



KENTUCKY WILDCATS

F O O T B A L L

GO BIG BLUE

#WEAREUK

KENTUCKY

| Date | Opponent (TV) | Time |
|-------|----------------------------|------------|
| 8/31 | SOUTHERN MISS (SECN) | 7:45 P.M. |
| 9/7 | SOUTH CAROLINA* (ABC) | 3:30 P.M. |
| 9/14 | GEORGIA* (ABC) | 7:30 P.M. |
| 9/21 | OHIO (SECN) | 12:45 P.M. |
| 9/28 | at Ole Miss* (ABC/ESPN) | NOON |
| 10/12 | VANDERBILT* (TBA) | TBA |
| 10/19 | at Florida* (TBA) | TBA |
| 10/26 | AUBURN* (TBA) | TBA |
| 11/2 | at Tennessee* (TBA) | TBA |
| 11/16 | MURRAY STATE (SECN+/ESPN+) | 1:30 p.m. |
| 11/23 | at Texas* (TBA) | TBA |
| 11/30 | LOUISVILLE (TBA) | TBA |

Home games in bold; *SEC game



RV/RV KENTUCKY VS. SOUTHERN MISS
SATURDAY, AUG. 31

7:55 P.M. ET • SEC NETWORK
LEXINGTON, KY.

KROGER FIELD AT C.M. NEWTON GROUNDS



WILDCATS

2024 Record / SEC Record 0-0 / 0-0
AP / AFCA Coaches Poll RV / RV
Head Coach Mark Stoops
Career Record at UK (Years) 63-65 (12th)
On-Field Career Record 73-65 (12th)
Last Game L, 38-35, vs. Clemson on Dec. 29

GOLDEN EAGLES

2024 Record / Sun Belt Record 0-0 / 0-0
AP / AFCA Coaches Poll NR / NR
Head Coach Will Hall
Record at Southern Miss (Years) 13-24 (4th)
Career Record (Years) 69-44 (10th)
Last Game L, 35-17, vs. Troy on Nov. 25

QUICK NOTES

- Kentucky begins its 134th season of football against Southern Miss on Saturday, Aug. 31.
 - UK begins its 52nd season playing at Kroger Field.
- The Wildcats begin the season receiving votes in both the Associated Press and the Coaches Poll.
 - It is the third consecutive season the Cats have been ranked or receiving votes in the preseason edition of both major polls.
- Kentucky football head coach Mark Stoops is the longest-tenured active head coach in the Southeastern Conference and the sixth longest-tenured active head coach in FBS.
 - Now in his 12th season at Kentucky, Stoops is one of only 19 head coaches who have coached at least 12 seasons at an SEC school since the league's first season in 1933.
- The Wildcats have won their last 16 straight nonconference games in the **regular season**, a streak that is second in the nation behind Georgia (24).
 - The Cats have won 14 straight nonconference games at Kroger Field, dating back to the start of 2018.
 - The Cats have won 19 of their last 21 nonconference games, including bowls.
- Three Wildcats received preseason All-America nods, including return specialist Barion Brown (*Athlon*, *Phil Steele*, *Sporting News* and *USA Today*), defensive lineman Deone Walker (*AP*, *Athlon*, *ESPN*, *Phil Steele*, *Sporting News*, *USA Today* and *Walter Camp*) and defensive back Maxwell Hairston (*Athlon*).
- Bush Hamdan, newly hired offensive coordinator, inherited a group that includes a deep and veteran quarterback room, a trio of wide receivers that have more than 1,000 career yards receiving each and 76.9 percent of possible starts on the offensive line from 2023.
- This season, UK retained nine starters on defense from 2023.
 - Altogether, 16 defenders on the roster have seen significant action for at least two seasons, either at Kentucky or another school in the FBS, and another nine defenders have seen significant action for one season either at Kentucky or elsewhere.
- The Wildcats concluded the 2023 regular season with a 7-5 record (.583), clinching another winning record under Mark Stoops. The Cats also competed in their seventh bowl game under Stoops.

GAME INFORMATION

TV - SEC NETWORK

Play-by-Play Tom Hart
Analyst Jordan Rodgers
Sideline Cole Cubelic

LOCAL RADIO - UK SPORTS NETWORK OR UK ATHLETICS.COM

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

SATELLITE RADIO - SIRIUSXM

106 or 190

LIVE STATS - UKATHLETICS.COM

TICKET INFORMATION - UKATHLETICS.COM

BY THE NUMBERS

16 STRAIGHT REGULAR-SEASON VICTORIES VS. NONCONFERENCE OPPONENTS

14 STRAIGHT REGULAR-SEASON HOME VICTORIES VS. NONCONFERENCE OPPONENTS

MARK STOOPS HOLDS SCHOOL RECORDS FOR WINS AND BOWL APPEARANCES

UK DEFENSE HAS ALLOWED FEWER THAN 26 POINTS PER GAME AND 160 RUSHING YARDS PER GAME IN SIX STRAIGHT SEASONS





2024 GAME NOTES

NUMERICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| 0* | Deone Walker | DL | 6-6 | 345 | Jr-2L |
| 0* | Demie Sumo-Karngbaye | RB | 6-0 | 210 | Sr-1L |
| 1 | Maxwell Hairston | DB | 6-1 | 186 | Jr-2L |
| 2* | Jamon Dumas-Johnson | ILB | 6-1 | 245 | Sr-Tr |
| 2* | Gavin Wimsatt | QB | 6-3 | 227 | Jr-Tr |
| 3 | Alex Afari Jr. | ILB | 6-2 | 222 | Jr-2L |
| 4* | Kristian Story | DB | 6-1 | 213 | Sr-Tr |
| 4* | Chip Trayanum | RB | 5-11 | 227 | Sr-Tr |
| 5* | Anthony Brown-Stephens | WR | 5-10 | 176 | So-1L |
| 5* | DJ Waller Jr. | DB | 6-3 | 202 | So-Tr |
| 6* | JQ Hardaway | DB | 6-3 | 191 | Jr-1L |
| 6* | Dane Key | WR | 6-3 | 210 | Jr-2L |
| 7 | Barion Brown | WR | 6-1 | 182 | Jr-2L |
| 8* | Cutter Boley | QB | 6-5 | 214 | Fr-HS |
| 8* | Octavious Oxendine | DL | 6-1 | 278 | Sr-4L |
| 9* | Ja'Mori Maclin | WR | 5-11 | 190 | Jr-Tr |
| 9* | Keeshawn Silver | DL | 6-4 | 336 | Jr-1L |
| 10* | Jantzen Dunn | DB | 6-0 | 185 | Jr-1L |
| 10* | Jamarion Wilcox | RB | 5-10 | 197 | Fr-RS |
| 11* | Beau Allen | QB | 6-2 | 223 | Sr-Tr |
| 11* | Zion Childress | DB | 6-0 | 195 | Sr-2L |
| 12* | Brock Vandagriff | QB | 6-3 | 217 | Jr-Tr |
| 12* | Quay'sheed Scott | DB | 6-0 | 192 | Fr-HS |
| 13* | Fred Farrier II | WR | 6-1 | 182 | Jr-Tr |
| 13* | J.J. Weaver | OLB | 6-5 | 255 | Sr-4L |
| 14 | Ty Bryant | DB | 6-0 | 197 | So-1L |
| 15 | Khamari Anderson | TE | 6-5 | 252 | So-1L |
| 16* | Alex Raynor | K | 6-0 | 185 | Sr-1L |
| 16* | Jacob Smith | OLB | 6-4 | 240 | Fr-HS |
| 17* | Hardley Gilmore IV | WR | 6-1 | 178 | Fr-HS |
| 17* | Daveren Rayner | ILB | 6-2 | 217 | Sr-1L |
| 18* | Brandon White | WR | 5-9 | 167 | So-Sq |
| 18* | Cam Dooley | DB | 6-2 | 204 | Fr-HS |
| 20 | Terhyon Nichols | DB | 5-11 | 195 | Fr-HS |
| 21* | Nasir Addison | DB | 6-0 | 199 | So-1L |
| 21* | Santos Alvarez | WR | 5-11 | 178 | So-Sq |
| 22 | Grant Godfrey | ILB | 6-3 | 225 | Fr-RS |
| 23 | Brian Robinson | DL | 6-5 | 261 | Fr-HS |
| 24 | Jaden Smith | DB | 6-3 | 206 | Fr-HS |
| 25 | Jordan Lovett | DB | 6-2 | 205 | Jr-2L |
| 26 | Jason Patterson | RB | 5-10 | 206 | Fr-HS |
| 27* | Max DeGraff | WR | 5-11 | 167 | So-Sq |
| 27* | Quavo Marshall | DB | 6-4 | 181 | Fr-HS |
| 28 | Tovani Mizell | RB | 6-0 | 215 | Fr-HS |
| 29 | Jackson Schulz | DB | 6-2 | 198 | Jr-Sq |
| 30 | Avery Stuart | DB | 6-2 | 196 | Fr-RS |
| 31 | Quintavion Norman | ILB | 6-3 | 210 | Fr-HS |
| 32 | Devin Smith | ILB | 6-0 | 221 | Fr-HS |
| 33* | Rico Crowder | WR | 6-4 | 188 | Fr-HS |
| 33* | Carson Wright | ILB | 5-10 | 210 | So-Sq |
| 34* | Jayvant Brown | ILB | 6-0 | 225 | So-1L |
| 34* | Trey Dennis | WR | 5-8 | 144 | Sr-Sq |
| 35* | Jake Krekeler | RB | 5-10 | 185 | Fr-HS |
| 35* | Steven Soles Jr. | OLB | 6-2 | 225 | Fr-HS |
| 36 | Chy Rivers | WR | 5-8 | 181 | So-Sq |
| 36* | Andrew Weber | DB | 6-0 | 175 | Fr-HS |
| 37* | Sage Dawson | DB | 5-11 | 170 | Fr-HS |
| 37* | Spencer Leadbetter | WR | 6-3 | 186 | So-Sq |
| 38 | Henry Bennett | RB | 5-10 | 201 | So-Sq |

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|---|
| 21 | Nasir Addison | DB | 6-0 | 199 | So-1L | Newark, N.J. (Irvington) |
| 3 | Alex Afari Jr. | ILB | 6-2 | 222 | Jr-2L | Cincinnati, Ohio (Lakota West) |
| 11 | Beau Allen | QB | 6-2 | 223 | Sr-Tr | Lexington, Ky. (Georgia Southern/Tarleton St./Lexington Catholic) |
| 21 | Santos Alvarez | WR | 5-11 | 178 | So-Sq | Cincinnati, Ohio (Anderson) |
| 15 | Khamari Anderson | TE | 6-5 | 252 | So-1L | Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech) |
| 77 | Trent Baker | LS | 6-2 | 210 | Fr-HS | Friendswood, Texas (Friendswood) |
| 38 | Henry Bennett | RB | 5-10 | 201 | So-Sq | West Palm Beach, Fla. (Cardinal Newman) |
| 93 | Wilson Berry | P | 6-4 | 217 | Jr-1L | Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College) |
| 59 | Lincoln Billiter | DL | 6-3 | 288 | So-Sq | Virgie, Ky. (Shelby Valley) |
| 8 | Cutter Boley | QB | 6-5 | 214 | Fr-HS | Hodgenville, Ky. (Lexington Christian) |
| 39 | Troy Booker | DB | 5-10 | 186 | Fr-HS | Evans, Ga. (Augusta Christian) |
| 5 | Anthony Brown-Stephens | WR | 5-10 | 176 | So-1L | Springfield, Ohio (Springfield) |
| 7 | Barion Brown | WR | 6-1 | 182 | Jr-2L | Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn) |
| 34 | Jayvant Brown | ILB | 6-0 | 225 | So-1L | Deerfield Beach, Fla. (St. Thomas Aquinas) |
| 45 | Jase Bruner | ILB | 6-2 | 235 | Sr-Sq | Science Hill, Ky. (Somerset) |
| 14 | Ty Bryant | DB | 6-0 | 197 | So-1L | Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass) |
| 64 | Jackson Bunn | DL | 6-2 | 301 | So-Sq | Oxford, Ala. (Oxford) |
| 62 | Jager Burton (Jagger) | OL | 6-4 | 316 | Jr-2L | Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass) |
| 45 | Darius Cannon | WR | 5-9 | 177 | So-Sq | Gainesville, Ga. (Gainesville) |
| 11 | Zion Childress | DB | 6-0 | 195 | Sr-2L | Houston, Texas (Texas State/New Caney) |
| 70 | Ben Christman | OL | 6-6 | 325 | Jr-Sq | Akron, Ohio (Ohio State/Revere) |
| 75 | Eli Cox | OL | 6-4 | 309 | Sr-4L | Nicholasville, Ky. (West Jessamine) |
| 69 | Marques Cox | OL | 6-5 | 318 | Sr-1L | Peoria, Ill. (Northern Illinois/Peoria) |
| 78 | Anfernee Crease | OL | 6-6 | 315 | So-Tr | Tomball, Texas (Navarro College/Tomball Memorial) |
| 33 | Rico Crowder | WR | 6-4 | 188 | Fr-HS | Glasgow, Ky. (Glasgow) |
| 53 | Hayden Dawahare | OLB | 6-3 | 230 | So-Sq | Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic) |
| 37 | Sage Dawson | DB | 5-11 | 170 | Fr-HS | Danville, Ky. (Boyle County) |
| 27 | Max DeGraff | WR | 5-11 | 167 | So-Sq | Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic) |
| 34 | Trey Dennis | WR | 5-8 | 144 | Sr-Sq | Lexington, Ky. (Sayre) |
| 85 | Jordan Dingle | TE | 6-4 | 242 | Jr-2L | Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS) |
| 18 | Cam Dooley | DB | 6-2 | 204 | Fr-HS | Valley, Ala. (Valley) |
| 2 | Jamon Dumas-Johnson | ILB | 6-1 | 245 | Sr-Tr | Hyattsville, Md. (Georgia/St. Frances Academy) |
| 10 | Jantzen Dunn | DB | 6-0 | 185 | Jr-1L | Bowling Green, Ky. (Ohio State/South Warren) |
| 52 | Jalen Farmer | OL | 6-5 | 314 | So-Tr | Covington, Ga. (Florida/Eastside) |
| 13 | Fred Farrier II | WR | 6-1 | 182 | Jr-Tr | Frankfort, Ky. (UAB/Franklin County) |
| 42 | Tyrese Fearbry | OLB | 6-5 | 242 | So-1L | Pittsburgh, Pa. (Perry Traditional Academy) |
| 74 | Courtland Ford | OL | 6-6 | 327 | Sr-1L | Peoria, Ill. (Southern California/Cedar Hill (Texas) |
| 94 | Tavion Gadson | DL | 6-5 | 295 | Fr-RS | Savannah, Ga. (Jenkins) |
| 99 | Kendrick Gilbert | DL | 6-5 | 275 | Fr-RS | Indianapolis, Ind. (Indianapolis Cathedral) |
| 17 | Hardley Gilmore IV | WR | 6-1 | 178 | Fr-HS | Belle Glade, Fla. (Pahokee) |
| 86 | Ethan Gregory | WR | 5-8 | 190 | Fr-HS | London, Ky. (North Laurel) |
| 22 | Grant Godfrey | ILB | 6-3 | 225 | Fr-RS | Suwanee, Ga. (North Gwinnett) |
| 1 | Maxwell Hairston | DB | 6-1 | 186 | Jr-2L | West Bloomfield, Mich. (West Bloomfield) |
| 6 | JQ Hardaway | DB | 6-3 | 191 | Jr-1L | Columbus, Ga. (Cincinnati/Central-Phenix City, Ala.) |
| 98 | Kenyatta Hardge II | DL | 6-0 | 285 | Fr-HS | Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Christian) |
| 97 | Josaih Hayes | DL | 6-3 | 322 | Sr-4L | Horn Lake, Miss. (Horn Lake) |
| 50 | Darrion Henry-Young | DL | 6-4 | 290 | Sr-2L | Cincinnati, Ohio (Ohio State/Princeton HS) |
| 56 | Walker Himebauch | LS | 6-1 | 223 | So-1L | Monument, Colo. (Palmer Ridge) |
| 79 | Dennious Jackson | DL | 6-5 | 335 | Jr-Tr | Augusta, Ga. (Contra Costa College/Lakeside) |
| 54 | D'Eryk Jackson | ILB | 6-1 | 244 | Sr-4L | Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens) |
| 72 | Hayes Johnson | OL | 6-4 | 300 | Fr-HS | Campbellsville, Ky. (Taylor County) |
| 84 | Josh Kattus | TE | 6-4 | 246 | Jr-2L | Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller) |
| 44 | Justin Kattus | TE | 6-1 | 216 | Fr-HS | Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier) |
| 91 | Jacob Kauwe | K | 6-1 | 206 | Fr-HS | Billings, Mont. (Billings West) |
| 50 | Koby Keenum | OL | 6-4 | 302 | Fr-RS | Florence, Ala. (Mars Hill Bible School) |
| 6 | Dane Key | WR | 6-3 | 210 | Jr-2L | Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass) |
| 35 | Jake Krekeler | RB | 5-10 | 185 | Fr-HS | Castle Rock, Colo. (Argyle TX) |
| 48 | Aidan Laros | P | 6-2 | 212 | Jr-Tr | Cape Town, South Africa (UT Martin/Charlotte/Northwood) |
| 37 | Spencer Leadbetter | WR | 6-3 | 186 | So-Sq | Glenview, Ill. (Loyola Academy) |
| 88 | Tanner Lemaster | TE | 6-5 | 250 | Fr-RS | Washington Court House, Ohio (Washington) |
| 25 | Jordan Lovett | DB | 6-2 | 205 | Jr-2L | Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin) |
| 68 | Charlie Lush | OL | 6-5 | 255 | Fr-HS | Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic) |
| 9 | Ja'Mori Maclin | WR | 5-11 | 190 | Jr-Tr | Kirkwood, Mo. (North Texas/Missouri/Kirkwood) |
| 43 | Landon Marcum | OLB | 6-2 | 187 | So-Sq | Winchester, Ky. (George Rogers Clark) |





ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| 27 | Quavo Marshall | DB | 6-4 | 181 | Fr-HS |
| 55 | Noah Matthews | OLB | 6-5 | 254 | So-1L |
| 42 | Alex McLaughlin | LS | 5-10 | 229 | Jr-Tr |
| 66 | Tino Merlo | OL | 6-2 | 283 | So-Sq |
| 51 | Daniel Mincey | OL | 6-4 | 290 | Fr-HS |
| 54 | Gerald Mincey | OL | 6-6 | 335 | Sr-Tr |
| 63 | Kyle Mixon | OL | 6-5 | 322 | Fr-HS |
| 28 | Tovani Mizell | RB | 6-0 | 223 | Fr-HS |
| 83 | Jack Monday | TE | 6-1 | 225 | Jr-Sq |
| 47 | Jarard Mosely | DB | 6-2 | 193 | Jr-Sq |
| 55 | Marc Nave Jr. | OL | 6-4 | 335 | Fr-HS |
| 20 | Terhyon Nichols | DB | 5-11 | 195 | Fr-HS |
| 31 | Quintavion Norman | ILB | 6-3 | 210 | Fr-HS |
| 8 | Octavious Oxendine | DL | 6-1 | 278 | Sr-4L |
| 58 | Lucas Padgett | OL | 6-4 | 315 | Sr-Sq |
| 26 | Jason Patterson | RB | 5-10 | 206 | Fr-HS |
| 76 | Austin Ramsey | OL | 6-4 | 328 | Fr-RS |
| 73 | Dylan Ray | OL | 6-6 | 310 | Jr-1L |
| 17 | Daveren Rayner | ILB | 6-2 | 217 | Sr-1L |
| 16 | Alex Raynor | K | 6-0 | 185 | Sr-1L |
| 40 | Caleb Redd | OLB | 6-3 | 232 | Fr-HS |
| 36 | Chy Rivers | WR | 5-8 | 181 | So-Sq |
| 23 | Brian Robinson | DL | 6-5 | 261 | Fr-HS |
| 81 | Willie Rodriguez | TE | 6-4 | 245 | Fr-HS |
| 90 | Tre'vonn Rybka | DL | 6-4 | 284 | Sr-3L |
| 92 | Kahlil Saunders | DL | 6-5 | 291 | Jr-2L |
| 29 | Jackson Schulz | DB | 6-2 | 198 | Jr-Sq |
| 12 | Quay'sheed Scott | DB | 6-0 | 192 | Fr-HS |
| 53 | Aba Selm (AB-uh) | OL | 6-4 | 303 | Fr-HS |
| 9 | Keeshawn Silver | DL | 6-4 | 336 | Jr-1L |
| 44 | Antwan Smith | ILB | 6-3 | 205 | Fr-HS |
| 32 | Devin Smith | ILB | 6-0 | 221 | Fr-HS |
| 16 | Jacob Smith | OLB | 6-4 | 240 | Fr-HS |
| 24 | Jaden Smith | DB | 6-3 | 206 | Fr-HS |
| 95 | Jerod Smith II | DL | 6-4 | 273 | Fr-HS |
| 35 | Steven Soles Jr. | OLB | 6-2 | 225 | Fr-HS |
| 4 | Kristian Story | DB | 6-1 | 213 | Sr-Tr |
| 30 | Avery Stuart | DB | 6-2 | 196 | Fr-RS |
| 0 | Demie Sumo-Karngbaye | RB | 6-0 | 210 | Sr-1L |
| 39 | Josh Terrell | WR | 5-10 | 174 | Jr-Sq |
| 4 | Chip Trayanum | RB | 5-11 | 227 | Sr-Tr |
| 12 | Brock Vandagriff | QB | 6-3 | 217 | Jr-Tr |
| 46 | Rushaune Vilane | OLB | 6-2 | 225 | Fr-HS |
| 0 | Deone Walker | DL | 6-6 | 345 | Jr-2L |
| 5 | DJ Waller Jr. | DB | 6-3 | 202 | So-Tr |
| 82 | David Washington Jr. | WR | 5-11 | 203 | Fr-HS |
| 13 | J.J. Weaver | OLB | 6-5 | 255 | Sr-4L |
| 36 | Andrew Weber | DB | 6-0 | 175 | Fr-HS |
| 18 | Brandon White | WR | 5-9 | 167 | So-Sq |
| 10 | Jamarion Wilcox | RB | 5-10 | 197 | Fr-RS |
| 2 | Gavin Wimsatt | QB | 6-3 | 227 | Jr-Tr |
| 71 | Malachi Wood | OL | 6-8 | 320 | Fr-RS |
| 33 | Carson Wright | ILB | 5-10 | 210 | So-Sq |
| 96 | Tommy Ziesmer | DL | 6-2 | 282 | Fr-RS |

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|--|
| Macon, Ga. (Westside) |
| Bridgeville, Del. (Woodbridge) |
| Weddington, N.C. (Illinois/NC State/Weddington) |
| Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney) |
| Pompano Beach, Fla. (Cardinal Gibbons) |
| Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Tennessee/Florida/Cardinal Gibbons) |
| Warner Robins, Ga. (Northside) |
| Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Western) |
| Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Catholic) |
| West Palm Beach, Fla. (Cardinal Newman) |
| Toledo, Ohio (Central Catholic) |
| Cincinnati, Ohio (Withrow) |
| Covington, Ga. (Newton) |
| Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin) |
| Birmingham, Ala. (La Cueva) |
| Sneads, Fla. (Sneads) |
| Philadelphia, Pa. (Roman Catholic) |
| Noblesville, Ind. (West Virginia/Noblesville) |
| Indianapolis, Ind. (Northern Illinois/Lawrence Central) |
| Kennesaw, Ga. (Georgia Southern/Harrison) |
| St. Louis, Mo. (De Smet) |
| Baton Rouge, La. (Parkview Baptist) |
| Youngstown, Ohio (Westerville North) |
| Taylor Mill, Ky. (Covington Catholic) |
| Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County) |
| Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom) |
| Louisville, Ky. (Trinity) |
| Marion, S.C. (Marion) |
| Independence, Ky. (Simon Kenton) |
| Rocky Mount, N.C. (North Carolina/Rocky Mount) |
| Atlanta, Ga. (Westlake) |
| Brunswick, Ga. (Brunswick) |
| Somerset, Ky. (Corbin) |
| Charlotte, N.C. (West Charlotte) |
| Somerset, Ky. (Corbin) |
| Powell, Tenn. (Powell) |
| Lanett, Ala. (Alabama/Lanett) |
| Montgomery, Ala. (Alabama Christian) |
| Willingboro, N.J. (NC State/Willingboro) |
| Fort Worth, Texas (Grapevine Faith Christian) |
| Akron, Ohio (Ohio State/Arizona State/Archibald Hoban) |
| Bogart, Ga. (Georgia/Prince Avenue Christian) |
| Woonsocket, R.I. (Bishop Hendricken) |
| Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech) |
| Youngstown, Ohio (Michigan/Chaney) |
| Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Joseph's) |
| Louisville, Ky. (Moore Traditional) |
| Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier) |
| Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller) |
| Douglasville, Ga. (South Paulding) |
| Owensboro, Ky. (Rutgers/Owensboro) |
| Richmond, Ky. (Madison Central) |
| Pikeville, Ky. (Pikeville) |
| Danville, Ky. (Boyle County) |

NUMERICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| 39* | Josh Terrell | WR | 5-10 | 174 | Jr-Sq |
| 39* | Troy Booker | DB | 5-10 | 186 | Fr-HS |
| 40 | Caleb Redd | OLB | 6-3 | 232 | Fr-HS |
| 42* | Tyrese Fearbry | OLB | 6-5 | 242 | So-1L |
| 42* | Alex McLaughlin | LS | 5-10 | 229 | Jr-Tr |
| 43 | Landon Marcum | OLB | 6-2 | 187 | So-Sq |
| 44* | Justin Kattus | TE | 6-1 | 216 | Fr-HS |
| 44* | Antwan Smith | ILB | 6-3 | 205 | Fr-HS |
| 45* | Jase Bruner | ILB | 6-2 | 235 | Sr-Sq |
| 45* | Darius Cannon | WR | 5-9 | 177 | So-Sq |
| 46 | Rushaune Vilane | OLB | 6-2 | 225 | Fr-HS |
| 47 | Jarard Mosely | DB | 6-2 | 193 | Jr-Sq |
| 48 | Aidan Laros (luh-ROSS) | P | 6-2 | 212 | Jr-Tr |
| 50* | Darrion Henry-Young | DL | 6-4 | 290 | Sr-2L |
| 50* | Koby Keenum | OL | 6-4 | 302 | Fr-RS |
| 51 | Daniel Mincey | OL | 6-4 | 290 | Fr-HS |
| 52 | Jalen Farmer | OL | 6-5 | 314 | So-Tr |
| 53* | Aba Selm | OL | 6-4 | 303 | Fr-HS |
| 53* | Hayden Dawahare | OLB | 6-3 | 230 | So-Sq |
| 54* | D'Eryk Jackson | ILB | 6-1 | 244 | Sr-4L |
| 54* | Gerald Mincey | OL | 6-6 | 335 | Sr-Tr |
| 55* | Noah Matthews | OLB | 6-5 | 254 | So-1L |
| 55* | Marc Nave Jr. | OL | 6-4 | 335 | Fr-HS |
| 56 | Walker Himebauch | LS | 6-1 | 223 | So-1L |
| 58 | Lucas Padgett | OL | 6-4 | 315 | Sr-Sq |
| 59 | Lincoln Billiter | DL | 6-3 | 288 | So-Sq |
| 62 | Jager Burton (Jagger) | OL | 6-4 | 316 | Jr-2L |
| 63 | Kyle Mixon | OL | 6-5 | 322 | Fr-HS |
| 64 | Jackson Bunn | DL | 6-2 | 301 | So-Sq |
| 66 | Tino Merlo | OL | 6-2 | 283 | So-Sq |
| 68 | Charlie Lush | OL | 6-5 | 255 | Fr-HS |
| 69 | Marques Cox (MARK-us) | OL | 6-5 | 318 | Sr-1L |
| 70 | Ben Christman | OL | 6-6 | 325 | Jr-Sq |
| 71 | Malachi Wood | OL | 6-8 | 320 | Fr-HS |
| 72 | Hayes Johnson | OL | 6-4 | 300 | Fr-RS |
| 73 | Dylan Ray | OL | 6-6 | 310 | Jr-1L |
| 74 | Courtland Ford | OL | 6-6 | 327 | Sr-1L |
| 75 | Eli Cox | OL | 6-4 | 309 | Sr-4L |
| 76 | Austin Ramsey | OL | 6-4 | 328 | Fr-RS |
| 77 | Trent Baker | LS | 6-2 | 210 | Fr-HS |
| 78 | Anfernee Crease | OL | 6-6 | 315 | So-Tr |
| 79 | Dennious Jackson | DL | 6-5 | 335 | Jr-Tr |
| 81 | Willie Rodriguez | TE | 6-4 | 245 | Fr-HS |
| 82 | David Washington Jr. | WR | 5-11 | 203 | Fr-HS |
| 83 | Jack Monday | TE | 6-1 | 225 | Jr-Sq |
| 84 | Josh Kattus | TE | 6-4 | 246 | Jr-2L |
| 85 | Jordan Dingle | TE | 6-4 | 242 | Jr-2L |
| 86 | Ethan Gregory | WR | 5-8 | 190 | Fr-HS |
| 88 | Tanner Lemaster | TE | 6-5 | 250 | Fr-RS |
| 90 | Tre'vonn Rybka | DL | 6-4 | 284 | Sr-3L |
| 91 | Jacob Kauwe | K | 6-1 | 206 | Fr-HS |
| 92 | Kahlil Saunders | DL | 6-5 | 291 | Jr-2L |
| 93 | Wilson Berry | P | 6-4 | 217 | Jr-1L |
| 94 | Tavion Gadson | DL | 6-5 | 295 | Fr-RS |
| 95 | Jerod Smith II | DL | 6-4 | 273 | Fr-HS |
| 96 | Tommy Ziesmer | DL | 6-2 | 282 | Fr-RS |
| 97 | Josaih Hayes | DL | 6-3 | 322 | Sr-4L |
| 98 | Kenyatta Hardge II | DL | 6-0 | 285 | Fr-HS |
| 99 | Kendrick Gilbert | DL | 6-5 | 275 | Fr-RS |

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Khamari Anderson (kuh-MAR-ee)
 Barion (bear-EON) Brown
 Lincoln Billiter (BILL-eh-ter)
 Jager (Jagger) Burton
 Marques (MARK-us) Cox
 Josaih (joe-SIGH-uh) Hayes
 Walker Himebauch (hime-BOCK)
 Dennious Jackson (dee-NIE-us)
 D'Eryk (dee-ERIC) Jackson
 Tanner Lemaster (LEE-master)

Aidan Laros (luh-ROSS)
 Ja'Mori Maclin (jah-MORE-ee)
 Terhyon Nichols (tuh-RYAN)
 Daveren (DAVE-ren) Rayner
 Jerod Smith II (jer-AWD)
 Demie (DEHM-ee) Sumo-Karngbaye (SUE-moh KARNG-bay)
 Chip Trayanum (TRAY-num)
 Rushaune Vilane (rah-SHAWN)
 Deone (dee-ON) Walker
 Tommy Ziesmer (ZEES-mer)





WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE - WEEK ONE

| Monday - 26 | Tuesday - 27 | Wednesday - 28 | Thursday - 29 | Friday - 30 | Saturday - 31 | Sunday - 1 |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Stoops news conference - Noon ET Carried live on UKAthletics.com Mark Stoops Call-in Show 7-8 pm | Post-Practice: OC Bush, Off. Players - 5:45 pm ET | Post-Practice: DC White, Def. Players - 5:45 pm ET | Post-Practice: Stoops 5:45 pm ET | No availability | UK vs. Southern Miss 7:55 ET Kroger Field SEC Network | No availability |

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collegepressbox

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MEDIA SERVICES

CREDENTIAL APPROVALS/DENIALS

For the Southern Miss game, requests are being accepted through Sportssystem and the deadline to apply is Monday, Aug. 26 at 5 p.m. ET. No approved credentials will be distributed prior to game day. They will be picked up at Media Will Call at Gate 11 prior to the game.

