-

ty, their players to win and just have a good time.

"There's always going to be division as long as we're here on this Earth, there's going to be prejudice, there's going to be division. That doesn't surprise me... It was just one or two of us at that time 50 years ago. I can look at it now and I can go to Mississippi and see a team that's 60 percent African American, as it is throughout most of the SEC. That's progress."

Progress, with still so much progress to make. Unfortunately, there is no such thing as a finish line when it comes to racism and hate and prejudice.

But there are moments and people and milestones we can celebrate and take pride in together.

Northington will be at Kentucky's football game this weekend against Eastern Michigan and will also be honored at the SEC Championship in December. If you see him, if you walk past him, if you get the chance, say, 'Thank you, Mr. Northington.'

The story is about a kid from Louisville who decided to play football at the University of Kentucky. The story is about Mr. Northington, who made that decision and sacrifices so others could follow in his footsteps.

That's everything.

"That's the greatest thing, we were able to make a difference in changing the face of football in the SEC and also helping changing the culture in the country, especially in the South," he said. "I don't know if it would have changed as quickly as it did without integration in sports."

He arrived as a walk-on. Now he's a leader UK can't do without.

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
September 27, 2017**

Charles Walker has had a bad practice or two.

Kentucky's senior wide receiver swears that he has.

When he was a true freshman walk-on just out of St. Xavier in Louisville, Walker dropped two passes in one practice.



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"I moped off the field like someone killed my family because I thought there was no way I was ever going to get another chance," Walker said.

He got another chance, eventually working his way to a full scholarship in 2016. This final season has been a breakout one for Walker, who is the Cats' third-leading pass catcher with nine for 100 yards. Walker's 21.5 yards per punt return leads the Southeastern Conference and is fifth nationally.

But back to those bad practices.

The wide receivers coach at Kentucky can recall just one bad practice for the senior.

"The day we told him he couldn't practice because of his shoulder" being banged up, Lamar Thomas said of the 5-foot-11, 203-pound slot receiver.

Coaches were concerned that if a ball was thrown anywhere near Walker that he'd dive for it and hurt himself more.

"He didn't like that too much," Thomas smiled. "Just shows what type of person he is."

Walker once practiced an entire spring with a cast on his arm and reportedly only dropped two passes even though he had just one functional arm.

When Walker describes football and how he started playing it, he sounds like a man describing how he first fell in love.

As a Holy Spirit Falcon in Louisville right around the time most boys that age are celebrating their First Communion, Walker played flag football.

It was love at first tug.

"I loved the teamwork that football takes, especially on offense," Walker described. "You've got to have all 11 guys doing their job and it's just awesome you put your trust in them. When you get (on a team), you're complete strangers ... through time and through practice you grow closer to each other and that's the beauty of it all."

There's just something about Walker and the way he plays the game, every coach and teammate interviewed said of the senior.

"He works his tail off every day," co-offensive coordinator Darin Hinshaw said. "He comes out and he will do anything to

get the job done. You just love his energy and what he brings every single day.

"He's also funny and has a great personality and you love that about him, but he just continually works hard and we know we can count on him."

Walker's reliability has made him a go-to receiver for quarterback Stephen Johnson. It's not a coincidence that Walker had two catches in UK's final four offensive plays in the final 21 seconds against Florida last week.

On fourth-and-10, Johnson found Walker for 14 yards. The senior got clobbered on the improbable catch.

"He's so mature in what he does on the field," Johnson said of Walker, a three-year starter at St. X. "He knows where to go. Me and him are (connected) when it comes to being on the field and knowing what he needs to do, knowing what I'm gonna do. Having him out there really calms me down a little bit, too."

On second-and-20 and furiously trying to set up what could have been the game-winning field goal, there was Walker again making a grab and shuffling out of bounds.

"He's reliable," Coach Mark Stoops said of Walker, who was named UK's player of the game in the loss in which he had career highs in catches (four) and yards (28). "He makes big plays."

Because of those types of plays — including amassing 87 yards on three punt returns in that game — the senior has earned the respect of every person who roams the halls of the football training facility.

The wide receivers coach sat Walker down before the start of the season and told him to forget that he ever was a walk-on.

"I told him, 'You're a senior. This is you. You've been here through ups and downs. ... You've got to be a leader,'" Thomas said. "These new kids don't even know you ever were a walk-on and you've earned your right to speak and I want you to speak and be you."

Thomas has played on his share of teams, been a leader in locker rooms over the years.

Every locker room should have a Charles Walker, the coach said.

"I've loved that kid for so long," Thomas said of the senior. "He's just a great competitor. He'll do anything for you; he'll do anything to make the team better and you need teammates like that."

He came to UK as a pole-vaulter. Now he's a special-teams star on the football field.

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 3, 2017**

Charles Moushey clearly had a prominent place on Eastern Michigan's scouting report.

The Eagles razzed and harassed Kentucky's senior up and down Kroger Field last week. Who? What? Why? All are natural questions about a UK wide receiver that has never caught a pass.

And yet there was Moushey drawing a double-team on kickoffs on Saturday and a double-team on punts, too.

"People are trying to get him contained," Cats special teams coach Dean Hood said of the 6-foot, 180-pound walk-on from Westerville, Ohio.

With good reason.

After amassing just two tackles last season on special teams, Moushey has emerged as a special teams star this season, charting six tackles in the first five games, including two of them inside opponents' 20-yard line.

He's become most notable for his three downed punts on the opponents' 1-yard line. He can flip the field.

The speedster, who arrived at UK in 2014 as a pole-vaulter for the track and field team, has made it an art form to race Matt Panton punts down the field and turn around in time to corral them just as they reach the goal line.

"Matt practices that punt every day," Moushey described. "I just kind of let him do his thing and I'll get down there, and he's perfected it."

How does one get noticed for this not always easily identifiable skill set? Hood saw speed — pure speed — on special teams tape from the spring and moved Moushey to gunner.



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"I knew I was pretty quick," he said. "The fact that they gave me a chance — I just asked for one chance — and they let me have it. I showed them what I had."

Moushey has always been one to take off running and get to the other side of the field quickly. He's glad he can show it off a little in front of a crowd. He'll try again on Saturday against Missouri, which is at the bottom of the Southeastern Conference in punt returns.

Moushey added: "I'm just fortunate enough that Coach Hood has given me an opportunity and is letting me show off my skills."

The problem is, now opponents are trying to make sure his skills aren't put to use.

It's the ultimate sign of respect, though, Coach Mark Stoops told Moushey.

"That's exactly what I said to him Saturday because he was all frustrated," Stoops said. "They ambushed him and he was getting all frustrated and I said, 'Hey, hey, now you know it's coming, keep your cool. That is a sign of respect. ... They ain't going to let you make every play.'

"So we got some things corrected and he beat it the next time."

It's easy to see why Moushey was able to beat it the next time. Just watch him in practice or in a game.

It's about great speed, great athleticism and the ability to run with power, all things Moushey has, Hood said.

But it's about more than that for the pole vaulter who set the UK freshman record for pole vaulting at the SEC Championships in 2014.

"He's just got an incredible passion for the game," Hood said of Moushey, whose double teams helped free up other teammates like long snapper Tristan Yeomans to recover a muffed punt last week.

"He loves it. He plays at a higher level than everybody else because he loves the game and he just wants it more. There's no other way to put it. People can't match his intensity and passion level on every single rep."

Could Josh Allen be Kentucky's next 'bad dude' on defense?

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 5, 2017

The sack he didn't get of an Eastern Michigan quarterback in the end zone last weekend is still eating at Josh Allen.

"Aww, man, it hurts," he said on Wednesday with a sly smile about the one that got away. "But I gotta make up for it."

Allen, Kentucky's junior defensive end, has done plenty in his first five games so far this season. The 6-foot-5, 230-pound junior is tied for fourth in the nation in total sacks with 5.5 so far, second in the Southeastern Conference.

The goal is to be the guy who leads the nation in sacks by the end of the season, he said.

