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FORTY-TWO SCHOLARSHIP NEWCOMERS JOIN INDIANA FOOTBALL PROGRAM TO CAP 2025 CLASS

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. - The Indiana football program and head coach **Curt Cignetti** wrapped up the 2025 signing class with 42 scholarship newcomers added to the roster. Of those, 33 are on campus for the spring semester, which includes 19 transfers and 14 freshmen into the program for spring ball. The Hoosiers also added five other student-athletes to the roster as walk-ons.

In all, IU signed 21 players on offense and 19 on defense and two specialists. Indiana's defense added nine defensive backs, seven defensive linemen and three linebackers, while the Hoosier offense on boarded five offensive linemen, five wide receivers, four tight ends, three running backs and three quarterbacks. Special teams added one kickers and one punter.

Each of the 19 transfers arrive from the FBS level, with 11 from Power 4 programs and eight from Group of Five teams. Eleven of the transfers come on the offensive side of the football, six are on the defensive side of the ball and two are specialists.

The signees will arrive in Bloomington from 18 different states and Australia. Five are from Indiana, while four each arrive from Florida, Illinois and Ohio. Three come from both Georgia and Virginia, while two apiece are from Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. Alabama, California, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, Nebraska and Pennsylvania saw one signee each. Punter **Mitch McCarthy** arrives from the mainland of Australia via UCF.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School (Previous School)</u>
Triston Abram	DL	6-3	230	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Christian Brothers
Byron Baldwin Jr.	DB	6-2	195	Fr.	Baltimore, Md./Saint Frances Academy
Andrew Barker	TE	6-4	240	Fr.	Kokomo, Ind./Kokomo
Lee Beebe Jr.	RB	5-10	220	R-Jr.	Montgomery, Ala./Park Crossing (UAB)
Jacob Bell	QB	6-2	2-2	Fr.	Naperville, Ill./Naperville North
Jaylen Bell	DB	5-10	179	Fr.	Union, N.J./Grayson
Kahlil Benson	OL	6-6	305	R-Sr.+	Webb, Miss./Southaven (Colorado)
Lebron Bond	WR	5-9	175	Fr.	Norfolk, Va./Maury
Devan Boykin	DB	5-10	195	R-Sr.+	Greensboro, N.C./Ragsdale (NC State)
Tyrone Burrus Jr.	DL	6-4	245	Fr.	Indianapolis, Ind./Warren Central
Keishaun Calhoun	DL	6-2	260	Fr.	Groveport, Ohio/Groveport-Madison
Davion Chandler	WR	5-11	180	Fr.	Indianapolis, Ind./Lawrence North
Pat Coogan	OL	6-5	310	R-Sr.	Palos Heights, Ill./Marist (Notre Dame)
Sean Cuono	RB	5-10	208	Fr.	Clearwater, Fla./Clearwater Central Catholic
Jamari Farmer	LB	6-0	210	Fr.	Mooreville, N.C./Mooreville
Brendan Franke	K	6-3	230	R-Sr.+	Gretna, Neb./Gretna (Texas State)
Ryland Gandy	DB	6-0	180	R-So.	Buford, Ga./Buford (Pitt)
Kyler Garcia	DL	6-4	293	Fr.	Nashville, Tenn./Pearl-Cohn
Jhrevious Hall	DL	6-2	310	Fr.	Columbia, Tenn./Columbia Central
Roman Hemby	RB	6-0	208	R-Sr.	Edgewood, Md./John Carroll (Maryland)
Makai Jackson	WR	6-0	200	Sr.	Levittown, Pa./Harry S. Truman (Appalachian State)
Amari Kamara	LB	5-11	195	Fr.	Ashburn, Va./Stone Bridge
Myles Kendrick	WR	6-0	181	Fr.	Jacksonville, Fla./Riverside
Amariyun Knighten	DB	6-0	174	R-Jr.	Hollywood, Fla./Stranahan (Northern Illinois)
Matt Marek	OL	6-3	298	Fr.	Orland Park, Ill./Sandburg
Mitch McCarthy	P	6-5	230	Sr.	Melbourne, Australia/Frankston (UCF)
Fernando Mendoza	QB	6-5	225	R-Jr.	Miami, Fla./Christopher Columbus (Cal)
Zen Michalski	OL	6-6	319	R-Sr.	Floyds Knobb, Ind./Floyd Central (Ohio State)
Louis Moore	DB	5-11	200	R-Sr.+	Mesquite, Texas/Poteet (Ole Miss)
Tyler Morris	WR	5-11	185	Sr.	Bolingbrook, Ill./Nazareth Academy (Michigan)
PJ Nelson	LB	6-1	212	Fr.	Cincinnati, Ohio/Princeton
Riley Nowakowski	TE	6-1	243	R-Sr.+	Milwaukee, Wis./Marquette University High School (Wisconsin)
Evan Parker	OL	6-4	302	Fr.	Carmel, Ind./Carmel
Dominique Ratcliff	DL	6-3	295	R-Sr.+	Conroe, Texas/Conroe (Texas State)
Garrett Reese	DB	6-2	190	Fr.	Chicago, Ill./Nazareth Academy
Zacharey Smith	DB	5-11	161	Fr.	Union City, Ga./Hapeville Charter Academy
Holden Staes	TE	6-4	248	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga./Westminster School (Tennessee)
Seaonta Stewart Jr.	DB	6-1	195	Fr.	Cincinnati, Ohio/Winton Woods
Blake Thiry	TE	6-4	228	Fr.	Prairie Du Chien, Wis./Prairie De Chien
Hosea Wheeler	DL	6-3	300	R-Sr.	Elk Grove, Calif./Franklin (Western Kentucky)
Baylor Wilkin	OL	6-5	268	Fr.	Van Buren, Ohio/Findlay
Grant Wilson	QB	6-3	217	R-Sr.+	Arlington, Va./Yorktown (Old Dominion)

