



KENTUCKY

FOOTBALL

KENTUCKY (0-0, 0-0)

9/3	MIAMI (OHIO) (ESPN+)	7 P.M.
9/10	at Florida* (ESPN)	7 P.M.
9/17	YOUNGSTOWN STATE (SECN)	NOON
9/24	NORTHERN ILLINOIS	TBA
10/1	at Ole Miss*	TBA
10/8	SOUTH CAROLINA*	TBA
10/15	MISSISSIPPI STATE*	TBA
10/22	Open	
10/29	at Tennessee*	TBA
11/5	at Missouri*	TBA
11/12	VANDERBILT*	TBA
11/19	GEORGIA*	TBA
11/26	LOUISVILLE	TBA

* SEC game; Home games in bold

#20/21 KENTUCKY VS MIAMI (OHIO)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3

7 PM EDT • SEC+/ESPN+

LEXINGTON, KY.



KROGER FIELD AT C.M. NEWTON GROUNDS

KENTUCKY SET FOR ANTICIPATED 2022 SEASON

No.20/21 Kentucky opens one of the most anticipated seasons in school history with an emerging offense and defense and two 10-win campaigns in the past four seasons. The 2022 opener will be the first time since 2016 that the season opener has been played under the lights.

Coach Mark Stoops is on the doorstep of becoming the winningest coach in program history as he looks to continue the Wildcats' ascension. He'll bank on quarterback Will Levis fulfilling the lofty praise he has received and experienced defenders DeAndre Square, J.J. Weaver, Jordan Wright and Jacquez Jones.

Also in the spotlight is running back Chris Rodriguez Jr., who with a big season could surpass Benny Snell Jr. as the program's all-time leading rusher.

ABOUT THE GAME

TV • SEC+/ESPN+

Play-by-Play Mike Morgan
Analyst Tom Ramsey
Sideline Coley Harvey

RADIO • UK SPORTS NETWORK

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

SATELLITE RADIO

Sirius - 135/190 SXM APP - 961

INTERNET RADIO • www.UKathletics.com

Live Audio - free; Live Stats

TICKET INFORMATION • UKathletics.com

BY THE NUMBERS

2 10-WIN SEASONS IN PAST FOUR YEARS

4 SCHOOL-RECORD STRAIGHT BOWL WINS

16 STRAIGHT WINS OVER NON-CONFERENCE OPPONENTS

33 WINS SINCE START OF 2018, 12TH MOST AMONG POWER FIVE PROGRAMS

59 COACH STOOPS CAREER WINS

QUICK NOTES

- Kentucky earned four first-place votes and was picked to finish second behind defending national champion Georgia in the SEC East in a vote at Preseason SEC Media Days.
- Last season, Kentucky finished 10-3 and won the Vrbo Citrus Bowl for the second time in the past four seasons, defeating No. 15 Iowa, 20-17, on Jan. 1, 2022.
- It is the second 10-win season in the past four campaigns after having only two in school history prior to that (11 in 1950; 10 in 1977).
- For the first time in school history, Kentucky is ranked in both national preseason polls, coming in at 20 in the Associated Press poll and 21 in the USA TODAY Sports AFCA Coaches Poll.
- When the Wildcats begin the 2022 season, it will be Stoops' 10th year at UK, longer than any coach in school history. He is 59-53 overall, ranking second in school history in victories behind Paul "Bear" Bryant (60).
- Stoops is the second-longest tenured active coach in the SEC (behind Alabama's Nick Saban) and the 11th-longest nationally.
- He recently inked a contract extension that will keep him in Lexington through June 2028 with amended financial terms.
- Stoops started his tenure 12-26 but has gone an impressive 47-27 (.635) since that time, moving over .500 for the first time in his term as head coach.
- Three new assistant coaches were hired following the 2021 season. Mike Stoops, brother of head coach Mark Stoops, was hired in January as the inside linebackers coach to replace Jon Sumrall, now the head coach at Troy University. UK named San Francisco 49ers quarterback coach Rich Scangarello the program's new offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach in February following the departure of Liam Coen for Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Rams. Zach Yenser also was hired away from the 49ers in February to lead the Big Blue Wall.
- In all, 41 letter winners and 13 starters from last year return. The Cats' roster is also bolstered this season with the addition of 10 newcomers from the transfer portal.
- Offensive starters returning are QB Will Levis, RB Chris Rodriguez Jr., TE Brenden Bates and offensive linemen Eli Cox and Kenneth Horsey. Defensively, DBs Tyrell Ajian and Carrington Valentine return, along with inside linebackers Jacquez Jones, DeAndre Square and outside linebackers J.J. Weaver and Jordan Wright. Kicker Matt Ruffolo and punter Colin Goodfellow



QUICK FACTS

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

2022 COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Mark Stoops (Iowa, '89)
Overall College Coaching Record:
Record at Kentucky (Years): 59-53 (9 years)
Career Record (Years): 59-53 (9 years)
SEC Record: 29-45 (.392)
Bowl Record: 4-2 (.667)

Assistant Coaches:

Frank Buffano (Arizona, '06)
Safeties/Co-Special Teams Coord., 3rd year
Chris Collins (Western Carolina, '10)
Defensive Backs, 2nd year
Vince Marrow (Toledo, '92)
Assoc. HC/TE/Recruiting Coord., 10th year
Rich Scangarello (Sacramento State, '96)
Offensive Coord./Quarterbacks, 1st year
John Settle (Appalachian State, '89)
RBs/Co-Special Teams Coord., 2nd year
Anwar Stewart (Kentucky, '17)
Defensive Line, 3rd year
Mike Stoops (Iowa, '87)
Inside Linebackers, 1st year
Brad White (Wake Forest, '05)
Defensive Coord./OLBs, 5th year
Scott Woodward (UMass, '09)
Wide Receivers, 2nd year
Zach Yenser (Troy, '07)
Offensive Line, 1st year

Quality Control:

Bryan Berezowitz (Kentucky, '19)
Josh Estes-Waugh (Kentucky, '12)
Louie Matsakis (Emporia State, '00)
Mark Perry (Kentucky, '01)
Joe Scola (Dartmouth, '07)

Graduate Assistants:

C.J. Conrad (offense)
Kalon Humphries (defense)
Courtney Love (defense)
Drake Jackson (offense)
Cam Garner (off the field - offense)
Dan Hebert (off the field - offense)
Andrew Verboys (off the field - defense)

UK FOOTBALL ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@UKFootball
@UKCoachStoops @CoachC_Collins
@Bigstew9 @CoachBuffano
@Mike_Stoops41 @Coachjsetcats
@vincemarrow @CoachWoody7
@CoachWhiteFB @OL_Coach_Yenser

Kentucky Football Kentucky Wildcats

@UKFootball

UKStoopsTroops @UKFootball

return for their final seasons in the Blue and White.

- The Wildcats have won 11 of their past 15 season openers, including four of their last five.
UK has won 16 straight non-conference games, dating back to the 2017 Music City Bowl loss to Northwestern. It is the longest such active streak in FBS.
UK's 33 victories since the start of the 2018 season rank sixth-most in the SEC ... Those 33 wins rank 12th among Power Five programs.
Kentucky finished 5-3 in the SEC for second place in the SEC Eastern Division. It marks the first time since the league split into divisions in 1992 that UK ends the season in sole possession of second place of the East. UK also has finished in a tie for second in the division on two other occasions, 2016 and 2018.
All three second-place East finishes have been in the last six seasons under Mark Stoops.
UK's 5-3 record in 2021 was the second time since 1977 that UK posted a winning record in league play (also in 2018).
UK has multiple wins vs. ranked teams in three of the past four seasons. The Cats had one season (2007) with multiple wins over ranked foes in the previous 40 years.
The Wildcats have the third-most wins among SEC East schools from 2016-21 (47). Only Georgia (66) and Florida (48) have more.
Kentucky has 11 players in school history who have rushed for at least 1,900 career yards. Four of those have come during Stoops' tenure: Benny Snell Jr. (3,873), Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2,740), Stanley "Boom" Williams (2,511) and A.J. Rose (1,971).
Guided by defensive coordinator Brad White, UK has had four top-20 ranked defenses.
UK has allowed 30 or fewer points in 44 of the past 51 games and held its final four opponents to 21 or less.
During Stoops' tenure, the Wildcats have had nine different starting quarterbacks win a game in Jalen Whitlow, Maxwell Smith, Patrick Towles, Drew Barker, Stephen Johnson, Luke Wright, Lynn Bowden Jr., Terry Wilson and Will Levis.
Since 2016, UK is 20-8 (.714) in games decided by seven points or less.
The Wildcats signed their highest-rated recruiting class in school history in 2022.

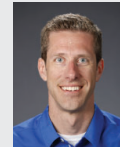
UK COMMUNICATIONS/ PR CONTACTS



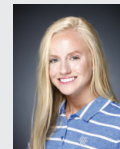
Director of Athletics Communications and PR/ Primary Football Contact
Susan Lax - 859-608-5019 (cell) slax0@uky.edu



Assistant AD/Athletics Communications and PR/ Mark Stoops Contact
Tony Neely - 859-576-9943 (cell) tneely@uky.edu



Associate Director of Athletics Communications and PR/ Secondary Football Contact
Matt May - 859-806-7463 (cell) matt.may@uky.edu



Assistant Director of Athletics Communications and PR Secondary Football Contact
Cami Moore - 859-396-0368 (cell) camiranmoore@uky.edu



Senior Associate Director of Athletics Communications and PR/Credentials and Press Box Coordinator
Evan Crane - 270-559-8120 (cell) wesley.crane@uky.edu

Main Office Phone: 859-257-3838
Central Bank Press Row Phone: 859.323.2800
Office Address:
Joe Craft Center, 338 Lexington Ave.
Lexington, KY 40506-0019
Website: UKathletics.com



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KENTUCKY IN THE POLLS

DATE	AP	COACHES	BCS
Preseason	20	21	-
Week 2	-	-	-
Week 3	-	-	-
Week 4	-	-	-
Week 5	-	-	-
Week 6			
Week 7			
Week 8			
Week 9			
Week 10			
Week 11			
Week 12			
Pre-Bowls			
Final			

TOP 25 POLLS

2022 ASSOCIATED PRESS PRESEASON POLL

- Alabama
- Ohio State
- Georgia
- Clemson
- Notre Dame
- Texas A&M
- Utah
- Michigan
- Oklahoma
- Baylor
- Oregon
- Oklahoma State
- NC State
- USC
- Michigan State
- Miami
- Pittsburgh
- Wisconsin
- Arkansas
- 20 KENTUCKY**
- Ole Miss
- Wake Forest
- Cincinnati
- Houston
- BYU

UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Tennessee (180), Miss. State (15), Florida (14), South Carolina (2)

2022 USA TODAY AFCA COACHES PRESEASON POLL

- Alabama
- Ohio State
- Georgia
- Clemson
- Notre Dame
- Michigan
- Texas A&M
- Utah
- Oklahoma
- Baylor
- Oklahoma State
- Oregon
- NC State
- Michigan State
- USC
- Pittsburgh
- Miami
- Texas
- Wake Forest
- Wisconsin
- 21 KENTUCKY**
- Cincinnati
- Arkansas
- Ole Miss
- Houston

UK Opponents Receiving Votes: Tennessee (163), Miss. State (19), Florida (17), South Carolina (5), Louisville (1)

SERIES RECORD VS. MIAMI (OHIO)

- Kentucky leads the all-time series against Miami (Ohio) 8-4-1, including a 6-3-1 mark in Lexington.
- The Wildcats have won three straight over the Redhawks, including the last matchup in Lexington in 2013, 41-7.
- Kentucky won the first five meetings in the series before Miami (Ohio) won four of the next five meetings with the two teams tying in 1917. The series is tied 1-1 in games played in Oxford, Ohio, and UK lead 1-0 in games played in Cincinnati.
- Kentucky is 33-7-1 vs. teams from Miami's Mid-American Conference. The Cats have not lost to a MAC team since falling to Ohio, 28-16, on Oct. 2, 2004 in Lexington. UK is also slated to play MAC opponent Northern Illinois on Saturday, Sept. 24.
- Biggest UK win: 47 (47-0) in 1903 in Lexington ... Biggest Miami (Ohio) win: 14 (14-0) in 1920 in Oxford.
- Games decided by 7 points or less: Miami (Ohio) leads 3-2
- Current streak: UK has won three consecutive

KENTUCKY-MIAMI (OHIO) TIES

- Kentucky has 21 players on its 2022 roster from the state of Ohio, while Miami has six players from the Commonwealth on its roster, including one from Lexington in DB Mason Moore (Lexington/Lexington Christian). Moore is the son of former Wildcat great Marty Moore (1990-93). Moore totaled 462 tackles as a linebacker at UK and was the final pick in the 1994 NFL Draft making him "Mr. Irrelevant" as the last pick selected. He went on to play eight seasons in the league, seven for the New England Patriots.
- The others are: DB Eli Blakely (Louisville/DuPont Manual), QB Joseph Humphries (Owensboro/Daviess County), OL Sam Vaughan (Versailles/Lexington Catholic), OL Ben Jackson (Winchester/George Rogers Clark) and TE Jack Coldirion (Florence/Covington Catholic).

CATS CLIMBED SEC LADDER IN 2021

- Kentucky finished the 2021 season 10-3 for the first time since 2018 and just the fourth time in school history.
- Kentucky went 5-3 in the SEC and finished in second place in the SEC Eastern Division.
- It is the first time since the league split into divisions in 1992 that UK ended the season in sole possession of second place of the East.
- UK also finished in a tie for second in the division on two other occasions, 2016 and 2018.
- All three second-place East finishes have been in the last six seasons under Mark Stoops.
- This is the second time since 1977 that UK has posted a winning record in league play, 5-3 in 2021 and 2018

Total Wins (Last four seasons)

1. Alabama	51	T8. Miss. State	25
2. Georgia	45	T8. Missouri	25
3. LSU	36	10. Ole Miss	24
4. Florida	35	11. Tennessee	23
5. Texas A&M	34	12. South Carolina	20
6. KENTUCKY	33	13. Arkansas	16
7. Auburn	29	14. Vanderbilt	11

UK TAKES ADVANTAGE OF NCAA TRANSFER PORTAL WITH 10 ADDITIONS

- Head coach Mark Stoops took advantage of the NCAA Transfer Portal to fulfill needs in key positions for the 2022 season and beyond, welcoming 10 new Wildcats to the program in 2022:
 - Dee Beckwith - So., WR - Tennessee
 - Zion Childress - So., DB - Texas State
 - Londyn Craft - Sr., DB - Mississippi State
 - Darrion Henry-Young - So., DL - Ohio State
 - Deuce Hogan - So., QB - Iowa
 - Ramon Jefferson - Sr., RB - Sam Houston State
 - Tashawn Manning - Sr., OL - Auburn





BY THE NUMBERS

	2022	Stoops
Record.....	0-0	59-53
SEC.....	0-0	29-45
West.....	0-0	5-15
East.....	0-0	24-30
Non-Conference.....	0-0	30-8
Home.....	0-0	41-22
Road.....	0-0	14-28
Neutral site.....	0-0	4-3
Night.....	0-0	28-24
Day.....	0-0	31-29
TV Games.....	0-0	55-53
ABC.....	0-0	2-0
CBS.....	0-0	0-5
ESPN.....	0-0	4-11
ESPNU.....	0-0	3-5
ESPN2.....	0-0	5-3
ESPNNews.....	0-0	0-1
SEC Network.....	0-0	42-27
Fox Sports South.....	0-0	1-1
CBS Sports Network.....	0-0	1-0
August/September.....	0-0	24-12
October.....	0-0	16-16
November.....	0-0	14-22
December/January.....	0-0	5-2
Bowl Games.....	0-0	4-2
Coming off an open date.....	0-0	5-7
UK scores on 1st possession.....	0-0	28-15
Opp scores on 1st possession.....	0-0	16-23
UK scores first.....	0-0	38-18
Opponent scores first.....	0-0	21-35
UK leads after 1st quarter.....	0-0	36-9
Opponent leads after 1stQ.....	0-0	11-34
Teams are tied after 1stQ.....	0-0	12-10
UK leads at halftime.....	0-0	43-7
Opponent leads at halftime.....	0-0	9-42
Teams are tied at halftime.....	0-0	7-4
UK leads after 3rd quarter.....	0-0	50-4
Opponent leads after 3rdQ.....	0-0	5-46
Teams are tied after 3rdQ.....	0-0	5-3
Game goes to overtime.....	0-0	1-3
Scoring less than 20 pts.....	0-0	5-34
Scoring 20+ points.....	0-0	49-19
Scoring 30+ points.....	0-0	34-9
Allowing less than 20 pts.....	0-0	34-4
Allowing 20+ points.....	0-0	19-40
Allowing 30+ points.....	0-0	7-32
UK has more total yards.....	0-0	46-8
Opp. has more total yds.....	0-0	13-45
UK has more rushing yards.....	0-0	48-12
Opp. has more rushing yards.....	0-0	11-41
UK has more passing yards.....	0-0	26-15
Opp. has more passing yards.....	0-0	33-36
Rushing for < 100 yds.....	0-0	5-19
Rushing for over 100 yards.....	0-0	51-33
Rushing for 200+ yards.....	0-0	41-10
Passing for 200+ yards.....	0-0	21-15
Passing for 300+ yards.....	0-0	8-5
UK has 100-yard rusher.....	0-0	41-15
Opp. has 100-yard rusher.....	0-0	17-32
No turnovers.....	0-0	15-9
One or two turnovers.....	0-0	36-33
3 or more turnovers.....	0-0	8-10
No takeaways.....	0-0	13-14
3 or more takeaways.....	0-0	15-4
UK has more penalties.....	0-0	21-21
Opp. has more penalties.....	0-0	32-28
Teams have equal penalties.....	0-0	6-4
UK has more TOP.....	0-0	40-20
Opp. has more TOP.....	0-0	18-33
UK defense scores.....	0-0	14-5
Opponent defense scores.....	0-0	7-10
UK returns KO/Punt for TD.....	0-0	3-1
Opp. returns KO/Punt for TD.....	0-0	0-5
Playing on natural grass.....	0-0	15-32
Playing on artificial surface.....	0-0	44-20
In blue uniforms.....	0-0	16-5
In white uniforms.....	0-0	9-11
In white jerseys/blue pants.....	0-0	5-18
In blue jerseys/white pants.....	0-0	17-5
In black uniforms.....	0-0	1-3
In blue jerseys/grey pants.....	0-0	2-3
In grey uniforms.....	0-0	6-3
In grey jerseys/blue pants.....	0-0	3-5

MILESTONES TO LOOK FOR...