"I'm at a good pace right now," said Allen, who also has 30 tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss and a team-best three quarterback hurries. "I've just got to finish strong in the next six games or seven games we play. I'll try to get a couple this game, try to get more than what I have."

Kentucky Coach Mark Stoops dodges a bit when asked if Allen is having a Bud Dupree type of season, if Allen is rising to the level of the UK defensive end who was picked in the first round of the NFL Draft in 2015.

"I don't know," Stoops said. "It's hard for me to make that comparison right now. Bud was a bad dude."

So is Allen a "bad dude?" (A compliment, by the way, in Stoops circles.)

"He's a bad dude sometimes," Stoops said laughing. "I'm teasing, Josh. Josh has played really good."

When pressed a day later about Allen's potential to be a first-round NFL Draft pick, for him to be Kentucky's next Bud Dupree, Stoops is less evasive.

"As a true sophomore, Josh was far and away better at some things than Bud did at that time," Stoops told the Herald-Leader. "Some things, but not others. Bud was physically big and strong, and Josh will get there, but Josh has instincts on his feet that Bud never had at this age."

That's a lot of praise for the junior on the cusp of becoming a household name in the SEC.

"Bud's a heck of a player," Allen said when asked about comparisons to the now Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker. "He did a lot here and he's doing a lot in the NFL. I'm honored to be compared with him, but I feel like we're two different players who play two different ways."

Allen has a different kind of goal in mind: "I'm trying to make my own legacy here so people can compare me to people."

In that way, Allen is well on his way.

Those instincts Stoops talked about really set him apart from other players at his position, said UK senior offensive lineman Nick Haynes, who tries to offer tips from the other side of the ball to sack hunters on UK's defense.

Allen has a "quick first step, but also the intelligence to know that this guy is off balance and I can sneak back inside and get a sack or this guy isn't on the same level as me, so I'll try to get by him and get a sack," Haynes explained.

"He's smart and his IQ is growing that he knows how to get to the quarterback."

Allen's quick first step has been causing problems for offensive tackles all season. He's had a sack in each of the last five games.

Missouri will try to end that streak on Saturday at Kroger Field. The Tigers are tied for No. 10 nationally in taking care of quarterback Drew Lock, giving up only four sacks on the season.

They have given up only 14 tackles for loss, which is third-best nationally and second best in the league.

Cats coaches have gotten good at putting Allen at different positions, which makes it tougher on an offensive line, Stoops said.

"He's played some positions where the offensive line can't get real comfortable with what he's doing," Stoops said.

Allen is fast and versatile, but he's also willing to work at it with film study and extra work.

"It's God given and he's matching it in effort," outside linebackers coach Dean Hood said of the junior.

"He has a great first step that's causing problems for people. He's smart and he un-



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derstands the game and situations in the game. It makes him tough to stop.”

‘This is the one. This is the one.’ MacGinnis sets scoring record amid stress and uncertainty.

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 8, 2017

For a Kentucky kicker who has nailed multiple game winners, an extra point on Saturday felt unnecessarily scary.

“I’ve never been more nervous for an extra point in my whole life,” Austin MacGinnis said with a smile after Kentucky’s 40-34 victory over Missouri in which the senior became the Cats’ career scoring leader.

The extra point that would help MacGinnis pass Lones Seiber in the UK record book had a little extra drama attached to it as officials stopped play to make sure running back Benny Snell hadn’t gone out of bounds on his long touchdown run down the Kroger Field sideline.

To make matters worse, MacGinnis said his teammates reminded him of the weight of the kick.

“Oh, I knew,” he laughed. “They made sure. My snapper and holder Tristan (Yeomans) and Blake (Best) were like, ‘This is the one. This is the one.’”

Finally setting the new career mark of 306 points was “awesome,” said MacGinnis, who scored 16 points in the Kentucky win, making all four of his field goal attempts and all four extra points.

By the end of all that, MacGinnis had 314 career points and he has several more weeks to add to that tally.

“Puts a smile on my face,” he said. “Hopefully I can keep raising the bar so it can last a few years after I leave.”

While the extra point was a bit stressful for MacGinnis, he said he did everything possible to block out what should have been the most stressful point of the night when the senior was called on to kick the go-ahead 53-yarder to break a 34-34 tie with 9:40 to play.

It was made more difficult by a medical incident on the UK sideline when backup

quarterback Luke Wright had to be carted off on a stretcher for an undisclosed issue.

“I honestly didn’t know what had happened with Luke before the kick,” MacGinnis said. “I knew that I was going to have to kick. I wanted to stay focused. I knew something bad had happened, but I found out after that.”

Kentucky Coach Mark Stoops said he was proud of MacGinnis.

“And what about the 53-yarder he made again in a tie game? That was a big kick and he’s meant a lot to our program and been steady and I wouldn’t trade him,” Stoops said.

Quarterback Stephen Johnson didn’t sound ready to trade MacGinnis either.

“We call him ‘Mr. Ice in His Veins,’” Johnson said. “He’s just a phenom when it comes to kicking. He’s unmatched in what he does and he doesn’t flinch at all. I’m really glad we’ve got him on our team.”

Kentucky football's secondary becoming a primary concern

By Tim Sullivan
Louisville Courier-Journal
October 8, 2017

Mark Stoops said there was no common thread. And yet, Kentucky’s pass defense continues to come unraveled.

In yielding three long touchdown passes in Saturday’s 40-34 victory over Missouri, the Wildcats have now allowed a dozen scoring passes in six games – seven of them of at least 42 yards. To get beat deep more often, you’d have to be subjected to daily whippings in a dungeon.

Despite winning five of its six games – one short of bowl eligibility – Kentucky has yet to dominate a game, has yet to impose its will on an opponent, and has yet to mute concerns that its last line of defense remains a glaring liability.

“They did a good job on those receptions,” UK running back Benny Snell said of Missouri, “but our defense has got to pick it up. The corners and safeties, they’ve got to lock in a little bit more.”

Two weeks after yielding two touchdowns to Florida receivers left uncovered, Kentucky’s secondary has at least pro-

gressed to the point where defenders are being deployed to shadow all potential targets. The egregious lapses of UK’s only loss have evidently been corrected. Yet when an opponent that has lost its previous three games by a total of 87 points is able to complete passes of 50, 58, 48 and 75 yards, it indicates some serious issues remain unresolved.

If Kentucky is to compete for the Southeastern Conference’s East Division title, it will need to pick it up considerably from this point forward. It will need either tighter coverage or a more tenacious pass rush, preferably both, if it expects to handle Mississippi State two weeks hence or contend with still-unbeaten Georgia on Nov. 18.

“We have to have that killer mentality,” UK cornerback Derrick Baity said. “I think we get too relaxed when we get a comfortable lead and then we make our own job harder. It’s starting to get frustrating. So during the second half of the season, as a leader, that’s something that I’m definitely going to emphasize, and I know the coaching staff is going to back it up.”

Pass coverage is sometimes as simple as a cornerback unable to run stride-for-stride with a swifter receiver, but there is usually much more to it than that. Missouri quarterback Drew Lock attempted 42 passes Saturday night, completing 22 for 355 yards, and was sacked only once despite all of his dropbacks. The visitors spread the field both vertically and horizontally in search of one-on-one matchups and their aggressive approach to substitutions often resulted in fresh legs lining up against a fatigued Wildcat.

“They were putting some stress on us, as you could tell,” Stoops said. “When we were rolling up in the corner, that was creating some of the big plays down the middle. ... And then we were playing different coverages where we were soft cornered, (and) they ran by us a couple times. So they put that stress on you.”

To drop another defender into pass coverage meant compromising the pressure that could be applied to Lock. And though the Missouri quarterback is not a pinpoint passer, his strong arm coupled with too much time to throw makes him a lethal threat.



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"They lined up quick," UK safety Mike Edwards said. "They really spread the ball out, use the whole field, sideline to sideline. They have fast receivers and a good quarterback."

"Tiring?" he was asked.

"Definitely," Edwards said.