*Mid-year enrollees in **BOLD**

-bios continued on next page-

Triston Abram**DL • 6-3 • 230****St. Louis, Mo./Christian Brothers****Prep/Personal**

Defensive lineman for head coach Scott Pingel at Christian Brothers College High School ... Helped CBCHS to the Missouri State High School Activities Association Class 6A state title as a sophomore ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed a top-65 defensive lineman by ESPN, Rivals and 247Sports ... Consensus a top-20 recruit in Missouri per all four services ... Tabbed First-team all-state as a junior ... Tabbed all-district and all-conference during his junior season ... Garnered Academic All-State as a junior ... Piled up 66 tackles with 14.0 tackles for loss and 8.0 sacks as a junior.

Byron Baldwin Jr.**DB • 6-2 • 195****Baltimore, Md./Saint Frances Academy****Prep/Personal**

Defensive back for head coach Henry Russell at Saint Frances Academy ... Consensus four-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Top-100 national recruit by 247Sports and On3 ... Tabbed top-20 defensive back nationally per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Consensus top-10 recruit in Maryland per ESPN, Rivals, 247Sports and ESPN ... Logged 79 tackles, two interceptions and three pass breakups as a junior ... Made 35 tackles with one interception and six pass breakups as a sophomore.

Andrew Barker**TE • 6-4 • 240****Kokomo, Ind./Kokomo****Prep/Personal**

Tight end for head coach Austin Colby at Kokomo High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-85 tight end recruit nationally per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Rated a top-35 recruit in Indiana by ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Two-time team captain ... Tabbed first-team all-conference as a senior ... Caught 14 passes for 111 yards and two touchdowns in final prep season ... Caught 23 passes for 324 yards and four touchdowns as a junior ... Saw time on defense with 63 career tackles and 11.0 tackles for loss ... Also punted all three seasons with a 37.5 yards per punt average on 55 punts.

Lee Beebe Jr.**RB • 5-10 • 220****Montgomery, Ala./Park Crossing (UAB)****Career Notes & Records**

Appeared in 24 games with 10 starts over three seasons at UAB ... Selected third-team All-American Athletic Conference in 2024 ... Accumulated 1,628 career all-purpose yards (1,276 rushing, 317 receiving, 34 kickoff return, 1 fumble return) ... Totaled 12 career touchdowns (11 rushing, 1 receiving) ... Owns three career 100-yard rushing games (1, 2023; 2, 2024) ... Has three career multi-rushing touchdown game (1, 2023; 2, 2024).

2024 (Sophomore Season - UAB)**Awards:** Named third-team All-American Athletic Conference.

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with 10 starts ... First collegiate start came in the season opener against Alcorn State (8/29) ... Totaled two 100-yard rushing efforts.

Alcorn State (8/29): Gained 82 yards on the ground with two touchdowns ... Opened the scoring with a 2-yard touchdown run in the first quarter ... Added a 2-yard rushing score in the second quarter. **at ULM (9/7):** Totaled 98 all-purpose yards ... Logged 62 yards rushing on 14 carries ... Caught five passes for 36 yards. **at Arkansas (9/14):** Carried 12 times for 43 yards ... Made four receptions for 49 yards. **Navy (9/28):** Totaled 82 yards rushing on 15 runs with one touchdown ... Added one reception for 12 yards ... Capped a fourth-quarter scoring drive with a 2-yard touchdown rush. **Tulane (10/5):** Rushed nine times for 78 yards ... Caught two passes for 20 yards. **at Army (10/12):** Carried nine times for 36 yards ... Gained 6 yards on one catch. **at USF (10/19):** Gained 68 yards on 18 carries ... Added 17 yards on three catches. **Tulsa (11/2):** Toted 10 times for 34 yards ... Made two receptions for 22 yards. **UConn (11/9):** Totaled 136 all-purpose yards on 23 touches ... Posted first 100-yard rushing game of the season with 115 yards rushing on 17 carries with one touchdown ... Added six catches for 21 yards. **at Memphis (11/16):** Had 12 rushes for 42 yards ... Caught two passes for 16 yards ... Ran for a 25-yard touchdown in the second quarter. **Rice (11/23):** Posted second 100-yard rushing effort of the season with 161 yards on 16 carries with two touchdowns ... Went 48 yards for a first-quarter touchdown run ... Added 7-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. **at Charlotte (11/30):** Logged first-career game with a rushing and receiving score ... Totaled 102 all-purpose yards

on 23 touches ... Ran for 82 yards on 19 carries ... Caught four passes for 20 yards ... Caught an 11-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter ... Added 1-yard touchdown rush later in the fourth quarter.