- Head coach **Mark Stoops** has 59 career victories at Kentucky, No. 2 on the school's all-time list. Paul "Bear" Bryant is first with 60.
- Coach Stoops now holds the record for most total home wins in school history (41).
- Junior **RB Chris Rodriguez Jr.** has 2,740 career rushing yards for sixth place on the school's all-time list and is the 10th player in school history to reach 2,000. He needs 153 more yards to move up to No. 5.
- Rodriguez has 26 career rushing touchdowns, tied for second in UK history with Moe Williams and Sonny Collins. His 29 total touchdowns ranks fourth.
- Rodriguez has 15 career 100-yard rushing games, third-most in school history.
- Rodriguez had 1,379 rushing yards this season, fifth-most in school history. He is the 10th Wildcat to reach 1,000 in a season and the 14th time it has been accomplished.
- Junior **RB Kavosiey Smoke** has 1,306 career rushing yards. He currently sits at No. 30 and needs seven more to move up to No. 29.
- Senior **K Matt Ruffolo** set a new single-season record with 54 PATs and currently ranks 11th in career scoring with 172 points.
- Senior **LB DeAndre Square** has 244 career tackles and needs 56 to become the 19th member of the 300 Tackle Club, and just fourth in the 21st century.

Jordon Robinson - So., DB - Livingstone College

Tayvion Robinson, Sr., WR - Virginia Tech

Keidron Smith, Sr., DB - Ole Miss

SMARTY CATS

- UK currently boasts 16 players on its 2022 roster who have earned an undergraduate degree already. They are:
 1. Brenden Bates – Consumer Economics & Family Financial Counseling
 2. Tyrell Ajian - Family Science, Minor – Coaching
 3. Eli Cox - Integrated Strategic Communication, Minor – Business
 4. Londyn Craft (Mississippi State) - Youth Development and Family Studies
 5. Colin Goodfellow- Nursing
 6. Kenneth Horsey - Communication
 7. Ramon Jefferson (Sam Houston State) - Humanities and Social Sciences
 8. Will Levis (Penn State) - Finance
 9. Tashawn Manning (Auburn) - Interdisciplinary Studies
 10. Will Nalty - Marketing and Management
 11. Chris Rodriguez Jr. – Community Leadership & Development
 12. Matt Ruffolo – Master’s of Business Administration
 13. Keidron Smith (Ole Miss)- Finance
 14. Keaton Upshaw – Community Leadership & Development
 15. Quintin Smith – Master’s of Business Administration;
 16. Jordan Wright – Community Leadership & Development.
- A total of 15 players are on track to graduate or earn a second degree in December of 2022: Alex Bascom – Business Administration; Richard Bascom –Business Administration; Taj Dodson – Communication; Cade Degraw – Management; Justice Dingle – Communication; Braxton Eiserman – Art Studio; Jeremy Flax – Community Leadership & Development; DeMarcus Harris – Communication; Jacquez Jones – Sociology; Will Levis – Master’s in Finance; Rahsaan Lewis – Community Leadership & Development; Tashawn Manning – Sport Communication, Minor – Coaching; Kavosiey Smoke – Community Leadership & Development; DeAndre Square – Health Promotion; Dillon Wheatley – Agricultural Economics.
- Five players are currently working on a master’s degree: Will Levis - master’s in finance; Kenneth Horsey – master’s in social work; William Nalty – master’s in sport leadership; Matt Ruffolo – already graduated with his MBA; working on a second master’s degree in finance; Quintin Wilson – already graduated with his MBA; working on a second master’s degree in sport leadership.





CATS IN THE NATIONAL POLLS

- For the first time in school history, Kentucky is ranked in both national preseason polls, coming in at 20 in the Associated Press poll and 21 in the USA TODAY Sports AFCA Coaches Poll.
- Kentucky ended the 2021 season ranked No. 15 in the USA Today Coaches poll and No. 18 in the Associated Press poll.
- It marked just the second time since 1984 the Cats were ranked in the AP's final poll of the season. In 2018, the Cats finished 11th.
- The Cats spent nine weeks in the Coaches Poll and eight in the AP Poll in 2021.
- Kentucky entered the AP Top 25 on Oct. 3, coming in at No. 16, advancing to No. 11 after the win over LSU ... It marked the highest AP ranking for UK since Oct. 28, 2018, when the Cats were No. 11 after a 7-1 start. The Cats also have been as high as No. 11 in the USA Today Coaches Poll, their highest ranking since ending the 2018 season at No. 11.

LET'S GO KROGER-ING

- Overall, Kentucky is 177-138-4 (.561) all-time in Kroger Field, including 41-22 (.651) under Mark Stoops.
- Kentucky has won eight of its past nine games at Kroger Field.
- UK is 13-3 in its last 16 home night games.
- Since the beginning of 2018, the Cats have home wins over No. 10 Florida (2021) and No. 14 Mississippi State (2018).

SIMPLY STOOPS-ENDOUS

UK head coach Mark Stoops has proven to be an excellent hire, turning around a struggling program and making him the first UK coach to lead the program to a sixth consecutive bowl appearance. He also has erased a number of the long-standing hurdles and streaks in the program's history. A partial accounting of Stoops' achievements features:

- 33 wins in the last four seasons, ranking 12th among Power Five programs;
- Winning the season finale (and regular-season finale) four years in a row for the first time since 1898-1901;
- Since 2016, a 20-8 record (71.4%) in games decided by seven points or less;
- First home win over Florida since 1986, also marking the first win over an Associated Press top 10-ranked opponent since 2010 (2021);
- First win at Tennessee since 1984 (2020)
- First New Year's Day Bowl win since 1951 (2018 season)
- First 10-win season since 1977 (2018)
- First SEC Coach of the Year since 1983 (2018)
- First final poll ranking since 1984 (2018)
- First bowl win since 2008 (2018 season)
- First win vs. Florida since 1986 (2018)
- First bowl appearance since 2010 (2016)
- After two games of the 2016 season, his record was 12-26 but he has gone 47-27 (.635) since. Overall, Stoops is now 59-53 at Kentucky and is nearing Paul "Bear" Bryant's school-record 60 victories.
- Off the field, Stoops is a staunch supporter of the Kentucky Children's Hospital, helping raise more than \$500,000 annually for the kids
- Kentucky's football team has fared well academically under Stoops, as each year UK's football score in the NCAA Academic Progress Rate has been well above the benchmark of 930.

Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History

1. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-53)
2. **59 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)**
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-81)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)
- 41 Blanton Collier (1954-61)
6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-09)

100-YARD RUSHERS

Player	2022	Career	'22 Opponent
Chris Rodriguez Jr.	0	15	
Will Levis	0	1	
Kavosiey Smoke	0	1	

100-YARD RECEIVERS

Player	2022	Career	'22 Opponent
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300-YARD PASSERS

Player	2022	Career	'22 Opponent
Will Levis	0	3	

INTERCEPTIONS

Player	2022	Career
Tyrell Ajian	0	4
J.J. Weaver	0	2
D'Eryk Jackson	0	2
DeAndre Square	0	2
Jacquez Jones	0	1
Jalen Geiger	0	1
Jordan Wright	0	1

TRACKING SACK LEADERS

Player	2022	Career
Jordan Wright	0.0	7.5
J.J. Weaver	0.0	6.5
DeAndre Square	0.0	5.5
Jacquez Jones	0.0	3.0
Justin Rogers	0.0	2.5
Octavious Oxendine	0.0	2.0
Trevin Wallace	0.0	2.0
Josaih Hayes	0.0	1.0
Vito Tisdale	0.0	1.0
Carrington Valentine	0.0	1.0

STAT SUPERLATIVES

Most Games Played (min. 30): DeAndre Square (49), Tyrell Ajian (48), Jacquez Jones (45), Jordan Wright (42), Chris Rodriguez Jr. (38), Chance Poore (36), Kavosiey Smoke (34), Brendan Bates (34)

Most Games Started (min. 20): DeAndre Square (35), Jacquez Jones (31), Tyrell Ajian (23)

Consecutive Games Started (min. 12): Jacquez Jones (25), DeAndre Square (17), Kenneth Horsey (14), Will Levis (13)

Consecutive Games with a Tackle (min. 12): Jacquez Jones (26), J.J. Weaver (20), Carrington Valentine (18)

Consecutive Games with a Reception (min. 5): Keaton Upshaw (9)



WHERE ARE THE COACHES?

SIDELINE

Mark Stoops, Head Coach
 Rich Scangarello, Offensive Coordinator, QBs
 Vince Marrow, Assoc. Head Coach, Tight Ends
 John Settle, Running Backs
 Chris Collins, Defensive Backs
 Anwar Stewart, Defensive Line
 Mike Stoops, Inside Linebackers
 Brad White, Defensive Coordinator, Outside LBs
 Zach Yenser, Offensive Line

PRESS BOX

Frank Buffano, Safeties
 Scott Woodward, Wide Receivers

#LAFAMILIA

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

- Senior TE Brendan Bates is the grandson of former UK basketball player Gene Neff (1951-52)
- Sophomore Dru Phillips is the son of former Wildcat Carlos Phillips (1986-90)
- Sophomore WR Trey Dennis is the son of former Wildcat Harold Dennis (1994-96)
- Freshman walk-on WR Dylan Gary is the son of former DB Willie Gary, who played at UK from 1997-2000 and was a 1997 Freshman All-America First-Team selection by The Sporting News and a team captain in 2000
- Freshman OL Nik Hall is the son of Antonio Hall, who played at UK from 2000-03 and was an All-SEC selection.
- Freshman WR Dane Key is the son of former LB/DE Donte Key who played at UK from 1992-95 and was the National Defensive Player of the Week for his performance in the 1994 inaugural Governor's Cup game vs. Louisville
- Sophomore offensive lineman Lucas Padgett is the son of Scott Padgett who played basketball at Kentucky (1995-99), helping the Wildcats advance to two Final Fours, including a national title in 1998 ... Went on to play eight years in the pros ... Mom, Cynthia (Dozier), was a four-year letter winner on UK's volleyball team (1994-97)
- Freshman kicker Jackson Smith is the son of former Wildcat punter Andy Smith (1997-99), an All-SEC punter whose 42.7-yard average in 1999 was, at the time, the third-best single-season mark in school history
- We have brothers, too. Senior OLB Justice Dingle is the older brother of redshirt freshman TE Jordan Dingle. They are from Bowling Green, Ky.
- Walk-on defensive ends Richard and Alex Bascom of Louisville, Ky., are fraternal twins.
- Freshmen Destin and Keaten Wade from Spring Hill, Tennessee, also are twins.

Most Career SEC Wins By A Head Coach, School History

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

Most Career Home Wins By A Head Coach, School History

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

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

1. 150 Dabo Swinney Clemson
2. 149 Mike Gundy Oklahoma St.
3. 144 Kyle Whittingham Utah
4. 111 Troy Calhoun Air Force
5. 109 Pat Fitzgerald Northwestern
6. 104 Ken Niumatalolo Navy
7. 100 Rick Stockstill Middle Tenn.
8. 93 David Shaw Stanford
9. 66 Kirby Smart Georgia
10. 59 Mark Stoops Kentucky

"BIG BLUE WALL"

- The Kentucky offensive line was one of four units named as a finalist for the Joe Moore Award in 2021, recognizing the Most Outstanding Offensive Line Unit in college football.
- It's the fourth consecutive season that the Kentucky offensive line, known as the "Big Blue Wall," has been recognized by the award for its work in the trenches.
- Behind Kentucky's talented "Big Blue Wall," running back Chris Rodriguez Jr. ranked second in the SEC and 12th nationally at 106.1 rushing yards per game. He totaled 1,379 yards and set a school record with nine 100-yard rushing games this season.
- Although it lost key members C Luke Fortner, LT Darian Kinnard to the NFL Draft and RT Dare Rosenthal as well, the unit looks strong again in 2022 with returners OG and All-SEC selection Kenneth Horsey and Outland Trophy Watch Lister Eli Cox.

WILL POWERED

- Quarterback Will Levis earned the starting spot early in fall camp after transferring from Penn State in 2021, took the role his role and ran with it.
- In his UK debut, he passed for 367 yards and four scores. List of QBs since 2000 to have at least 350 passing yards with at least 4 passing TDs and at least a 65% completion percentage in a victory in his first career start at an SEC school: J.T. Daniels, Georgia vs. Miss. St. (2020) and *Will Levis, vs. ULM (2021)*.
- Over the summer he was one of the few collegiate passers to participate in the elite Manning Passing Academy camp.
- He has earned publicity as being a potential top 10 overall selection for the 2023 National Football League Draft.
- He was named to the 2022 Davey O'Brien Award and Manning Award watch lists.
- He has three career 300-yard passing games and is tied for the single-game school record for rushing touchdowns and total touchdowns with four.

HOT C-ROD

- Junior RB **Chris Rodriguez Jr.** had 1,379 rushing yards last season and is one of the nation's top running backs. The total ranks fifth on UK's single-season rushing list.
- By surpassing 1,000 rushing yards in 2021 he becomes the 10th Wildcat to have a 1,000-yard season. It has only been accomplished 14 times in total in the history of UK Football.
- He was second in the SEC and 12th nationally with 106.1 yards per game and seventh in the SEC in all-purpose yards (110.8).



2022 RETURNING STATISTICAL LEADERS

RUSHING:	ATT.	YARDS	AVG.	TDS		
Chris Rodriguez Jr.	225	1,379	6.1	9		
Kavosiey Smoke	81	416	5.1	4		
Will Levis	107	376	3.5	9		
PASSING:	ATT.	COMP	INT.	TDS	YARDS	PCT.
Will Levis	353	233	13	24	2827	66.0
RECEIVING:	REC.	YARDS	AVG.	AVG/GAME	TDS	
Izayah Cummings	14	195	13.9	15.0	3	
TACKLES:	TOTAL	SOLO	AST.	INT.	SACKS	TFL (YDS)
Jacquez Jones	86	40	46	1	0.5	3.5 (9)
DeAndre Square	80	40	40	1	3.0	9.5 (30)
J.J. Weaver	34	19	15	2	6.0	10.0 (46)

- He is the leading returning rusher in the SEC.
- His nine 100-yard rushing games in 2021 is a single-season school record.
- He currently has rushed for 100 yards or more in five consecutive games, the second-longest streak in school history.
- He has 2,740 career rushing yards, sixth place in school history and is the 10th player in school history to reach 2,000 career yards. He needs 1,134 to pass Benny Snell Jr. (3,873) and become UK's all-time leading rusher.
- He has 26 career rushing touchdowns, tied for second-most in school history with Moe Williams and Sonny Collins.
- His 29 total touchdowns rank fourth-most.
- He ranks third in yards per carry for his career (min. 200) at 6.57.
- He has 15 career 100-yard rushing games, third-most in school history.
- He has had only 13 of his 417 career carries go for negative yardage, a staggering testament to his ability to hit the hole and grind out yards.

WHITE-OUT

- Fourth-year defensive coordinator Brad White has proven to be an excellent hire after Coach Mark Stoops plucked him from the National Football League. After taking over the defense in 2019, Kentucky has steadily become more stout on that side of the ball and other programs have taken notice, as White has turned down several other coaching opportunities in that time.
- For the first time since 1986-89, UK has allowed 26 or fewer points per game in four straight seasons.
- For the first time since 1959-62 it has yielded 160 rushing yards or fewer per game for four straight seasons. In today's high-scoring offensive game the UK defense has held opponents to 30 or fewer points in 31 of his 37 games as coordinator.

IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE

- Senior inside linebacker DeAndre Square has been named one of the 51 players on the watch list for the Butkus Award, given to the nation's top linebacker since 1985. The watch list features 51 linebackers, mirroring the legendary "51" pro jersey associated with the award's namesake, Dick Butkus, who was recognized by NFL Films as the best defensive player in football history. The Butkus Award is focused on recognizing linebackers who consistently play off the ball on their feet in a two-point stance in traditional form.

GEIGER ON ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM WATCH LIST, WUERFFEL TROPHY WATCH LIST

- Junior defensive back Jalen Geiger has been nominated for the 2022 Allstate American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Good Works Team® and the Wuerffel Trophy for his community service work.

2022 CAT SCRATCHES

FRESHMAN • DB • ALEX AFARI JR.