Baity blamed his loss of balance for one of the Missouri touchdowns. Steve Clinkscale, UK's defensive backs coach, was able to find comfort in the final score. Having exhausted its timeouts, Missouri launched its final desperation drive from its own 25-yard line with 1:48 remaining in the game, advanced as far as the Kentucky 27, but completed only one of its final three passes for one yard.

"I was proud of the guys at the end," Clinkscale said. "I don't think it was discouraging. I think there'll be a lot of good teaching points we can show the guys. We got a victory, so it's easier (for players) to understand when I'm coaching them hard."

Ideally, hard coaching leads to better coverage.

His father went to prison. Now UK athlete helps kids through struggle he endured.

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 12, 2017**

It was the little moments that he missed with his dad that still stick with Courtney Love.

"Before he went to prison, we'd go play catch, play catch sometimes until 2 in the morning," the Kentucky linebacker recalled of time spent when he was a boy with his father, who was incarcerated for two of those years. "Just playing catch in the house and the driveway, wherever."

So as Courtney Love sat in an athletics leadership meeting this spring and listened to a speaker discuss an organization that pairs mentors with local kids whose parents are incarcerated, Love felt a strong tug.

By May, Love was paired with Antonio McKinney, an 8-year-old boy whose father had been in jail.

The two formed an instant bond that has been unbreakable ever since.

McKinney, along with his mom, Autumn Floyd, and his big sister, Auriana Campbell, were at Woodhill Park on Thursday night cheering as Love was surprised with a trophy for being named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team.

Love, one of 22 college football players and one of just 11 Football Bowl Subdivision players named to the prestigious team, accepted the trophy from a local Allstate agent on a basketball court that was refurbished in the linebacker's honor.

Allstate had the court in the Woodhill neighborhood re-lined and added new blue benches and goals to thank Love for his work with kids in the community.

After the reception, Love stood beaming with McKinney tucked quietly under his right arm.

Several UK teammates including tight end Greg Hart, quarterback Stephen Johnson, offensive lineman Nick Haynes, defensive lineman Naquez Pringle and former wideout Alexander Montgomery played around on the courts with kids in the neighborhood, too.

"He's just gonna follow Courtney around over there," Floyd said, smiling, as her son shadowed Love. "You can tell such a big difference with Antonio and his behavior and stuff since he met Courtney."

Love takes Antonio out for meals, they go to the dog park and play games. When the UK player heard that his 8-year-old friend had gotten good behavior marks at school, he rewarded Antonio with two video games he'd been eyeing.

"We got along right away," Antonio said quietly Thursday. "He's like a big brother to me."

Love sees so much of himself in the little boy.

He was that little boy not too many years ago.

When Love was in middle school, his father, Cory, went to prison for two years on drug conspiracy charges. Now the former U.S. Marine owns a successful industrial cleaning business in Youngstown, Ohio.

It was hard to be without his dad during that time in his life, Love said. So he tries hard to be a friend to Antonio when he needs one.

The Amachi organization asks for mentors to spend just an hour a week with their

kids, but Love has become an active part of Antonio's life even while balancing school and football.

"An hour's not enough time," the senior said. "A couple of hours is not enough time because I still want to be able to show him things a boy should do and know (when) becoming a young man."

Initially, the goal was to find Antonio a mentor who could keep up with a busy, active boy, said Destini Engle, who paired the two for Amachi.

"He's very energetic and he loves sports," Engle said. "So it was important to find him someone who could be consistent with him. I wanted to find him someone who could be active with him and push him academically, socially."

Sometimes those first meetings between a mentor and their new friend can be awkward and quiet. It was never that way with Love and Antonio.

"They talked the whole time," Engle laughed. "They were basically best friends from the first seconds they met, which is pretty amazing."

It helps that they have so much in common.

"It's cool to see Courtney push for Antonio to respect his mom and be able to talk to him about his dad being in and out of jail and to talk about all of those things and to be able to say, 'It's OK. You can get through this,'" Engle said.

Love being willing to share his stories of overcoming adversity, including childhood asthma — a trait he shares with Antonio — has been huge.

"It makes him be able to relate to Antonio really well and I think something that's really outstanding about Courtney is he's not shy about his past," Engle said.

Whether he knows it or not, Love has become a mentor to not just Antonio, but also to many of the other older kids in the after-school program.

Engle said of Love: "He's amazing. He's not in this for résumé building or anything. He just wants to make a difference and he really does."



KENTUCKY FOOTBALL CLIPPINGS

'Just keeping your mouth shut and going to work' is key to Kentucky QB's mystique

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 18, 2017**

Players dipped chicken tenders in sauce, took pictures and made fun of each other's golf swings.

A few fun hours at TopGolf Jacksonville was part of the week leading up to the TaxSlayer Bowl last December. Kentucky's players mingled, but for the most part, they mostly seemed to hang out with players in their own position groups.

In small gathering areas behind each tee, wide receivers messed with each other, defensive backs cracked jokes and offensive linemen huddled up.

One of the few exceptions to the position-centered clusters was Stephen Johnson.

The Cats quarterback mingled effortlessly among the groups that day, moving from tee to tee, talking with everyone from freshmen to seniors, from walk-ons to stars.

Johnson was everywhere.

"That's Stephen," running back Benny Snell said when the scenario was brought up this week. "He's one of those guys. He's a people person."

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound junior-college transfer has a way about him. Teammates and coaches can't really pinpoint exactly what it is, but they all are fans of the senior and not just because the Cats are 12-5 with him as their primary quarterback.

"You have to start with his leadership, No. 1," Coach Mark Stoops said of Johnson on Monday night. "He's just such a special kid. He has one of those personalities where he's a leader without really trying to have to be because everybody just looks up to him."

They look up to him for good reason, offensive coordinator Darin Hinshaw said of the player from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., whom he said has "good charisma about him.

"There's also just keeping your mouth shut and going to work," he said. "There's something about that, too. He goes to work every day."

All of that equates to a team that wants to play for its quarterback, senior offensive lineman Nick Haynes said.

"He's just a good guy," Haynes said. "I hang out with him all the time and he's just a good dude. You want to play for somebody like that. That's all it is."

He's not just a "good guy," but a "tough guy," too.

"You watch him take hits and he doesn't yell at anybody," Haynes said. "If I was taking those hits, I'd yell at everybody on the offensive line. He doesn't yell or anything. He says, 'We'll be all right.' ... Stephen's perfect to me. I wouldn't trade him for anybody else."

If you're a wide receiver who wants more catches, Johnson stays after practice to work with you.

If you're a center who is having problems with snaps, Johnson stays after practice to work with you. If you're a tight end that the quarterback has struggled to connect with on a specific play, Johnson will work with you all summer to get it right.

"This is what I'm here for," Johnson said about all that extra work with teammates. "Just getting extra snaps with Bunchy (Stallings), getting extra throws with Garrett (Johnson) and all the other receivers.

"Just going through plays. We have a limited time of practice. The extra we can get just helps us out in the game."

All the extra work has paid off for Johnson, too.

The Cats quarterback is completing 63.9 percent of his passes this season, third best in the Southeastern Conference and nearly 10 percentage points better than his rate last season.

That number could get even higher, Hinshaw said.

"He's missing some throws, what I call duck throws, easy throws," he said of Johnson, who has connected on 99 of his 155 passes for 1,238 yards and nine touchdowns.

"His feet get a little bit out of whack, but he's doing a good job of picking up defenses when we need him to. His medium-range passes have gotten a lot more accurate. If he continues to improve in the second half of the season, it will be a big boost for us."

The senior ranks fourth in the league in total offense (230.3 yards) and is fifth

in passing yards per game at 206.3. He's thrown or rushed for a score in nine of the last 10 games.

In UK's last nine games, Johnson has 15 touchdown passes to just three interceptions. Through six games, he hasn't lost a fumble after coughing up six last season.

"You have to admire the way he's taking care of the football this year," Stoops said. "Ball security was an issue for him a year ago. He has some experience under his belt and he came back this year and it was vitally important to him and our team and the program to take care of the football and he's done that."