2023 (Redshirt Freshman Season - UAB)

Season: Appeared in 11 games ... Logged first-career 100-yard rushing game in season finale at North Texas (10/1; 11/25).

North Carolina A&T (8/31): Carried four times for 33 yards ... Caught three passes for 21 yards. **Louisiana-Lafayette (9/16):** Lone carry was a 1-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter for first collegiate touchdown ... Added one catch for 6 yards. **at Georgia (9/23):** Gained 4 yards on two carries ... Lone reception went for 3 yards. **USF (10/7):** Logged 44 yards on 11 carries ... Had two receptions for 3 yards. **at UTSA (10/14):** Five carries went for 7 yards ... Made a 17-yard reception. **Memphis (10/21):** Toted five times for 36 yards ... Had one reception for 1 yard ... Added one kickoff return for 16 yards. **FAU (11/4):** Totaled 21 yards on two carries. **at Navy (11/11):** Gained 43 yards on five rushes ... Totaled 8 yards on three receptions ... Added one kickoff return for 18 yards. **Temple (11/18):** Carried 10 times for 70 yards and one touchdown ... Scored first UAB touchdown on a 7-yard rush in the first quarter. **at North Texas (11/25):** Totaled 140 all-purpose yards ... Logged first-career 100-yard rushing game with 101 yards on seven carries with two touchdowns ... Scored on a 66-yard rush in the second quarter ... Added a 2-yard touchdown run to tie the game in the fourth quarter ... Posted 39 yards on two receptions.

2022 (Freshman Season - UAB)

Season: Appeared one game ... Made collegiate debut against Alabama A&M(9/1) in the season opener.

Alabama A&M (9/1): Carried three ties for 32 yards.

Prep/Personal

Wide receiver and running back for head coach Ty Lockett at Park Crossing High School.

Jacob Bell**QB • 6-2 • 202****Naperville, Ill./Naperville North****Prep/Personal**

Quarterback for head coach Sean Drendel at Naperville North High School ... Three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Rated a top-100 quarterback prospect per ESPN (No. 61) and 247Sports (No. 89) ... Ranked as a top-45 prospect in Illinois per ESPN (No. 37) and 247Sports (No. 41) ... Tabbed all-state by Illinois High School Football Coaches Association and News-Gazette as a senior ... Tabbed Naperville Sun and Daily Herald Player of the Year his final prep season ... Earned All-Southwest Valley Blue Division All-Conference first team as a senior ... Selected All-DuPage Valley Conference as a junior ... Named Red Grange All-Dupage County first team and Naperville Sun All-Area as a senior ... Earned Illinois High School Association Academic All-State as a senior ... Garnered academic all-conference as a junior and senior ... Set NNHS single-season record for passing yards (3,082) and passing touchdowns (38) as a senior ... Owns program single-game record with seven in a double-overtime victory over Homewood-Flossmoor as a senior ... Completed 251-of-397 passes for 3,082 yards and 38 touchdown passes in final prep season ... Added 142 yards rushing and four touchdowns on the ground ... Threw for 1,160 yards and eight scores as a junior ... Completed 117-of-211 passes ... Added three rushing touchdowns and 104 yards rushing ... Brother, Jon, is a member of the South Dakota State football program.

Jaylen Bell**DB • 5-10 • 179****Union, N.J./Grayson (Ga.)****Prep/Personal**

Defensive back for head coach Santavious Bryant at Grayson High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-60 defensive back nationally by Rivals and 247Sports ... Rated a top-75 recruit in Georgia per Rivals and 247Sports ... Garnered second-team all-region as a junior ... Career totals include 128 tackles, 5.0 tackles for loss, six interceptions and 25 pass breakups ... Totaled 24 tackles with 4.0 tackles for loss as a senior ... Added two interceptions and six pass breakups ... Made 46 tackles with 1.0 tackle for loss, one interception and nine pass breakups as a junior ... Made 27 stops as a sophomore and 31 as a freshman ... Pulled in three interceptions and added seven pass breakups in his first prep season.

Kahlil Benson

OL • 6-6 • 305

Webb, Miss./Southaven (Colorado)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 33 career games with 21 starts ... Started games at right tackle (12) and right guard (9) ... Began career at Indiana and played in 25 games with 17 starts (2020-23) ... Played in nine games with four starts in one season at Colorado (2024) ... Made collegiate debut on special teams against Illinois (9/2/22) ... First career start came at Rutgers (10/22/22).

2024 (Senior Season - Colorado)

Season: Appeared in nine games with four starts ... Missed three games due to injury (Week 5, 7 & 14) ... Did not play in the Alamo Bowl ... All four starts came at right guard ... Helped Colorado to its first bowl appearances since 2020.

North Dakota State (8/29): Helped the unit gain 504 yards of total offense ... Protected Shedeur Sanders to the tune of 445 yards passing and four touchdown passes. **at Nebraska (9/7):** Started at right guard. **at Colorado State (9/14):** Protected Sanders for four touchdown passes and 310 yards passing ... Offense gained 419 yards of total offense. **Baylor (9/21):** Helped the offense gain 432 yards of total offense ... Helped Sanders pass for 341 yards and two touchdowns ... Paved the way for three rushing scores.

2023 (Junior Season)

Season: Started all 12 games at right tackle.