- Born in Pordenone, Italy
- Mother, Mary Acheampong, originated from Ghana and moved to the U.S. in 2008
- Speaks fluent Twi (a dialect of the Akan language spoken in southern and central Ghana)
- Brother, David, is Lakota West HS's second all-time leading rusher who played two seasons at Miami (Ohio) before transferring to Northern Colorado in 2022

SOPHOMORE • DE • SAM ANAELE

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

FRESHMAN • WR • JORDAN ANTHONY

- Won the U-20 National Track 200-meter title with a personal-record 20.34 seconds
- Deemed the "fastest high schooler in the world" after finishing with a 10.14 in the 100-meters as well

SENIOR • TE • BRENDEN BATES

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

SOPHOMORE • WR • DEE BECKWITH

- Very mechanically inclined and loves to work on cars and trucks ... Currently building his own custom truck

R-FRESHMAN • P • WILSON BERRY

- Played three years of Australian rules football for Essendon's team in the Victorian Football League
- While playing footy, held down a part-time job at Grill'd, a restaurant known for preparing healthy hamburgers ... Started as a waiter before being promoted into the kitchen as a cook and then as an assistant manager
- Currently 24 years old
- Had a son, Leo, in July
- UK's third straight Australian punter, following in the footsteps of Matt Panton (2017) and Max Duffy (2018-20)
- Older brother, Jordan, played football at Eastern Kentucky and is currently a punter for the Minnesota Vikings

FRESHMAN • OL • GRANT BINGHAM

- Excellent tennis player who, along with doubles partner Brayden Pickle, advanced to Johnson Central's first regional team tennis championship

R-FRESHMAN • OL • JAGER BURTON

- Dad, Jeff, played football at Morehead State

SENIOR • DB • LONDYN CRAFT

- Dad, Douglas, played college football at Southern and went on to play seven seasons (1993-99) in the Canadian Football League ... Also saw time with the NFL's Seattle Seahawks and Indianapolis Colts

SOPHOMORE • WR • TREY DENNIS

- Dad, Harold, was a wide receiver at Kentucky from 1994-96

FRESHMAN • ILB • TOMIWA DUROJAIYE

- Dad, Bayo, originated from Nigeria



2022 CAT SCRATCHES

JUNIOR • ILB • LUKE FULTON

- Father, Jeff, played baseball at Pitt

FRESHMAN • WR • DYLAN GARY

- Father, Willie, played defensive back at Kentucky from 1997-2000 and went on to play for the St. Louis Rams in 2001
- Mother, Sam, ran track at Tennessee from 1998-2002, competing in the 100-, 200- and 400-meters

JUNIOR • DB • JALEN GEIGER

- Father, Tony, was a Chief Warrant Officer (CW3) in the United States Army for 21 years with five combat deployments, while his mom, Ramona, retired as a First Sergeant (E-8) after 25 years of service with three combat deployments in the Army

SENIOR • P • COLIN GOODFELLOW

- Earned his nursing degree in 2021

FRESHMAN • OL • KIYAUNTA GOODWIN

- Can play five instruments

FRESHMAN • OL • NIK HALL

- Father, Antonio, played for Kentucky from 2000-03 and was a two-year first-team All-SEC selection.

JUNIOR • WR • DEMARCUS HARRIS

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

SENIOR • OL • KENNETH HORSEY

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

FRESHMAN • TE • JOSH KATTUS

- Dad, Eric Kattus, was a tight end at Michigan from 1982-85 and went on to a seven-year career in the NFL, playing six years with the Cincinnati Bengals and one with the New York Jets

FRESHMAN • WR • DANE KEY

- Father, Donte Key, was a UK linebacker/defensive end from 1992-95
- Brother, Devon Key, plays for the Kansas City Chiefs

FRESHMAN • WR • COLE LANTER

- Cousin, Tod Lanter, played basketball at Kentucky from 2012-15 and uncle Bo Lanter, played basketball at Kentucky from 1979-82

SENIOR • QB • WILL LEVIS

- Comes from a family of athletes as his great-grandfather, Alva Kelley, was an All-America football player at Cornell University and won a National Championship in 1939 ... Went on to be the head football coach at Colgate University, Hobart College and Brown University
- Father, Mike, was a tight end at Denison University
- Mother, Beth Kelley Levis, was two-time All-America soccer player at Yale and has been inducted into the Connecticut Girls' Soccer Association Hall of Fame
- Uncle, David Kelley, also was an Academic All-America football player at Yale

SENIOR • WR • RAHSAAN LEWIS

- Father, Ray, played 17 seasons in the NFL and was a 13-time Pro Bowler, 10-time All-Pro, two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year, a member

COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S LONGEST ACTIVE TENURED FBS HEAD COACHES

1998

1. Dec. 2, Kirk Ferentz, Iowa

2004

2. Dec. 9, Kyle Whittingham, Utah

2005

3. Jan. 3, Mike Gundy, Okla. State
4. Dec. 12, Rick Stockstill, MT

2006

5. July 7, Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern
6. Dec. 22, Troy Calhoun, AF

2007

7. Jan. 3, Nick Saban, Alabama
8. Dec. 8, Ken Niumatalolo, Navy

2008

9. Oct. 13, Dabo Swinney, Clemson

2011

10. Jan. 13, David Shaw, Stanford

2012

11. Nov. 27, Mark Stoops, UK
12. Dec. 1, Dave Doeren, N.C. State

Mark Stoops is the second-longest tenured coach in the SEC behind Alabama's Nick Saban. He is the 11th-longest tenured coach in the nation (see chart above).

- Geiger, a product of Columbia, South Carolina, grew up in a military family as his dad, Tony, was a Chief Warrant Officer (CW3) in the United States Army for 21 years with five combat deployments, while his mom, Ramona, retired as a First Sergeant (E-8) after 25 years of service with three combat deployments in the Army. Due to his parents' military service, Jalen attended six different schools from kindergarten through 12th grade. He knows a thing or two about what it feels like to be the new kid in class and how hard it can be to make new friends. Because of his background, Jalen has a passion for helping elementary school-age kids so they don't feel alone and he uses his platform as a football player to help kids in need. In 2021, he found a mentorship opportunity at Liberty Elementary in Lexington, Kentucky. He visited the school on several occasions, playing with the kids and talking to them about learning and trusting their teachers. He will continue that work in 2022 with plans to talk more to the kids about anti-bullying and being kind to one another
- When asked by the principal about working hard for Coach Stoops, he said, "He (Jalen) works hard because Coach Stoops believes in him and knows what he is capable of accomplishing. He related it back to trusting your teachers and working hard for them because they want you to be your best. Jalen is quiet in nature, but what he says really resonates with my students."
- Other community service events Jalen has volunteered for include: Real Men Read (2021) – Volunteered to read to a group of first graders at Yates Elementary three times during the season; Citrus Bowl Volunteer Project (2021) – Volunteered to mentor children in the Orlando area at an amusement park ... Paired up with one of the students and began a friendship with him and talked to him about the importance of school because he was not doing well in the classroom; God's Pantry (2020) - Volunteered to pack food bags for food insecurity elementary students in the Lexington area to take home for the weekends; Lighthouse Ministries (2020) – Volunteered to prepare, clean and serve meals to the homeless; Belk Bowl Volunteer Project (2020) – Volunteered to pack food bags for people in the Charlotte area with food and/or home insecurities in the community.
- On the field, the 6-foot-1, 197-pounder, played in all 13 games last season with two starting assignments. He totaled 18 tackles, a tackle for loss, a quarterback hurry, a pass breakup and an interception for a touchdown.

J.J. WEAVER IS MAKING AN "IMPACT"

- Junior outside linebacker J.J. Weaver is one of 42 candidates on the 2022 Lott IMPACT Trophy Watch List, the only major college football award that considers character.
- Named after NFL Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott, The Lott Trophy annually goes to the Defensive IMPACT Player of the Year, a player who has had the biggest impact on his team both on and off the field. IMPACT stands for Integrity, Maturity, Performance, Academics, Community and Tenacity, all characteristics exhibited by Lott during his illustrious playing career.



- Last season, Weaver earned six starting assignments and totaled 34 tackles, 10.0 tackles for loss (second on the team), a team-high 6.0 sacks, four quarterback hurries, two interceptions, one forced fumble and one pass breakups. He was named third-team All-SEC by Phil Steele.
- He was having a breakout freshman campaign with 33.5 tackles and 6.5 tackles for a loss through nine games of the 2020 season when he suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee at Florida. Despite missing the final two games, he still earned All-SEC Freshman Team honors. That injury was just one part of a very difficult year for Weaver, who also lost his father to homicide and then in the fall of 2021 lost his beloved high school coach, Rob Reader, to liver cancer. As a result, his challenging off-season included both the rehabilitation of his knee and undergoing counseling to deal with his grief. Both were successful as he returned to the field with a strong knee and a clear mind. He was named the Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award and was a Capital One Orange Bowl Courage Award nominee in 2021 because of his resolve on and off the field.
- Another interesting note about Weaver is that he has polydactyly, a condition in which a person has more than five fingers or toes on one, or on each, hand or foot. Weaver plays with six functioning fingers on his right hand. He now not only uses his platform to speak to elementary school kids on the importance of mental health but also how to embrace being different.

COACHING CHANGES

- Rich Scangarello was named Kentucky's new offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach on Feb. 25. Scangarello coached seven years in the NFL and 15 in the collegiate ranks. He arrived in Kentucky fresh off a run to the NFC Championship game with the San Francisco 49ers. He replaced Liam Coen who left to be the offensive coordinator for the Los Angeles Rams.
- Zach Yenser was named UK's new offensive line coach on Feb. 22. He came to UK after three seasons with the 49ers. Prior to that, he spent three seasons at Kansas (2015-17) as the run game coordinator/offensive line coach and had coaching stints at Southern Methodist (2018), California (2013-14), Louisiana Tech (2010-12), Colquitt County High School (2009) and Henderson State (2008). He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater Troy University in 2007, working with special teams and the offensive lineman under former Wildcat and beloved UK assistant coach John Schlarman. He replaced Eric Wolford, who left to become the offensive line coach at Alabama.
- Mike Stoops was hired on Jan. 18, 2022 as Kentucky's new inside linebackers coach. He came to UK after spending the 2021 season as the defensive coordinator and safeties coach at Florida Atlantic. Prior to that he spent two seasons (2019 and 2020) at Alabama as an analyst on Nick Saban's staff, highlighted by the 2020 national championship. He also was the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Oklahoma from 2012-18 and was the head coach at Arizona from 2004-11. He had a first term at Oklahoma from 1999-2003, including the 2000 national championship season. He replaced Jon Sumrall, who left to become the head coach at Troy. Mike is the brother of head coach Mark Stoops. They coached together at Arizona as Mark served as defensive coordinator.

CATS IN THE NFL DRAFT

- Kentucky had four selections in the 2022 NFL Draft - Wan'Dale Robinson (2nd round, New York Giants), Josh Paschal (2nd, Detroit Lions), Luke Fortner (3rd, Jacksonville Jaguars) and Darian Kinnard (5th, Kansas City Chiefs).
- In total, 22 players have been drafted under head coach Mark Stoops since 2013, including 13 defensive players in Avery Williamson, Bud Dupree, Za'Darius Smith, Josh Forrest, Josh Allen, Lonnie Johnson, Mike Edwards, Jamin Davis, Kelvin Joseph, Quinton Bohanna, Brandin Echols and Josh Paschal.
- Kentucky has totaled four or more players selected in the first five rounds three times in school history, including twice in the last four years under Coach Mark Stoops: 2022, 2019, 1966.

KENTUCKY'S YOUNGSTOWN BOYS

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

2022 CAT SCRATCHES

of the NFL 2000s All-Decade Team, two-time Super Bowl champion and Super Bowl XXXV MVP, as well as a two-time All-American at the University of Miami

SOPHOMORE • ILB • CONNER LONG

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

SENIOR • OL • TASHAWN MANNING

- During his senior year of high school, was diagnosed with acute promyelocytic leukemia ... After eight months of chemotherapy, he was declared cancer-free on July 10, 2016

FRESHMAN • OLB • NOAH MATTHEWS

- Mom, Christel, threw the discus at Delaware State from 1992-96

SENIOR • LS • JORDAN MORROW

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

SENIOR • ILB • WILL NALTY

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

JUNIOR • DT • OCTAVIOUS OXENDINE

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

SOPHOMORE • OL • LUCAS PADGETT

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

JUNIOR • LS • CLAY PERRY

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

SOPHOMORE • DB • ANDRU PHILLIPS

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

FRESHMAN • DB • BRADY PIERCE

- Father, Chris, was a punter/kicker at Southern Miss (1994-96); mother, Andrea, was a softball player (second base) at Notre Dame (1992-96); Brother, Andrew, is currently a defensive back at Mount St. Joseph

R-FRESHMAN • OL • PAUL RODRIGUEZ

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

SENIOR • K • MATT RUFFOLO

- Graduated in 2022 with his MBA and is working on a second master's degree in finance
- Nicknamed the "spicy Italian meatball"

FRESHMAN • K • JACKSON SMITH

- Son of former Wildcat punter Andy Smith (1997-99), an All-SEC punter whose 42.7-yard average in 1999 was, at the time, the third-best single-season mark in school history



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), **Mike Stoops** – Inside Linebackers Coach (Cardinal Mooney) **Vince Marrow** - Recruiting Coord./Tight Ends (Cardinal Mooney), **Frank Buffano** - Safeties (Cardinal Mooney), **Courtney Love** - Grad Assistant (Cardinal Mooney), **Luke Fulton** - Junior, inside linebacker (Cardinal Mooney) and **Sean O'Horo** - freshman, running back (Boardman).

OFFENSIVE PREVIEW

- The Wildcats' exciting pro-style offense has a new coordinator in Rich Scangarello, who joined the Wildcats from the San Francisco 49ers and whose background in the Mike and Kyle Shanahan/Sean McVay/Liam Coen coaching tree will allow Kentucky to keep running a similar system that set records on the field last year.
- UK football returns two of the most productive offensive players in the country in quarterback Will Levis and running back Chris Rodriguez Jr. Additionally, the elite "Big Blue Wall" offensive line figures to continue to maintain physicality at the line of scrimmage that has defined the "blue collar" identity head coach Mark Stoops has built the recent success of Kentucky football upon.
- Five offensive starters return in 2022 in Levis, Rodriguez Jr., tight end Brenden Bates and offensive linemen Eli Cox and Kenneth Horsey. Other key returning offensive players with starting experience are tight ends Keaton Upshaw (sat out last season with injury) and Izayah Cummings and wide receiver DeMarcus Harris.
- UK averaged 218.6 passing yards and 199.5 rushing yards per game last season. The impressive balance led the unit to average 6.41 yards per play (5,527 in 862 plays) for the season. The number is the second-highest yards per play average for a single-season in school history behind the 6.45 in 1998 with Tim Couch at the helm of Hal Mumme's "Air Raid."
- UK's offense steadily improved throughout the season before exploding in the month of November, averaging 560.8 total yards per game in those four contests. The total was the highest of any Power Five team and second nationally only to Kent State (564.0) for that time period.
- The offense had the highest 4+ yard rushing percentage of any team in nation, a hat tip to the offensive line (source: SportSource Analytics). The Wildcats ranked fourth in the SEC in rushing yards per attempt with a 5.23 average.
- The 32.3 points per game in '21 ranked fourth in school single-season history.

QUARTERBACKS

- During Stoops' tenure, the Wildcats have had nine different starting quarterbacks win a game in Jalen Whitlow, Maxwell Smith, Patrick Towles, Drew Barker, Stephen Johnson, Luke Wright, Lynn Bowden Jr., Terry Wilson and Will Levis.
- Scangarello, known as the "quarterback guru" by some, will have four quarterbacks to mold this fall. **Levis** is the clear starter after earning the starting spot early in fall camp last season. He had a sensational junior year, completing 233 of 353 passes (66 percent) for 2,837 yards and 24 touchdowns. He ranked sixth in the SEC in passing yards per game (217.5) and seventh in total offense (246.4).

BURTON ELECTED TO UK ATHLETICS HOF

The University of Kentucky Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022 was announced in July, with Jim Andrews (men's basketball), Derek Bryant (baseball), Dezerea Bryant (women's track and field), **Keenan Burton (football)**, Mike Lyden (swimming and diving) and Kelsey Nunley-Moore (softball) chosen for induction.

The new Hall of Famers will be inducted during Hall of Fame Weekend on November 10-12.

KEENAN BURTON, FOOTBALL, 2003-07

Great pass receiver and kickoff returner who also won awards for his outstanding character ... Finished his career fourth in school history in pass receptions (189), second in UK history for receiving yardage (2,376) and TD catches (25) ... Three-year All-SEC honoree, including first-team honors as a junior ... Led UK in pass receiving as a junior and senior as the Wildcats posted consecutive wins in the 2006 and '07 Music City Bowls ... Set UK career record for kickoff return average (25.6-yard average, min. 50 returns) ... Named to the UK Athletics Society of Character, the SEC Community Service Team and the SEC Academic Honor Roll ... Played two years in the NFL before sustaining a career-ending injury.



- Redshirt freshman Kaiya Sheron has a year under his belt learning the offense as a redshirt. Sophomore Deuce Hogan enters his first season at Kentucky after transferring from Iowa. Freshman and Tennessee's Mr. Football Destin Wade has arrived and looks to get in the mix.
- Levis finds himself surrounded by a lot of new faces with only three returning starters joining him from last year's offense in running back Chris Rodriguez Jr., and offensive linemen Kenneth Horsey and Eli Cox. Tight end Brenden Bates also has some experience with seven starts, while tight end Izayah Cummings and wide receiver DeMarcus Harris started one game each.