While much of the chatter this week going into the game at Mississippi State will be on Bulldogs star quarterback Nick Fitzgerald, Johnson is a handful to defend, too.

The senior quarterback will see how he stacks up against a Mississippi State defense that is eighth nationally, giving up just 284.8 total yards a game. The Bulldogs are permitting 155 yards passing per game, fourth best in the country.

They'll have a test with Johnson, Coach Dan Mullen said this week.

"He's understanding his offense, and understanding his reads," Mullen said of UK's quarterback, who has four runs of 20-plus yards this season and two scores on the ground.

"He is a great athlete and can make plays with his feet, but also has the maturity of knowing when not to. Younger guys sometimes make plays with their feet first and then they learn how to throw second. He seems to have that balance and understanding of what they are trying to accomplish."

After baptism by fire, Kentucky's Drake Jackson growing into role at center

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 26, 2017**

A fellow Kentucky offensive lineman described his first time playing on the road in the Southeastern Conference as "getting dipped in gas and thrown into the fire."



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Thanks to those graphic details, Drake Jackson sort of knew what to expect when he made his first start on the road against Mississippi State last weekend.

Unlike Landon Young, whose first snaps ever were at Florida a year ago, Jackson had some time to ease into his new role as Kentucky's center.

Between the Eastern Michigan game — when he earned his first playing time — and the Missouri game, Jackson had 115 snaps on video to study before heading to Starkville.

There was plenty from which to learn.

"Game film is really different than practice film," the former Woodford County star said after the Missouri game that saw him go head-to-head with standout nose tackle Terry Beckner. "That's been really helpful."

But nothing prepares a player for his first snaps on the road in the SEC, especially when the first start involves cowbells.

Now Jackson has 59 new snaps on film to dissect, and the 6-foot-2, 290-pound red-shirt freshman is quickly growing into his role, coaches said.

"Drake did a good job," Coach Mark Stoops said on his Monday night radio show. "He was solid. He did give up some pressure, but he was going against a good nose guard and a very, very good interior defensive line. He gave up a few pressures, but it was his first start and he did some good things."

Offensive coordinator Eddie Gran noted there were three specific plays where Jackson "kind of got pushed back" going up against five-star nose tackle Jeffery Simmons of Mississippi State.

But the good news is those things are technique-based and fixable, Gran said. "I tell you, he competes. He knows what to do for the most part."

It reminds Gran of Young, a former Lafayette standout who receives regular playing time at tackle as a sophomore.

"He's kind of in the same shoes as Landon was last year," Gran said.

Jackson's getting a lot of help from veterans like Nick Haynes, who has played guard for most of his Kentucky career but has been battling through weight-loss issues. Haynes is listed as the co-starter at center on Saturday versus Tennessee.

Also chipping in is Bunchy Stallings, who has moved back to right guard after struggling with some snap issues this season.

Jackson has brought some consistency to the line, which has used new combinations almost every week because of injuries, Stoops said.

"He gives us depth. He gives another number," Stoops said of Jackson. "Fundamentally he's doing a very good job."

Jackson doesn't necessarily have the experience and he's still building up the strength, but those things will come and he's holding his own.

"The great thing about Drake is he's always been a fundamental football player," Stoops said. "He's getting experience now. He's been consistent in his snaps, but he's a fundamental guy. Really, that's what you need on the offensive line. Obviously, size and strength and athletic ability is very important, but also it's a technique game there."

Those offensive-line veterans are working to help get Jackson up to speed, in hopes of building continuity and improving the Cats' declining rushing statistics.

A season ago, behind senior center Jon Toth, Kentucky was the conference's third-best rushing team, averaging 234.2 yards per game and 5.44 yards per carry.

That number has fallen to 135 yards per game and 3.66 yards per carry in 2017. On Saturday, UK will face a Tennessee team that is ranked No. 122 nationally and No. 13 in the league in rushing defense.

The Volunteers are giving up 247 yards per game against opponents who are running it almost 50 times a game. That will mean a little more experience for Jackson, who is getting some help from his fellow linemen.

"They're making some calls and helping him out," offensive line coach John Schlarman said. "Seeing things before they happen. That's all part of it."

"As a veteran, you've got to step up and do your job, and some of those guys have been through the fires before, so maybe they see some things quicker and a little bit better than he does right now."

Kentucky clinches bowl eligibility with clutch comeback against Tennessee

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 28, 2017

Kentucky looked lifeless.

And then Stephen Johnson restarted its heart.

The senior quarterback, who left the game with a shoulder injury at one point, came back to score the winning touchdown with 33 seconds to go in the Cats' 29-26 victory over Tennessee at semi-snowy Kroger Field.

"At the end of the day, we got a winner behind the center," defensive end Denzil Ware said of Johnson, who had ice and a sling on his left, non-throwing shoulder after the game. "He's a winner. He's going to do whatever it takes to win."

It was only the second victory for the Cats over the Volunteers in 33 tries.

And it came in heart-stopping fashion with Johnson running 11 yards for the go-ahead score with 33 seconds to play and then throwing the two-point conversion — off a double reverse — to Benny Snell to round out the scoring.

The sophomore running back, who was coming off his worst performance a week ago, rushed for three touchdowns and 180 yards on Saturday night.

"It's crazy, but I'm very, very proud of this team because we continue to fight throughout it all," said Johnson, who ran for 84 yards on six carries and threw for 46 more. "I knew I had to do what I had to do to win this game. ... Very, very proud of how we finished."

The victory guaranteed a second straight bowl game for Kentucky, which moved to 6-2 on the season and 3-2 in the Southeastern Conference.

"We're just all fighters," said junior Jordan Jones, who led the UK defense with 13 tackles, including two for loss and a sack, of the Cats' ability to come back and win it late.

"We all know what we want and we all know who we are. We all know who we used to be and we all know who we want to be."



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Jones and the Kentucky defense were able to hold the Volunteers to just three field goals after four costly fumbles.

"It's awful to put our defense in that situation," said UK offensive coordinator Eddie Gran, whose offense had just three fumbles in its first seven games.

"We're lucky as all get out to be able to overcome four turnovers and win the game. We talked in chapel today about sacrifice and there was a lot of sacrificing today."

Because of those costly turnovers, Tennessee (3-5, 0-5) went ahead by as many as five points, 26-21, in the second half on field goals by Brent Cimaglia. The freshman missed a key 43-yarder late in the game, though, that might have iced it.

"It was big for our defense to step up and we got some huge stops and they missed one, which was big," Coach Mark Stoops said. "But it really was a gutsy performance."

The Volunteers kept it interesting in the final seconds, completing a 48-yard pass to the Kentucky 3-yard line before the final buzzer sounded.

It was one of many bend and don't break scenarios on Saturday night for the Cats' defense, which allowed 445 yards, including 203 on the ground. Backup running back Ty Chandler, subbing in for suspended star John Kelly, had 120 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries.

UK's offense amassed 371 yards of offense, most of those coming on the ground (289) behind Snell and Johnson.

Snell, who vowed to run for 100 yards earlier this week after being held to a career-low 18 yards at Mississippi State, didn't get off to a rousing start. On Kentucky's first play of the game, Snell fumbled the ball away, setting the Vols up on the UK 15-yard line.

"That should've never even happened," Snell said. "But getting back was easy. My team kept me composed. We knew we were better than this team. Coming out and executing was easy."

The Cats' defense held, though, forcing a 30-yard field goal instead.

On the next drive, Snell more than made up for his miscue, first breaking off a big 27-yard run and then running it in for

a 6-yard score. The sophomore also ran for two other short touchdowns in the victory.

Gran was especially emotional after the victory, which followed a 45-7 throttling at Mississippi State last week.

"It was pretty cool to get your face beat in a week ago and then the kids come back and fight and you see that grit, it's pretty cool," he said as his eyes welled up with tears.

Kentucky's players knew they were better than that, said Snell, who caught the pass on a double-reverse two-point conversion on the last play as well.

"The team last week? That wasn't us," Snell said. "That wasn't Kentucky football."

This Kentucky football team is one that fights back from adversity and wins close games.