Indiana State (9/8): Started at right tackle and helped the offense produce 558 total yards of offense and five rushing touchdowns ... The most rushing scores by an Indiana offense since 2016. **Louisville (9/16):** Helped protect the offense to 357 yards of total offense ... Held strong for Tayven Jackson's 299 passing yards and passing touchdown ... Paved the way for the team's 97-yard scoring drive in the third quarter, the longest by an Indiana team since a 98-yard drive in 2019 against Rutgers (Oct. 12). **at Penn State (10/28):** Guided the offense to 349 yards of total offense ... Allowed Brendan Sorsby to throw for 269 yards and three touchdown passes ... Two of Sorsby's touchdowns went for 60-plus yards, the first game since at least 1996 that Indiana recorded two 60-plus yard offensive touchdowns ... Two 60-plus yard offensive touchdowns in the game mark the first time since 2014 an Indiana offense produced multiple scores in a game ... Sorsby's pass 90-yard touchdown pass from DeQuece Carter is tied for the third longest passing play in IU history. **at Illinois (11/11):** Helped protect the offense to 451 yards of total offense ... Enabled Sorsby to post a 22-for-31 passing day with 289 yards and three touchdowns and two rushing touchdowns ... Team's 45 points were the most scored in a Big Ten game since Indiana put up 54 points at Purdue in 2015. **Michigan State (11/18):** Protected the offense to 402 yards of total offense and three touchdowns. **at Purdue (11/25):** Helped protect the offense to 359 yards of total offense and three passing touchdowns.

2022 (Sophomore Season)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with five starts ... Made collegiate debut on special teams against Illinois (9/2) ... First career start came at Rutgers (10/22) ... One of 33 student-athletes to debut during the 2022 season.

Illinois (9/2): Made collegiate debut on special teams. **Idaho (9/10):** Appeared on special teams and saw fourth-quarter snaps on offense. **Western Kentucky (9/17):** Rotated at right guard with Tim Weaver and protected quarterback Connor Bazelak as he threw for 364 yards and two touchdowns ... helped the offense gain 484 yards of total offense. **at Rutgers (10/22):** Made first career start. **at Michigan State (11/19):** Helped the offense pile up 257 rushing yards, its most in a Big Ten game since 2019 versus Rutgers (260 yards). **Purdue (11/26):** Guided an offense held the edge in total offense (421-388) ... Paved the way for 215 yards rushing ... Helped Jaylin Lucas post first career 100-yard rushing game.

2021 (Redshirt Freshman Season)

Season: Did not see any game action in 2021.

2020 (Freshman Season)

Season: Suffered an injury during fall camp (knee) and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach Eddie Stevenson at Southaven High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals ... Rated a top-45 offensive lineman by ESPN (No. 38) and 247Sports (44) ... Consensus top-25 prospect in Mississippi by all three recruiting services ... First-team all-state selection ... Named team captain as a senior ... Played in the 2020 International Bowl ... Team captain in the Bernard Blackwell North South All-Star Game ... Also lettered twice in track and field ... Student ambassador ... Volunteered at a school for special needs students ... Son of LaTonya Benson ... Born August 20, 2002.

Lebron Bond

WR • 5-9 • 175

Norfolk, Va./Maury

Prep/Personal

Wide Receiver for head coach Dyrri McCain at Maury High School ... Helped MHS to the 2023 Virginia High School League Class 5 state title as a junior ... Four-star recruit per ESPN ... Tabbed three-star recruit by Rivals, 247Sports and On3 ... Tabbed the No. 51 wide receiver nationally by ESPN ... Rated a top-30 recruit in Virginia per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Named first-team all-state as a junior ... Tabbed all-region and all-district in junior season ... Totaled 35 receptions with nine touchdowns as a senior.

Devan Boykin

DB • 5-10 • 195

Greensboro, N.C./Ragsdale (NC State)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 45 career games with 20 starts over five seasons at NC State (2020-24) ... Redshirted his final season at NC State due to injury ... First-career start came as a true freshman at North Carolina (10/24) in 2020 ... Grabbed first-career interception against Florida State (10/8) in 2022 ... Owns one career touchdown on a scoop-and-score of a bobbled punt in the third quarter at Boston College (10/16) in 2021 ... First collegiate interception came in the fourth quarter against Florida State (10/8) in the end zone in 2022 ... Owns one career double-digit tackle game (1, 2023).

2024 (Senior Season - NC State)

Did not appear in a game due to injury and redshirted.

2023 (Junior Season - NC State)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with 10 starts ... Was injured (knee) during prep for the Pop-Tarts Bowl ... Posted first double-digit tackle game of career against Notre Dame (9/9) ... Forced first-career fumble against North Carolina (11/25).

at UConn (8/31): Logged three stops. **Notre Dame (9/9):** Posted first-career double-digit tackle game with 11 stops ... Combined on a third-quarter tackle for loss. **VMI (9/16):** Chipped in one stop. **at Virginia (9/22):** Made one tackle. **Marshall (10/7):** Totaled eight stops ... Combined on a first-quarter tackle for loss. **at Duke (10/14):** Made three tackles ... Chipped in a first-quarter solo tackle for loss. **Clemson (10/28):** Logged eight tackles ... Added a solo tackle for loss in the first quarter ... Grabbed a first-quarter interception that led to the game's opening score. **Miami (Fla) (11/4):** Owned six tackles ... Pulled in a fourth-quarter interception and returned it 39 yards to set up a field goal. **at Wake Forest (11/11):** Chipped in two stops. **at Virginia Tech (11/18):** Made five tackles. **North Carolina (11/25):** Made six tackles ... Added a forced fumble in the first quarter that led to an NC State field goal ... Pulled in his third interception of the year in the fourth quarter.