RUNNING BACKS

- Veteran running backs coach John Settle is entering his second season at UK after spending the previous six seasons and 11 years total at Wisconsin.
- The SEC's top returning rusher is senior Chris Rodriguez Jr. Last season, he was named First-Team All-SEC by the Associated Press after totaling 1,379 rushing yards (fifth on UK's single-season list). He ranked second in the SEC and 12th nationally, averaging 106.1 yards per game. He was seventh in the SEC in all-purpose yards (110.8). His nine 100-yard rushing games in 2021 were a single-season school record.
- Rodriguez Jr. currently ranks sixth on UK's all-time rushing list with 2,740 yards. He needs just 1,134 more yards to pass Benny Snell Jr. as UK's all-time leading rusher.
- Rodriguez has proven nearly impossible to bring down behind the line of scrimmage, having lost yardage on just 13 of his 417 career rushing attempts. In 2020, he lost yards on his first attempt of the season before starting a streak of 105 consecutive carries of positive yards.
- Rodriguez has scored a touchdown once every 16.0 rush attempts in his career (26 in 417 attempts). By comparison, UK all-time leading rusher and scorer Benny Snell Jr. hit paydirt once every 15.4 rush attempts.
- Also looking for more reps are senior **Kavosiey Smoke**, junior **Mike Drennen**, junior **JuTahn McClain** and redshirt freshman **La'Veil Wright**.
- Smoke has played in 34 career games and has 1,306 career yards. He had 81 carries for 416 yards and four scores in 2021, averaging 5.1 per carry. He had a career-high 104 yards in the win over LSU.
- McClain has seen action in 20 career games. In 2021, he saw action in nine games and had 34 rushes for 165 yards (4.8 yards per carry) along with six receptions for 42 yards and a score.
- Drennen, who switched from wide receiver to running back during fall camp, saw action in six games in 2021, totaling 21 yards on seven carries.
- Wright played in four games as a true freshman but impressed in his limited playing time. He had four carries for 119 yards and one score, a 41-yard jaunt at Louisville.
- UK has three fullbacks on the roster in seniors **Justice Dingle**, **Dillon Wheatley** and **Jack Varga**. Dingle, who transferred from Georgia Tech in the spring of last year, moved to fullback after playing last season at outside

linebacker. He brings another dimension to the position with his size and bruising north-south style of running.

WIDE RECEIVERS

- Second-year wide receivers coach Scott Woodward has 16 wide receivers, and it includes some experience but is mostly young talent looking for an increased role.
- Gone are Kentucky's two top receivers from last year in Wan'Dale Robinson and Josh Ali. Robinson set single-season school records with 104 catches for 1,334 yards.
- The top returning wide receiver from last season is junior **DeMarcus Harris** who caught 12 passes for 150 yards and one score. Junior **Rahsaan Lewis** saw action in just six games early in the season but missed time due to injury. He had two catches for four yards. Sophomore **Tae Tae Crumes** played in four games and had one catch for 10 yards.
- Woodward has nine new faces in his receivers room this fall. Three players arrived in January as mid-year enrollees in freshman Dane Key, freshman Cole Lanter and senior Virginia Tech transfer Tayvion Robinson.
- **Key**, a four-star prospect, was named the Class 5A Player of the Year after an outstanding senior season at Fredrick Douglass High School in Lexington with 959 receiving yards and nine touchdowns.
- **Lanter** accepted a preferred walk-on position after a stellar high school career at Boyle County High School. He combined for 2,253 receiving yards and 35 receiving touchdowns, including 78 catches for 1,288 yards and 21 receiving touchdowns as a senior. His 21 receiving touchdowns and 78 receptions led the state and were school records. His 1,288 receiving yards ranked second in the state.
- **Robinson** comes to the Bluegrass after three seasons and 36 games at Virginia Tech. He compiled 113 receptions for 1,555 yards and nine touchdowns (eight receiving, one punt return TD) in his career as a Hokie.
- Other newcomers are Tennessee transfer Dee Beckwith and true freshmen Jordan Anthony, Barion Brown and Brandon White. Anthony and White are known as two of the fastest high schoolers in the sport of track.
- Redshirting in 2021 and looking to make an impact this season are freshmen **Dekel Crowdus** and **Chris Lewis**.
- Kentucky had 12 different players (wide receivers, running backs and tight ends) catch

2022 CAT SCRATCHES

SENIOR • K • JACKSON SMITH

- Son of former Wildcat punter Andy Smith (1997-99)

FRESHMAN • DB • KEIDRON SMITH

- Mother, Deirdre, played basketball at UCF; father, Alonzo, played basketball at Savannah State; sister, Kaylon, is currently a senior forward on the Vanderbilt women's basketball team

FRESHMAN • WR • JOSH TERRELL

- Father, Scott, was a receiver at Howard Payne University

SOPHOMORE • ILB • MARTEZ THROWER

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

JUNIOR • S • VITO TISDALE

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

JUNIOR • DB • CARRINGTON VALENTINE

- Sister, Shala, played basketball at UMass Lowell and brother, Jerrick, played soccer at Bellermine

SENIOR • FB • JACK VARGA

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

SOPHOMORE • ILB • TREVIN WALLACE

- Uncle, Robert Bryanta, was a linebacker at Oklahoma from 2009-11

FRESHMAN • WR • BRANDON WHITE

- Timed as fast as 4.28 seconds in the 40-yard dash
- Mother, Jeanita, played basketball at Mississippi State, while dad, Ben, was a running back at Mississippi State

JUNIOR • OLB • J.J. WEAVER

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

SOPHOMORE • OLB • JAI WILLIAMS

- Father, James, also known as "Big Cat," played 12 seasons (1991-2002), mostly as an offensive tackle, with the Chicago Bears and is known as one of the "100 Greatest Bears of All-Time"

JUNIOR • DB • JOEL WILLIAMS

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

SENIOR • C • QUINTIN WILSON

- Graduated in December of 2020 with a degree in management ... Completed his bachelor's degree in two and one-half years with the help of advanced placement credits earned in high school ... Earned his MBA in 2022 and is currently working on a second master's degree in sport leadership
- Didn't start playing football until his freshman year of high school

R-FRESHMAN • OL • DAVID WOHLABAUGH JR.

- Father, Dave, played at Syracuse and went on to a nine-year NFL career with New England (1995-98), Cleveland (1999-2002) and St. Louis (2003) ... Also a member of the 1995 All-Rookie Team, played in the 1997 Super Bowl, and started all 128 games of his NFL career ... Teammate with former Kentucky quarterback Tim Couch with the Cleveland Browns
- Brother, Jack, was center at Duke from 2018-21



WE'RE GOING STREAKIN'

Kentucky's victory over Iowa in the Vrbo Citrus Bowl extended its non-conference winning streak to 16 games, the longest active streak in FBS. The Cats previously were tied with Iowa.

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

UK also is tied for the longest active bowl winning streak with four straight victories:

Streak	Team
4	Kentucky, Texas*

(*Texas did not appear in a bowl game following the 2021 season)

two or more passes in 2021 and seven of them return in 2022.

TIGHT ENDS

- Tight ends coach Vince Marrow once again has one of the most experienced and talented groups on the team with Keaton Upshaw, Brenden Bates, Izayah Cummings and Jordan Dingle returning.
- The Wildcats' key loss at tight end was four-year letter winner Justin Rigg. He played in a school-record 63 career games with 35 starts, including 16 in a row, and had career totals of 50 catches for 547 yards and five scores, 10.9 yards per catch average.
- **Upshaw** returns after sitting out last season with injury. In 2020, he played in all 11 games and had 16 catches for 198 yards and three TDs, both leading the tight end corps and ranking second on the team overall.
- **Bates** played in all 13 games with six starts in 2021. He totaled 11 receptions for 70 yards and one score.
- **Cummings**, who moved to tight end from receiver in fall camp last season, still has impressive ball skills from his wide receiver days. He finished his sophomore season with 14 catches for 195 yards, 13.9 yards per catch, and three touchdowns.
- **Dingle** is coming off a redshirt season and the coaches really like his frame and potential. He saw action in four games as a true freshman and had totaled two catches for 54 yards.
- The tight ends were key blockers for UK's explosive running game, which averaged nearly 200 yards per game and ranked fifth in the SEC.

- New to the tight end room is freshman **Josh Kattus** and preferred walk-on **Jack Monday**. Kattus had 42 catches for 553 yards and one score at Archbishop Moeller in 2021. His dad is former Cincinnati Bengals tight end Eric Kattus. Monday had 36 catches for 439 yards and eight scores as a senior at Lexington Catholic.

OFFENSIVE LINE

- Zach Yenser, originally from Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, returned to his home state after three seasons with the 49ers. Prior to that, he spent three seasons at Kansas (2015-17) as the run game coordinator/offensive line coach and had coaching stints at Southern Methodist (2018), California (2013-14), Louisiana Tech (2010-12), Colquitt County High School (2009) and Henderson State (2008). He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater Troy University in 2007, working with special teams and the offensive lineman under former Wildcat and beloved UK assistant coach John Schlarman.
- The O-line, known as the "Big Blue Wall" returns two of its five starters from 2021 in Eli Cox and Kenneth Horsey.
- The three starters lost are All-American right tackle Darian Kinnard, All-SEC center Luke Fortner and All-SEC left tackle Dare Rosenthal. Fortner was drafted by the Jaguars in the third round, while Kinnard was drafted by the Chiefs in the fifth round. Along with Rosenthal, the trio combined for 38 starts on the line for the Wildcats last season.
- Another key loss was backup Austin Dotson. He saw action in 40 career games with eight starts in his four-year career. In 2021, he saw action in all 13 games with four starts at right guard.
- The O-line does return 30 career starts in 2021 in Cox with nine and Horsey 21. Auburn transfer **Tashawn Manning** has experience as well, playing in 30 career games with 21 career starts.
- **Horsey** has manned the left guard spot for two seasons and is now the Wildcats' most experienced lineman with 25 career games and 21 career starts. An interesting note about Horsey - he had open-heart surgery in April of 2018 and was named winner of the 2020 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year.
- **Cox** played at right guard in the first nine games last season before a hand injury sidelined him for the season. Prior to the injury, Cox earned Associated Press and ESPN Midseason All-America honors. He has been

described as, pound-for-pound, perhaps the strongest player on the team and because of that, and with Fortner gone at the center position, look for Cox to be a front runner for that position this year. He's already been listed on the watch list for the Outland Trophy, given to the nation's top interior lineman.

- Also looking to step in starting and supporting roles are senior Quintin Wilson, junior Jeremy Flax, sophomores R.J. Adams, Deondre Buford and John Young and redshirt freshmen Jager Burton, Paul Rodriguez and David Wohlabough. Also improving their skills are sophomores Jonathan Berry, Josh Jones and Lucas Padgett.

- In addition to Auburn transfer **Tashawn Manning**, two mid-year enrollees and Kentucky natives possess the size and athletic ability to make an immediate impact on the "Big Blue Wall." Freshman **Kiyaunta Goodwin** of Louisville was a five-star signee and the highest-ranked recruit in UK history. Standing at 6-foot-8 and 355 pounds, he was the rated as the nation's No. 25 overall recruit and the No. 4 tackle according to 247Sports. Freshman **Grant Bingham**, a 6-6, 302-pound lineman, was a four-start recruit and rated as the No. 36 offensive tackle in the country by 247Sports. His athleticism is unique for a lineman as he advanced to the state's regional tennis championship in doubles for Johnson Central High School.

- The "Big Blue Wall," along with UK tight ends, have helped Kentucky post six consecutive seasons of 2,000 or more rushing yards, with at least one 1,000-yard individual in five of those.

2016 - 3,044 (Stanley "Boom" Williams - 1,170; Benny Snell Jr. - 1,091)

2017 - 2,102 (Benny Snell Jr. - 1,333)

2018 - 2,592 (Benny Snell Jr. - 1,449)

2019 - 3,624 (Lynn Bowden Jr. - 1,468)

2020 (11-game season) - 2,158

2021 - 2,594 (Chris Rodriguez Jr. - 1,379)

DEFENSIVE PREVIEW

- Defensive coordinator Brad White is entering his fourth season as the defensive coordinator, his fifth as the outside linebackers coach at UK.
- The Cats have spent the offseason putting together the missing pieces after the departures of defensive stalwarts Josh Paschal, Marquan McCall, Yusuf Corker and Davonte Robinson.
- The good news is Kentucky's defense welcomes back 12 letterwinners, including



HONORING THE CATS

Eli Cox

- UK SAAC
- SEC Football Leadership Council

Izayah Cummings

- UK Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

Colin Goodfellow

- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

Kiyaunta Goodwin

- Preseason Freshman All-America (ESPN)

Kenneth Horsey

- Preseason Honorable mention All-America (PFN)
- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Media Days)

Will Levis

- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Media Days)
- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Coaches)

Tayvion Robinson

- Preseason Second-Team All-SEC, PR (Phil Steele)
- Third-Team All-SEC, WR (Phil Steele)

Chris Rodriguez Jr.

- Preseason Second-Team All-America (Phil Steele)
- Preseason First-Team All-SEC (Coaches)
- Preseason First-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)
- Preseason Second-Team All-SEC (Media Days)

Justin Rogers

- Preseason Fourth-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

DeAndre Square

- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

Carrington Valentine

- UK Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

Deone Walker

- Preseason Freshman All-America (247 Sports, On3.com)

J.J. Weaver

- Preseason Third-Team All-SEC (Phil Steele)

ON THE WATCH LISTS

Brenden Bates

- Reese's Senior Bowl

Eli Cox

- Outland Trophy

Jalen Geiger

- Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
- Wuerffel Trophy

Colin Goodfellow

- Ray Guy Award
- William V. Capmbell Trophy

Kenneth Horsey

- Reese's Senior Bowl

Jacquez Jones

- Reese's Senior Bowl

Will Levis

- Davey O'Brien Award
- Manning Award
- Maxwell Trophy
- Walter Camp Player of the Year
- CFP National Performer of the Year
- Reese's Senior Bowl
- Johnny Unitas Golden Arm

Tashawn Manning

- Reese's Senior Bowl

Tayvion Robinson

- Reese's Senior Bowl

Chris Rodriguez Jr.

- Maxwell Trophy
- Walter Camp Player of the Year
- Reese's Senior Bowl

DeAndre Square

- Butkus Award
- Reese's Senior Bowl

Keaton Upshaw

- Reese's Senior Bowl

J.J. Weaver

- Lott IMPACT Award

Jordan Wright

- Reese's Senior Bowl

six starters in **DB Tyrell Ajian**, **ILB Jacquez Jones**, **WLB DeAndre Square**, **DB Carrington Valentine**, **OLB J.J. Weaver** and **LB Jordan Wright**.

- Despite injuries to key players on defense throughout the 2021 season, the Wildcats ranked fourth in the SEC in scoring defense (21.7 points per game) and yardage allowed (just 340.7 yards per game). UK's total defense has ranked in the Top 5 of the SEC for three straight seasons.



COUCH ON THE BALLOT

Former Kentucky quarterback Tim Couch has been named to the 2023 ballot for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame, the National Football Foundation (NFF) & College Hall of Fame announced. Couch is one of 80 players and nine coaches from the Football Bowl Subdivision and 96 players and 33 coaches from the divisional ranks.

A storied name of the Kentucky program, Couch, was the team's quarterback from 1996-98. After giving up his senior season of eligibility, he was drafted as the No. 1 pick by Cleveland in the 1999 NFL Draft. In 1998, the junior quarterback was named a first-team All-American and consensus Southeastern Conference Player of the Year. Couch completed 400 of 553 passes for 4,275 yards and 36 touchdowns and led the nation in pass completions while ranked second in completion percentage, passing yardage and touchdown passes, and fourth in total offense. After guiding the Wildcats to the Outback Bowl, UK's first New Year's Day bowl appearance in 47 years, Couch finished fourth in Heisman Trophy balloting. He was also a finalist for the Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award as a junior and sophomore. His breakout sophomore campaign featured 363 of 547 passes completed for 3,884 yards and 37 touchdowns while leading the nation in pass attempts, completions, yardage, and completion percentage. Also during his sophomore year, Couch earned second-team All-SEC honors and finished ninth in Heisman voting. He played in seven games as a true freshman, with two starts. Career wise, Couch completed 795 passes on 1,184 attempts for 8,435 yards and 74 touchdowns. The legend ended his career with seven NCAA records, 14 SEC records, and 26 school records.

Couch, also a standout at Leslie County High School in Hyden, Kentucky, was inducted into the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) National High School Hall of Fame in 2021.

DEFENSIVE LINE

- Former Wildcat Anwar Stewart is in his third season coaching the defensive line. Three starters are gone from 2021, including two who are currently on NFL rosters in nose guard Marquan McCall (Panthers) and defensive



end Josh Paschal (Lions). Abule Abadi-Fitzgerald also had nine starts last season and totaled 12 tackles and 2.5 tackles for loss.