"There's been many times when we have played some good football and came up on the wrong end," Stoops said after the victory in front of 57,543. "We have done that here. And so it was really nice to be on the other end to just hang in there."

Stephen Johnson 'at any cost' leaps into rarefied air for Kentucky quarterbacks

**By Fletcher Page
Louisville Courier-Journal
October 29, 2017**

Stephen Johnson said he knew he had to come out of the game because he couldn't feel his left shoulder.

In the third quarter, with his Kentucky Wildcats holding on to a 21-20 lead against Tennessee, the quarterback calmly told Wildcats' coach Mark Stoops he'd be back after hurting his shoulder on a 34-yard run.

There was pain, he said, but there was no doubt.

"I'm definitely going to continue playing this game," Johnson said.

This, the 6-foot-2, 185-pound junior college transfer, is the Kentucky football program embodied. To that point in the game, Johnson had completed just four passes for 27 yards (wide receiver Lynn Bowden had more yards passing – 36 – on one completion).

But Johnson led Kentucky to that win last November at Louisville. Johnson is the guy who has more Southeastern Conference wins than losses (7-6) since taking over as the starter last September.

It could only be Johnson to lead the Wildcats to their second victory against Tennessee in 33 years.

As the pain set in, Johnson went to the locker room for X-rays, Ibuprofen and an evaluation. He said he kept checking for updates from the game.

"Very, very anxious and impatient," he said. "Just wanted to get back out there."

Backup quarterback Drew Barker fumbled on the second play without Johnson, and Tennessee took the lead with a field goal. It looked like Kentucky was losing another opportunity to win a game the fan base desperately wanted and a game the program truly needed. Florida came to Kroger Field last month and left with a gifted win because the Wildcats' defense didn't even cover wide receivers on two touchdowns.

Tennessee, without a conference win this season and seemingly on the verge of firing coach Butch Jones, was in the lead and had control.

Then, Johnson came back. The crowd roared as he walked through the tunnel and back to the sideline. He told Stoops he was good to play, and back into the game Johnson went.

"Stephen is one of the toughest kids I've ever been able to coach in my life," said Eddie Gran, the Wildcats' offensive coordinator.

There was no rah-rah speech in the huddle. Johnson stuck to the facts.

"We're kicking ourselves in the foot right here," he said he told his teammates. "We can do what we want to do. We just have to play mistake-free football."

He ran for 17 yards on his first play back.

"There's not many players that probably would have come back and even played in that situation," Stoops said.

This legend-in-the-making didn't unfold easy. Johnson missed on seven consecutive passes and the Vols were up 26-21 before Kentucky's final offensive drive of the game. Memories of three-plus decades and



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only one win against this rival crept across Twitter and, surely, everywhere else.

Former football coach Rich Brooks, honored at halftime for guiding UK to three consecutive bowl victories a decade ago, was among the 57,543 watching in person. He never beat the Vols with the Cats. Neither did stars like Randall Cobb, Tim Couch, Andre' Woodson, Wesley Woodyard and Jared Lorenzen. They were all there, too, because they wanted to see it happen.

Johnson's name won't join that list. After a couple of crucial runs by Benny Snell, Johnson completed his final pass attempt to Tavin Richardson for a first down. Then Johnson ran for 12 yards. And after a few more plays for Snell, Johnson faked to the running back, saw the Tennessee defensive end and linebacker take the bait, tucked the ball and took off running.

Wildcats' wideout Garrett Johnson made the block to get Johnson free to the outside, and a Vols defender went low for Johnson's legs near the goal line.

He jumped into the air, across the goal line and out of a category of former Kentucky players who previously came up short.

"I knew I had to do what I had to do to win this game," Johnson said. "Just really proud of how we finished."

Johnson is the first Kentucky quarterback to beat both Tennessee and Louisville since at least 1924 (when the Wildcats defeated both the Cards and Vols in the same season). The Wildcats are 13-6 with him as the primary quarterback. He's got four regular-season games left, and after Saturday is eligible to see a second-consecutive bowl.

To go along with his hero status, Johnson was given a sling for his left arm and a bag of ice for that shoulder. He said he'd take more ibuprofen and come back to the football facility Sunday for treatment.

Before he left Kroger Field, Johnson summed up the legend. Just the facts.

"I was gonna try and get it at any cost, I guess."

'You can see he wants to be great.' The time is coming for UK's Bowden

By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
October 31, 2017

Every week there are new flashes.

Fans saw one Saturday when freshman Lynn Bowden took a direct snap and threw a near-perfect pass to fellow wide receiver Tavin Richardson against Tennessee.

"Everybody was pleased with that throw, but we were in awe this past week because he threw the ball even better than that all week in practice," Kentucky Coach Mark Stoops said on Monday of Bowden. "He hit people in stride and really has a good arm."

Fans have seen flashes in the return game, where Bowden has five kickoff returns of 30 yards or more, second most in the Southeastern Conference.

There was a flash in the loss at Mississippi State where the 6-foot-1, 190-pound slot receiver from Youngstown, Ohio, went up and made an impressive catch late in the game.

Fans are clamoring for more Bowden, for more than just flashes from the player who is second on the team in all-purpose yards at 67.5 per game.

That more will continue to come, Stoops said.

People think a playmaker like Bowden can just line up at wide receiver and a quarterback can just throw him the ball, Stoops said of the freshman, who produced a combined 57 touchdowns while running for 2,277 yards and throwing for 1,366 more his senior season at Warren Harding last year.

There's more to it than that, though, especially for a player who has never lined up at wide receiver until this season.

"That's a big thing that probably doesn't get mentioned enough that he's never played wide receiver," Stoops said recently when asked about Bowden's touches.

When he arrived at Kentucky — nearly a week after preseason camp started and months after some of the other freshmen — Bowden was "really raw" as a wide receiver, position coach Lamar Thomas said.

Running routes, understanding leverage, how to get in and out of breaks, how to create and then maintain separation from his defender. Those were all things that Bowden has been learning, his coaches said.

"An athlete like Lynn, it's not going to take him that long," Thomas recently said of Bowden, who has caught eight passes for 106 yards so far. "He's learning and he's getting better every day. You can see the strides. ... He's asking a lot of questions. You can see he wants to be great."

Bowden said he's worked at different receiver spots. He's getting comfortable in the rotation taking direct snaps (running the ball seven times for 27 yards).

He's working hard on kickoff returns, where he's fifth in the conference in average per return (23.94). His 50.9 return yards per game are third best in the league.

"I just take my time, let it flow and learn," the freshman said before the bye week. "It's been an adjustment from the speed of the college game from high school. Big step, so I'm still working on it."

And just when Bowden has the base plays down, there are minor alterations to them each week depending on the opponent. So there constantly are new things to learn, too.

Stoops said: "The nice thing is that Lynn is very instinctual and he's smart so he picks things up."

So don't be surprised to see the packages continue to grow for the natural playmaker, who is getting ready to face an Ole Miss team that has allowed five kickoff returns of 30 yards or more and three for 40-plus yards.

Bowden is a guy you want to get the ball to in every way you can, Cats quarterback Stephen Johnson said.

There will be more and more flashes.

"He's special; he's a special talent," Johnson said a couple weeks ago. "The elusiveness he has, I love getting Lynn the ball. ... We've got some stuff in the works for him."

"There's all kinds of data and GPS and heart monitoring and all kinds of things that are in the technology of watching football," Hinshaw said. "As coaches, we don't get into it that much. We just know we want Benny in when it's near the goal line



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because he's strong and can get in the end zone."

'Superhero' Benny Snell on pace to shatter school rushing records

By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
November 9, 2017

When Kentucky players went through physical testing at the beginning of the season, there was something different about Benny Snell. The running back's heart rate normalized faster than most after exercise.

Snell remembers when Chris Morris, Kentucky's director of performance science, told him about his heart rate. Mark Stoops again brought it up at his press conference Monday afternoon and his radio show Monday night.

"I feel like I'm a superhero or something like that," Snell said with a smile. "It's a good thing."