2022 (Sophomore Season - NC State)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with three starts ... Missed Duke's Mayo Bowl due to injury ... First collegiate interception came in the fourth quarter against Florida State (10/8) in the end zone.

at East Carolina (9/3): Chipped in one tackle. **Charleston Southern (9/10):** Had one stop. **Texas Tech (9/17):** Boasted four tackles. **UConn (9/24):** Logged two stops. **at Clemson (10/1):** Made five tackles. **Florida State (10/8):** Added two tackles ... Pulled in first collegiate interception in the end zone on the final FSU drive of the fourth quarter to preserve a two-point victory. **at Syracuse (10/15):** Chipped in one stop. **Virginia Tech (10/27):** Made one tackle. **Boston College (11/12):** Posted one tackle. **at Louisville (11/19):** Had two tackles ... Combined on a first-quarter tackle for loss.

2021 (Redshirt Freshman Season - NC State)

Awards: Named ACC Special Teams Player of the Week after returning a bobbled punt for a touchdown at Boston College (10/16) ... Named NC State Philip Rivers Freshman of the Year.

Season: Appeared in 11 games with five starts ... First-career fumble recovery came at Boston College (10/16) on a scoop-and-score of a bobbled punt.

USF (9/2): Had two stops. **Furman (9/18):** Made three tackles. **Louisiana Tech (10/2):** Posted two stops. **at Boston College (10/16):** Logged three tackles ... Picked up a bobbled punt in the third quarter for first-career fumble recovery and returned it 34 yards for a touchdown ... Broke up two passes ... One breakup came in the end zone on a third down to force a field goal attempt late in the first quarter that was missed. **at Miami (Fla.) (10/23):** Chipped in three stops. **Louisville (10/30):** Had two stops. **at Florida State (11/6):** Logged five tackles ... Combined on a fourth-quarter tackle for loss on fourth down to seal a victory. **at Wake Forest (11/13):** Chipped in one tackle ... Broke up two passes. **Syracuse (11/20):** Totaled three stops.

2020 (Freshman Season - NC State)

Season: Appeared in 12 games with two starts ... Made collegiate debut against Wake Forest (9/19) ... First collegiate start came at North Carolina (10/24) ... One of three true freshmen to start a game.

Wake Forest (9/19): Made collegiate debut. **at Virginia Tech (9/26):** Logged two tackles for first collegiate stops. **at Pittsburgh (10/3):** Made five tackles ... First tackle for loss was a solo stop behind the line. **at Virginia (10/10):** Totaled two tackles ... Broke up one pass. **Duke (10/17):** Had two stops ... Broke up one pass. **at North Carolina (10/24):** Posted three tackles. **Miami (Fla.) (11/6):** Totaled two stops. **Florida State (11/14):** Logged two tackles. **Liberty (11/21):** Chipped in one stop.

Prep/Personal

All-purpose athlete for head coach Johnny Boykin at Ragsdale High School ... Father, Johnny, was his high school head coach ... Saw time at cornerback, quarterback and wide receiver ... Rated a three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals ... Tabbed a top-60 cornerback by ESPN (No. 58) and 247Sports (No. 38) ... Slotted as a top-30 prospect in North Carolina by ESPN (No. 26) and 247Sports (No. 17) ... Named all-state as a senior ... Piled up career totals of 1,817 yards passing, 1,287 yards rushing, 881 yards receiving and 95 tackles ... Boasted six career interceptions ... Accounted for 2,762 all-purpose yards and 29 career touchdowns scored ... Added 18 touchdown passes ... Totaled 44 tackles with four interceptions as a senior ... Logged 33 tackles with one interception as a junior.

Tyrone Burrus Jr.

DL • 6-4 • 245

Indianapolis, Ind./Warren Central

Prep/Personal

Defensive lineman for head coach Mike Kirschner at Warren Central High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-100 defensive lineman nationally by all four recruiting services ... Rated a top-10 prospect in Indiana per ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals ... Tabbed Indiana Football Coaches Association All-State Top 50 as a junior ... First-Team All-Marion County pick as a junior ... Earned All-Metropolitan Interscholastic Conference as a junior and senior ... Totaled 36 tackles with 15.0 tackles for loss and 6.0 sacks as a senior ... Posted 31 stops with 6.5 tackles for loss and 3.0 sacks as a junior ... Recovered three career fumbles.

Keishaun Calhoun

DL • 6-2 • 260

Groveport, Ohio/Groveport-Madison

Prep/Personal

Defensive lineman for head coach Mitchell Westcamp at Groveport-Madison High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-100 defensive lineman by ESPN and On3 ... Rated a top-45 prospect in Ohio by ESPN and On3 ... Named second-team all-district as a junior ... Tabbed first-team all-conference as a junior ... Made 42 tackles with 11.0 tackles for loss and 55 sacks as a junior ... Added three forced fumbles, recovered three fumbles and scored two defensive touchdowns.