- With Paschal drafted in the second round of the NFL Draft by the Detroit Lions, Stewart has now produced three NFL Draft choices in the last three seasons. Quinton Bohanna was a sixth-round pick by the Dallas Cowboys and Phil Hoskins was a seventh-round pick by the Panthers, both of whom earned a spot on their teams in 2021.
- Three key returnees are **Josaih Hayes** (saw action in all 13 games with one start at nose guard), **Octavious Oxendine** (played in six games with three starts at tackle before injury), **Justin Rogers** (played in all 13 games with four starts at nose guard) and **Tre'vonn Rybka** (played in 12 games with one start at defensive end).
- Redshirt freshmen **Jamarius Dinkins** and **Kahlil Saunders** are working hard for more playing time this season. Dinkins saw action in three games last season, while Saunders got in four games. Both have the physical attributes to compete in the SEC as Dinkins is 6-foot-5 and 296 pounds and Saunders is 6-5 and 287 pounds.
- Key losses on the defensive line are Paschal and McCall. Paschal totaled 37 career TFL and 13.5 sacks, along with three blocked kicks in his career. He ranks tied for third on the school's all-time TFL list. In 2021, Paschal, who earned second-team All-America and first-team All-SEC honors, led the team in tackles for loss (15.5) and quarterback hurries (8). McCall finished with nine tackles, 3.5 for loss and two QBH in '21. He missed three games because of an ankle injury but returned to be a force in the middle at nose guard.
- Working to see more playing time is sophomore **Sam Anaele** along with senior walk-ons **Alex Bascom**, **Richard Bascom** and junior **Isaiah Beasley**.
- New additions are Ohio State transfer **Darrion Henry-Young** and freshmen **Tomiwa Durojaiye** and **Deone Walker**. Henry-Young was a four-star prospect coming out of high school and went on to play two seasons for the Buckeyes but saw action in just four games at defensive end. Durojaiye has a lot of potential and room for growth. He has drawn some lofty comparisons to former UK All-American and defensive Player of the Year Josh Allen with his size and body frame. Durojaiye was named the 2021 Delaware 3A Defensive Player of the Year. Walker, a four-star prospect, from Detroit, has the size at 6-foot-6, 330-pounds to make an impact immediately.

SECONDARY

- The secondary unit is in the hands of two of the most energetic and talented young coaches in Chris Collins (defensive backs) and Frank Buffano (safeties).
- UK has ranked in the top four of the SEC in pass defense in three of the last four seasons, including leading the league in both 2019 and 2020.
- UK has four key veterans to replace, three who totaled 17 or more starts in their career. They are defensive back Cedrick Dort, Jr. (44 career games, 26 career starts), defensive back Quandre Mosely (36 career games, four career starts), safety Yusuf Corker (49 career games, 36 career starts) and safety Davonte Robinson (49 career games, 17 career starts).
- Another big loss came early in spring practice when junior and top returning nickelback **Vito Tisdale** went down with knee injury. He will miss the entire 2022 season. He played in nine games with two starting nods in '21, totaling 21 tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss. Junior defensive

CATS IN THE PROS

A total of 25 former Kentucky Wildcats are currently on National Football League rosters or practice squads with additional players in the CFL. Here is the list, along with their years at UK (as of August 31, 2022):
([^]practice squad)

Atlanta Falcons

Josh Ali, WR (2017-2021)[^]

Carolina Panthers

Phil Hoskins, DT (2017-18, 2020)
Marquan McCall, DT (2018-21)

Cincinnati Bengals

Yusuf Corker, S (2018-21)[^]

Dallas Cowboys

Quinton Bohanna, NT (2017-20)
Kelvin Joseph, DB (2020)

Detroit Lions

Josh Paschal, DE (2017-21)
Logan Stenberg, OG (2016-19)

Green Bay Packers

Randall Cobb, WR (2008-10)

Jacksonville Jaguars

Josh Allen, DE/LB (2015-18)
Luke Fortner, C (2017-21)

Kansas City Chiefs

Darian Kinnard, OT (2018-21)

Minnesota Vikings

Za'Darius Smith, OLB (2013-14)

New England Patriots

Lynn Bowden Jr., WR (2017-19)[^]

New Orleans Saints

Landon Young, OT (2016-17, 19-20)

New York Giants

Wan'Dale Robinson, WR (2021)

New York Jets

Brandin Echols, CB (2019-20)

Pittsburgh Steelers

Benny Snell Jr., RB (2016-18)
Justin Rigg, TE (2016-21)[^]

Seattle Seahawks

Quandre Mosely, DB (2019-2021)[^]

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Mike Edwards, S (2015-2018)

Tennessee Titans

Bud Dupree, OLB (2011-14)
Lonnie Johnson Jr., CB (2017-18)

Washington Commanders

Jamin Davis, ILB (2018-20)
Jon Toth, OC (2013-16)[^]

OTHER CATS IN NFL ROLES

Assistant General Manager, Las Vegas Raiders

Champ Kelly, WR/DB (1998-2001)

San Francisco 49ers, Director of Player Engagement

Austin Moss, DE (2006-09)

CATS IN THE CFL

Derrick Baity Jr. (EDM) and Micah Johnson (HAM)



back Taj Dodson will miss some of spring practice with a shoulder injury.

- Two key starters return in “Super Senior” **Tyrell Ajian** (48 career games, 23 career starts) and junior **Carrington Valentine** (started in 12 games in ‘21). Ajian had 46 tackles, four pass breakups and one interception as a safety in 2021, while Valentine ranked fourth on the team last season with 61 tackles and added five pass breakups, 1.5 tackles for loss and one quarterback hurry.
- Another key returnee is junior **Jalen Geiger** (13 games and two starts in ‘21) who made his first career start on Nov. 13, 2021 at Vanderbilt and made it memorable with a 31-yard interception return for a touchdown. He finished the season with 18 tackles, one tackle for loss, one pass breakup and one quarterback hurry.
- Collins and Buffano have a group of young talent to mold and shape in sophomore **Andru Phillips** (9 games with three tackles in ‘21) and redshirt freshmen **Maxwell Hairston** and **Jordan Lovett**.
- Nine new defensive backs will don the Blue and White this fall. True freshmen **Alex Afari Jr.**, **Kobi Albert**, **Elijah Reed** and **Andre Stewart** along with walk-on **Brady Pierce** will team up with Texas State transfer **Zion Childress**, Mississippi State transfer **Londyn Craft**, Livingstone College transfer **Jordan Robinson** and Ole Miss transfer **Keidron Smith**. Smith comes with great experience, totaling 224 tackles, five interceptions and five forced fumbles during his time with the Rebels.
- Reed and Robinson have similar stories in that both have only played the DB position for about a year. Reed is a raw talent who opted to reclassify and take an extra year at Pleasure Ridge Park in Louisville. He also opted to change positions, moving from wide receiver to cornerback as a senior at PRP. The position switch paid off and Reed’s upside is huge. Robinson also switched to DB his senior year of high school but only played in four games before COVID-19 shut his season down. He played in 10 games as a DB last season at Livingstone College, a Division II school in N.C.

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

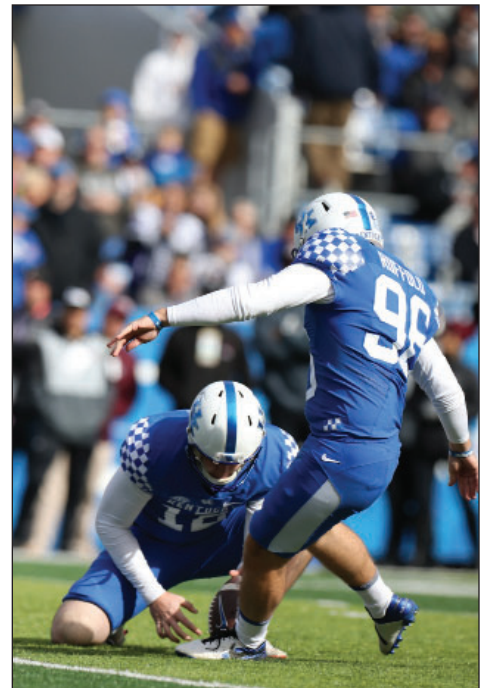
- Only two letterwinners return for Brad White’s outside linebackers group in junior **J.J. Weaver** and “Super Senior” **Jordan Wright** but the duo’s experience and leadership should make a huge impact on and off the field for

the defense. Weaver and Wright have played in a combined 66 games with 19 starting assignments between them.

- Wright and Weaver both had outstanding seasons in 2021 -- Wright with 30 tackles, four tackles for loss, six pass breakups and a sack, while Weaver had 34 tackles, 10.0 tackles for loss, a team-high 6.0 sacks, four quarterback hurries, two interceptions, a forced fumble and a pass breakup. Weaver was named one of the three award winners for the 2021 Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year, returning to play after sitting out the 2020 season with an ACL injury. He was named third-Team All-SEC by Phil Steele and is an absolute playmaker.
- Wright saw limited action in the spring after undergoing shoulder surgery in January but is ready to go for the fall.
- Sophomore **Jai Williams** was added to the outside linebackers group after moving from tight end. He’s still developing but at 6-foot-5 he has a good frame and he played the position in high school. He’s also a tough, hard-nosed player that was a wrestler and played on his high school’s rugby team. Williams is the son of James Williams, also known as “Big Cat” who played 12 seasons on the offensive line for the Chicago Bears.
- True freshmen **Tyrese Fearbry**, **Noah Matthews** and **Keaten Wade** are young but have the body frames and potential to make an impact early.

INSIDE LINEBACKERS

- The inside linebackers have a new coach in Mike Stoops. He replaced former Wildcat Jon Sumrall who left UK after three seasons to become the head coach at Troy. Stoops most recently was at Florida Atlantic where he spent the 2021 season as the defensive coordinator and safeties coach. Prior to that he spent two seasons (2019 and 2020) at Alabama as an analyst on Nick Saban’s staff, highlighted by the 2020 national championship. He also was the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Oklahoma from 2012-18 and was the head coach at Arizona from 2004-11. He had a first term at Oklahoma from 1999-2003, including the 2000 national championship season.
- The inside linebackers are led by two returning “Super Seniors” and starters in **Jacquez Jones** and **DeAndre Square**.
- **Jones**, who transferred last year after three seasons at Ole Miss, started every game for the Wildcats in 2021 and led the team with



86 tackles. He made three huge plays in pass defense -- an interception vs. Missouri, a touchdown-saving pass breakup vs. Chattanooga and game-saving tipped pass to seal the Florida win. He also had a career-high 18 tackles at Mississippi State. All totaled, Jones is on track to reach the 300-tackle club as he has 268 in his career.

- **Square** (49 career games, 35 career starts) was third-leading tackler in 2021 with 80 tackles, including 9.5 tackles for loss and 3.0 sacks. He also had three quarterback hurries. Square hauled in the game-winning interception in the Vrbo Citrus Bowl vs. Iowa.
- Junior **D’Eryk Jackson** has an impressive comeback story and looks to be getting even stronger this spring. He suffered a torn Achilles tendon in last year’s spring practice and had surgery on April 13, expecting to miss the entire season. Instead, he returned to full practice activity on Oct. 28 and saw his first action of the season at Vanderbilt on Nov. 13. In four games played in ‘21, he totaled 18 tackles, a quarterback hurry and an interception.
- Sophomores **Martez Thrower** and **Trevin Wallace** are also two players to watch. Wallace solidified himself as a breakout candidate last season after helping turn the Florida game when he caught a blocked field goal in midair and raced untouched 76 yards for the go-ahead touchdown. Making his first collegiate start at Mississippi State, he notched 12 tackles and was named SEC Freshman of the Week. For the season, he has played in 12 games, had 32



tackles and was named to the Freshman All-SEC team. Thrower saw action in eight games and had six tackles and a quarterback hurry.

- Junior **Luke Fulton** saw most of his action on special teams last season. He made significant progress in the spring and provides quality depth.
- Walk-ons **Braxton Eiserman** and “Super Senior” **William Nalty** provide depth.

SPECIAL TEAMS

- Special teams are coached by running backs coach John Settle and safeties coach Frank Buffano for the second season.
- The Wildcats return all of their key specialists except their return men. They will need to replace punt returner Josh Ali and kickoff returner Zach Johnson. Looking to fill those voids are **Tayvion Robinson**, **Dekel Crowdus**, **Michael Drennen** and **JuTahn McClain**.
- “Super Senior” **Matt Ruffolo** decided to come back for his sixth and final season of eligibility. After graduating in May with his MBA, he’s currently working on a second master’s degree in finance. As UK’s starting placekicker last season, he made 10-of-13 field goals, with two misses coming on blocked kicks caused by a breakdown in protection. For his career, Ruffolo has made 26-of-32 FG and 94-of-99 PAT. Making 81 percent of his field goals places him third on UK’s career list. Ruffolo’s 54 PATs in 2021 was a UK single-season record.
- Poore handles kickoffs for the Wildcats. He also has placekicking experience, as he made 8-of-14 FGs and 32-of-34 PATs in his career.
- Freshman **Jackson Smith**, son of former Wildcat punter Andy Smith, was the top kicker/punter in the 2022 class according to ProKicker.com. He was a three-time National Specialist of the Year and he helped lead Boyle County to an impressive 52-3 overall record in his prep career.
- Competing for the punting duties are senior **Colin Goodfellow** and Aussie transplant **Wilson Berry**. Berry started the first two games of last season before being sidelined with a back injury. Goodfellow came in and didn’t miss a beat. He emerged as one of the nation’s best punters, averaging 45.9 yards per kick, which ranked the second-highest average for a season in school history. He also is on the watch list for the Ray Guy Award, given to the nation’s top punter. Against Georgia, Goodfellow had a career-long 70-yard punt and an additional 63-yarder. It is the only time in school history a

2022 TEAM CAPTAINS

Seven Wildcats – including six seniors – were voted as team captains for the 2022 football campaign. **Senior linebacker DeAndre Square joins former Wildcat Josh Paschal as the only players in school history to be elected team captain three straight seasons.** Along with Paschal, the team’s permanent season captains include returning captains Will Levis, Christopher Rodriguez Jr. and DeAndre Square, and first-time captains Kenneth Horsey, Jacquez Jones, J.J. Weaver and Jordan Wright. Game captains will be decided on a week-by-week basis. They are listed below.

vs. Miami (OH)	TBA
at Florida	TBA
vs. Youngstown State	TBA
vs. NIU	TBA
at Ole Miss	TBA
vs. South Carolina	TBA
vs. Miss. State	TBA
at Tennessee	TBA
at Missouri	TBA
vs. Vanderbilt	TBA
vs. Georgia	TBA
vs. Louisville	TBA

punter has had two punts of 63 yards or longer with one being at least 70 yards. He followed that performance by booming another 70-yard punt vs. Mississippi State, making him the first player in school history to have two punts of 70 or more yards in his career.

- Senior **Cade Degraw** enters his third season as UK’s long snapper. He primarily snaps on field goals, while junior **Clay Perry** snaps on punts.

DID YOU KNOW?

- A picture of longevity, UK Equipment Manager **Tom Kalinowski** enters his 45th season in that role. He also was a student manager in 1974-77, marking his 49th year in UK football. He has worked more than 500 consecutive games.
- UK 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 Kentucky cheerleaders have won an unprecedented 24 national cheerleading championships at the annual Universal Cheerleaders Association championships.





WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME KENTUCKY ...