That anatomical advantage might be one factor in explaining why Snell keeps churning despite his heavy workload. He's carried the ball 188 times this year — 22 times more than anyone else in the SEC, and 10th most in the country.

"I feel like you can always use me," Snell said. "I can take a little bit of punishment and then I can keep going for even more. I feel like some guys as a running back can't do that."

Eddie Gran coached a player like that when he was special teams coordinator at Auburn in the mid-2000s. Carlos Rogers wasn't a running back, but he was the best defensive back in the country his senior year and went on to be the ninth overall pick in the 2005 NFL Draft.

"He could go 70 plays and play on special teams as a DB," Gran said. "He just never got tired."

And as Rogers accumulated accolades at Auburn, Snell is on pace to smash rushing records at Kentucky. The sophomore leads the SEC with 897 rushing yards and is second with 12 rushing touchdowns. The Westerville, Ohio, native needs 103 more yards to become the first player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in back-to-back seasons.

Though his heart rate slows faster than most, don't expect his production to follow suit.

Benny Snell cements his status as an all-time Kentucky football great

By Jon Hale
Louisville Courier-Journal
November 11, 2017

If running back Benny Snell never plays another down for Kentucky, he will still go down as one of the best players in program history.

Good for Kentucky then that he might have as much as three games plus two full seasons left as a Wildcat.

"It's incredible," UK coach Mark Stoops said Saturday after Snell set the program's career rushing touchdowns record in his 23rd game as a Wildcat. "Really love the way he's gone about his work. As we said from day one when we recruited him and when he came in here, the first thing we looked at with him is what you see: That toughness, that attitude. He is a strong, physical runner.

"But the maturity to be able to do these things, we needed that in that room. We still need it, and I appreciate him and what he's done."

Kentucky's 44-21 win over Vanderbilt said much about the Wildcats as a whole: The team is actually capable of winning comfortably, the hard-nosed mentality that has characterized the last two seasons was not lost after a heartbreaking loss to Ole Miss and there is plenty left for this team to play for even after being eliminated from the SEC East race.

But it was Snell's night, and deservedly so.

By halftime, Snell had recorded his 11th career 100-yard game, becoming the just the ninth player in program history to record 2,000 rushing yards in his career and the first Wildcat to record back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons.

On his third carry of the second half, Snell broke the UK career rushing touchdowns record with his 27th trip to the end zone, then began separating himself from the pack with a third touchdown in the

game later in the third quarter. The performance marked the third consecutive game Snell has scored three times.

After the win, surrounded by reporters in a tiny visiting media room at Vanderbilt Stadium hosting his own news conference in response to the record-setting performance, Snell acknowledged he knew how close he was to history before the game.

"It motivated me, but I wasn't going to change my running style," Snell said. "I wasn't going to try to go harder, I wasn't going to try to run softer. I was just going to go into it how I do every single game."

That workmanlike approach as much as anything has characterized Snell's breathtaking first two seasons at UK.

It is easy to forget Snell did not even record a carry in the first two games of his freshman season. And it's likely no coincidence that the moment he and quarterback Stephen Johnson became featured parts of the offense in week three last year also marked the start of a stretch of 14 wins in 21 games.

"He's phenomenal," Johnson said. "... He sees everything so fast and he does so well with what he's doing on the field. It's really great to have him back there with me. We just click."

Barring disaster, Saturday won't be the last record-setting night for Snell.

Snell, owner of six UK freshman rushing records, could set the single-season rushing touchdowns record (17 by Moe Williams in 1995) as early as next week against Georgia. He is just one yard from eighth place on the career rushing yards list and could break the career rushing yards record (Sonny Collins' 3,835 yards) by the end of his junior season.

Continuing his current carries-per-game average for two more seasons at UK would give Snell the record for career carries. Following his current trajectory as a junior would seemingly put Williams' single-season record of 1,600 rushing yards within Snell's sights. He needs seven more 100-yard rushing games to tie Collins' career record (18) in that category.

Snell needs just nine touchdowns to tie Randall Cobb for most touchdowns of any kind in a career (37).



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The fact that Snell's first career record centered on finding the end zone seems fitting.

"I like scoring touchdowns, I like points," Snell said. "Us driving all the way down the field just to get three points, to kick the field goal, that's one of my biggest pet peeves. I just don't like it."

Snell runs like he is angry, frequently bursting through contact and dragging would-be tacklers down the field. His weekly quest to avoid that pet peeve has been Kentucky fans' pleasure.

In describing his heart rate's unusual ability to recover more quickly than the average athlete this week, Snell said he sometimes feels like a superhero.

It's no surprise then he deserves mention alongside previous Kentucky football heroes like Williams, Collins, Tim Couch, Babe Parilli, Art Still, Dermontti Dawson, Bob Gain, Steve Meilinger, Andre' Woodson and Randall Cobb.

Snell keeps a list of personal goals on his wall. He won't share what is on the list in public, but there's little to suggest he'll stop checking items off it anytime soon.

And as he does, superhero might be the best term to describe Snell. All-time Kentucky great sounds OK too.

Benny Snell's record day comes with reminder that he's just a sophomore

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
November 11, 2017**

Maybe Benny Snell knew what kind of day was ahead as he high-stepped into the end zone for his first of 3 rushing touchdowns Saturday night in Kentucky's 44-21 win at Vanderbilt.

For a running back best known for running through defenses, Snell picked the right day to dance.

He was coy when asked about his personal rushing goals prior to the game. Snell was two scores away from setting the all-time mark for Kentucky rushing touchdowns. Three rushing scores and 116 yards later, Snell smiled behind a crowd of microphones. Setting the touchdown record was

one of those goals he had been reluctant to discuss. He didn't change his approach for Saturday, but the record was on his mind.

"It's one of my accomplishments that I write on my wall," Snell said. "I'm happy, I'm very happy. I'm very thankful, especially for my O-line and my tight ends. They do a great job and they don't get enough credit. It's all to them."

Thirteen rushing touchdowns as a freshman and 15 more as a sophomore vaulted Snell atop the list for most career rushing touchdowns. Former Wildcats Moe Williams and Sonny Collins shared the previous record of 26. Snell also became the first player in Kentucky history to rush for 1,000-plus yards in back-to-back seasons.

Sometimes it's worth a reminder that Snell is just a sophomore. Record breaker is a title he better get used to.

"It's incredible," Wildcats coach Mark Stoops said after the game. Stoops, who awarded the game ball to assistant strength coach Jon Hill for Veterans Day, said he didn't realize Snell had broken the record. "Maybe I'll give Benny [a game ball] on Monday," Stoops said with a laugh.

Snell, who didn't record a carry in the first two games of his Kentucky career, has helped establish the Cats' offensive identity of the last two years. Yes, he ran behind one of the best offensive lines in the conference a year ago, and Stephen Johnson has proved himself as a winning and reliable quarterback, but the Wildcats attack starts and ends with Snell.

Freshman receiver Lynn Bowden, another young and dynamic player on Kentucky's offense, wanted to point out that he and Snell have similar hair — blonde-tipped dreadlocks. But then Bowden got serious.

"I tell Benny every week, 'You too big. You're just too big. Nobody should be able to stop you. Period. I put that in his head, and I think he really believes that.'"

The Westerville, Ohio, native is a 5-foot-11, 223-pound bruiser. It's easy to expect big games from Snell. He's scored 3 touchdowns in each of his last three games and has racked up 180, 176 and 116 yards in those performances.

Snell was asked if the immediate and sustained success has surprised him.

"Yes and no. I'm surprised, because everything, it happened so fast just like last

year," Snell said. "I'm really not surprised as well at my play. This is just how I play. I just try to run hard and get the first down. That's just how it is."

It sounds simple when he says it. And it's starting to look simple. Like on that first score when he spun off a Vanderbilt defender and saw no one in front of him.

From there it was just high steps into the end zone.

Senior WR Garrett Johnson quietly making history

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
November 22, 2017**

Garrett Johnson's career has had a quiet success about it. So quiet, yet so successful, that even he's surprised about his rise in the Kentucky receiving record books.