Davion Chandler

WR • 5-11 • 180

Indianapolis, Ind./Lawrence North

Prep/Personal

Wide receiver for head coach Patrick Mallory at Lawrence North High School ... Four-star prospect per On3 ... Tabbed three-star recruit ESPN, Rivals and 247Sports ... Top-300 recruit nationally per On3 ... Tabbed No. 37 wide receiver nationally by On3 ... Rated a top-10 recruit in Indiana per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Selected Marion County Offensive Player of the Year as a junior and senior ... Gained 2,696 career all-purpose yards (12 rushing, 2,039 receiving) ... Owns 27 career touchdowns (24 receiving, 2 kickoff return, 1 rushing) ... Career receiving statistics include 111 receptions for 2,039 yards and 24 touchdowns ... Caught 49 passes for 971 yards and 10 touchdowns as a senior ... Totaled 27 tackles with 2.0 sacks, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble in final prep season on defense ... Logged 40 receptions for 779 yards and 13 scores as a junior ... Chipped in 22 receptions for 289 yards and one touchdown as a sophomore.

Pat Coogan

OL • 6-5 • 310

Palos Heights, Ill./Marist (Notre Dame)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 30 career games with 26 starts over four seasons at Notre Dame (2021-24) ... Collegiate debut came at Boston College (11/19) in 2022 ... First collegiate start came against Navy (8/26) in 2023 season opener in Dublin, Ireland ... Helped Notre Dame to the College Football Playoff National Championship Game 2024.

2024 (Junior Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Appeared in all 16 games with 13 starts at center ... Started the final 13 games of the season after an injury to Ashton Craig versus Purdue (9/14) in Week 3 ... Guided Notre Dame to the College Football Playoff National Championship Game ... Helped pave the way for 1,000-yard rusher Jeremiyah Love (1,125 yards; 17 TDs) and quarterback Riley Leonard (906 yards; 17 TDs) as the first Notre Dame duo with 15-plus rushing touchdowns in the same season ... Paved the way for eight 100-yard rushing games.

at Texas A&M (8/31): Helped the offense gain 356 yards of total offense ... Gained 198 yards rushing with two rushing scores. **at Purdue (9/14):** Totaled 578 yards of total offense with eight offensive touchdowns scored ... Notre Dame rushed for 362 yards ... Four different players scored rushing touchdowns to mark its most since 2000 at UCS ... Paved the way for six rushing touchdowns ... Helped Riley Leonard rush for 100 yards and three touchdowns ... Jeremiyah Love carried 10 times for 109 yards and one score. **Miami (Ohio) (9/21):** Helped the offense gain 428 yards of total offense ... Ran for 270 yards and three touchdowns ... Leonard topped the 100-yard rushing mark with 143 yards and two touchdowns. **Louisville (9/28):** Helped Leonard throw for 229 yards and three touchdowns and added one rushing score. **Stanford (10/12):** Paved the way for 477 yards of total offense with 229 yards on the ground ... Offense scored seven total touchdowns (4 rushing, 3 passing). **at Georgia Tech (10/19):** All three touchdowns came on the ground. **at Navy (10/26):** Scored six touchdowns (4 rushing, 2 passing) and gained 466 yards of total offense ... Helped Jeremiyah Love gain 102 yards with two touchdowns on the ground. **Florida State (11/9):** Posted six total touchdowns (4 rushing, 2 passing) with 453 yards of total offense. **Virginia (11/16):** Paved the way for 137 yards and two touchdowns for Love ... Leonard threw for three touchdowns as part of a 214-yard passing effort. **Army (11/23):** Piled up seven touchdowns (5 rushing, 2 passing) and 462 yards of total offense ... Helped Love to back-to-back 100-yard rushing efforts with 130 yards and two rushing scores ... Love added a receiving score in the game, as well. **at USC (11/30):** Threw for two touchdowns and rushed for three scores with 436 yards of total offense ... Blocked for Jadarian Price's 111 yards rushing and one touchdown. **Indiana (12/20):** Gained 394 yards of total offense ... Love rushed for 108 yards and one touchdown, with bulk of the yardage coming on his 98-yard rushing score. **vs. Penn State (1/9):** Totaled 384 yards of total offense ... Scored twice on the ground and added one passing touchdown. **vs. Ohio State (1/20):** Protected Leonard to the tune of 255 yards passing and two touchdowns.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Started all 13 games at left guard ... Helped the Notre Dame offense finish No. 7 in program history in total offense (5,619 yards) and No. 2 in point per game (39.1) in a single season ... Paved the way for seven 100-yard rushing games ... Blocked for Audric Estime's 1,341 yards rushing and program-record 18 rushing touchdowns.