Apply at www.sportssystem.com/kentucky

UK WEBSITE -- UKATHLETICS.COM

For notes, player bios, rosters and stats, visit the official University of Kentucky Athletics website at UKAthletics.com/football. The official Southeastern Conference website is secsports.com.

UK WEEKLY NEWS CONFERENCE

Every Monday head coach Mark Stoops will host a news conference at noon ET from the media room at Kroger Field. The news conference is streamed live on UKAthletics.com. UK game notes will be released at approximately 11:35 a.m. ET on Monday. A transcript of the news conference will be emailed on Monday afternoons.

SEC HEAD COACHES' TELECONFERENCE

The SEC head coaches' teleconference is on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET. Coach Mark Stoops' time slot is 12:40 p.m. A link/number will be sent via e-mail from SEC Communications Office Weekly and UKCPR will email it as well. Contact Susan Lax with questions.

POST-PRACTICE INTERVIEWS

Interviews will be conducted at the Joe Craft Football Training Center or by telephone at the conclusion of each practice on Tuesdays (offensive coaches and players) and Wednesdays (defensive coaches and players/special teams). Coach Stoops will speak to the media on Thursdays post practice. Contact Susan Lax, Matt May or Cami Moore Williams for assistance.

VIDEOS/PHOTOS

Every Monday press conference, post-practice press conferences and post-game press conference after home Saturday games will be here >> vimeo.com/showcase/kentuckyfootball

For photos this season, go here: bit.ly/3Knvovk PASSCODE: ukmedia2022-23

THE UK HEALTHCARE MARK STOOPS SHOW

The UK HealthCare Mark Stoops Show is Monday from 6-7 p.m. ET and is hosted by The Voice of the Wildcats Tom Leach. Fans will have the opportunity to ask questions of Coach Stoops by tweeting to @UKSportsNetwork or by calling 1-800-606-GAME (4263) or 859-280-2287 (CATS).

The show airs in Lexington on 630 WLAP, online at UKAthletics.com and on UK Sports Network affiliates throughout Kentucky. A live video stream of the show will be available on UKAthletics.com as well as on the Official Kentucky Football Facebook page.





KENTUCKY VS. SOUTHERN MISS

- Kentucky leads Southern Miss, 3-1, including 2-1 in Lexington, in a series that began in 1949.
- The Wildcats last faced the Golden Eagles in the season opener in 2017, earning a 24-17 triumph in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.
 - In the meeting, Benny Snell Jr. rushed for 67 yards and two scores, tight end C.J. Conrad caught three balls for 97 yards and a score and current NFL star Josh Allen had 2.0 TFL, a sack and a forced fumble.

NONCONFERENCE COMPETITION

- Kentucky has won 19 of its last 21 nonconference games.
 - That stretch featured 16 straight nonconference wins, which was the longest active streak in FBS at the time, including four straight bowl wins. The streak began in the season opener on Sept. 1, 2018 and ended in the Music City Bowl game on Dec. 31, 2022.
- The Wildcats have won their last 16 straight nonconference games in the regular season.
 - That streak is second in the nation behind Georgia (24).
- UK has won 14 straight nonconference games at Kroger Field, dating back to the start of 2018.

WILDCATS IN SEASON OPENERS, HOME OPENERS

SEASON OPENERS

- UK is 90-37-5 in all-time season openers, including 7-3 under Mark Stoops.
- The Wildcats have won 13 of their past 17 season openers, including six of the last seven.
- Speedster Barion Brown has returned a kickoff for a score in each of the Cats' last two season openers.
- Kentucky has scored at least 37 points in three straight season openers for the first time since 1928-1930.
- UK has won three straight on-field season openers by at least 24 points for the first since 2007-09.
- The Wildcats have allowed less than 300 yards of total offense in three straight season openers for the first time since 2007-09.

HOME OPENERS

- The Wildcats have won the last four games that they have opened the season at home since 2018, the most since the Cats opened at home and won them all from 1987-94.
- Kentucky has scored 35 points in the last nine seasons they have opened the season at home (2007, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023), which is a school record.

A KENTUCKY WIN WOULD...

- Extend head coach Mark Stoops' all-time school records for overall wins (64) and home wins (45).
- Improve his season-opener record to 8-3.
- Give UK 17 straight regular season non-conference wins and 15 straight regular season non-conference home wins

OFFENSIVE NOTES

1K FOR BARION BROWN, DANE KEY & J'A'MORI MACLIN

- Barion Brown and Dane Key eclipsed 1,000 career yards receiving - in the same game - as sophomores last season at South Carolina on Nov. 18, 2023.
 - Brown concluded last season with 1,167 career yards receiving after he became the 33rd player in program history to eclipse 1K.
 - Key concluded last season with 1,155 career yards receiving after he became the 34th player in program history to eclipse 1K.

QUICK FACTS

Location: Lexington, Ky.
 Founded: 1865
 Enrollment: 33,000
 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

2023 COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Mark Stoops (Iowa, '89)
Overall College Coaching Record:
 UK/Career Record (Years): 63-65 (12th yr.)
 On-field Record: 73-65 (.529)
 SEC Record: 30-55 (.353)
 On-field SEC Record: 35-55 (.389)
 Bowl Record: 3-4 (.429)
 On-field Bowl Record: 4-4 (.500)

Assistant Coaches:

Vince Marrow (Toledo, '92)
 Assoc. HC/TE/Recruiting Coord., 12th year
Brad White (Wake Forest, '05)
 Def. Coord./OLBs, 7th year (6th as DC)
Bush Hamdan (Boise State, '08)
 Offensive Coord./QBs, 1st year
Jay Boulware (Texas, '96)
 Running Backs/Sp. Teams Coord., 2nd year
Frank Buffano (Arizona, '06)
 Safeties, 5th year
Chris Collins (Western Carolina, '10)
 Co-Def. Coord./Defensive Backs, 4th year
Anwar Stewart (Kentucky, '17)
 Defensive Line, 5th year
Mike Stoops (Iowa, '87)
 Inside Linebackers, 3rd year
Daikiel Shorts Jr. (West Virginia, '16)
 Wide Receivers, 1st year

Josh Estes-Waugh (Kentucky, '12)
 Assistant Coach Tight Ends

Bryan Berezowitz (Kentucky, '19)
 Assistant Coach Nickels

Derek Shay (Eastern Illinois, '13)
 Senior Offensive Assistant
 Run Game Specialist

Mike Preifer Jr. (Wisconsin-Eau Claire, '17)
 Assistant Coach Special Teams

Mark Perry (Kentucky, '01)
 Director of High School Relations
 Senior Offensive Analyst

Graduate Assistants:

Jeremy Bruce - defense (Campbellsville, '18)
Drake Jackson - offense (Kentucky, '20)
Taylor Kolste - off the field - offense (Whitworth, '20)
Max Steurer - off the field - defense (Kentucky, '23)
Andrew Verboys - offense (Delaware, '18)
Dae'One Wilkins - defense (Furman, '22)



STAT SUPERLATIVES

Most Games Played (min. 30):

Zion Childress (50), Marques Cox (49), Alex Raynor (49), J.J. Weaver (48), Eli Cox (44), Josaih Hayes (42), D'Eryk Jackson (39), Kristian Story (39), Jamon Dumas-Johnson (38), Tre'Vonn Rybka (36), Chip Trayanum (36), Octavious Oxendine (35), Daveren Rayner (35), Courtland Ford (33), Gerald Mincey (32)

Most Games Started (min. 20):

Marques Cox (47), Eli Cox (35), J.J. Weaver (29), Zion Childress (28), Jager Burton (25), Deone Walker (25), Jamon Dumas-Johnson (24), Dane Key (24), D'Eryk Jackson (23), Jordan Lovett (21)

Consecutive Games Started (min. 12, *unavailable to play due to injury does not count):

Eli Cox (26), Jager Burton (25), Jamon Dumas-Johnson (24), Deone Walker (24), D'Eryk Jackson (21), J.J. Weaver (21), Gavin Wimsatt (18), Maxwell Hairston (13), Ja'Mori Maclin (12)

Consecutive Games with a Tackle (min. 12):

Deone Walker (26), J.J. Weaver (25), Jamon Dumas-Johnson (24), D'Eryk Jackson (22), Zion Childress (16)

Consecutive Games with a Reception (min. 5):

Barion Brown (26), Ja'Mori Maclin (12), Dane Key (8)

- Ja'Mori Maclin, who played the last two seasons at North Texas (2022-23) after transferring from Missouri (2020-21), leads the wide receiver room with 1,389 career yards receiving. In fact, he recorded 1,004 of those yards just last season, recording 57 catches and 11 scores at North Texas in 2023.
 - Fun Fact:** While Maclin committed to Kentucky prior to the hiring of offensive coordinator Bush Hamdan, Hamdan was actually Maclin's wide receivers coach at Missouri in 2020 and 2021.

KEEP CALM AND BARION

- While Barion Brown is most honored and praised for his success returning kicks, he also led Kentucky with 43 catches for 539 yards and four touchdowns as a sophomore in 2023.
 - He added 12 rushes for 147 yards and one rushing TD last season.
- The Wildcat has caught at least one pass in 26 straight games, which is every game of his college career.

BIG BLUE WALL

BETTER WITH AGE

- Prior to the start of 2024, Kentucky's offensive linemen combine for 207 career games played and 143 career games started in the FBS.
 - UK's 143 career games started is ranked second in the Southeastern Conference and ninth in the FBS.
- UK's offensive line includes five returners that appeared in at least 12 games in 2023. Those core returners started in 76.9 percent of possible starts - equaling 50 total starts - in 2023.
 - Eli Cox** and **Marques Cox** started all 13 games, while **Jager Burton** started in all 12 games that he appeared.
 - Dylan Ray** started in 10 of 13 games played, while **Courtland Ford** started in two of 13 games played.

THE COX BROTHERS

- Eli Cox and Marques Cox - not actually brothers by the way - returned for their sixth and seventh seasons, respectively, in 2024.
 - Between the two of them, they combine for 93 career games played and 82 career games started.
 - Fun Fact:** Eli Cox has played center for three different quarterbacks at Kentucky, including Will Levis, Devin Leary and now Brock Vandagriff. Levis and Leary are currently in the NFL.

FIRST UK START LOOMS AT QUARTERBACK BUT EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE

None of Kentucky's four quarterbacks have started a game at UK, but three players have collegiate experience.

- Gavin Wimsatt played in 25 games at Rutgers over the last three seasons. He started 19 games, including all 13 last season. He totaled 2,537 passing yards and 14 touchdowns and also had 628 net rushing yards and 11 TDs.
- Brock Vandagriff played in 13 games at Georgia over the last three seasons (no starts). He completed 12 of 21 passes for 165 yards and two touchdowns and had 46 net rushing yards.
- Beau Allen played five games as a reserve at UK in 2020-21 before transferring to Tarleton State, where he passed for 2,836 yards and 23 touchdowns during the 2022 season.

RED, WHITE & BLUE

Kentucky was one of three schools in the Southeastern Conference to have as many as 18 touchdowns passing in the red zone last season in 2023.

Red Zone Touchdowns Passing in the SEC in 2023

| Rank | Team | Value |
|------|----------|-------|
| 1. | LSU | 19 |
| | Georgia | 19 |
| 3. | Kentucky | 18 |

WHERE ARE THE COACHES?

Sideline

Mark Stoops, Head Coach
Jay Boulware, RBs/Special Teams
Frank Buffano, Safeties
Chris Collins, Co-DC, Defensive Backs
Vince Marrow, Assoc. Head Coach, Tight Ends
Daikiel Shorts, Wide Receivers
Anwar Stewart, Defensive Line
Mike Stoops, Inside Linebackers
Brad White, Defensive Coordinator, OLBs
Eric Wolford, Offensive Line

Press Box

Bush Hamdan, Offensive Coordinator/QBs





START ME UP

- The Wildcats scored at least 26 points in each of their first four games for the last three straight seasons from 2021 to 2023, marking the first time in school history.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

WISE WILDCATS

- This season, Kentucky retained nine starters on defense from 2023, including:
 - Defensive linemen:** Octavious Oxendine, Keeshawn Silver and Deone Walker
 - Linebackers:** Alex Afari Jr., J.J. Weaver and D'Eryk Jackson
 - Defensive backs:** Maxwell Hairston, Jordan Lovett and Zion Childress
- Altogether, 16 defenders on the roster have seen significant action for at least two seasons, either at Kentucky or another school in the FBS, including six defensive linemen, five defensive backs and five linebackers.
 - Another nine defenders have seen significant action for one season either at Kentucky or elsewhere.

STOPPING THE RUN

- Kentucky has held eight of its last 14 opponents - 57.1 percent - to less than 100 yards rushing, dating back to the final game of 2022.
- The Wildcats concluded last season ranked second in the Southeastern Conference and 17th in the nation in rushing defense, allowing opponents just 113.1 yards per game in 2023.
 - The Cats held each of their first five opponents of last season to under 100 yards rushing for the first time in program history, based on game-by-game stats available since the 1940s.

TURNOVERS GAINED

- UK concluded last season ranked third in the Southeastern Conference in turnovers gained, forcing 18 in 2023.

DEFENSIVE TOUCHDOWNS

- UK concluded last season ranked third in the Southeastern Conference and tied for eighth in the nation in defensive touchdowns with four in 2023.
 - UK was one of three schools in the SEC and one of 14 schools in the nation to record at least four defensive touchdowns in 2023.