"It's kind of just hitting me in silence, just kinda catching me off guard," Johnson said after a recent practice.

The senior receiver from Winter Garden, Fla., is fourth on Kentucky's all-time receiving yards list behind Craig Yeast, Keenan Burton and Derek Abney. Johnson has 46 catches for 500 receiving yards this season, his third consecutive season with more than 500 yards.

For his career, he has 153 catches, 2,050 receiving yards and 11 touchdowns.

"He's reliable," coach Mark Stoops said. "A lot of his catches throughout this year are critical third downs. He still could make explosive plays. He's been steady. He's really taken a lot of steps to be a leader in the wide receiver room. I've just been impressed with him and I really appreciate him. He does fly under the radar sometimes because he's a very good football player."

Those 153 catches are the fifth-most by a Kentucky player. Johnson is one spot ahead of Randall Cobb in that category and ahead of other former stars like Dicky Lyons Jr. and Jacob Tamme.

Johnson has 30 more catches than any of his teammates this season and he's Kentucky's leading receiver by a large margin.

"I feel like my season has been pretty consistent with whatever is coming at me," Johnson said. "I know my stats, they're not



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terrific, but they're doable. They're good enough for us to win. I guess that's all I'm really worried about now, continuing to win."

Kentucky is 7-4, and with a win over Louisville on Saturday, the Wildcats would reach eight regular-season wins for the first time since 1984. Saturday is both a rivalry game and Senior Day for Johnson.

"All the ups and downs, just like the different experiences that I've come across being here — senior day — that'll be a lot of reflecting," Johnson said.

Stephen Johnson will be remembered as a winner

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
November 23, 2017**

There's no question as to which player will receive the most ringing applause on senior day at Kroger Field: Stephen Johnson, the California kid plucked from College of the Desert. The Kentucky quarterback will be remembered as a winner above anything else.

As a two-year player who was brought to Lexington as a backup, Johnson's numbers will never put him on equal footing among the list of great Kentucky quarterbacks such as Tim Couch, Babe Parilli, Andre' Woodson, Jared Lorenzen and Bill Ransdell. All five of those players are among Kentucky's top-10 career total offense leaders.

Johnson's career numbers are solid but not spectacular: 3,975 passing yards, 23 touchdowns, 10 interceptions with a 58 percent completion percentage. Johnson is 10th on Kentucky's career passing leaders list. He's also rushed for 679 career yards with 6 touchdowns.

But there's a better number to describe Johnson: 14-7.

That's his record as Kentucky's primary quarterback. Not many Cats quarterbacks have won 66 percent or more of their games. Johnson's two-year stint as starter has included wins against rivals Louisville and Tennessee. And despite his thin 6-foot-2, 185-pound frame, some of Johnson's

most memorable moments came when he was banged up.

The label is overused and easy to apply, but no word describes Johnson better: winner.

Offensive coordinator Eddie Gran was asked earlier this week if he's pondered what life will be like without Johnson as his quarterback. Gran smiled: "Every day," he said.

"He's done some really incredible things for us," Gran said. "I'm really excited for him. You could not have written that story. You really couldn't have."

Johnson struggled with Tourette's growing up. Football and faith helped him move past the disorder. Johnson was hardly recruited coming out of Los Osos High School in Southern California. He went to Grambling State. He started, was injured, and didn't reclaim the starting spot after a coaching change. Johnson moved backed home to College of the Desert, a place he was spotted by Kentucky quarterbacks coach Darin Hinshaw.

"I'd be lying if I just sat up here and said you knew exactly what you were going to get," Mark Stoops said Monday of his quarterback. "That's not true."

Johnson was an emergency addition. The Wildcats needed a viable option behind starter Drew Barker. Had Barker not injured his back in Week 3 last season, who knows what Johnson would be.

"He has probably exceeded expectations as far as some of those intangibles that you're looking for," Stoops said.

After a cross-country journey, Lexington was the last stop for Johnson. And on Saturday, Johnson will be announced as Kentucky's starting quarterback for the final time at Kroger Field.

"I don't know how I'll be feeling walking out there, but I'm looking forward to it," Johnson said. "I'm excited for the moment to come."

Can Benny Snell become UK's all-time leading rusher? What records could he still claim?

**By Jennifer Smith
Lexington Herald-Leader
November 28, 2017**

Some players make bold pronouncements about their goals each season, both statistically and in getting their names among the who's who of national watch lists.

Some players write it on their walls or in their lockers.

Some players keep those goals next to their beds.

Kentucky's Benny Snell has goals in mind, but he doesn't like to share them.

"I prefer to keep those to myself," the sophomore running back said recently.

At one point during the season, Snell admitted that he sometimes sneaks a peek at the Southeastern Conference rushing yardage totals and touchdown numbers.

If he did that this week, then Snell saw that he finished as the league's regular-season leader in total rushing yards at 1,318 and its leader in touchdowns on the ground with 18.

Snell certainly finished the regular season like he was chasing something, even if he doesn't say what exactly.

After a career-low seven carries for 18 yards at Mississippi State on Oct. 21, Snell closed the regular season with gusto, running for 777 yards and 12 touchdowns on 123 carries (6.3 yards per carry) in the Cats' final five games.

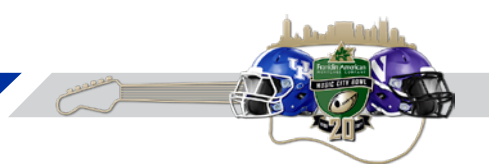
Offensive coordinator Eddie Gran saw a significant change in the sophomore sensation after that loss in Starkville.

"He's being more patient," Gran said. "That's something you learn and you can't try to make stuff up. You've just got to stay with the system and do what's right.

"It matters to him. You can tell when he's running the ball. You can tell after a game, before a game. I'm really proud of him."

It's hard not to admire how hard Snell goes about his work, Coach Mark Stoops said.

"He's been running the ball like those yards are personal to him," Stoops said.



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Which begs the question: Just how personal?

How close is Snell to reaching those goals he's quietly set for himself?

How close is he to running away with Kentucky history and some Southeastern Conference history, too?

Could Snell finish his Kentucky career as one of — if not the best — to rush for the Cats?

The numbers say yes.

If Snell were to stay all four years, he's on pace to own the Kentucky rushing record books, something he's already started doing in his first two seasons.

Of course, most high-level running backs stay in college just three seasons before moving on to the professional ranks. If Snell follows that path and stays just one more season at UK, he will need 1,427 more rushing yards to become the Cats' all-time leading rusher, a 42-year-old record held by Sonny Collins, who finished with 3,835 yards and 26 career touchdowns.

If Snell were to run for his average this season (110 yards) in Kentucky's upcoming bowl game, he would need 1,317 yards to best the school's rushing record. That's one yard fewer than he's managed already this season with a game to go (the 1,318 is the most ever by a UK sophomore).

As of Saturday, Snell is eighth on the Cats' career rushing list with 2,409 yards. Last year he broke six school rushing records and in 2017 several more have fallen. Already, the sophomore holds:

- The school record for rushing touchdowns with 31.
- The school record for rushing touchdowns in a season with 18.
- The school record for points in a season with 110, putting him eighth on the Cats' all-time scoring list. He already broke the record for points in a season, previously held by teammate and kicker Austin MacGinnis (104 points in 2014).

There are other UK records on which he's gaining ground, including: Most rushing touchdowns in a game. At present, Snell is tied with Artose Pinner, Moe Williams, Collins and Rodger Bird, who all have four.

Already Snell has 12 games of 100 rushing yards or more. He needs seven more to best Collins, who had 18 from 1972 to

1975. Snell needs just one more 100-yard game to catch two players tied for second place in Williams and Rafael Little.

At 31 total touchdowns, Snell needs just two more career scores to get past Craig Yeast for second all time. Green Bay Packers star Randall Cobb is atop UK's record books in career touchdowns with 37.

And while Snell likely will never catch some of the league's best of the best, his name could end up comfortably on several top 10 lists in the SEC.