vs. Navy (8/26): Helped the offense gain 444 yards of total offense ... Helped Sam Hartman throw for 251 yards and four touchdowns in his Notre Dame debut. **Tennessee State (9/2):** Paved the way for 557 yards of total offense and seven total touchdowns (4 passing, 3 rushing) ... Blocked for 116 yards rushing for Audric Estime with one touchdown ... Protected Hartman for two touchdown passes and rushing score. **at NC State (9/9):** Helped the offense total six touchdowns (4 passing, 2 rushing) ... Hartman threw for 286 yards and four touchdowns ... Helped Estime gain 134 yards with two touchdowns on the ground. **Central Michigan (9/16):** Guided the offense to 578 yards of total offense ... Protected Hartman to the tune of 330 yards passing and three touchdowns ... Hartman added a rushing score ... Estime posted third-straight 100-yard rushing game with 176 yards and one touchdown. **at Louisville (10/7):** Protected Hartman for 254 yards passing and two touchdown tosses. **Pittsburgh (10/28):** Paved the way for four rushing touchdowns and 535 yards of total offense ... Blocked for a 114-yard, three-touchdown effort on the ground for Estime. **Wake Forest (11/18):** Boasted 450 yards of total offense with six total touchdowns ... Hartman threw for 313 yards and five touchdowns ... Estime posted 115 yards rushing and one score. **at Stanford (11/25):** Piled up 521 yards of total offense with seven touchdowns ... Five of seven scores came on the ground ... Rushed for 381 yards in the game ... Estime carried 25 times for 238 yards and four touchdowns ... Hartman threw for 140 yards and two scores. **vs. Oregon State (12/29):** Balanced offense rushed for 236 yards and threw for 232 yards ... Totaled five touchdowns (3 passing, 2 rushing) ... Protected Steve Angeli for 15-of-19 passing and 232 yards with three touchdown tosses ... Jadarian Price ran for 106 yards and one score.

2022 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Appeared on one game ... Made collegiate debut at Boston College (11/19).

at Boston College (1/19): Made collegiate debut on offense.

2021 (Freshman Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Did not appear in a game and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach Ron Dawczak at Marist High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals ... Rated as a top-75 offensive guard nationally by ESPN (No. 73), 247Sports (No. 39) and Rivals (No. 36) ... Tabbed a top-25 prospect in Illinois by ESPN (No. 21), 247Sports (No. 15) and Rivals (No. 6) ... Helped MHS advance to the Illinois High School Association Class 8A state semifinals as a junior ... Part of the offensive line that helped Marist gain 169.5 rushing yards per game with 24 rushing touchdowns as a junior ... Son of Mary Beth and Michael Coogan ... Has three siblings: Megan, Brigid and Michael.

Sean Cuono

RB • 5-10 • 208

Clearwater, Fla./Clearwater Central Catholic

Prep/Personal

Running back for head coach Chris Harvey at Clearwater Central Catholic High School ... Spent two prep seasons at Calvary Christian High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-75 running back nationally per ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals ... Rated No. 91 player in Florida by Rivals ... Posted two 1,000-yard rushing seasons while at Calvary Christian ... Career totals include for 3,328 yards and 34 touchdowns and 418 yards (33 receptions) and nine touchdowns ... Scored 43 career touchdowns (34 rushing, 9 receiving) ... Carried 69 times for 518 yards and six scores as a senior ... Added four receptions for 34 yards and one touchdown ... Posted 1,024 yards rushing with four 100-yard games and eight touchdowns as a junior ... Caught 12 passes for 128 yards and one score ... Rushed for 1,786 yards and 20 touchdowns as a sophomore with nine 100-yard rushing games ... Caught 13 passes for 256 yards and seven touchdowns.

Jamari Farmer

LB • 6-0 • 210

Mooreville, N.C./Mooreville

Prep/Personal

Linebacker for head coach Zach Mayo at Mooreville High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed No. 48 linebacker nationally by ESPN ... Rated a top-30 recruit in North Carolina by ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Tabbed Greater Metro Conference 4A Defensive Player of the Year and Record and Landmark County Player of the Year as a junior ... Added all-county and all-conference accolades as a junior ... Piled up 369 career tackles with 77.0 tackles for loss and 19.0 sacks ... Posted three interceptions, forced seven fumbles and recovered 1 fumble in his career ... Scored two defensive touchdowns and collected two safeties as a senior ... Posted 111 tackles (88 solo) with 28.0 tackles for loss and 6.0 sacks in final prep season ... Also forced four fumbles ... Made 130 tackles (98 solo) with 26.0 tackles for loss and 8.0 sacks as a junior ... Totaled 124 tackles with 23.0 tackles for loss and 5.0 sacks ... Forced two fumbles.

Brendan Franke

K • 6-2 • 202

Gretna, Neb./Gretna (Texas State)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 49 career games ... Appeared in 12 games in one season at Texas State (2024) ... Made four appearances in one season at Georgia Southern (2023) and redshirted ... Played in 24 games over two seasons at Nebraska (2021-22) ... Saw time in nine games in one season at Morningside (Iowa) College (2020) ... Registered a career touchback rate of 70 percent (147-of-210).

2024 (Redshirt-Senior Season - Texas State)

Season: Appeared in 12 games ... Did not participate in First Responders Bowl vs. North Texas (1/3) ... Served as the primary kickoff specialist ... Touchback percentage of .821 (64-of-78) ... Did not have a kickoff out of bounds. Only 10 kickoffs were returned ... Led Sun Belt in average opponents starting field position at 24.67, which ranked No. 14 nationally (min. 35 kickoffs).