Scored 40 points: 52 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Scored 50 points: 52 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Scored 60 points: 62 vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Scored 70 points: 77 vs. Texas El-Paso, Sept. 7, 2002
 Scored 80 points: 83 vs. North Dakota, Nov. 18, 1950
 Shut Out an Opponent: vs. Miami (42-0), Sept. 5, 2009
 Shut Out an Opponent in the 1st half: vs. LSU, Oct. 9, 2021
 Shut Out an SEC Opponent in the 1st half in consecutive games: at Georgia, Oct. 19, and vs. Missouri, Oct. 26, 2019
 Did Not Allow an Offensive Point: vs. Miss. State, Oct. 10, 2020 (24-2 win)
 Game is scoreless at the half: at Georgia, Oct. 19, 2019
 Shut Out an Opponent in the 2nd half: at Tennessee, Oct. 17, 2020
 Scored a TD on first series: vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Scored on first play from scrimmage of game: at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 25 First Downs: 29 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Had 30 First Downs: 35 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021
 Had 250 yards rushing: 362 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Had 300 yards rushing: 362 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Had 400 yards rushing: 408 vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020
 Had 500 yards rushing: 517 vs. Louisville, Nov. 30, 2019 (SCHOOL RECORD)
 Had consecutive 400-yard rushing games: 401 at Vanderbilt (11/16/19), 462 vs. UT Martin (11/23/19) and 517 vs. Louisville (11/30/19)
 Had below 50 yards rushing: 48 vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013
 Had 300 yards passing: 459 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had 400 yards passing: 459 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had below 50 yards passing: 47 at Missouri, Oct. 24, 2020
 Had 300 yards rushing and passing: (381/311) vs. New Mexico St., Sept. 17, 2016
 Had 500 yards total offense: 511 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Had 600 yards total offense: 707 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had 700 yards total offense: 707 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had below 200 yards total offense: 179 at Alabama, Nov. 21, 2020
 Held opp. below 100 yards rushing: 96, at Vanderbilt, Nov. 13, 2021
 Held opp. below 50 yards rushing: 58, at South Carolina, Sept. 25, 2021
 Held opp. below 100 yards passing: 70, vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Held opponent below 200 yards total offense: 87 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Held opp. below 100 yards total offense: 87 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Had 10 or more tackles for loss: 14.0 vs ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Had six or more sacks: 6.0 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Recorded a safety: vs. UT Martin, Nov. 23, 2019
 Recorded zero penalties: vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009
 Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 34 by Lynn Bowden Jr. vs. Virginia Tech (Belk Bowl), Dec. 31, 2019
 Had a player rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (107), vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had two players rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (121) and Will Levis (113) at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021
 Had three players rush for 100 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (133), Terry Wilson (129), A.J. Rose(117) vs. Ole Miss; Oct. 3, 2020 (ONLY TIME AT UK)
 Had 2 players rush for 175 yards or more: Benny Snell (192) and Boom Williams (182) vs. Missouri, Oct. 29, 2016
 Had 2 players rush for 100 yards or more in consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. and Lynn Bowden Jr. at Vanderbilt (11/16/19); Bowden and A.J. Rose vs. UT Martin (11/23/19), Bowden and Rodriguez Jr. vs. Louisville (11/30/19)
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (121) at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021 and Chris Rodriguez Jr. (107), vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had a player rush for 100 yards in three consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr., 119 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021; 121 at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021 and Chris Rodriguez Jr. (107), vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had player rush for 100 yards in four consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2021)
 Had player rush for 100 yards in five consecutive games: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (2021)
 Had a true freshman rush for 100 yards: 152 by Benny Snell Jr. vs. Austin Peay, Nov. 19, 2016
 Had a player rush for 200 yards: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (207) vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021
 Had 4 players with 50+ yards rushing in the same game: 4 vs. UT Martin, Nov. 23, 2019
 Had a player with 3 rushing touchdowns: 4 by Will Levis at Louisville, Nov. 27, 2021

Had a player with 50 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012
 Had a player with 60 pass attempts: 60 by Maxwell Smith, vs. WKU, Sept. 15, 2012
 Had a player with 30 pass completions: 31 by Will Levis, vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021
 Had a player with 300 passing yards: 419 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had a player with 400 passing yards: 419 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had 2 players pass for 100 yards: Maxwell Smith (109), Jalen Whitlow (105) vs. Louisville, Sept. 14, 2013
 Had a player with 3 or more touchdowns passes: 4 by Will Levis, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had a player with 2 passing touchdowns and 2 rushing touchdowns: Patrick Towles, vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 25, 2014
 Had a player with 10+ receptions: 10 by Wan'Dale Robinson vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had a player with 100 yards receiving in a game: 170 by Wan'Dale Robinson vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had a player with consecutive 100-yard receiving games: Wan'Dale Robinson, 2 (vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021; vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021)
 Had a player with three consecutive 100-yard receiving games: Wan'Dale Robinson, 3 (vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021; vs. Missouri, Sept. 11, 2021; vs. Chattanooga, Sept. 18, 2021)
 Had 2 players with 100 yards receiving: 181 by Wan'Dale Robinson and 164 by Josh Ali, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had a player with 1,000 receiving yards in a season: 1334, Wan'Dale Robinson (2021)
 Had a player with 3 touchdown receptions: 3 by C.J. Conrad vs. New Mexico State, Sept. 17, 2016
 Had a player with 100 rushing and 100 receiving yards in the same game: Rafael Little (132 rushing, 114 receiving) vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 11, 2006
 Had a 100-yard passer and a 100-yard rusher in the same game: Terry Wilson (151 passing, 129 rushing) vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020
 Had a 100-yard rusher and a 100-yard receiver in the same game: Chris Rodriguez Jr. (107 rush) and Wan'Dale Robinson (170 receiving), vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had a player score a TD by rushing and receiving in the same game: Chris Rodriguez Jr. vs. Iowa (Citrus Bowl), Jan. 1, 2022
 Had a player throw a TD pass and score a rushing and receiving TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. Auburn, Oct. 9, 2010
 Had a player throw at least two TD passes and score a rushing TD in consecutive games: Patrick Towles in 2015
 Had a player throw a TD pass, score a receiving TD and score on a punt return for a TD in the same game: Randall Cobb vs. WKU, Sept. 11, 2010
 Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Derrick Locke (100 yards) vs. Louisville, Sept. 19, 2009
 Had a player return a punt for a TD: Josh Ali (74 yards) at Mississippi State, Oct. 30, 2021
 Had a player return an interception for a TD: Quandre Mosely, 38 yards, vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 20, 2021
 Had a player recover/return a fumble for a TD: Jordan Wright, vs. Virginia Tech (Belk Bowl), 28 yards, Dec. 31, 2019
 Had two defensive TDs in the same game: Kelvin Joseph (INT) and Jamin Davis (INT) at Tennessee, Oct. 17, 2020
 Had a player recover two fumbles in one game: Jordan Wright vs. South Carolina, Dec. 5, 2020
 Had a player block a punt: Josh Paschal vs. Tennessee, Nov. 9, 2019
 Had a player block a field goal: Josh Paschal vs. Florida, Oct. 2, 2021
 Had a player block a PAT: Lonnie Johnson Jr. vs. Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 9, 2017
 Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: Trevin Wallace (76 yards) vs. Florida, Oct. 2, 2021
 Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Andrew Hopewell (6 yards), vs. Arkansas, Nov. 1, 2006
 Had a player score a TD on a fake field goal: Joe Mansour (25 yards), vs. Florida, Sept. 28, 2013
 Had a field goal of 50 yards or more: Matt Ruffolo (50 yards) at Missouri, Oct. 24, 2020
 Had a punt of 70 yards or more: Colin Goodfellow (70 yards) at Miss. State, Oct. 30, 2021
 Played an overtime game: vs. Ole Miss, Oct. 3, 2020 - (L, 41-42)
 Won an overtime game: vs. ECU, Oct. 3, 2015 - (W, 34-27)
 Won a game on the last play of regulation as time expired: 15-14 at Missouri, Oct. 27, 2018 (2-yard TD pass)



WHEN WAS THE TIME THE OPPONENT ...

Scored 40 points: 45 by Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021
Scored 50 points: 63 by Alabama, Nov. 21, 2020
Scored 10 or less points: 10 by South Carolina, Sept. 25, 2021
Shut Out Kentucky: 0-21 by Georgia, Oct. 19, 2019
Shut Out Kentucky in 2nd half: by Florida, Nov. 28, 2020
Rushed for 300 yards: 331 by Georgia, Nov. 3, 2018
Passed for 300 yards: 316 by Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021
Had 500 yards of total offense: 562 by Louisville, Nov. 25, 2017
Recorded a safety: Mississippi State, Oct. 10, 2020 (bad snap on punt)
Blocked a Kentucky punt: Southern Miss, Sept. 3, 2016
Blocked a Kentucky field goal: at Georgia, Oct. 16, 2021
Blocked a Kentucky PAT: at Georgia, Oct. 16, 2021
Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 37, Larry Rountree (Missouri, 126 yards), Oct. 24, 2020
Had a player with 100 yards rushing: 147, Tyrion Davis-Price (LSU), Oct. 9, 2021
Had a player with 200 yards rushing: 210, Kevin Harris (South Carolina), Dec. 5, 2020
Had two players with 100 yards rushing: 107, Tavien Feaster, 102, Rico Dowdle (South Carolina), Sept. 28, 2019
Had a player with 40 pass attempts: 51 by Connor Bazelak (Missouri), Sept. 11, 2021
Had a player with 25 pass completions: 34 by Connor Bazelak (Missouri), Sept. 11, 2021
Had a player with 300 yards passing: 316 by Hendon Hooker (Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021)
Had two players with 100 yards passing: 174 by Feleipe Franks and 126 by Kyle Trask (Florida), Sept. 14, 2019
Had a player with 10 pass receptions: 10, Tyler Badie (Missouri, 88 yards), Sept. 11, 2021
Had a player with 100 yards receiving: 122, Sam LaPorta (Iowa, 7 catches), Citrus Bowl, Jan. 1, 2022
Had a player with 200 yards receiving: 216 by Demarcus Robinson (Florida), Sept. 13, 2014
Had two players with 100 yards receiving: 111, Korey Robertson and 103, Quez Watkins (Southern Miss), Sept. 2, 2017
Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Evan Berry (UT), 100 yards, Oct. 31, 2015
Had a player return a punt for a TD: Kadarius Toney (UF), 50 yards, Nov. 28, 2020
Had a player return a blocked FG for a TD: Neiko Thorpe (69 yards) vs. Auburn, Oct. 17, 2009
Had a player return a blocked punt for a TD: Chris Rainey (23 yards) vs. Florida, Sept. 26, 2009
Had a player return an interception for a TD: Alontae Taylor (Tennessee), 56 yards, Nov. 6, 2021
Had a player return a fumble for a TD: Trevor Brohard (New Mexico State), 25 yards, Nov. 20, 2021



INDIVIDUAL/TEAM RECORDS - CAREER

Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
- 2. 59 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
- 3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
- 4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
- 41 Blanton Collier (1954-1961)
- 6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)

Most Career Home Wins By A Head Coach, School History

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

Rushing Yardage, Career

#	Player	Years	Att	Yards	Avg.	TD
1.	Benny Snell Jr.	2016-18	737	3,873	5.3	48
2.	Sonny Collins	1972-75	777	3,835	4.9	26
3.	Moe Williams	1993-95	618	3,333	5.4	26
4.	Rafael Little	2004-07	580	2,996	5.2	16
5.	Mark Higgs	1984-87	532	2,892	5.4	25
6.	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	2018-present	417	2,740	6.6	26
7.	George Adams	1981-84	638	2,648	4.2	25
8.	Derrick Locke	2007-10	518	2,618	5.1	22
9.	"Boom" Williams	2014-16	366	2,511	6.9	18
10.	Artose Pinner	1999-2002	438	2,105	4.8	17
11.	A.J. Rose	2017-20	341	1,971	5.8	13
12.	Marc Logan	1983-86	389	1,769	4.5	11
13.	Derrick Ramsey	1975-77	446	1,764	3.9	25
14.	Anthony White	1996-99	364	1,758	4.8	11
15.	Jojo Kemp	2013-16	338	1,709	5.1	19
16.	Rodger Bird	1963-65	397	1,699	4.2	21
17.	Derek Homer	1997-2000	353	1,689	4.8	11
18.	Ivy Joe Hunter	1985-88	361	1,687	4.7	19
19.	Bill Leskovar	1949-51	324	1,664	5.1	9
20.	Steve Campassi	1972-75	370	1,609	4.3	8
21.	Raymond Sanders	2010-13	340	1,542	4.5	11
22.	Al Baker	1986-90	378	1,534	4.1	15
23.	Lynn Bowden Jr.	2017-19	206	1,530	7.4	13
24.	Mike Fanuzzi	1971-74	344	1,484	4.3	16
25.	Bobby Cravens	1956-58	323	1,448	4.5	6
26.	Tony Dixon	2004, 2006-08	345	1,388	4.0	16
27.	Alfred Rawls	1988-89	286	1,370	4.8	16
28.	Randy Brooks	1976-80	358	1,314	3.7	6
29.	Randall Cobb	2008-10	228	1,313	5.8	22
30.	Kavosiey Smoke	2018-present	233	1,306	5.6	10
31.	Don Phelps	1946-49	295	1,297	4.4	15
32.	Chris Hill	1975-78	260	1,264	4.9	4
33.	Rod Stewart	1975-78	268	1,250	4.7	9
34.	Doug Kotar	1971-73	293	1,167	3.9	5
35.	Damon Hood	1991-94	281	1,144	4.1	9
36.	Shawn Donigan	1978-82	264	1,120	4.2	4
37.	Roger Gann	1967-69	281	1,047	3.7	4
38.	Dicky Lyons	1966-68	328	1,042	3.2	18
39.	Tom Fillion	1951-53	208	1,017	4.9	8
40.	Terry Wilson	2018-20	256	1,015	4.0	10
41.	Terry Samuels	1990-93	247	1,012	4.1	5

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

#	Player	Years	Average per rush
1.	Lynn Bowden Jr.	2017-19	7.43 (206/1530)
2.	Boom Williams	2014-16	6.91 (366/2511)
3.	C. Rodriguez Jr.	2018-present	6.57 (417/2740)
4.	A.J. Rose	2017-2020	5.78 (341/1971)
5.	Randall Cobb	2008-10	5.76 (228/1313)
6.	Kavosiey Smoke	2018-present	5.61 (233/1306)
7.	Mark Higgs	1984-87	5.43 (532/2892)
8.	Moe Williams	1993-95	5.39 (618/3333)
9.	Benny Snell Jr.	2016-18	5.26 (737/3873)
10.	Rafael Little	2004-07	5.17 (580/2996)

Rushing Touchdowns, Career

#	Player	Years	TD
1.	Benny Snell	2016-18	48
2.	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	2018-present	26
	Moe Williams	1993-95	26
	Sonny Collins	1972-75	26
5.	Mark Higgs	1984-87	25
	George Adams	1981-84	25
	Derrick Ramsey	1975-77	25

Consecutive Games with a Rushing TD (since 1985)

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

100-Yard Rushing Games, Career

- 1. Benny Snell Jr., 2016-18 19
- 2. Sonny Collins, 1972-75 18
- 3. **Chris Rodriguez Jr., 2018-present** 15
- 4. Rafael Little, 2004-07 13
- Moe Williams, 1993-95 13

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

Player	Pct.	Made/Att	Years
1. Joe Mansour	.857	12/14	2010-13
2. Marc Samuel	.824	14/17	1997, 1999
3. Matt Ruffolo	.813	26/32	2018-21
4. Austin MacGinnis	.791	72/91	2014-17
5. Seth Hanson	.729	35/48	1997-98, 2000-01

300-Tackle Club, Career

- 1. Jim Kovach (1974-78) 521
- 2. Chris Chenault (1985-88) 482
- 3. Jeff Kremer (1984-87) 475
- 4. Marty Moore (1990-93) 462
- 5. John Grimsley (1980-83) 437
- 6. Kevin McClellan (1980-83) 416
- 7. Wesley Woodyard (2004-07) 395
- 8. Jerry Blanton (1974-77) 389
- 9. Randy Holleran (1987-90) 379
- 10. Danny Trevathan (2008-11) 374
- 11. Richard Jaffe (1976-79) 350
- 12. Brian Williams (1982-1985) 350
- 13. Tom Ehlers (1972-74) 349
- 14. Darryl Bishop (1971-73) 348
- 15. Larry Smith (1983-86) 342
- 16. Tom Ranieri (1972-75) 329
- 17. Art Still (1974-77) 327
- 18. Keith Martin (1980-83) 319
- 19. Mike Edwards (2015-18) 318

DeAndre Square (2018-22) 244



KROGER FIELD

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



- Since its opening in 1973, Kentucky has played 319 games within the friendly confines of newly-named Kroger Field. UK has a 177-138-4 record (.562), 41-22 (.651) under Mark Stoops.
- UK set a new Kroger Field attendance record when 63,543 fans packed the stadium for the Nov. 3, 2018 game vs. No. 6 Georgia.
- Two of the top five crowds in Kroger Field history came in 2018.
- 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 60,261 fans per game and ranked in the nation's top 30 teams in attendance in 16 of the last 18 seasons. Both the single game and season attendance record has been broken in recent years. *Note: Kroger Field capacity was limited to 12,000 fans per game in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions
- 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

Playing Field: UK switched from natural grass to synthetic turf for the 2015 season. Other SEC schools with a turf surface are: Arkansas, Ole Miss, Mississippi State and Missouri. The end zones and team sideline areas feature a checkerboard pattern in alternating shades of blue. It was designed to mimic the pattern of Secretariat's silks, which has been part of the football uniforms for five seasons. The school's new interlocking "UK" logo is positioned in the center of the field.

Video Boards: Two new 10 mm LED video boards were installed in the summer of 2022 by Formetco Sports. 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 moved next door to Kroger Field. Therefore, the Cat Walk was moved to Talbott Todd Way. The Cat Walk typically begins outside Gate 1 two hours and 15 minutes prior to kickoff, and the team proceeds past Gate 1 and between Kroger Field and Nutter Field House. It was dedicated to former Wildcat Talbott Todd (1963-65) who passed away from ALS in August of 2017 and was an avid supporter of the program. From Talbott Todd Way the team walks to the locker room in the Joe Craft Kentucky Football Training Facility.

Lift Them Up: A unique partnership with Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky (TMMK), the Kentucky College of Engineering and the Kentucky Children's Hospital was launched in 2019 that brings special guests to the Cat Walk as the Kentucky football team arrives at Kroger Field. A specially built push cart vehicle provides a Kentucky Children's Hospital patient the chance to both accompany the Wildcats on the Cat Walk and attend a game at Kroger Field. A new patient is chosen by the Kentucky Children's Hospital each week to participate.

TOP ATTENDANCES FOR KROGER FIELD

1.	63,543	Georgia, 2018
2.	63,407	Auburn, 2015
3.	63,380	EKU, 2015
4.	63,081	South Carolina, 2018
5.	63,076	Florida, 2019
6.	63,040	Florida, 2015
7.	62,945	Florida, 2017
8.	62,933	UL Lafayette, 2015
9.	62,512	Louisville, 2015



ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

Table with 5 columns: Player Name, Position, Height, Weight, and Experience. Lists players from Alex Afari Jr. to Noah Matthews.

NUMERICAL ROSTER (AS OF AUG. 25)

Table with 5 columns: Player Number, Player Name, Position, Height, and Weight. Lists players from 0* Kavosiey Smoke to 42 Tyreese Fearbry.