PICK SIX

UK is tied for first in interceptions returned for touchdowns, among teams in the FBS, since the beginning of 2020, including two each in two different games.

Most Interception Returns for Touchdown Since 2020

| Rank | Team | IRT |
|------|-----------------|-----|
| 1 | KENTUCKY | 10 |
| | Pitt | 10 |
| | Iowa | 10 |
| | Ohio State | 10 |
| 5 | Utah | 9 |
| | Tennessee | 9 |

100-YARD RUSHERS

| Player | 2024 | Career | '24 Op. |
|---------------|------|--------|---------|
| Chip Trayanum | 0* | 1 | |
| Gavin Wimsatt | 0* | 1 | |

*First season at UK

100-YARD RECEIVERS

| Player | 2024 | Career | '24 Op. |
|----------------|------|--------|---------|
| Barion Brown | 0 | 4 | |
| Ja'Mori Maclin | 0* | 4 | |
| Dane Key | 0 | 1 | |

*First season at UK

300-YARD PASSERS

| Player | 2024 | Career | '24 Op. |
|------------|------|--------|---------|
| Beau Allen | 0 | 5* | |

*at Tarleton State

INTERCEPTIONS

| Player | 2024 | Career |
|---------------------|------|--------|
| Maxwell Hairston | 0 | 5 |
| Jordan Lovett | 0 | 5 |
| D'Eryk Jackson | 0 | 4 |
| J.J. Weaver | 0 | 2 |
| Zion Childress | 0 | 1 |
| Jamon Dumas-Johnson | 0* | 1 |
| Kristian Story | 0* | 1 |

*First season at UK

TRACKING SACK LEADERS

| Player | 2024 | Career |
|---------------------|------|--------|
| J.J. Weaver | 0.0 | 16.5 |
| Jamon Dumas-Johnson | 0.0* | 9.5 |
| Deone Walker | 0.0 | 8.5 |
| Octavious Oxendine | 0.0 | 5.5 |
| Daveren Rayner | 0.0 | 5.5 |
| Darrion Henry-Young | 0.0 | 3.5 |
| Josaih Hayes | 0.0 | 2.5 |
| Kahlil Saunders | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Alex Afari Jr. | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Zion Childress | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| D'Eryk Jackson | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Tre'vonn Rybka | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Tommy Ziesmer | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Jantzen Dunn | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| JQ Hardaway | 0.0 | 1.0 |

*First season at UK



TOP 25 POLLS

2024 AP TOP 25 (PRESEASON)

- 1 Georgia (46)
2 Ohio State (15)
3 Oregon (1)
4 Texas
5 Alabama
6 Ole Miss
7 Notre Dame
8 Penn State
9 Michigan
10 Florida State
11 Missouri
12 Utah
13 LSU
14 Clemson
15 Tennessee
16 Oklahoma
17 Oklahoma State
18 Kansas State
19 Miami
20 Texas A&M
21 Arizona
22 Kansas
23 Southern Cal
24 NC State
25 Iowa

UK & OPPONENTS RECEIVING VOTES: Louisville (111), KENTUCKY (3), Auburn (2)

2024 AFCA COACHES TOP 25 (PRESEASON)

- 1 Georgia (46)
2 Ohio State (7)
3 Oregon
4 Texas (1)
5 Alabama
6 Ole Miss
7 Notre Dame
8 Michigan (1)
9 Penn State
10 Florida State
11 Missouri
12 LSU
13 Utah
14 Clemson
15 Tennessee
16 Oklahoma
17 Kansas State
18 Oklahoma State
19 Miami
20 Texas A&M
21 Arizona
22 NC State
23 Southern Cal
24 Kansas
25 Iowa

UK & OPPONENTS RECEIVING VOTES: Louisville (95), Auburn (25), KENTUCKY (12), Florida (11), South Carolina (10)

UK has had at least one pick six in the last four seasons.

Kentucky's Pick Sixes Since 2020

Table with 5 columns: Year, Player, Opponent, Yards, Date. Lists pick sixes from 2020 to 2023.

MADDD MAXXX

- Maxwell Hairston made five interceptions, including four against Southeastern Conference opponents...
His two interceptions returned for touchdowns came in the same game...
The Wildcat also recorded the third-most total tackles of anyone on the team in 2023 (68).

DEONE WALKER ANCHORING THE LINE

- Named to nearly every preseason watch list he was eligible for, Deone Walker, a 6-foot-6, 348-pound defensive lineman...
Walker set or tied single-game career highs in every category last season...

ACTION JACKSON

- Inside linebacker D'Eryk Jackson has led the Wildcats in tackles in each of the last two seasons...
Jackson also has been active in pass defense, totaling four interceptions (one for touchdown) and six pass breakups.

BRAD'S BENCHMARKS

- Brad White is in his sixth season as the defensive coordinator, and his seventh season overall at Kentucky, since Mark Stoops plucked him from the NFL in 2018.



- Other programs have taken notice, too, as White has turned down several other coaching opportunities in that time.
- Kentucky's defense has remained constant under White, and that is evident by the benchmarks he continues to reach year-in and year-out.
 - The UK defense has held opponents to 30 points or fewer in 50 of 63 games with White as the defensive coordinator (2019-present).
 - The UK defense has held opponents to 24 points or fewer in 22 of the last 30 games.
 - Kentucky allowed 28 points or fewer in its first five games of the season, for three straight seasons (2021-23), for the first time since 1960-62.
 - Kentucky allowed 17 points or less in its first three games of the season, for two straight seasons (2022-23), for the first time since 1949-50.
 - UK has allowed 26 points or fewer per game in six straight seasons (2018-23) for the first time since 1983-89.
 - UK has yielded fewer than 160 rushing yards per game for six straight seasons (2018-23) for the first time since 1946-53.

J.J. WEAVER ON THE ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM AND WUERFFEL TROPHY WATCH LIST

- J.J. Weaver, outside linebacker, has been named a nominee for the Allstate Wuerffel Trophy and the AllState Good Works Team.
- Weaver, who was born with polydactyly, a condition in which a person has more than five fingers or toes on one, or on each, hand or foot, has had to face many obstacles in his lifetime. With six fingers on his right hand, he was bullied and ridiculed in grade school for being different. But that obstacle was nothing compared to what he was about to face during his collegiate years.
 - From July 2020 to August 2021, Weaver lost his father to homicide, sustained a season-ending knee injury and then lost his beloved high school football coach to cancer.
- Inspired by the help he received, Weaver has become an outspoken advocate for mental health and counseling. In the fall of 2023, with help from the Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families, he launched an eight-week peer-led grief counseling group on UK's campus, the first of its kind at UK called "The Perfect Fit Support Group."
 - With Weaver's help, "The Perfect Fit Support Group" received a \$40,000 grant by Women in Philanthropy and now will be available to all students on UK's campus beginning in the fall of 2024.
- In Spring 2024, Weaver attended the "Supporting Children and Teens Through Loss" event at the Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families, where he spoke to the group about going through grief and participated in a drum circle with the children.
 - In June, he attended the 2024 Annual Symposium on Children's Grief in Denver, Colorado, hosted by the National Alliance for Children's Grief. He shared his story and the work he's doing on UK's campus.
- He's also done many other community service events, including hosting free football camps and two bike drives, providing more than 200 bicycles to children in Lexington and his hometown of Louisville.
- Because of his resilience and work in the community, Weaver recently earned the Kentucky Pro Football Hall of Fame's 2024 Ron Butler Character in Adversity Award.

SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

RAYNOR'S RETURN

- Prior to 2023, Kentucky brought in a senior transfer from Georgia Southern to help bring consistency to the program's kicking game in Alex Raynor.
 - He shined in his Kentucky debut against Ball State on Sept. 2, 2023, connecting on all three of his field goal attempts, all of which were more than 40 yards, and on all five of his extra point attempts. Raynor became the first Kentucky player with three made field goals in their UK debut since Taylor Begley against Louisville on Sept. 1, 2002.

ON THE WATCH LISTS

WR, RS, AP - Barion Brown

- Jet Award Watch List
- Hornung Award Preseason Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Jager Burton

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Eli Cox

- Outland Trophy Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Marques Cox

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

ILB - Jamon Dumas-Johnson

- Butkus Award Watch List
- Comeback Player of the Year Award Watch List

DB - Maxwell Hairston

- Jim Thorpe Award Watch List
- Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

ILB - D'Eryk Jackson

- Butkus Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

P - Aidan Laros

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

WR - Ja'Mori Maclin

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Gerald Mincey

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

RB - Chip Trayanum

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

QB - Brock Vandagriff

- Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List

DL - Deone Walker

- Lott IMPACT Trophy Watch List
- Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- Outland Trophy Watch List
- Chuck Bednarik Watch List
- The Lombardi Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OLB - J.J. Weaver

- Allstate AFCA Good Works Team Watch List
- Allstate Wuerffel Trophy Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List



2024 CAT SCRATCHES

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

TE • KHAMARI ANDERSON

- Older brother, Raheem Anderson II, currently is a junior offensive lineman at Michigan

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 26 years old, oldest player on the team
- Married to the former Courtney Stewart of Paducah, Kentucky ... The couple has one son, Leo
- 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 recently was the punter for the Minnesota Vikings and the Pittsburgh Steelers ... Younger brother, Oscar, currently plays basketball at the University of North Florida

QB • CUTTER BOLEY

- Dad, Scott, played basketball at Western Kentucky (1989-92)
- Brother, Jaxon, was a tight end at Wyoming (2018)
- Sister, Erin, was the 2016 Gatorade National Player of the Year out of Elizabethtown HS and went on to play at Notre Dame and Oregon

WR • ANTHONY BROWN-STEPHENS

- Brother, Michael Brown-Stephens, is now a wide receiver at USF
- Nephew of Grammy Award winner John Legend

OL • JAGER BURTON

- Dad, Jeff, played football at Morehead State

DB • TY BRYANT

- Father, Cisco, played at Kentucky for Coach Jerry Claiborne from 1983-85 ... Cisco was a big-play performer at wide receiver, with 29 career catches for 482 yards (16.6 yards per catch) and six touchdowns

DB • JANTZEN DUNN

- Dad, Mitchell, played basketball at Miami from 1994-95

OLB • GRANT GODFREY

- Dad, Randall, was a linebacker at Georgia who was named SEC Freshman of the Year in 1992 and earned All-SEC honors in 1993 and 1994
- Randall played 12 seasons in the NFL (1996-2007) with the Cowboys, Titans, Seahawks, Chargers and Redskins
- Brother, RJ, is currently a forward on the Clemson men's basketball team

- The Wildcat's first field goal against No. 21/20 Tennessee on Oct. 28, 2023, a 28-yard field goal, made him 7-of-7 on the season at the time. With that, he broke the school record for most consecutive field goals made at the beginning of a career. The previous record of six was held by Joe Mansour (2013) and Miles Butler (all four in 2015, first two of 2018).
- He concluded the season 10-of-11 on field goals and 48-of-49 on extra points.
 - **Fun Fact:** Last season, he went 9-of-9 on field goals between 0 and 49 yards, including 4-of-4 on field goals between 40 and 49 yards.
- Going into 2024, Raynor's current field-goal streak is three straight.

KICKOFF RETURN KING

- In just two seasons, junior Barion Brown has recorded four kickoff returns for touchdowns, including three as a sophomore in 2023.
 - Of those four kickoff returns for touchdowns, three were of 100 yards.
- As a sophomore in 2023, the return specialist concluded the season as the nation's leader in two categories:
 - KOR average (36.0)
 - KOR for touchdowns (3)
- Brown also holds four school records for his kickoff return averages and touchdowns.

Kickoff Return Average (Career)

| | | | |
|----|-------|--------------|------------|
| 1. | 31.75 | Barion Brown | 2022-pres. |
|----|-------|--------------|------------|

Kickoff Return Average (Season)

| | | | |
|----|------|--------------|------|
| 1. | 36.0 | Barion Brown | 2023 |
|----|------|--------------|------|

Kickoff Return Touchdowns (Career)

| | | | | |
|----|---|--------------|------------|---|
| 1. | 4 | Barion Brown | 2022-pres. | <i>(also ties SEC record career kickoff return TDs)</i> |
|----|---|--------------|------------|---|

Kickoff Return Touchdowns (Season)

| | | | | |
|----|---|--------------|------|--|
| 1. | 3 | Barion Brown | 2023 | <i>(also tied SEC season record for KO return TDs)</i> |
|----|---|--------------|------|--|

GENERAL NOTES

HOME SWEET HOME

- In 2024, Kentucky is in its 52nd season playing at Kroger Field, which was formerly named Commonwealth Stadium (1973-2016).
 - The Cats are 180-144-4 (.558) all-time in the stadium, including 44-28 (.611) under Mark Stoops.

KENTUCKY IN THE SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

- The Wildcats have a 188-406-12 (.320) all-time record in Southeastern Conference games.
 - UK head coach Mark Stoops has a 30-55 (.353) all-time record in SEC games.

PORTAL PICKUPS

Mark Stoops took advantage of the NCAA Transfer Portal to fulfill needs in key positions in 2024, welcoming 15 new Wildcats to the program.

| Name | Pos. | Yr. | Previous School |
|---------------------|------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Beau Allen | QB | Sr. | Georgia Southern/Tarleton State |
| Anfernee Crease | OL | So. | Navarro College |
| Jamon Dumas-Johnson | ILB | Sr. | Georgia |
| Jalen Farmer | OL | So. | Florida |
| Fred Farrier II | WR | Jr. | UAB |
| Dennious Jackson | DL | Jr. | Contra Costa College |
| Aidan Laros | P | Jr. | UT Martin/Charlotte |





MILESTONES REACHED IN 2023

- **Coach Mark Stoops** has the most on-field victories (73) in Kentucky history, most SEC victories (35), most home victories (50) and most victories against ranked opponents (13).
- Sophomore **WR Dane Key** has gone over 1,000 career receiving yards. He now has 1,056.
 - He has 93 career receptions, needing just seven to reach 100.
- Sophomore **WR Barion Brown** has gone over 1,000 career receiving yards. He now has 1,067.
 - He has the most kickoff return TD by an active FBS player with four.
 - He currently owns the school record for kickoff return average (min. 30 returns) at 31.8 yards per return.
 - He owns a streak of 26 straight games with a reception, which is every game of his college career.
 - He has 93 career receptions, needing just seven to reach 100.
- Junior transfer **WR Ja'Mori Maclin** has 1,389 receiving yards in his career. He needs 611 to reach 2,000 for his collegiate career.
- Senior **LB D'Eryk Jackson** has 178 career tackles and led the Cats in both 2022 and 2023. He needs 22 to reach 200.
- Senior **LB J.J. Weaver** has 16.5 career sacks and needs two reach the top five in school history. He has 32.0 TFL, needs five to reach the top three in school history.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-----|--------------------------|
| Ja'Mori Maclin | WR | Jr. | North Texas/Missouri |
| Alex McLaughlin | LS | Jr. | Illinois/N.C. State |
| Gerald Mincey | OL | Sr. | Tennessee/Florida |
| Kristian Story | DB | Sr. | Alabama |
| DeaMonte "Chip" Trayanum | RB | Sr. | Ohio State/Arizona State |
| Brock Vandagriff | QB | Jr. | Georgia |
| DJ Waller Jr. | DB | So. | Michigan |
| Gavin Wimsatt | QB | Jr. | Rutgers |

VINCE MARROW'S RECRUITING RECORD

- In June, Carl Reed Jr. of 247Sports' named Vince Marrow - Kentucky's associate head coach, tight ends coach, recruiting coordinator and NFL liaison - one of the three top recruiters in college football, alongside Brian Hartline of Ohio State and Levar Woods of Iowa.