Gran, who has coached a few top running backs who went on to play professionally, was asked if Snell could be among the best.

"I don't think there's any question," he said. "It just depends on how he grows. It's hard when everybody is telling you you're great. So, it's my job to help him stay humbled, and he does that."

That humble part is tougher in this era of social media, Gran said.

"But that's part of it," the coach continued. "He's got to handle it. He's got a chance to be as good as he wants to be."

Already, Snell is among rarefied air as a sophomore. Only two other players in SEC history had at least 2,409 yards and at least 31 career rushing touchdowns before their junior seasons: Georgia's Herschel Walker and LSU's Leonard Fournette.

If he gets 924 more yards in a UK uniform, he'll be top 20 in the SEC in career rushing yardage, passing Williams. If he passes Collins as the Cats' leading rusher, that will be good enough to get in the top 10 in the league.

There's still much to run for, much to play for as Snell continues to quietly mow those records down.

It's an attitude his coaches love.

"He wants to win, he's competitive, he wants to do well," Gran said of the sophomore from Westerville, Ohio. "He's all about the team and he's got his individual goals, he wants to achieve those. I think that's great, but he is about winning and helping this football team in any capacity possible."

Kentucky football team is eager for a shot at redemption in Music City Bowl

By Keith Taylor
KYForward.com
December 4, 2017

Kentucky is eager to get back on the field and redeem themselves following back-to-back blowout losses to end the regular season.

"I just think we're hungry as a team," Kentucky senior wide receiver Charles Walker said. "We've had the week off, we've had players coming in everyday watching film, doing workouts, getting their footwork right. I think the team is hungry."

The Wildcats finished 7-5 for the second straight year and broke even in the Southeastern Conference at 4-4, but were outscored 86-30 in losses to Georgia and rival Louisville to close out the regular season. Kentucky quarterback Stephen Johnson, also a senior, said the 44-17 setback to Louisville still lingers.

"That bad taste in our mouth from that last game hasn't gone away," Johnson said. "A lot of us are really trying to go out and get this win. Last year, we were really excited because we beat Louisville, our rival, and now we have that bad taste in our mouth and we are eager and anxious to go an win this last game."

That last game for Johnson and the senior class will be against Northwestern in the Music City Bowl set for 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 29 at Nissan Stadium. Johnson said the Wildcats want to finish the season strong and end a two-game losing streak.

"We just want to finish it off strong," Johnson said. "College football is a business so you have to keep getting guys in. I'm excited for where this program is going to go. Just to see the new recruits they have, the freshmen, the sophomores and even the juniors that we've got coming back, I'm really excited to see what this team's got for next year, too."

In addition to erasing the pain of back-to-back double-digit setbacks, Kentucky also aims to produce a better showing than it did against the Cardinals, a contest that featured a brief melee in the second



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quarter and seven penalties for a loss of 86 yards.

“We lost our composure and I don’t think there’s any mystery in that,” Kentucky athletics director Mitch Barnhart said. “We got frustrated and we lost our composure and did not handle ourselves. We’re one of the fewest—over the last two or three years, we’re one of the fewer penalized teams in the league and, frankly, most of those penalties are generally holding or pass interferences or things like that. Things that are not like that. That is not who we’ve been. I think we’ll continue to manage most of those things internally. Mark did a good job of that. He addressed it and I think we can work our way through that, but that’s not who we are.”

Kentucky senior linebacker Courtney Love agreed and is looking forward to ending his collegiate career against Northwestern, a team he played against during his brief stay at Nebraska.

“I don’t think we need to put any unnecessary pressure on ourselves but we do need our fans to help uplift us and we need to uplift our fans. I think it’s going to work hand-in-hand. We definitely need to just go out and play our best football and be the best team we can be that day. During our preparation, do as much as we can to get on these guys and be really prepared and focused to play the game we know how to play.”

Barnhart added he’s not concerned with having the football and basketball teams playing on the same day at two different sites. The men’s basketball team hosts rival Louisville at 1 p.m., while the bowl encounter will kickoff three-and-a-half hours later in Nashville.

“I think these are challenges other programs have had to face and so certainly that’s something I hope we have to face on a regular basis,” Barnhart said. “That’s the challenge you want. You want to have two programs that are functioning at a high level, that have people that really want you to be on a television scene one way or another and it causes you to have to work at that. So yeah, we’ll work at it. Those are the kind of challenges that are really, really special for your program. I want us to have multiple opportunities to showcase the University of Kentucky. If we’re not doing that, then, my word, I don’t think we’re doing what they

put us in this spot to do. So I would like to be able to have multiple opportunities to showcase Kentucky.”

LB Courtney Love wins Wuerffel Trophy for community service

**By Joe Mussatto
SECCountry.com
December 5, 2017**

Kentucky senior linebacker Courtney Love was awarded the Wuerffel Trophy, college football’s premier award for community service in New York.

The award, named after 1996 Heisman Trophy winner and former Florida quarterback Danny Wuerffel, is presented annually to the player who best combines “exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement,” according to a press release.

The Youngstown, Ohio, native leads his Kentucky team in community service hours and has helped mentored children whose parents have been incarcerated. Love volunteers at Amachi Central Kentucky. It’s an organization that pairs caring adults with children in the state who are affected by incarceration in some way.

“This is who we aspire to be, BBN,” athletic director Mitch Barnhart wrote in a tweet. “This young man has earned our admiration and support for all he’s done for Kentucky — both the school and the Commonwealth.”

Love’s community service efforts took him all the way to Ethiopia for a service trip in May 2016. Love helped build houses as well as shoe shining boxes for men to be able to work.

Love has also helped mentor high school students and has taken part in events at the UK Children’s Hospital.

On the field, Love ranks second on the team with 82 tackles. He and the Wildcats will take on Northwestern in the Music City Bowl on Dec. 29 in Nashville, Tenn.



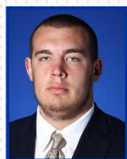
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Kentucky currently has 16 players on its roster who have already earned their undergraduate degree.

16



Drew Barker



David Baumer



Dylan Greenberg



Greg Hart



Nick Haynes



Jacob Hyde



Garrett Johnson



Stephen Johnson



Courtney Love



Austin MacGinnis



Will Mahone III



Kyle Meadows



Cole Mosier



Charles Moushey



Matt Panton



Naquez Pringle



Several key UK players have strong cumulative GPAs over their academic careers, including Miles Butler (4.0), Charles Walker (3.786), Luke Fortner (3.725), Austin MacGinnis (graduated with a 3.672; 3.667 in grad school), and Jacob Hyde (graduated with a 3.085; 4.0 in grad school).



BLAKE BEST | SOPH | LB
AUSTIN MACGINNIS | SR | K
CHARLES WALKER | SR | WR



CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT TEAM



Blake Best, Austin MacGinnis and Charles Walker were named Academic All-District by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).



APR of .976



COURTNEY LOVE
 SENIOR LB
 WUERFFEL TROPHY WINNER
 ALLSTATE AFCA
 GOOD WORKS TEAM













JOSH ALLEN
 JUNIOR LB
 ALL-SEC

DENZIL WARE
 JUNIOR DE/LB
 ALL-SEC

MIKE EDWARDS
 JUNIOR S
 ALL-SEC

WILDCATS

2017 KENTUCKY FOOTBALL RESULTS

 at Southern Miss SEPT. 2 | W, 24-17	 Eastern Kentucky SEPT. 9 | W, 27-16	 at South Carolina SEPT. 16 | W, 23-13	 #20/22 Florida SEPT. 23 | L, 27-28	 Eastern Michigan SEPT. 30 | W, 24-20	 Missouri OCT. 7 | W, 40-34
 at Mississippi St. OCT. 21 | L, 7-45	 Tennessee OCT. 28 | W, 29-26	 Ole Miss NOV. 4 | L, 34-37	 at Vanderbilt NOV. 11 | W, 44-21	 at #7/7 Georgia NOV. 18 | L, 13-42	 Louisville NOV. 25 | L, 17-44