17	JuTahn McClain	RB	5-9	201	Jr-2L
37	Edward McKee	ILB	6-1	206	Fr-HS
83	Jack Monday	TE	6-1	227	Fr-HS
54	Jordan Morrow	LS	6-1	226	Sr-Sq
47	Jarard Mosely	DB	6-2	185	Fr-HS
38	William Nalty	ILB	6-0	220	%Sr-2L
22	Chris Oats	ILB	6-3	232	Sr-2L
35	Sean O'Horo	RB	5-11	180	Fr-HS
8	Octavious Oxendine	DL	6-1	281	Jr-2L
58	Lucas Padgett	OL	6-4	306	So-Sq
55	Clay Perry	LS	6-0	193	Jr-1L
23	Andru Phillips	DB	6-0	190	So-1L
34	Brady Pierce	DB	6-0	181	Fr-HS
12	Chance Poore	K	6-2	221	Sr-3L
24	Elijah Reed	DB	6-3	183	Fr-HS
66	Abelardo Reza	OL	6-3	250	Fr-HS
28	Jordan Robinson	DB	6-4	202	So-Tr
9	Tayvion Robinson	WR	5-11	187	Sr-Tr
24	Chris Rodriguez Jr.	RB	5-11	224	Sr-3L
67	Paul Rodriguez	OL	6-5	325	Fr-RS
52	Justin Rogers	DL	6-3	332	Jr-2L
96	Matt Ruffolo	K	5-11	211	%Sr-3L
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	DL	6-4	275	So-1L
92	Kahlil Saunders	DL	6-5	288	Fr-RS
29	Jackson Schulz	DB	6-2	180	Fr-HS
12	Kaiya Sheron	QB	6-3	208	Fr-RS
39	Jackson Smith	K	5-11	194	Fr-HS
1	Keidron Smith	DB	6-2	204	%Sr-Tr
0	Kavosiey Smoke	RB	5-9	209	Sr-3L
5	DeAndre Square	ILB	6-1	221	%Sr-4L
21	Andre Stewart	DB	5-11	182	Fr-HS
87	Josh Terrell	WR	5-10	175	Fr-HS
44	Martez Thrower	ILB	6-2	224	So-1L
7	Vito Tisdale	DB	6-1	184	Jr-2L
88	Keaton Upshaw	TE	6-6	246	Sr-2L
14	Carrington Valentine	DB	6-0	194	Jr-2L
48	Jack Varga	FB	5-11	223	Sr-Sq
15	Destin Wade	QB	6-3	222	Fr-HS
20	Keaten Wade	OLB	6-5	237	Fr-HS
0	Deone Walker	DL	6-6	330	Fr-HS
32	Trevin Wallace	ILB	6-2	240	So-1L
43	Angelo Washington	ILB	6-2	226	Fr-HS
13	J.J. Weaver	OLB	6-5	242	Jr-2L
39	Dillon Wheatley	FB	6-1	-215	Sr-Sq
18	Brandon White	WR	5-9	160	Fr-HS
49	Jai Williams	OLB	6-5	215	So-Sq
60	Quintin Wilson	OL	6-1	295	Sr-3L
74	David Wohlabough Jr.	OL	6-6	302	Fr-RS
15	Jordan Wright	OLB	6-5	231	%Sr-4L
29	La'Ve'll Wright	RB	6-0	217	Fr-RS
71	John Young	OL	6-6	304	So-1L

43	Angelo Washington	LB	6-2	226	Fr-HS
44	Martez Thrower	ILB	6-2	224	So-1L
45	Jase Bruner	OLB	6-2	235	Jr-Sq
46*	Braxton Eiserman	ILB	6-1	226	Sr-Sq
46*	Cade Degraw	LS	5-11	213	Sr-2L
47*	Justice Dingle II	FB	6-3	267	Sr-Sq
47*	Jarard Mosely	DB	6-2	185	Fr-HS
48	Jack Varga	FB	5-11	223	Sr-Sq
49	Jai Williams	OLB	6-5	215	So-Sq
50	Darrion Henry-Young	DL	6-4	255	So-Tr
52	Justin Rogers	DL	6-3	332	Jr-2L
54*	D'Eryk Jackson	ILB	6-1	241	Jr-2L
54*	Jordan Morrow	LS	6-1	226	Sr-Sq
55*	Clay Perry	LS	6-0	193	Jr-1L
55*	Noah Matthews	OLB	6-5	244	Fr-HS
56	Deondre Buford	OL	6-3	312	So-Sq
57	Jonathan Berry	OL	6-5	284	So-Sq
58	Lucas Padgett	OL	6-4	306	So-Sq
59	Conner Long	OLB	6-3	220	So-Sq
60	Quintin Wilson	OL	6-1	295	Sr-3L
62	Jager Burton	OL	6-4	301	Fr-RS
63	Alex Bascom	DL	6-5	264	Sr-Sq
64	Richard Bascom	DL	6-5	269	Sr-Sq
65	Grant Bingham	OL	6-5	318	Fr-HS
66	Abelardo Reza	OL	6-3	250	Fr-HS
67	Paul Rodriguez	OL	6-5	325	Fr-RS
68	Kenneth Horsey	OL	6-3	304	Sr-3L
70	Nikolas Hall	OL	6-6	307	Fr-HS
71	John Young	OL	6-6	304	So-1L
72	Josh Jones	OL	6-6	325	So-Sq
74	David Wohlabough Jr.	OL	6-6	302	Fr-RS
75	Eli Cox	OL	6-4	298	Jr-2L
77	Jeremy Flax	OL	6-6	328	Jr-Sq
78	Kiyaunta Goodwin	OL	6-8	351	Fr-HS
79	Tashawn Manning	OL	6-4	330	%Sr-Tr
80	Brenden Bates	TE	6-5	264	Sr-3L
81	Cole Lanter	WR	5-11	179	Fr-HS
82	Tae Tae Crumes	WR	6-1	187	Jr-Sq
83	Jack Monday	TE	6-1	227	Fr-HS
84	Josh Kattus	TE	6-4	232	Fr-HS
85	Jordan Dingle	TE	6-4	236	Fr-RS
86	Dylan Gary	WR	6-4	198	Fr-HS
87	Josh Terrell	WR	5-10	175	Fr-HS
88	Keaton Upshaw	TE	6-6	246	Sr-2L
89	Chris Lewis	WR	6-4	202	Fr-RS
90	Tre'vonn Rybka	DL	6-4	275	So-1L
91	Sam Anaele	DL	6-4	287	So-Sq
92	Kahlil Saunders	DL	6-5	288	Fr-RS
93	Wilson Berry	P	6-4	208	Fr-RS
94	Colin Goodfellow	P	6-2	225	%Sr-2L
95	Jamarius Dinkins	DL	6-5	280	Fr-RS
96	Matt Ruffolo	K	5-11	211	%Sr-3L
98	Isaiah Beasley	DL	5-11	263	Jr-Sq
99	Josaih Hayes	DL	6-3	309	Jr-2L

Ironton, Ohio (Ironton)
Rochelle, Ga. (Wilcox County)
Science Hill, Ky. (Somerset)
Jackson, Ky. (Breathitt County)
Lake Cormorant, Miss. (Lake Cormorant)
Bowling Green, Ky. (Georgia Tech/Bowling Green HS)
West Palm Beach, Fla. (Cardinal Newman)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Lake Forest, Ill. (Lake Forest)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Ohio State/Princeton HS)
Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)
Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Upton, Ky. (Central Hardin)
Bridgeville, Del. (Woodbridge)
Detroit, Mich. (Martin Luther King)
Stamping Ground, Ky. (Scott County)
Birmingham, Ala. (La Cueva)
East Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Turpin)
Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Louisville, Ky. (St. Xavier)
Johnson County, Ky. (Johnson Central)
Eminence, Ky. (Eminence HS)
Mason, Ohio (William Mason)
Sanford, Fla. (Sanford Seminole)
Austin, Texas (Akins)
Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy)
Columbus, Ga. (Central-Phenix City - Ala.)
Stow, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)
Nicholasville, Ky. (West Jessamine)
Detroit, Mich. (Independence CC/Robichaud)
Louisville, Ky. (Carleton (Ind.))
Apopka, Fla. (Auburn/Wekiva)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
Danville, Ky. (Boyle County)
Louisville, Ky. (Butler)
Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic)
Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS)
Sugar Hill, Ga. (North Gwinnett)
Fort Worth, Texas (Grapevine Faith Christian)
Lima, Ohio (Lima Senior)
Pleasant Grove, Ala. (Pleasant Grove)
Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County)
Lagos, Nigeria (McDougle Technical Institute - Fla.)
Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom)
Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)
Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)
Columbus, Ohio (Walnut Ridge)
Centerville, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)
Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
Horn Lake, Miss. (Horn Lake)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Sam Anaele (ah-NEL-lee)
 Tyrell Ajian (a-jun)
 Barion (bear-EON) Brown
 Jager (Jagger) Burton
 (Chah-mar-EON) Bush
 Dekel (da-KEL) Crowdus (CROWD-us)
 Jamarius (jah-MAR-ee-us) Dinkins
 Taj (same as "Taj Mahal") Dodson
 Tomiwa (TOE-mee-wah) Durojaiye (Durr-oh-Ji-yay)
 Jalen Geiger (GI-ger)
 Kiyaunta (key-ON-tay) Goodwin
 Josaih (joe-SIGH-uh) Hayes

D'Eryk (dee-ERIC) Jackson
 Will Lewis (lev-iss)
 Tashawn (TAY-shawn) Manning
 JuTahn (juh-TAWN) McClain
 Abelardo (abba-LAR-doe) Reza (REE-zah)
 Tayvion (TAY-vee-on) Robinson
 Kaiya (Ki-yah) Sheron (Sharon)
 Keidron (KEY-drun) Smith
 Kavosiey (kuh-VOS-ee-AYE) Smoke
 Deone (dee-ON) Walker
 Jai (Ji) Williams
 David Wohlabough (WUL-uh-bah)





HEAD COACH MARK STOOPS / 10TH SEASON / IOWA, 1989



Mark Stoops has 59 wins in the Blue and White, needing only two more triumphs to surpass the school record of 60 set by Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Under Stoops, 22 players have been drafted in the NFL, including 13 defensive players.

*"I think Mark Stoops is the best program builder in all of college football right now."
-- Tom Luginbill, ESPN National Recruiting Director and on-air game analyst*

The Kentucky football program continues to stack an impressive set of milestones under the leadership of Mark Stoops.

On Jan. 1, when Kentucky took the field for the Vrbo Citrus Bowl, it made official a school-record six consecutive bowl games – all under Stoops – surpassing the mark of five straight bowls from 2006-10.

And, when the Wildcats rallied to defeat Iowa -- UK's 10th fourth-quarter comeback victory during the last six seasons -- it also marked a school-record fourth-straight bowl win.

The victory over the Hawkeyes was UK's 16th in a row vs. non-conference opponents, the longest active streak in the nation.

Kentucky finished the season with a 10-3 record, only the fourth time in school history (twice in the last four years under Stoops) that the Wildcats have reached double-digit victories. UK began the season with a 6-0 start for the first time since 1950, when the legendary Paul "Bear" Bryant patrolled the sidelines in Lexington.

The 2021 campaign featured a 5-3 tally in the Southeastern Conference. UK finished in sole possession of second place in the SEC Eastern Division, the first time the Wildcats were solely in second since the league split into divisions in 1992.

More milestones loom in the near future. When the Wildcats begin the 2022 season, it will be Stoops' 10th year at UK, longer than any coach in school history.

In addition, Stoops has 59 wins in the Blue and White, needing only two more triumphs to surpass the school standard of 60 set by Bryant.

As quickly as the achievements have come recently, Stoops' success has been far from easy.

Inheriting a program that was 2-10 in 2012, the year before he arrived, Stoops' rebuilding efforts took time. Two games into the 2016 season his record was 12-26, but the program took off from there and the coach has engineered a 47-27 (63.5%) mark since.

In addition to the numerous landmarks above, a partial accounting of Stoops' achievements features:



STOOPS AND CO. MAKING A HIT IN RECRUITING

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

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

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

- 33 wins in the last four seasons, ranking 16th among Power Five programs;
- Winning the season finale four years in a row for the first time since 1898-1901;
- Since 2016, a 20-8 record (71.4%) in games decided by seven points or less;
- First home win over Florida since 1986, also marking the first win over an Associated Press top 10-ranked opponent since 2010 (2021);
- First win at Tennessee since 1984 (2020)
- First New Year's Day Bowl win since 1951 (2018 season)
- First 10-win season since 1977 (2018)
- First SEC Coach of the Year since 1983 (2018)
- First final poll ranking since 1984 (2018)
- First bowl win since 2008 (2018)
- First win vs. Florida since 1986 (2018)
- First bowl appearance since 2010 (2016)

In addition to the team accomplishments, several of Stoops' players have won All-America accolades, along with honors such as the Bronko Nagurski Award, Chuck Bednarik Award, Paul Hornung Award, Ronnie Lott Trophy, Ray Guy Award, Danny Wuerffel Trophy, Jason Witten Man of the Year, Pop Warner Award, Academic All-America and National Good Works Team.

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

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

the Franklin-American Mortgage Music City Bowl.

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

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

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

CollegeFootballNews.com listed Stoops as the best coaching performance of the season and he was named Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year by The Associated Press, Athlon Sports and the league coaches.

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

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

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

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

Eight Seminoles on defense earned 2012 All-ACC honors, including four first-team selections, highlighted by one of the nation's top defensive end duos in Bjoern Werner and Cornellius Carradine, who combined for 24 sacks and 31 tackles for loss. Werner was a finalist for the 2012 Bronko Nagurski Award as the National Defensive Player of the Year and was among the national leaders in sacks with 13. Stoops also coached cornerback Ronald Darby to ACC Defensive Rookie of the Year.

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



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

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

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

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.

Mark and Mike are also brothers of Bob Stoops, who spent 18 years as the Oklahoma head coach and has been elected to the College Football Hall of Fame. The eldest Stoops brother, Ron Jr., is retired after coaching at Youngstown State. Mark and Mike have reunited in Lexington, as Mike has joined the UK staff as inside linebackers coach.

Prior to Arizona, Mark 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,

Most Wins By A Head Coach, School History

- 1. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
2. 59 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-1981)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-1989)
41 Blanton Collier (1954-1961)
6. 39 Rich Brooks (2003-2009)
7. 32 Harry Gamage (1927-1933)
8. 26 Bill Curry (1990-1996)

Most Wins By A Head Coach At Kroger Field

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

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 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.

Stoops has two sons, Will and Zack.

STOOPS VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Table with 2 columns: Opponent and Record. Lists various opponents and their win-loss records against Stoops, including Alabama (0-3), Georgia Tech (0-1), and a total record of 59-53.





THE MARK STOOPS COACHING FILE

Year	School	Position	W-L	SEC	Bowl
1990	Iowa	Graduate Assistant	8-4		Rose
1991	Iowa	Graduate Assistant	10-1-1		Holiday
1992-95	Nordonia HS	Defensive Backs			
1996	South Florida	Defensive Backs	0-0		
1997	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	7-6		
1998	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	8-3		
1999	Wyoming	Defensive Backs	7-4		
2000	Houston	Co-Defensive Coord., Safeties	3-8		
2001	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	12-0		Rose
2002	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	12-1		Fiesta
2003	Miami (Fla.)	Defensive Backs	11-2		Orange
2004	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	3-8		
2005	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	3-8		
2006	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	6-6		
2007	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	5-7		
2008	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	8-5		Las Vegas
2009	Arizona	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	8-5		Holiday
2010	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	10-4		Chick-fil-A
2011	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	9-4		Champs Sports
2012	Florida State	Defensive Coordinator, DBs	12-2		Orange
2013	Kentucky	Head Coach	2-10	0-8	
2014	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-7	2-6	
2015	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-7	2-6	
2016	Kentucky	Head Coach	7-6	4-4	TaxSlayer
2017	Kentucky	Head Coach	7-6	4-4	Music City
2018	Kentucky	Head Coach	10-3	5-3	Citrus
2019	Kentucky	Head Coach	8-5	3-5	Belk
2020	Kentucky	Head Coach	5-6	4-6	TaxSlayer Gator
2021	Kentucky	Head Coach	10-3	5-3	Vrbo Citrus
			59-53	29-45	

STOOPS' NFL DRAFT PICKS

Name	Year	Rd	Pick	Overall	Team
Avery Williamson	2014	5	11	151	Titans
Bud Dupree	2015	1	22	22	Steelers
Za'Darius Smith	2015	4	23	122	Ravens
Josh Forrest	2016	6	15	190	Rams
Josh Allen	2019	1	7	7	Jaguars
Lonnie Johnson	2019	2	22	54	Texans
Mike Edwards	2019	3	35	99	Bucs
Benny Snell Jr.	2019	4	19	122	Steelers
George Asafo-Adjei	2019	7	18	232	Giants
Lynn Bowden Jr.	2020	3	16	80	Raiders
Logan Stenberg	2020	4	15	121	Lions
Jamin Davis	2021	1	19	19	Washington
Kelvin Joseph	2021	2	12	44	Cowboys
Quinton Bohanna	2021	6	8	192	Cowboys
Brandin Echols	2021	6	16	200	Jets
Landon Young	2021	6	22	206	Saints
Phil Hoskins	2021	7	3	232	Panthers
W. Robinson	2022	2	11	43	Giants
Josh Paschal	2022	2	14	46	Lions
Luke Fortner	2022	3	1	65	Jaguars
Darriann Kinnard	2022	5	2	145	Chiefs



STOOPS YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013 – Won 2, Lost 10

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include WKU*, Miami (Ohio), Louisville, Florida*, South Carolina*, Alabama*, Mississippi State*, Alabama State*, Missouri, Vanderbilt, Georgia*, Tennessee*.