KROGER FIELD'S IMPROVED LIGHTING, RIBBON BOARDS

- In 2024, Kroger Field will feature brand new lighting and ribbon boards.
 - The LED lighting system will include the ability to do light shows during timeouts and breaks in play similar to those at games in Rupp Arena and Kentucky Proud Park.
 - The new ribbon boards have greater functionality, featuring sharper visual resolution than the previous set and expanded capability for display of video and graphics.

2024 CAT SCRATCHES

LS • WALKER HIMEBAUCH

- Father, Jonathan Himebauch, was a center at USC from 1993-98, before a professional career that included stints at the Arizona Cardinals and the Kansas City Chiefs
- Jonathan currently serves as the offensive line coach and special teams coordinator for the Arlington Renegades of the XFL under head coach Bob Stoops
- Grandfather, Jack Himebauch, was a wide receiver and tight end at Miami (Ohio) from 1962-64
- Uncle, Curt Himebauch, was a defensive back at USC from 1989-91

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
- Brother, Justin, is a freshman TE for the Cats

OL • KOBY KEENUM

- Father, Carl, was a long snapper at North Alabama

WR • DANE KEY

- Father, Donte Key, was a UK linebacker/defensive end from 1992-95
- Brother, Devon Key, played for the Kansas City Chiefs and is currently with the Broncos

DB • JORDAN LOVETT

- Mom, Tameka, is a Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army

OLB • NOAH MATTHEWS

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

OL • KYLE MIXON

- Earned an Eagle Scout in 2023, the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America

RB • TOVANI MIZELL

- Dad, Travis, was a cornerback at UAB from 1992-95
- Mom, Cindra, played for the Miami Fury in the Women's Football Alliance in 2001-02
- Cousin, Jordan Fuller, currently plays for the Carolina Panthers
- Cousin, Devin Fuller, was a wide receiver with the Atlanta Falcons
- Cousin Coco Gauff, is an American professional tennis player
- Cousin, Keyon Dooling, played 13 seasons in the NBA

DT • OCTAVIOUS OXENDINE

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

OL • DYLAN RAY

- Father, John, played offensive line at WVU from 1988-91 and went on to play professionally with the Indianapolis Colts

K • ALEX RAYNOR

- Dad, Christian, played golf at Florida State (1990-94) and was inducted into the FSU Hall of Fame in 2012

DB • QUAY'SHEED SCOTT

- Cousin, Cam Smith, currently is a cornerback for the Miami Dolphins
- Cousin, Xavier Legette, is currently a wide receiver for the Carolina Panthers





2024 CAT SCRATCHES

- Cousin, T.J. Sanders, currently plays defensive tackle at South Carolina

DL JEROD AND OLB JACOB SMITH

- Dad, Jerod, is currently a master sergeant in the United States Marine Corps

DB • KRISTIAN STORY

- Mom, Kristina, played basketball at Faulkner and Auburn University at Montgomery from 1992-96
- Dad, Clifford, played football and baseball at Jacksonville State from 1992-96
- Brother Tre, played football at Richmond from 2017-19 and Tuskegee from 2019-21
- Brother, Caden, currently is a defensive tackle at Clemson
- Uncle, Marcus Pollard, spent 14 years in the NFL and is currently the director of player engagement and youth football for the Jacksonville Jaguars

RB • DEMI SUMO-KARNGBAYE

- Cousin, Phillip Blidi, is currently on the defensive line at Auburn and formerly Indiana
- Cousin, Jeremie Karngbaye, played at West Texas

QB • BROCK VANDAGRIFF

- Dad, Greg, played football at Tennessee Wesleyan
- Mom, Kelly, played basketball at Southern Union
- Sister, Anna, is currently on the volleyball team at Eastern Kentucky University

WR • BRANDON WHITE

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

OLB • J.J. WEAVER

- Has six functioning fingers on his right hand
- Got custom gloves by Nike made to fit his hand
- Played high school football in Louisville but grew up in Broward County, Florida

OL • MALACHI WOOD

- Grandfather, Michael Wood, was an offensive guard at the University of Cincinnati (1979-81)

#LAFAMILIA

Kentucky football has several set of sons or grandsons of former Kentucky Wildcats:

- Sophomore DB Ty Bryant is the son of former Wildcat Cisco Bryant (1983-85)
- Senior walk-on WR Trey Dennis is the son of former Wildcat Harold Dennis (1994-96)
- Junior 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
- Junior walk-on OL Lucas Padgett is the son of Scott Padgett, who played basketball at Kentucky (1995-99), helping the Wildcats advance to two Final Fours, including national titles in 1996 and '98 ... Went on to play eight years in the pros ... Mom, Cynthia (Dozier), was a four-year letterwinner on UK's volleyball team (1994-97)

SMARTY CATS

In 2024, there are 14 players on the Kentucky roster who have earned at least one degree.

1. Beau Allen – Interdisciplinary Studies (*Georgia Southern*)
2. Wilson Berry – Kinesiology
3. Jase Bruner – Business and Economics
4. Zion Childress – Communications
5. Eli Cox – Integrated Strategic Communication with a Minor in Business
6. Marques Cox – Certificate in Business and Economics (*Kentucky*); Marketing (*Northern Illinois*)
7. Jordan Dingle – Clinical Leadership and Management
8. D'Eryk Jackson – Communication and Information
9. Ja'Mori Maclin – Integrated Studies (*North Texas*)
10. Alex Raynor – Business Administration (*Georgia Southern*)
11. Kristian Story – Sport Management (*Alabama*)
12. Chip Trayanum – Consumer and Family Financial Services (*Ohio State*)
13. Brock Vandergriff – Communication Studies (*Georgia*)
14. J.J. Weaver – Agriculture, Food & Environment

BY THE "BIG BLUE" NUMBERS

Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History

1. **63** Mark Stoops (2013-Present)
2. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-53)
3. 47 Fran Curci (1973-81)
4. 41 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)
- 41 Blanton Collier (1954-61)

Most Career SEC Wins By A Head Coach, School History

1. **30** 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. **44** Mark Stoops (2013-present)
2. 33 Paul Bryant (1946-53)
3. 32 Jerry Claiborne (1982-89)

Most Career Wins vs. A Ranked Opponent, School History

1. **11** Mark Stoops (2013-Pres.)
2. 9 Paul Bryant (1946-53)
- 9 Fran Curci (1973-81)

*on field



LONG-TERM STABILITY

Mark Stoops is the longest-tenured active head coach in the Southeastern Conference and the sixth longest-tenured active head coach in FBS. Now in his 12th season at Kentucky, Stoops is one of only 19 head coaches who have coached at least 12 seasons at an SEC school since the league's first season in 1933.

Longest Tenured Active Head Coaches (FBS)

| Rank | Head Coach | School | Hired |
|------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Kirk Ferentz | Iowa | Dec. 2, 1998 |
| 2. | Kyle Whittingham | Utah | Dec. 9, 2004 |
| 3. | Mike Gundy | Okl. State | Jan. 3, 2005 |
| 4. | Troy Calhoun | Air Force | Dec. 22, 2006 |
| 5. | Dabo Swinney | Clemson | Oct. 13, 2008 |
| 6. | MARK STOOPS | KENTUCKY | NOV. 27, 2012 |
| 7. | Dave Doeren | NC State | Dec. 1, 2012 |

He has the 10th most wins by an active head coach (*all at the same school*) in FBS.

Most Wins by an Active Head Coaches (FBS) - All at The Same School

| Rank | Wins | Head Coach | School | Current Season |
|------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. | 196 | Kirk Ferentz | Iowa | 25th |
| 2. | 170 | Dabo Swinney | Clemson | 16th |
| 3. | 166 | Mike Gundy | Oklahoma State | 20th |
| 4. | 162 | Kyle Whittingham | Utah | 20th |
| 5. | 130 | Troy Calhoun | Air Force | 18th |
| 6. | 94 | Kirby Smart | Georgia | 9th |
| 7. | 88 | James Franklin | Penn State | 11th |
| 8. | 88 | K.C. Keeler | Sam Houston State | 11th |
| 9. | 81 | Dave Doeren | NC State | 12th |
| 10. | 71 | Brian Bohannon | Kennesaw State | 10th |
| 11. | 70 | Jeff Monken | Army | 11th |
| 12. | 65 | Pat Narduzzi | Pitt | 10th |
| 13. | 63 | Dave Clawson | Wake Forest | 11th |
| 14. | 63 | MARK STOOPS | KENTUCKY | 12TH |

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 Stoops and several other key members of the program. Below is a list of staffers and players from Youngstown:
 - Mark Stoops** – Head Coach (Cardinal Mooney High School)
 - Mike Stoops** – Inside Linebackers Coach (Cardinal Mooney)
 - Vince Marrow** – Associate Head Coach/Recruiting Coord./Tight Ends (Cardinal Mooney)
 - Eric Wolford** – Offensive Line (Ursuline High School)
 - Was the Youngstown State University football head coach from 2010-14*
 - Frank Buffano** – Safeties (Cardinal Mooney)
 - Tino Merlo** – Sophomore, offensive lineman (Cardinal Mooney)
 - DJ Waller Jr.** – Sophomore, defensive back (Chaney)
 - Brian Robinson** – Freshman, defensive lineman (Westerville North)

CATS IN THE PROS

A total of 18 former Kentucky Wildcats are currently on National Football League 53-man rosters with four additional players with other NFL roles or in the CFL. The list of those players is as follows (*as of Aug. 28, 2024*):

Buffalo Bills
Ray Davis, RB (2023)
Mike Edwards, S (2015-2018)

Carolina Panthers
Trevin Wallace, LB (2021-23)

Cleveland Browns
Za'Darius Smith, OLB (2013-14)

Denver Broncos
Keidron Smith, DB (2022)

Detroit Lions
Josh Paschal, DE (2017-21)

Green Bay Packers
Carrington Valentine, DB (2020-22)

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

LA Chargers
Bud Dupree, OLB (2011-14)

New Orleans Saints
Landon Young, OT (2016-17, 19-20)

New York Giants
Dru Phillips, DB (2020-23)
Wan'Dale Robinson, WR (2021)

New York Jets
Brenden Bates, TE (2018-23)
Brandin Echols, CB (2019-20)

Philadelphia Eagles
Darian Kinnard, OT (2018-21)

Tennessee Titans
Will Levis, QB (2001-22)

Washington Commanders
Jamin Davis, ILB (2018-20)

OTHER CATS IN NFL ROLES

Asst. General Manager, Las Vegas Raiders
Champ Kelly, WR/DB (1998-2001)

Director of Player Engagement, San Francisco 49ers
Austin Moss, DE (2006-09)

College Scout, Jacksonville Jaguars
Corey Peters, DL (2006-09)

CATS IN THE CFL

Defensive Line, Saskatchewan Roughriders
Micah Johnson, LB (2006-09)



BY THE NUMBERS

Table with 3 columns: Category, 2024, Stoops. Rows include Record on field, SEC, TV Games, UK scores on 1st possession, Scoring less than 20 pts, Opp. has more total yds, etc.

COACHING CHANGES

- Bush Hamdan was named Kentucky's new offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach prior to 2024. Hamdan replaced Liam Coen... Daikiel Shorts Jr. was hired as the wide receivers coach... Eric Wolford returned to Lexington as the offensive line coach in 2024.

WILDCATS IN THE NFL DRAFT

- Four players were drafted in 2024, giving head coach Mark Stoops a total of 28 drafted players since his arrival in 2013. Twenty-four of those 28 selections have come in the last six drafts (2019-24). Sixteen of those 28 selections were defensive players. The 2024 NFL Draft marked the sixth straight year UK had at least one player drafted in the first three rounds.

HARDLEY ANYONE YOUNGER

- Freshman receiver Hardley Gilmore IV was born on December 5, 2006, making him just 17 years old during the 2024 season. He is the third-youngest player in FBS this season.

Youngest Players in FBS

Table with 3 columns: Birthday, Player, School. Rows: 2/9/2007 Ryan Williams Alabama, 2/6/2007 Darius Washington Houston, 12/5/2006 Hardley Gilmore IV Kentucky

BAND OF BROTHERS

- Fun Fact: Kentucky has three sets of brothers on its roster in Justin and Josh Kattus; Daniel and Gerald Mincey and twins, Jerod and Jacob Smith. Here's how that stacks up nationally:

6 – Colorado, Utah State

5 – BYU

4 – Kennesaw State, Miami (Fla.), Nebraska, Oklahoma State

3 – Colorado State, Georgia, Iowa State, Kentucky, Louisiana, Southern California, Tennessee

2 – Appalachian State, Baylor, Clemson, Eastern Michigan, Fresno State, Hawai'i, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi State, Nevada, Oregon, South Carolina, Temple, UNLV, UTSA

DID YOU KNOW?

- A University of Kentucky-record 11 Wildcats won 13 medals at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games – nine gold, two silver and two bronze. A picture of longevity, UK Equipment Manager Tom Kalinowski enters his 47th season in that role in 2024. He also was a student manager in 1974-77, now marking his 51st year working with UK football in 2024. He has worked more than 500 consecutive games. In honor of his 50th season in 2023, Kalinowski was named an honorary captain for the home finale against Alabama. UK is one of only 11 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 eight universities in the United States with the full complement of liberal arts, engineering, professional, agricultural and medical colleges and disciplines on one contiguous campus.



- The Kentucky cheerleaders have won an unprecedented 24 national cheerleading championships at the annual Universal Cheerleaders Association championships.

TEAM CAPTAINS

The season captains will be announced Monday, Aug. 26. Game captains will be decided on a week-by-week basis:

2024 Game-by-Game Captains

vs. Southern Miss - TBA
 vs. South Carolina
 vs. Georgia
 vs. Ohio
 at Ole Miss
 vs. Vanderbilt
 at Florida
 vs. Auburn
 at Tennessee
 vs. Murray State
 at Texas
 vs. Louisville

SHRINE BOWL 1000

Fourteen Kentucky football players have been identified by the East-West Shrine Bowl as those among the Shrine Bowl 1000 Watch List. The list is created by the Shrine Bowl committee in conjunction with collegiate programs, NFL franchises and the game's scouting department. The following Wildcats made the 2024 list:

Jager Burton, OL
 Eli Cox, OL
 Marques Cox, OL
 Jordan Dingle, TE
 Jamon Dumas-Johnson, LB
 Maxwell Hairston, DB
 D'Eryk Jackson, LB
 Aidan Laros, P
 Jordan Lovett, DB
 Ja'Mori Maclin, WR
 Gerald Mincey, OL
 Chip Trayanum, RB
 Brock Vandagriff, QB
 J.J. Weaver, LB

HONORING THE CATS (2024)

WR, RS - Barion Brown

- Jet Award Watch List
- Hornung Award Preseason Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-America, First Team (Sporting News)
- Preseason All-America, Second Team (Athlon, Phil Steele, USA Today)
- Preseason All-SEC, First Team, RS (Media)
- Preseason All-SEC, First Team, ST (Athlon, Phil Steele)
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team, AP (Media)

OL - Jager Burton

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Eli Cox

- Outland Trophy Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team (Phil Steele)
- Preseason All-SEC, Fourth Team (Athlon)

OL - Marques Cox

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team (Athlon, Media)
- Preseason All-SEC, Fourth Team (Phil Steele)

ILB - Jamon Dumas-Johnson

- Butkus Award Watch List
- Comeback Player of the Year Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-SEC, Second Team (Athlon, Phil Steele)
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team (Media)

DB - Maxwell Hairston

- Jim Thorpe Award Watch List
- Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-America, Fourth Team (Athlon)
- Preseason All-SEC, First Team (Athlon, Media, Phil Steele)

ILB - D'Eryk Jackson

- Butkus Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team (Athlon, Phil Steele)

WR - Dane Key

- Preseason All-SEC, Second Team (Athlon, Phil Steele)

P - Aidan Laros

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

WR - Ja'Mori Maclin

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OL - Gerald Mincey

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

RB - Chip Trayanum

- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

QB - Brock Vandagriff

- Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List

DL - Deone Walker

- Preseason All-America, First Team (ESPN, Sporting News)
- Preseason All-America, Second Team (AP, Athlon, Phil Steele, USA Today, Walter Camp)
- Preseason All-SEC, First Team (Athlon, Media, Phil Steele)
- Lott IMPACT Trophy Watch List
- Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- Outland Trophy Watch List
- Chuck Bednarik Watch List
- The Lombardi Award Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List

OLB - J.J. Weaver

- Allstate AFCA Good Works Team Watch List
- Allstate Wuerffel Trophy Watch List
- Reese's Senior Bowl Bowl Watch List
- Preseason All-SEC, Third Team (Athlon)
- Preseason All-SEC, Fourth Team (Phil Steele)



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME KENTUCKY ...

Scored 40 points: 45 at Vanderbilt, Sept. 23, 2023
 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. Youngstown State (31-0), Sept. 17, 2022
Shut Out an Opponent in the 1st half: vs. Akron, Sept. 16, 2023
 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. Youngstown State, Sept. 17, 2022 (31-0 win)
 Game is scoreless at the half: at Georgia, Oct. 19, 2019
Shut Out an Opponent in the 2nd half: at Mississippi State, Nov. 4, 2023
Scored a TD on first series: vs. Mississippi State, Nov. 4, 2023
 Scored on first play from scrimmage of game: at Louisville, Nov. 26, 2016
 Had 25 First Downs: 26 vs. Youngstown State, Sept. 17, 2022
 Had 30 First Downs: 35 vs. Tennessee, Nov. 6, 2021
Had 250 yards rushing: 329 vs. Florida, Sept. 30, 2023
Had 300 yards rushing: 329 vs. Florida, Sept. 30, 2023
 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: 306 vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
 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: 183 at Georgia, Oct. 7, 2023
Held opp. below 100 yards rushing: 50, at South Carolina, Nov. 18, 2023
Held opp. below 50 yards rushing: 50, at South Carolina, Nov. 18, 2023
 Held opp. below 100 yards passing: 70, vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
 Held opponent below 200 yards total offense: 192 vs. Youngstown State, Sept. 17, 2022
 Held opp. below 100 yards total offense: 87 vs. ULM, Sept. 4, 2021
Had 10 or more tackles for loss: 12.0 vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
Had six or more sacks: 8.0 vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
 Recorded a safety: vs. UT Martin, Nov. 23, 2019
Recorded zero penalties: at Louisville, Nov. 25, 2023
 Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 31 by Chris Rodriguez Jr. vs. Mississippi State, Oct. 15, 2022
Had a player rush for 100 yards: Ray Davis (128), vs. Missouri, Oct. 14, 2023
 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. (112) at Missouri, Nov. 5, 2022 and (162), vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 12, 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: Ray Davis (280), vs. Florida, Sept. 30, 2023
 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: 3 by Ray Davis vs. Florida, Sept. 30, 2023
 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: 306 by Devin Leary, vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
 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: 3 by Devin Leary, at Louisville, Nov. 25, 2023
 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 Barion Brown vs. Georgia, Nov. 19, 2022
Had a player with 100 yards receiving: 100 by Barion Brown vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
 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: 147 by Tayvion Robinson and 102 by Barion Brown, vs. Northern Illinois, Sept. 24, 2022
 Had a player with 1,000 receiving yards in a season: 1334, Wan'Dale Robinson (2021)
 Had a true freshman with receiving TDs in each of first three collegiate games: Dane Key, 2022
 Had a player with TD receptions in at least three straight games: (3) Dane Key, 2022
 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: Ray Davis, at Louisville, Nov. 25, 2023
 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 score a touchdown in each of team's first six+ games of season: 8 Ray Davis (2023)
 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 score a TD vs rushing, receiving and kick return: Barion Brown, vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
Had a player return a kickoff for a TD: Barion Brown (100 yards) vs. Clemson, Dec. 29, 2023
 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: D'Eryk Jackson, 28 yards, at Mississippi State, Nov. 4, 2023
Had a player recover/return a fumble for a TD: Jalen Geiger, vs. Ball State, 69 yards, Sept. 2, 2023
Had two defensive TDs in the same game: Maxwell Hairston (2 INT) at Vanderbilt, Sept. 23, 2023* (only time in UK history player returned two INT for TD in same game)
 Had a player recover two fumbles in one game: Jordan Wright vs. South Carolina, Dec. 5, 2020
 Had a player block a punt: Martez Thrower vs. Youngstown State, Sept. 17, 2022
Had a player block a field goal: Keaten Wade vs. Missouri, Oct. 14, 2023
 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: Alex Raynor (50 yards) vs. Florida, Sept. 30, 2023
 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: 49 by Alabama, Nov. 11, 2023 |
| Scored 50 points: 51 by Georgia, Oct. 7, 2023 |
| Scored 10 or less points: 0 by Youngstown State, Sept. 17, 2022 |
| Shut Out Kentucky: 0-21 by Iowa, Dec. 31, 2022 |
| Shut Out Kentucky in 2nd half: by Tennessee, Oct. 29, 2022 |
| Rushed for 300 yards: 331 by Georgia, Nov. 3, 2018 |
| Passed for 300 yards: 435 by Georgia, Oct. 7, 2023 |
| Had 500 yards of total offense: 608 by Georgia, Oct. 7, 2023 |
| Recorded a safety: Ole Miss, Oct. 1, 2022 (intentional grounding in end zone) |
| Blocked a Kentucky punt: Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 9, 2023 |
| Blocked a Kentucky field goal: Vanderbilt, Nov. 12, 2022 |
| Blocked a Kentucky PAT: Florida, Sept. 30, 2023 |
| Had a player with 30 rush attempts: 37, Larry Rountree (Missouri, 126 yards), Oct. 24, 2020 |
| Had a player with 100 yards rushing: 120, Jalyn Wright (Tennessee), Oct. 28, 2023 |
| Had a player with 200 yards rushing: 210, Kevin Harris (South Carolina), Dec. 5, 2020 |
| Had a player with 100 yards rushing: 129, Ray Davis (Vanderbilt) and 126, Mike Wright (Vanderbilt) Nov. 12, 2022 |
| Had a player with 40 pass attempts: 41 by Cade Klubnik (Clemson, 30 completions), Dec. 29, 2023 |
| Had a player with 25 pass completions: 30 by Cade Klubnik (Clemson, 30 completions), Dec. 29, 2023 |
| Had a player with 300 yards passing: 389 by Carson Beck (Georgia, Oct. 7, 2023) |
| 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: 132, Brock Bowers (Georgia, 5 catches), Oct. 7, 2023 |
| 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: Emmanuel Forbes (Miss. State), 59 yards, Oct. 15, 2022 |
| Had a player return a fumble for a TD: Trevor Brohard (New Mexico State), 25 yards, Nov. 20, 2021 |



INDIVIDUAL/TEAM RECORDS

Most Career Wins By A Head Coach, School History

1. **63 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)**
2. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
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. **44 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)

Kickoff Return Touchdowns, Career, School History

1. **4 Barion Brown, 32 returns (2022-present)**
2. 3 Craig Yeast, 42 returns (1995-98)

Kickoff Return Average, Career, School History (min. 30 returns)

1. **31.75 Barion Brown, 32 returns (2022-23)**
2. 27.11 Derrick Locke, 54 returns (2007-10)
3. 27.05 Calvin Bird, 37 returns (1958-60)
4. 25.50 Keenan Burton, 67 returns (2003-07)
5. 24.88 Craig Yeast, 42 returns (1995-98)

NCAA Kickoff Return Touchdowns, Career, Active Leaders (FBS)

1. **4 Barion Brown, 32 returns (KENTUCKY)**

Most INT Return Touchdowns, Career

1. 3 Dallas Owens, 1974-77
2. **2 Maxwell Hairston*, 2022-present**
Mike Edwards, 2018-18
Darryl Bishop, 1971-73
Greg Long, 1978-81

*Hairston is only player in UK history to have two in one game and is tied with Owens at 2 for the most in a season in school-history.

Most INT Return for TD Among Active Players in the FBS

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1. | Teja Young | Ole Miss | 4 |
| 2. | Reddy Steward | Troy | 3 |
| 3. | Cooper DeJean | Iowa | 3 |
| 3. | M.J. Devonshire | Pittsburgh | 3 |
| T5. | Max Hairston | KENTUCKY | 2 |

Most Receiving Yards, Career, School History

| | | | | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. | Craig Yeast | 1995-98 | 208 | 2,899 | 13.9 | 28 |
| 2. | Keenan Burton | 2003-07 | 189 | 2,376 | 12.6 | 25 |
| 3. | Derek Abney | 2000-03 | 197 | 2,339 | 11.9 | 18 |
| 4. | Garrett Johnson | 2014-17 | 155 | 2,089 | 13.5 | 11 |
| 5. | Dicky Lyons Jr. | 2004, 2006-08 | 141 | 1,752 | 12.4 | 18 |
| 6. | Quentin McCord | 1996, 1998-2000 | 112 | 1,743 | 15.6 | 15 |
| 7. | La'Rod King | 2009-12 | 134 | 1,706 | 12.7 | 17 |
| 8. | Randall Cobb | 2008-10 | 144 | 1,661 | 11.5 | 13 |
| 9. | Anthony White | 1996-99 | 194 | 1,520 | 7.8 | 8 |
| 10. | Felix Wilson | 1977-79 | 90 | 1,508 | 16.8 | 10 |
| 11. | Tom Hutchinson | 1960-62 | 94 | 1,483 | 15.7 | 9 |
| 12. | Josh Ali | 2017-21 | 131 | 1,447 | 11.0 | 8 |
| 13. | Kevin Coleman | 1995-98 | 107 | 1,428 | 13.3 | 13 |
| 14. | Larry Seiple | 1964-66 | 72 | 1,422 | 19.8 | 10 |
| 15. | Jacob Tammie | 2004-07 | 133 | 1,417 | 10.6 | 11 |
| 16. | Jeff Badet | 2013, 2015-16 | 82 | 1,385 | 16.9 | 7 |
| 17. | W. Robinson | 2021 | 104 | 1,334 | 12.8 | 7 |
| 18. | Rafael Little | 2004-07 | 131 | 1,324 | 10.1 | 5 |
| 19. | James Whalen | 1997-99 | 120 | 1,324 | 11.0 | 13 |
| 20. | Lynn Bowden Jr. | 2017-19 | 114 | 1,303 | 11.4 | 6 |
| 21. | Rick Kestner | 1963-65 | 82 | 1,280 | 15.6 | 10 |
| 22. | Chris Matthews | 2009-10 | 93 | 1,279 | 13.9 | 12 |
| 23. | Ryan Timmons | 2013-16 | 112 | 1,254 | 11.2 | 5 |
| 24. | Derek Smith | 1999-2001 | 89 | 1,224 | 13.8 | 9 |
| 25. | Phil Logan | 1987-90 | 83 | 1,219 | 14.7 | 7 |
| 26. | Steve Meilinger | 1951-53 | 75 | 1,210 | 16.1 | 17 |
| 27. | Steve Johnson | 2006-07 | 72 | 1,200 | 16.6 | 14 |
| 28. | Barion Brown | 2022-present | 93 | 1,167 | 12.5 | 8 |
| 29. | Dane Key | 2022-present | 79 | 1,155 | 14.6 | 12 |
| 30. | Dorian Baker | 2014-18 | 101 | 1,148 | 11.4 | 6 |



KROGER FIELD

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



- Since its opening in 1973, Kentucky has played 334 games within the friendly confines of newly-named Kroger Field. **UK has a 180-144-4 record (.555), 44-28 (.611) under Mark Stoops.**
- 2024 marks the 52nd season at the facility.
- 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 17 of the last 19 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 stadium footprint 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.

NEW LIGHTING, RIBBON BOARDS

In 2024, Kroger Field will feature brand new lighting and ribbon boards. The LED lighting system will include the ability to do light shows during timeouts and breaks in play similar to those at games in Rupp Arena and Kentucky Proud Park. The new ribbon boards have greater functionality, featuring sharper visual resolution than the previous set and expanded capability for display of video and graphics.

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

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 AT KROGER FIELD (SINCE 2015 RENOVATION)

| | | | |
|----|--------|----------------|------|
| 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 |



HEAD COACH MARK STOOPS / 12TH SEASON / IOWA, 1989



The 2023 season marked yet another year of achievement for Coach Mark Stoops and the Kentucky football program.

Kentucky finished the regular season 7-5 and UK's bid to the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl extended Stoops' school record to seven official postseason appearances.

Now in his 12th season at Kentucky, Stoops has the longest term of any coach in school history and the longest term of any active coach in the Southeastern Conference.

Stoops also holds school record for wins (63), home wins (44), SEC wins (30) and wins over ranked opponents (11).

Called "the best program builder in all of college football" in 2021 by ESPN analyst Tom Luginbill, Stoops' success hasn't come easily.

Inheriting a program that was 2-10 the year before he arrived, Stoops' rebuilding efforts took time, but after reaching his first bowl bid in 2016, the coach and the Wildcats haven't looked back.

A partial accounting of Stoops' exploits features:

- A school-record, 16-game win streak against nonconference competition (2018-22), which was the nation's longest active streak at the time.
- First top-10 ranking in each the Associated Press poll and the coaches' poll since 2007 (Sept. 11, 2022)
- First consecutive top-10 rankings in each poll since 1977 (Sept. 18, 2022)
- 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)
- Off the field, Stoops is a staunch supporter of the Kentucky Children's Hospital, helping raise more than \$500,000 **annually** for the kids. He was named the Honorary Coach of the 2022 AFCA Good Works Team.
- 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.

Several of Stoops' players have also 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.

Off the field, Stoops has been active in fundraising and events for the UK Children's Hospital and he was named Honorary Coach of the 2022 National Good Works Team.

The bountiful crop of victories and honors are the fruit of the last eight 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.

Stoops followed with the Covid-shortened 2020 season that was capped by a Gator Bowl win over No. 23 North Carolina State.

More winning seasons and bowl appearances have followed, giving Stoops the school records in both categories.