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Avery Williamson and game captains

2014 – Won 5, Lost 7

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include UT Martin, Ohio, Florida* (3 OT), Vanderbilt, South Carolina*, ULM, LSU*, Mississippi State, Missouri, Georgia, Tennessee, Louisville.

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

2015 – Won 5, Lost 7

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include UL Lafayette*, South Carolina*, Florida*, Missouri*, Eastern Ky. (OT)*, Auburn*, Mississippi State*, Tennessee*, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Charlotte*, Louisville.

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

2016 – Won 7, Lost 6

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include Southern Miss*, Florida, New Mexico St., South Carolina*, Alabama*, Vanderbilt, Mississippi State*, Missouri, Georgia*, Tennessee, Austin Peay, Louisville.

TAXSLAYER BOWL
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Jon Toth, Courtney Miggins, Courtney Love, Jeff Badet, Jojo Kemp, Marcus McWilson

2017 – Won 7, Lost 6

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include Southern Miss, Eastern Ky., South Carolina*, Florida*, Eastern Mich., Missouri*, Mississippi State, Tennessee*, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Georgia, Louisville.

FRANKLIN AMERICAN MORTGAGE MUSIC CITY BOWL
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Ali, Yusuf Coker, DeAndre Square, Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Will Levis, Josh Paschal and Chris Rodriguez Jr.

COACH: Mark Stoops

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

2018 – Won 10, Lost 3

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include Central Michigan, Florida*, Murray State, Mississippi State*, South Carolina*, Texas A&M (OT)*, Vanderbilt*, Missouri, Georgia, Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, Louisville*.

VRBO CITRUS BOWL
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Allen, George Asafo-Adjei, C.J. Conrad, Kash Daniel, Mike Edwards, Benny Snell Jr.

2019 – Won 8, Lost 5

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include Toledo, Eastern Michigan*, Florida*, Mississippi State, South Carolina*, Arkansas*, Georgia*, Missouri*, Tennessee*, Vanderbilt, UT Martin, Louisville.

BELK BOWL
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Lynn Bowden Jr., Kash Daniel, Logan Stenberg, Terry Wilson, Josh Paschal

2020 – Won 5, Lost 6

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include Auburn, Ole Miss (OT), Mississippi State*, Tennessee, Missouri, Georgia, Vanderbilt, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina*.

TAXSLAYER GATOR BOWL
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Ali, Quinton Bohanna, Yusuf Coker, Max Duffy, Drake Jackson, Josh Paschal, DeAndre Square, Boogie Watson, Terry Wilson and Landon Young

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

2021 – Won 10, Lost 3

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Opponent, Score, Location, Date. Rows include ULM, Missouri*, Chattanooga, South Carolina*, Florida*, LSU*, Georgia, Mississippi State*, Tennessee*, Vanderbilt*, New Mexico State, Louisville*.

Vrbo Citrus Bowl
COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Ali, Yusuf Coker, DeAndre Square, Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Will Levis, Josh Paschal and Chris Rodriguez Jr.

* indicates night game





ASSISTANT COACHES



FRANK BUFFANO

SAFETIES/ CO-SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

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

Prior to Kentucky, Buffano was a secondary coach and linebackers coach at Youngstown State. He began his career at Arizona under Mike Stoops, serving as a defensive graduate assistant coach his last two seasons after three years of working as a video graduate assistant with the Wildcats.

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



CHRIS COLLINS

DEFENSIVE BACKS

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

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

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



RICH SCANGARELLO

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/QBS

Rich Scangarello is in his first season at Kentucky as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. He was hired in February of 2022, replacing Liam Coen who was hired to be the new offensive coordinator for the Super Bowl Champion Los Angeles Rams.

Scangarello came to the Bluegrass with 24 years of coaching experience, seven in the NFL and 17 in the collegiate ranks. He arrived in Kentucky fresh off a run to the NFC Championship game with the San Francisco 49ers.

1998-99	Graduate Assistant	UC-Davis
2000	Graduate Assistant	Idaho
2001	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	Carleton College
2002-03	Quarterbacks	Idaho
2004-07	Passing Game Coordinator/Wide Receivers	UC-Davis
2008	Co-Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	UC-Davis
2009	Offensive Quality Control/Assistant Quarterbacks	Oakland Raiders
2010-11	Offensive Coordinator/Assistant Head Coach/Quarterbacks	Millsaps
2012-14	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	Northern Arizona
2015	Offensive Assistant	Atlanta Falcons
2016	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	Wagner College
2017-18	Quarterbacks	San Francisco 49ers
2019	Offensive Coordinator	Denver Broncos
2020	Senior Offensive Assistant	Philadelphia Eagles
2021	Quarterbacks	San Francisco 49ers
2022-present	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	Kentucky



JOHN SETTLE

RUNNING BACKS/CO-SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

John Settle is in his second season at Kentucky as the running backs coach and co-special teams coordinator. Settle came to the Bluegrass in 2021 and now has 27 years of coaching experience, including six in the NFL. He has coached in 20 bowl games and boasts a long list of successful running backs.

Eleven years of his coaching career were spent at Wisconsin, most recently from 2015-2021 and also from 2006-10.

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

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



VINCE MARROW

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/TIGHT ENDS/RECRUITING COORDINATOR

Vince Marrow, aka the "Big Dawg," enters his 10th season at Kentucky, currently handling the duties of associate head coach/tight ends coach/recruiting coordinator/NFL liaison.

Marrow's tight ends have been a big factor in UK producing six consecutive seasons of 2,000 or more rushing yards with at least one 1,000-yard rusher in five of those (Stanley "Boom" Williams -2016; Benny Snell Jr., - 2017, 2018; Lynn Bowden - 2019; Chris Rodriguez Jr. - 2021). Marrow also has been instrumental in UK signing nine straight top-50 recruiting classes, including the highest-rated class in UK history in 2021.

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

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

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



ANWAR STEWART

DEFENSIVE LINE

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

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

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

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



MIKE STOOPS

INSIDE LINEBACKERS

Mike Stoops, a 35-year collegiate coaching veteran who is the brother of head coach Mark Stoops, was named the inside linebackers coach in January of 2022. He replaced Jon Sumrall, who was named the head coach at Troy.

Mike Stoops most recently was at Florida Atlantic where he spent the 2021 season as the defensive coordinator and safeties coach. Prior to that, he spent two seasons (2019 and 2020) at Alabama as an analyst on Nick Saban's staff, highlighted by the 2020 national championship. He also was the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Oklahoma from 2012-18 and was the head coach at Arizona from 2004-11. He had a first term at Oklahoma from 1999-2003, including the 2000 national championship season.

1987	Graduate Assistant	Iowa
1988-91	Volunteer Assistant	Iowa
1992-95	Defensive Ends	Kansas State
1996	Co-Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Ends	Kansas State
1997	Co-Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs	Kansas State
1998	Asst. Head Coach/Co-Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs	Kansas State
1999-2003	Asst. Head Coach/Co-Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs	Oklahoma
2004-11	Head Coach	Arizona
2012-14	Asst. Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs	Oklahoma
2015-18	Asst. Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator/Outside Linebackers	Oklahoma
2019-20	Quality Control	Alabama
2021	Defensive Coordinator/Safeties	Florida Atlantic
2022-present	Inside Linebackers	Kentucky



BRAD WHITE

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR/ OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

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

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

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

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



ZACH YENSER

OFFENSIVE LINE

Zach Yenser was named the new offensive line coach at Kentucky in February of 2022 after three seasons as the assistant offensive line coach with the San Francisco 49ers.

Yenser, originally from Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater Troy University in 2007, working with special teams and the offensive linemen under former Wildcat and beloved UK assistant coach John Schlarman.

As a player at Troy, Yenser earned a starting spot at center from 2003-06. In 2006, as a senior team captain, he helped the Trojans win the Sun Belt Conference and the New Orleans Bowl, and was named a First-Team All-Sun Belt selection.

2007	Graduate Assistant - Offensive Line/Special Teams	Troy
2008	Offensive Line	Henderson State
2009	Offensive Line	Colquitt County High School
2010-11	Graduate Assistant - Offensive Line	Louisiana Tech
2012	Assistant Offensive Line	Louisiana Tech
2013-14	Offensive Line	California
2015-17	Offensive Line/Run Game Coordinator	Kansas
2018	Offensive Quality Control	Southern Methodist
2019-21	Assistant Offensive Line	San Francisco 49ers
2022-present	Offensive Line	Kentucky



SCOTT WOODWARD

WIDE RECEIVERS

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

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

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

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

2010-12	Offensive Graduate Assistant	Westfield State
2013-14	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks	Fairleigh Dickinson
2015	Graduate Assistant/Wide Receivers	Massachusetts
2016	Offensive Analyst/Quarterbacks	Massachusetts
2017	Quarterbacks	Massachusetts
2018	Tight Ends	Massachusetts
2019-20	Offensive Quality Control	Pittsburgh
2021-present	Wide Receivers	Kentucky



CHRIS RODRIGUEZ JR.

- PRESEASON SECOND-TEAM ALL-AMERICA (PHIL STEELE)
- PRESEASON FIRST-TEAM PRESEASON ALL-SEC (COACHES)
- PRESEASON FIRST-TEAM ALL-SEC (PHIL STEELE)
- PRESEASON SECOND-TEAM ALL-SEC (MEDIA DAYS)
- MAXWELL TROPHY WATCH LIST
- WALTER CAMP PLAYER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST
- REESE'S SENIOR BOWL WATCH LIST
- HAS 2,740 CAREER RUSHING YARDS FOR SIXTH PLACE ON THE SCHOOL'S ALL-TIME LIST AND IS THE 10TH PLAYER IN SCHOOL HISTORY TO REACH 2,000. HE NEEDS 153 MORE YARDS TO MOVE UP TO NO. 5.
- HAS 26 CAREER RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS, TIED FOR SECOND IN UK HISTORY WITH MOE WILLIAMS AND SONNY COLLINS. HIS 29 TOTAL TOUCHDOWNS RANKS FOURTH.
- HAS 15 CAREER 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES, THIRD-MOST IN SCHOOL HISTORY.



WILL LEVIS

- PRESEASON THIRD-TEAM ALL-SEC (MEDIA DAYS)
- PRESEASON THIRD-TEAM ALL-SEC (COACHES)
- DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD WATCH LIST
- MANNING AWARD WATCH LIST
- MAXWELL TROPHY WATCH LIST
- WALTER CAMP PLAYER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST
- CFPA NATIONAL PERFORMER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST
- REESE'S SENIOR BOWL WATCH LIST
- JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM WATCH LIST



2022 DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

Left Tackle

- 74 David Wohlabough Jr., 6-6, 302, Fr-RS, Stow, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)
- 78 Kiyauta Goodwin, 6-8, 351, Fr-HS, Louisville, Ky. (Charleston (Ind.))

Left Guard

- 62 Jager Burton, 6-4, 301, Fr-RS, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
- 68 Kenneth Horsey, 6-3, 304, Sr-3L, Sanford, Fla. (Sanford Seminole)

Center

- 75 Eli Cox, 6-4, 298, Jr-2L, Nicholasville, Ky. (West Jessamine)
- 60 Quintin Wilson, 6-1, 295, Sr-3L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Turpin)

Right Guard

- 79 Tashawn Manning, 6-4, 330, %Sr-Tr, Apopka, Fla. (Auburn/Wekiva)
- 71 John Young, 6-6, 304, So-1-L, Louisville, Ky. (Christian Academy)

Right Tackle

- 77 Jeremy Flax, 6-6, 328, Jr-Sq, Detroit, Mich. (Independence CC/Robichaud)
- 56 Deondre Buford, 6-3, 312, So-Sq, Detroit, Mich. (Martin Luther King)

Tight End

- 80 Brenden Bates, 6-5, 264, Sr-3L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
- or 88 Keaton Upshaw, 6-6, 246, Sr-2L, Lima, Ohio (Lima Senior)
- 84 Josh Kattus, 6-4, 232, Fr-HS, Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)

Tight End/FB

- 85 Jordan Dingle, 6-4, 236, Fr-RS, Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS)
- or 47 Justice Dingle II, 6-3, 267, Sr-Sq, Bowling Green, Ky. (Georgia Tech/Bowling Green HS)
- 8 Izayah Cummings, 6-3, 240, Jr-2L, Louisville, Ky. (Male)

Wide Receiver (F)

- 9 Tayvion Robinson, 5-11, 187, Sr-Tr, Virginia Beach, Va. (Virginia Tech/Cox)
- 10 Chauncey Magwood, 6-0, 198, So-1L, Albany, Ga. (Lee County)

Wide Receiver (X)

- 6 Dane Key, 6-3, 194, Fr-HS, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
- 89 Chris Lewis, 6-4, 202, Fr-RS, Pleasant Grove, Ala. (Pleasant Grove)

Wide Receiver (Z)

- 2 Barion Brown, 6-1, 166, Fr-HS, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)
- 4 DeMarcus Harris, 6-1, 183, Jr-2L, Vero Beach, Fla. (Vero Beach)

Quarterback

- 7 Will Levis, 6-3, 232, Sr-1L, Madison, Conn. (Penn State/Xavier HS)
- 16 Deuce Hogan, 6-4, 205, So-Tr, Southlake, Texas (Iowa/Grapevine Faith Christian)

Running Back

- 0 Kavosiey Smoke, 5-9, 209, Sr-3L, Wetumpka, Ala. (Wetumpka)
- 26 Ramon Jefferson, 5-10, 215, %Sr-Tr, Bronx, N.Y. (Sam Houston State/Garden City CC/Maine/Truman)

SPECIALISTS

Kicker

- 96 Matt Ruffolo, 5-11, 211, %Sr-3L, Centerville, Ohio (Archbishop Alter)
- 12 Chance Poore, 6-2, 221, Sr-3L, Anderson, S.C. (Westside)

Punter

- 94 Colin Goodfellow, 6-2, 225, %Sr-2L, Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)
- 93 Wilson Berry, 6-4, 208, Fr-RS, Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)

Long Snapper

- 46 Cade Degraw, 5-11, 213, Sr-2L, Lake Cormorant, Miss. (Lake Cormorant)
- 55 Clay Perry, 6-0, 193, Jr-1L, Upton, Ky. (Central Hardin)

Punt Return

- 9 Tayvion Robinson, 5-11, 187, Sr-Tr, Virginia Beach, Va. (Virginia Tech/Cox)
- 2 Barion Brown, 6-1, 166, Fr-HS, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)

Kickoff Return

- 2 Barion Brown, 6-1, 166, Fr-HS, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)
- 17 JuTahn McClain, 5-9, 201, Jr-2L, Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)

Holder

- 12 Chance Poore, 6-2, 221, Sr-3L, Anderson, S.C. (Westside)
- 94 Colin Goodfellow, 6-2, 225, %Sr-2L, Cleveland, Ohio (Saint Ignatius)

DEFENSE

Outside Linebacker

- 13 J.J. Weaver, 6-5, 242, Jr-2L, Louisville, Ky. (Moore Traditional)
- 20 Keaten Wade, 6-5, 237, Fr-HS, Spring Hill, Tenn. (Summit)

Defensive End

- 90 Tre'Vonn Rybka, 6-4, 275, So-1L, Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County)
- 92 Kahlil Saunders, 6-5, 288, Fr-RS, Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom)

Nose Guard

- 52 Justin Rogers, 6-3, 332, Jr-2L, Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)
- 99 Josaih Hayes, 6-3, 309, Jr-2L, Horn Lake, Miss. (Horn Lake)

Defensive Tackle

- 8 Octavious Oxendine, 6-1, 281, Jr-2L, Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
- 0 Deone Walker, 6-6, 330, Fr-HS, Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)

Middle Linebacker

- 10 Jacquez Jones, 6-0, 233, %Sr-1L, Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Ole Miss/Hillcrest)
- 54 D'Eryk Jackson, 6-1, 241, Jr-2L, Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens)

Weakside Linebacker

- 5 DeAndre Square, 6-1, 221, %Sr-4L, Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
- 32 Trevin Wallace, 6-2, 240, So-1L, Jesup, Ga. (Wayne County)

Nickelback

- 23 Andru Phillips, 6-0, 190, So-1L, Mauldin, S.C. (Mauldin)
- 3 Alex Afari Jr., 6-2, 203, Fr-HS, Cincinnati, Ohio (Lakota West)

Cornerback

- 1 Keidron Smith, 6-2, 204, %Sr-Tr, West Palm Beach, Fla. (Ole Miss/Oxbridge Academy)
- 23 Andru Phillips, 6-0, 190, So-1L, Mauldin, S.C. (Mauldin)

Cornerback

- 14 Carrington Valentine, 6-0, 194, Jr-2L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
- 31 Maxwell Hairston, 6-1, 185, Fr-RS, West Bloomfield, Mich. (West Bloomfield)

Strong Safety

- 6 Tyrell Ajian, 6-0, 193, %Sr-4L, Mansfield, Ohio (Madison Comprehensive)
- 11 Zion Childress, 6-0, 191, So-Tr, Houston, Texas (Texas State/New Caney)

Free Safety

- 4 Jalen Geiger, 6-1, 197, Jr-2L, Columbia, S.C. (Spring Valley)
- 25 Jordan Lovett, 6-2, 202, Fr-RS, Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)