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 joined the UK staff in 2022 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, 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

STOOPS AND CO. MAKING A HIT IN RECRUITING

Now in his 12th season 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 12 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 was UK's highest-rated class in the available history of recruiting rankings.

Table with 13 columns: Outlet, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024. Rows include Rivals, ESPN, and 247Sports.



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' KENTUCKY RECORDS

Most Wins By A Head Coach

- 1. **63 Mark Stoops (2013-Present)**
- 2. 60 Paul "Bear" Bryant (1946-1953)
- 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 Home Wins By A Head Coach

- 1. **44 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)

STOOPS VS. ALL OPPONENTS

| Opponent | Record |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Akron | 1-0 |
| Alabama | 0-4 |
| Alabama State | 1-0 |
| Arkansas | 1-0 |
| AUBURN | 0-2 |
| Austin Peay..... | 1-0 |
| Ball State | 1-0 |
| Central Michigan | 1-0 |
| Charlotte..... | 1-0 |
| Chattanooga | #0-0 |
| Clemson..... | 0-1 |
| Eastern Kentucky..... | 3-0 |
| Eastern Michigan..... | 2-0 |
| FLORIDA | #3-7 |
| GEORGIA | 0-11 |
| Georgia Tech..... | 0-1 |
| Iowa..... | #0-1 |
| Louisiana-Lafayette..... | 1-0 |
| Louisiana-Monroe | #1-0 |
| LOUISVILLE | #5-4 |
| LSU | #0-1 |
| Miami (Ohio) | 2-0 |
| Middle Tennessee | 1-0 |
| Mississippi State | 5-6 |
| Missouri..... | #6-4 |
| MURRAY STATE | 1-0 |
| New Mexico State | #1-0 |
| North Carolina State..... | 1-0 |
| Northern Illinois | 1-0 |
| Northwestern | 0-1 |
| OHIO..... | 1-0 |
| OLE MISS..... | 0-3 |
| Penn State | 1-0 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA..... | #6-4 |
| SOUTHERN MISS..... | 1-1 |
| TENNESSEE..... | 2-9 |
| Tennessee-Martin..... | 2-0 |
| TEXAS..... | 0-0 |
| Texas A&M..... | 0-1 |
| Toledo | 1-0 |
| VANDERBILT | #7-3 |
| Virginia Tech | 1-0 |
| Western Kentucky | 0-1 |
| Youngstown State..... | 1-0 |
| TOTAL | *63-65 |

* note: 10 wins from the 2021 season vacated by the NCAA; on-field record is 73-65
record does not include win from the 2021 season, now vacated by the NCAA





THE MARK STOOPS COACHING FILES

Table with columns: Year, School, Position, W-L, SEC, Bowl. Lists coaching history from 1990 to 2023, including roles at Iowa, Florida State, and Kentucky.

STOOPS' NFL DRAFT PICKS

Table with columns: Name, Year, Rd, Pick, Overall, Team. Lists NFL draft picks from 2014 to 2024, including players like Avery Williamson, Bud Dupree, and Devin Leary.



STOOPS' YEAR-BY-YEAR

2013 – Won 2, Lost 10

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| 26 | WKU* | 35 | Nashville | Aug. 31 |
| 41 | Miami (Ohio) | 7 | Lexington | Sept. 7 |
| 13 | Louisville | 27 | Lexington | Sept. 14 |
| 7 | Florida* | 24 | Lexington | Sept. 28 |
| 28 | South Carolina* | 35 | Columbia | Oct. 5 |
| 7 | Alabama* | 48 | Lexington | Oct. 12 |
| 22 | Mississippi State* | 28 | Starkville | Oct. 24 |
| 48 | Alabama State * | 14 | Lexington | Nov. 2 |
| 17 | Missouri | 48 | Lexington | Nov. 9 |
| 6 | Vanderbilt | 22 | Nashville | Nov. 16 |
| 17 | Georgia* | 59 | Athens | Nov. 23 |
| 13 | Tennessee* | 27 | Lexington | Nov. 30 |
| 246 | | 374 | | |

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Avery Williamson and game captains

2014 – Won 5, Lost 7

| | | | | |
|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| 59 | UT Martin | 14 | Lexington | Aug. 30 |
| 20 | Ohio | 3 | Lexington | Sept. 6 |
| 30 | Florida* (3 OT) | 36 | Gainesville | Sept. 13 |
| 17 | Vanderbilt | 7 | Lexington | Sept. 27 |
| 45 | South Carolina* | 38 | Lexington | Oct. 4 |
| 48 | ULM | 14 | Lexington | Oct. 11 |
| 3 | LSU* | 41 | Baton Rouge | Oct. 18 |
| 31 | Mississippi State | 45 | Lexington | Oct. 25 |
| 10 | Missouri | 20 | Columbia | Nov. 1 |
| 31 | Georgia | 63 | Lexington | Nov. 8 |
| 16 | Tennessee | 50 | Knoxville | Nov. 15 |
| 40 | Louisville | 44 | Louisville | Nov. 29 |
| 350 | | 375 | | |

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

2015 – Won 5, Lost 7

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| 40 | UL Lafayette* | 33 | Lexington | Sept. 5 |
| 26 | South Carolina* | 22 | Columbia | Sept. 12 |
| 9 | Florida* | 14 | Lexington | Sept. 19 |
| 21 | Missouri* | 13 | Lexington | Sept. 26 |
| 34 | Eastern Ky. (OT)* | 27 | Lexington | Oct. 3 |
| 27 | Auburn* | 30 | Lexington | Oct. 15 |
| 16 | Mississippi State* | 42 | Starkville | Oct. 24 |
| 21 | Tennessee* | 52 | Lexington | Oct. 31 |
| 3 | Georgia | 27 | Athens | Nov. 7 |
| 17 | Vanderbilt | 21 | Nashville | Nov. 14 |
| 58 | Charlotte* | 10 | Lexington | Nov. 21 |
| 24 | Louisville | 38 | Lexington | Nov. 28 |
| 296 | | 329 | | |

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

2016 – Won 7, Lost 6

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------|----------|
| 35 | Southern Miss* | 44 | Lexington | Sept. 3 |
| 7 | Florida | 45 | Gainesville | Sept. 10 |
| 62 | New Mexico St. | 42 | Lexington | Sept. 17 |
| 17 | South Carolina* | 10 | Lexington | Sept. 24 |
| 6 | Alabama* | 34 | Tuscaloosa | Oct. 1 |
| 20 | Vanderbilt | 13 | Lexington | Oct. 8 |
| 40 | Mississippi State* | 38 | Lexington | Oct. 22 |
| 35 | Missouri | 21 | Columbia | Oct. 29 |
| 24 | Georgia* | 27 | Lexington | Nov. 5 |
| 36 | Tennessee | 49 | Knoxville | Nov. 12 |
| 49 | Austin Peay | 13 | Lexington | Nov. 19 |
| 41 | Louisville | 38 | Louisville | Nov. 26 |

TAXSLAYER BOWL

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------|
| 18 | Georgia Tech | 33 | Jacksonville | Dec. 31 |
| 390 | | 407 | | |

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

2017 – Won 7, Lost 6

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------|----------|
| 24 | Southern Miss | 17 | Hattiesburg | Sept. 2 |
| 27 | Eastern Ky. | 16 | Lexington | Sept. 9 |
| 23 | South Carolina* | 13 | Columbia | Sept. 16 |
| 27 | Florida* | 28 | Lexington | Sept. 23 |
| 24 | Eastern Mich. | 20 | Lexington | Sept. 30 |
| 40 | Missouri* | 34 | Lexington | Oct. 7 |
| 7 | Mississippi State | 45 | Starkville | Oct. 21 |
| 29 | Tennessee* | 26 | Lexington | Oct. 28 |
| 34 | Ole Miss | 37 | Lexington | Nov. 4 |
| 44 | Vanderbilt | 21 | Nashville | Nov. 11 |
| 13 | Georgia | 42 | Athens | Nov. 18 |
| 17 | Louisville | 44 | Lexington | Nov. 25 |

FRANKLIN AMERICAN MORTGAGE MUSIC CITY BOWL

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 23 | Northwestern | 24 | Nashville | Dec. 29 |
| 332 | | 367 | | |

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

2018 – Won 10, Lost 3

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-----------------|----------|
| 35 | Central Michigan | 20 | Lexington | Sept. 1 |
| 27 | Florida* | 16 | Gainesville | Sept. 8 |
| 48 | Murray State | 10 | Lexington | Sept. 15 |
| 28 | Mississippi State* | 7 | Lexington | Sept. 22 |
| 24 | South Carolina* | 10 | Lexington | Sept. 29 |
| 14 | Texas A&M (OT)* | 20 | College Station | Oct. 6 |
| 14 | Vanderbilt* | 7 | Lexington | Oct. 20 |
| 15 | Missouri | 14 | Columbia | Oct. 27 |
| 17 | Georgia | 34 | Lexington | Nov. 3 |
| 7 | Tennessee | 24 | Knoxville | Nov. 10 |
| 34 | Middle Tennessee | 23 | Lexington | Nov. 17 |
| 56 | Louisville* | 10 | Louisville | Nov. 24 |

VRBO CITRUS BOWL

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|---------|--------|
| 27 | Penn State | 24 | Orlando | Jan. 1 |
| 346 | | 219 | | |

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

2019 – Won 8, Lost 5

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------|----------|
| 38 | Toledo | 24 | Lexington | Aug. 31 |
| 38 | Eastern Michigan* | 17 | Lexington | Sept. 7 |
| 21 | Florida* | 29 | Lexington | Sept. 14 |
| 13 | Mississippi State | 28 | Starkville | Sept. 21 |
| 7 | South Carolina* | 24 | Columbia | Sept. 28 |
| 24 | Arkansas* | 20 | Lexington | Oct. 12 |
| 0 | Georgia* | 21 | Athens | Oct. 19 |
| 29 | Missouri* | 7 | Lexington | Oct. 26 |
| 13 | Tennessee* | 17 | Lexington | Nov. 9 |
| 38 | Vanderbilt | 14 | Nashville | Nov. 16 |
| 50 | UT Martin | 7 | Lexington | Nov. 23 |
| 45 | Louisville | 13 | Lexington | Nov. 30 |

BELK BOWL

| | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 37 | Virginia Tech | 30 | Charlotte | Dec. 31 |
| 353 | | 251 | | |

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

2020 – Won 5, Lost 6

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------|----------|
| 13 | Auburn | 29 | Auburn | Sept. 26 |
| 41 | Ole Miss (OT) | 42 | Lexington | Oct. 3 |
| 24 | Mississippi State* | 2 | Lexington | Oct. 10 |
| 34 | Tennessee | 7 | Knoxville | Oct. 17 |
| 10 | Missouri | 20 | Columbia | Oct. 24 |
| 3 | Georgia | 14 | Lexington | Oct. 31 |
| 38 | Vanderbilt | 35 | Lexington | Nov. 14 |
| 3 | Alabama | 63 | Tuscaloosa | Nov. 21 |
| 10 | Florida | 34 | Gainesville | Nov. 28 |
| 41 | South Carolina* | 18 | Lexington | Dec. 5 |

TAXSLAYER GATOR BOWL

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------|--------|
| 23 | North Carolina St. | 21 | Jacksonville | Jan. 2 |
| 240 | | 285 | | |

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Ali, Quinton Bohanna, Yusuf Corker, 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 0, Lost 3 (10 wins vacated by NCAA)

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|------------|----------|
| 45 | ULM | 10 | Lexington | Sept. 4 |
| 35 | Missouri* | 28 | Lexington | Sept. 11 |
| 28 | Chattanooga | 23 | Lexington | Sept. 18 |
| 16 | South Carolina* | 10 | Columbia | Sept. 25 |
| 20 | Florida* | 13 | Lexington | Oct. 2 |
| 42 | LSU* | 21 | Lexington | Oct. 9 |
| 13 | Georgia | 30 | Athens | Oct. 16 |
| 17 | Mississippi State* | 31 | Starkville | Oct. 30 |
| 42 | Tennessee* | 45 | Lexington | Nov. 6 |
| 34 | Vanderbilt* | 17 | Nashville | Nov. 13 |
| 56 | New Mexico State | 16 | Lexington | Nov. 20 |
| 52 | Louisville* | 21 | Louisville | Nov. 27 |

VRBO CITRUS BOWL

| | | | | |
|----|------|----|---------|--------|
| 20 | Iowa | 17 | Orlando | Jan. 1 |
|----|------|----|---------|--------|

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Josh Ali, Yusuf Corker, DeAndre Square, Luke Fortner, Marquan McCall, Will Lewis, Josh Paschal and Chris Rodriguez Jr.

2022 – Won 7, Lost 6

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------|----------|
| 37 | Miami (Ohio)* | 13 | Lexington | Sept. 3 |
| 26 | Florida* | 16 | Gainesville | Sept. 10 |
| 31 | Youngstown State | 0 | Lexington | Sept. 17 |
| 31 | Northern Illinois* | 23 | Lexington | Sept. 24 |
| 19 | Ole Miss | 22 | Oxford | Oct. 1 |
| 14 | South Carolina* | 24 | Lexington | Oct. 8 |
| 27 | Mississippi State* | 17 | Lexington | Oct. 15 |
| 6 | Tennessee* | 44 | Knoxville | Oct. 29 |
| 21 | Missouri | 17 | Columbia | Nov. 5 |
| 21 | Vanderbilt | 24 | Lexington | Nov. 12 |
| 6 | Georgia | 16 | Lexington | Nov. 19 |
| 26 | Louisville | 13 | Lexington | Nov. 26 |

TRANSPERCT MUSIC CITY BOWL

| | | | | |
|---|------|----|-----------|---------|
| 0 | Iowa | 21 | Nashville | Dec. 31 |
|---|------|----|-----------|---------|

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Will Lewis, Jordan Wright, Chris Rodriguez Jr., Deandre Square, JJ Weaver, Jacquez Jones, and Kenneth Horsey

2023 – Won 7, Lost 6

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|------------|----------|
| 44 | Ball State | 14 | Lexington | Sept. 2 |
| 28 | Eastern Kentucky | 17 | Lexington | Sept. 9 |
| 35 | Akron* | 3 | Lexington | Sept. 16 |
| 45 | Vanderbilt | 28 | Nashville | Sept. 23 |
| 33 | Florida | 14 | Lexington | Sept. 30 |
| 13 | Georgia* | 51 | Athens | Oct. 7 |
| 21 | Missouri* | 38 | Lexington | Oct. 14 |
| 27 | Tennessee* | 33 | Lexington | Oct. 28 |
| 24 | Mississippi State* | 3 | Starkville | Nov. 4 |
| 21 | Alabama | 49 | Lexington | Nov. 11 |
| 14 | South Carolina | 17 | Columbia | Nov. 18 |
| 38 | Louisville | 31 | Louisville | Nov. 25 |

TAXSLAYER GATOR BOWL BOWL

| | | | | |
|----|---------|----|--------------|---------|
| 35 | Clemson | 38 | Jacksonville | Dec. 29 |
|----|---------|----|--------------|---------|

COACH: Mark Stoops
CAPTS: Zion Childress, Eli Cox, Kenneth Horsey, Devin Leary, Deone Walker, Trevin Wallace, J.J. Weaver

* indicates night game

2024 –





ASSISTANT COACHES



FRANK BUFFANO

SAFETIES

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. In 2022, he also was the co-special teams coordinator.

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 |
| 2021-2022 | Safeties/Co-Special Teams Coordinator | Kentucky |
| 2023-present | Safeties | Kentucky |



JAY BOULWARE

RUNNING BACKS/SPECIAL TEAMS

Jay Boulware came to Kentucky on Dec. 12, 2022, bringing a plethora of success to the Commonwealth. He has more than 25 years of coaching experience and has been a part of 17 teams that advanced to bowl games. Before UK, he served as an offensive intern in the NFL for the Pittsburgh Steelers, working specifically with the running backs, including UK's all-time leading rusher, Benny Snell Jr.

Prior to the Steelers, he served as the associate head coach for special teams and tight ends coach at Texas, his alma mater, helping the No. 19 Longhorns finish 7-3 overall and capture the Alamo Bowl title in 2020.

He also spent seven years at Oklahoma, working under then-head coach Bob Stoops from 2013-16 and Lincoln Riley from (2017-19) and had stints at Auburn, Utah, Stanford, Arizona and Northern Illinois.

Boulware was an offensive lineman at Texas before entering the coaching ranks.

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------------------|
| 1994-95 | Student Assistant | Texas |
| 1996 | Graduate Assistant | Texas |
| 1997-2000 | Tight Ends/Co-Offensive Line | Northern Illinois |
| 2001-03 | Tight Ends/Running Backs/Offensive Line | Arizona |
| Summer of 2004 | NFL Minority Coaching Fellowship Program | San Francisco 49ers |
| 2004 | Running Backs | Stanford |
| 2005-06 | Tight Ends/Co-Special Teams | Utah |
| 2007-08 | Running Backs/Special Teams | Iowa State |
| 2009-12 | Tight Ends/Special Teams | Auburn |
| 2013-19 | Running Backs/Special Teams | Oklahoma |
| Summer of 2014 | NFL Minority Coaching Fellowship Program | New Orleans Saints |
| 2020 | Assoc. Head Coach/Tight Ends/Special Teams | Texas |
| 2021 | Offensive Intern | Pittsburgh Steelers |
| 2023-present | Running Backs/Special Teams Coord. | Kentucky |



CHRIS COLLINS

CO-DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR/DBS

Chris Collins enters his fourth season at Kentucky coaching the defensive backs, his first as co-defensive coordinator.

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 |
| 2021-23 | Defensive Backs | Kentucky |
| 2024-present | Co-Defensive Coord./DBs | Kentucky |



BUSH HAMDAN

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/QBS

Bush Hamdan is the newest member of Kentucky's coaching staff, hired as the new offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach on Feb. 14, 2024.

Hamdan comes to the Bluegrass with 15 years of collegiate and NFL coaching experience combined, most recently serving as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at his alma mater, Boise State.

Boise State tied for the 2023 regular-season championship of the Mountain West Conference, then won the league championship game with a victory at UNLV. The Broncos went on to play in the LA Bowl. The Broncos were second in the MWC in scoring offense and third in total offense.

Hamdan was a three-year letter winner and two-time team captain as a quarterback at Boise State from 2006-08. His last three seasons, all played under Petersen, the Broncos posted a 35-4 overall record, including a perfect 13-0 mark and a win over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl in 2006. As a senior, he earned the Bronco Excellence Award for integrity and leadership.

| | | |
|--------------|---|------------------|
| 2009 | Student Coach | Colorado |
| 2010 | Offensive Quality Control | Maryland |
| 2011 | Tight Ends | Sacramento State |
| 2012 | Wide Receivers | Florida |
| 2013 | Co-Offensive Coordinator/ Quarterbacks | Arkansas State |
| 2014 | Offensive Coordinator/ Quarterbacks | Davidson |
| 2015 | Offensive Quality Control | Washington |
| 2016 | Wide Receivers/Passing Game Coordinator | Washington |
| 2017 | Quarterbacks | Atlanta Falcons |
| 2018-19 | Offensive Coordinator/ Quarterbacks | Washington |
| 2020-21 | Wide Receivers/Quarterbacks | Missouri |
| 2022 | Quarterbacks | Missouri |
| 2023 | Offensive Coordinator/ Quarterbacks | Boise State |
| 2024-present | Offensive Coordinator/ Quarterbacks | Kentucky |



VINCE MARROW

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/TIGHT ENDS/RECRUITING COORDINATOR

Vince Marrow, aka the "Big Dawg," enters his 12th 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 seasons of 2,000 or more rushing yards with at least one 1,000-yard rusher in all six of those (Stanley "Boom" Williams -2016; Benny Snell Jr., - 2017, 2018; Lynn Bowden - 2019; Chris Rodriguez Jr. - 2021, Ray Davis - 2023). Marrow also has been instrumental in UK signing 11 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 |



DAIKIEL SHORTS

WIDE RECEIVERS

Daikiel Shorts is in his first season as the wide receivers coach at Kentucky after coaching the last three years (2021-23) in the same position at Houston. He also spent two years as the Director of Player Development (2019-20) for the Cougars.

Before getting into coaching, Shorts was a standout receiver under Dana Holgorsen at West Virginia from 2013-16. The four-year letter winner led the Mountaineers in receiving in three of his four years. He closed his collegiate career ranked fifth on the WVU career chart with 177 receptions and sixth with 2,263 receiving yards and 14 scores.

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 2018 | Program Assistant | West Virginia |
| 2019-20 | Director of Player Personnel | Houston |
| 2021-23 | Wide Receivers | Houston |
| 2024-present | Wide Receivers | 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.

Before UK, Mike Stoops coached 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 seventh season at Kentucky as the outside linebackers coach and sixth 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 as 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 |



ERIC WOLFORD

OFFENSIVE LINE

Eric Wolford returned to Kentucky as the Wildcats' offensive line coach in January 2024. Wolford, who was Kentucky's offensive line coach in 2021, spent the last two seasons at Alabama.

Prior to UK in 2021, Wolford spent four seasons at South Carolina. Wolford has over 25 years of coaching experience, including two in the NFL.

His new offensive line unit has plenty of playing experience as all but one starter from 2023 (Jeremy Flax) returns. Those linemen include Jager Burton, Eli Cox, Marques Cox, Courtland Ford and Dylan Ray.

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1996 | Offensive Line/Strength Coach | Emporia State (Division II) |
| 1997-99 | Offensive Line | South Florida |
| 2000-02 | Offensive Line | Houston |
| 2003 | Offensive Line | North Texas |
| 2004-06 | Offensive Line | Arizona |
| 2007-08 | Offensive Line | Illinois |
| 2009 | Offensive Line | South Carolina |
| 2010-14 | Head Coach | Youngstown State |
| 2015-16 | Offensive Line | San Francisco 49ers |
| 2017-20 | Offensive Line | South Carolina |
| 2021 | Offensive Line | Kentucky |
| 2022-23 | Offensive Line | Alabama |
| 2024-present | Offensive Line | Kentucky |



2024 DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE (WEEK 1)

Left Tackle

- 69 Marques Cox, 6-5, 318, Sr-1L, Peoria, Ill. (Northern Illinois/Peoria)
- 71 Malachi Wood, 6-8, 320, Fr-RS, Richmond, Ky. (Madison Central)

Left Guard

- 62 Jager Burton, 6-4, 316, Jr-2L, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
- 53 Aba Selm, 6-4, 303, Fr-HS, Independence, Ky. (Simon Kenton)

Center

- 75 Eli Cox, 6-4, 309, Sr-4L, Nicholasville, Ky. (West Jessamine)
- 50 Koby Keenum, 6-4, 302, Fr-RS, Florence, Ala. (Mars Hill Bible School)

Right Guard

- 52 Jalen Farmer, 6-5, 314, So-Tr, Covington, Ga. (Florida/Eastside)
- 73 Dylan Ray, 6-6, 310, Jr-1L, Noblesville, Ind. (West Virginia/Noblesville)

Right Tackle

- 54 Gerald Mincey, 6-6, 335, Sr-Tr, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Tennessee/Florida/Cardinal Gibbons)
- 78 Anfernee Crease, 6-6, 315, So-Tr, Tomball, Texas (Navarro College/Tomball Memorial)

Wide Receiver (F)

- 9 Ja'Mori Maclin, 5-11, 190, Jr-Tr, Kirkwood, Mo. (North Texas/Missouri/Kirkwood)
- 5 Anthony Brown-Stephens, 5-10, 176, So-1L, Springfield, Ohio (Springfield)

Wide Receiver (X)

- 7 Barion Brown, WR, 6-1, 182, Jr-2L, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)
- 13 Fred Farrier II, 6-1, 182, Jr-Tr, Frankfort, Ky. (UAB/Franklin County)

Wide Receiver (Z)

- 6 Dane Key, 6-3, 210, Jr-2L, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)
- 13 Fred Farrier II, 6-1, 182, Jr-Tr, Frankfort, Ky. (UAB/Franklin County)

Tight End (Y)

- 84 Josh Kattus, 6-4, 246, Jr-2L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
- 81 Willie Rodriguez, 6-4, 245, Fr-HS, Taylor Mill, Ky. (Covington Catholic)

Tight End (F)

- 85 Jordan Dingle, 6-4, 238, So-1L, Bowling Green, Ky. (Bowling Green HS)
- 15 Khamari Anderson, 6-5, 252, So-1L, Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)

Quarterback

- 12 Brock Vandagriff, 6-3, 217, Jr-Tr, Bogart, Ga. (Georgia/Prince Avenue Christian)
- 2 Gavin Wimsatt, 6-3, 227, Jr-Tr, Owensboro, Ky. (Rutgers/Owensboro)
- or 8 Cutter Boley, 6-5, 214, Fr-HS, Hodgenville, Ky. (Lexington Christian)

Running Back

- 0 Demie Sumo-Karngbaye, 6-0, 210, Sr-1L, Willingboro, N.J. (NC State/Willingboro)
- 26 Jason Patterson, 5-10, 206, Fr-HS, Sneads, Fla. (Sneads)

SPECIALISTS (WEEK 1)

Kicker

- 16 Alex Raynor, 6-0, 185, Sr-1L, Kennesaw, Ga. (Georgia Southern/Harrison)
- 91 Jacob Kauwe, 6-1, 206, Fr-HS, Billings, Mont. (Billings West)

Kickoff

- 48 Aidan Laros, 6-2, 212, Jr-Tr, Cape Town, South Africa (UT Martin/Charlotte/Northwood)
- 91 Jacob Kauwe, 6-1, 206, Fr-HS, Billings, Mont. (Billings West)

Punter

- 93 Wilson Berry, 6-4, 217, Jr-1L, Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)
- or 48 Aidan Laros, 6-2, 212, Jr-Tr, Cape Town, South Africa (UT Martin/Charlotte/Northwood)

Long Snapper

- 42 Alex McLaughlin, 5-10, 229, Jr-Tr, Weddington, N.C. (Illinois/NC State/Weddington)
- 56 Walker Himebauch, 6-1, 223, So-1L, Monument, Colo. (Palmer Ridge)

Short Snapper

- 42 Alex McLaughlin, 5-10, 229, Jr-Tr, Weddington, N.C. (Illinois/NC State/Weddington)
- 56 Walker Himebauch, 6-1, 223, So-1L, Monument, Colo. (Palmer Ridge)

Holder

- 93 Wilson Berry, 6-4, 217, Jr-1L, Maribyrnong, Australia (Maribyrnong College)
- or 48 Aidan Laros, 6-2, 212, Jr-Tr, Cape Town, South Africa (UT Martin/Charlotte/Northwood)
- or 11 Beau Allen, 6-2, 223, Sr-Tr, Lexington, Ky. (Georgia Southern/Tarleton St./Lexington Catholic)

Kickoff Return

- 7 Barion Brown, 6-1, 182, Jr-2L, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)
- 0 Demie Sumo-Karngbaye, 6-0, 210, Sr-1L, Willingboro, N.J. (NC State/Willingboro)

Punt Return

- 9 Ja'Mori Maclin, 5-11, 190, Jr-Tr, Kirkwood, Mo. (North Texas/Missouri/Kirkwood)
- or 7 Barion Brown, 6-1, 182, Jr-2L, Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)
- 6 Dane Key, 6-3, 210, Jr-2L, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)

DEFENSE (WEEK 1)

Defensive End

- 90 Tre'vonn Rybka, 6-4, 284, Sr-3L, Dickson, Tenn. (Dickson County)
- 8 Octavious Oxendine, 6-1, 278, Sr-4L, Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)

Nose Guard

- 9 Keeshawn Silver, 6-4, 336, Jr-1L, Rocky Mount, N.C. (North Carolina/Rocky Mount)
- 99 Kendrick Gilbert, 6-5, 275, Fr-RS, Indianapolis, Ind. (Indianapolis Cathedral)

Defensive Tackle

- 0 Deone Walker, 6-6, 345, Jr-2L, Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
- 92 Kahlil Saunders, 6-5, 291, Jr-2L, Huntsville, Ala. (Grissom)

Strongside Linebacker

- 3 Alex Afari Jr., 6-2, 222, Jr-2L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Lakota West)
- or 42 Tyreese Fearbry, 6-5, 242, So-1L, Pittsburgh, Pa. (Perry Traditional Academy)

Outside Linebacker

- 13 J.J. Weaver, 6-5, 255, Sr-4L, Louisville, Ky. (Moore Traditional)
- 55 Noah Matthews, 6-5, 254, So-1L, Bridgeville, Del. (Woodbridge)

Middle Linebacker

- 2 Jamon Dumas-Johnson, 6-1, 245, Sr-Tr, Hyattsville, Md. (Georgia/St. Frances Academy)
- or 17 Daveren Rayner, 6-2, 217, Sr-1L, Indianapolis, Ind. (Northern Illinois/Lawrence Central)

Weakside Linebacker

- 54 D'Eryk Jackson, 6-1, 244, Sr-4L, Dublin, Ga. (West Laurens)
- 3 Alex Afari Jr., 6-2, 222, Jr-2L, Cincinnati, Ohio (Lakota West)

Field Cornerback

- 6 JQ Hardaway, 6-3, 191, Jr-1L, Columbus, Ga. (Cincinnati/Central-Phenix City, Ala.)
- or 10 Jantzen Dunn, 6-0, 185, Jr-1L, Bowling Green, Ky. (Ohio State/South Warren)

Boundary Cornerback

- 1 Maxwell Hairston, 6-1, 186, Jr-2L, West Bloomfield, Mich. (West Bloomfield)
- 5 DJ Waller Jr., 6-3, 202, So-Tr, Youngstown, Ohio (Michigan/Chaney)
- or 21 Nasir Addison, 6-0, 199, So-1L, Newark, N.J. (Irvington)

Strong Safety

- 11 Zion Childress, 6-0, 195, Sr-2L, Houston, Texas (Texas State/New Caney)
- 4 Kristian Story, 6-1, 213, Sr-Tr, Lanett, Ala. (Alabama/Lanett)

Free Safety

- 25 Jordan Lovett, 6-2, 205, Jr-2L, Radcliff, Ky. (North Hardin)
- or 14 Ty Bryant, 6-0, 197, So-1L, Lexington, Ky. (Frederick Douglass)