Lamar (8/31): Hit seven kickoffs for an average 63.3 yards per kick ... Six kickoffs went for touchbacks. **UTSA (9/7):** Seven of eight kickoffs went for touchbacks ... Averaged 64.6 yards per kickoff. **Arizona State (9/12):** Hit five kickoffs for a 65.0 average ... Four of five kickoffs went for a touchback. **vs. Sam Houston State (9/28):** Averaged 65.0 yards per kickoff on six kicks ... Five of six kicks went for a touchback. **at Troy (10/3):** Six of seven kickoffs went for a touchback

... Averaged 64.9 yards per kickoff. **Arkansas State (10/12):** Averaged 64.8 yards per kickoff on eight boots ... Seven kickoffs went for a touchback. **at Old Dominion (10/19):** Hit three kickoffs for a 62.7 average ... Two kickoffs went for a touchback. **Louisiana-Lafayette (10/29):** Averaged 65.0 yards per kickoff on five kicks ... All five kickoffs went for a touchback. **at ULM (11/9):** Seven kickoffs averaged 63.0 yards ... Five kicks went for a touchback. **Southern Miss (11/16):** Eight of nine kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 64.4 yards per kickoff. **Georgia State (11/23):** Averaged 60.4 yards per kickoff ... Three of five kicks went for a touchback. **at South Alabama (11/29):** Six of eight kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 63.9 yards per kickoff.

2023 (Senior Season - Georgia Southern)

Season: Appeared in four games ... Took over kickoff duties late in the season ... Touchback percentage of .529 (9-of-17) ... Successful on lone onside kick attempt.

The Citadel (9/2): Hit one kickoff for a touchback. **at Marshall (11/11):** Kicked off seven times for an average of 43.5 yards ... One kickoff went for a touchback. **at Appalachian State (11/25):** Averaged 62.5 yards on six kickoffs ... Five went for a touchbacks. **vs. Ohio (12/16):** Hit three kickoffs for a 64.3-yard average and two touchbacks ... Had a successful onside kick in the Myrtle Beach Bowl.

2022 (Junior Season - Nebraska)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games ... Handled all kickoff duties ... Touchback percentage of .667 (36-of-54) ... Only 15 kickoffs were returned ... Missed lone field goal attempt.

vs. Northwestern (8/27): Hit four kickoffs for an average of 63.0 yards per kick ... Two kickoffs went for a touchback. **North Dakota (9/3):** Averaged 57.1 yards per kickoff on seven boots ... Five went for touchbacks. **Georgia Southern (9/10):** Five of seven kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 64.6 yards per kickoff. **Oklahoma (9/17):** All three kickoffs went for a touchback for a 65.0-yard average. **Indiana (10/1):** Hit six kickoffs for a 64.5 average ... Five went for touchbacks. **at Rutgers (10/7):** Averaged 60.7 yards per kickoff on three boots ... Two went for touchbacks. **at Purdue (10/15):** Five of seven kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 63.3 yard per kickoff. **Illinois (10/29):** All three kickoffs ended in a touchback for a 65.0-yard average. **Minnesota (11/5):** Averaged 63.5 yards per kickoff on four kicks ... Had one touchback. **at Michigan (11/12):** Hit two kickoffs for an average of 60.5 yards per kick. **Wisconsin (11/19):** All three kickoffs ended in a touchback for a 65.0-yard average. **at Iowa (11/25):** Averaged 63.6 yards per kickoff on five boots ... Two kickoffs ended in touchbacks.

2021 (Sophomore Season - Nebraska)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games ... Served as the primary kickoff specialist ... Touchback percentage of .613 (38-of-62) ... Had 18 kickoffs returned during the season.

at Illinois (8/28): Hit six kickoffs for an average of 62.0 yards per boot ... Four kickoffs went for a touchback. **Fordham (9/4):** All five kickoffs went for a touchback to average 65.0 yards per boot. **Buffalo (9/11):** Averaged 63.6 yards per kickoff on five kicks ... Three went for a touchback. **at Oklahoma (9/18):** Hit four kickoffs for an average of 62.0 yards per boot ... Had two touchbacks. **at Michigan State (9/25):** Averaged 63.0 yards per kickoff on five kicks ... Two kickoffs went for a touchback. **Northwestern (10/2):** Five of nine kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 63.8 yards per kickoff on nine boots. **Michigan (10/9):** Hit five kickoffs for an average of 64.8 yards per kick ... Two went for a touchback. **at Minnesota (10/16):** Averaged 64.4 yards per kickoff on five boots ... Three went for touchbacks. **Purdue (10/30):** All four kickoffs went for a touchback to average 65.0 yards per boot. **Ohio State (11/6):** Hit four kickoffs for a 63.5-yard average ... Two went for touchbacks. **at Wisconsin (11/20):** Averaged 61.8 yards per kickoff on five boots ... Two went for touchbacks. **Iowa (11/26):** Four of five kickoffs went for a touchback ... Averaged 65.4 yards per kickoff.

2020 (Freshman Season - Morningside College)

Appeared in nine games ... Handled kickoff duties ... Secured touchbacks on 35-of-59 kickoffs ... Converted 3-of-4 point after touchdowns.

Prep/Personal

Did not play football at Gretna High School ... Starting goalkeeper for men's soccer team ... Son of Krissy Simon and Jason Franke ... Stepfather is Dave Simon Has three siblings: Taylor Danley, Kortian Franke and Elisa Franke ... Born October 17, 2001.

Ryland Gandy

DB • 6-0 • 180

Buford, Ga./Buford (Pittsburgh)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 29 career games with 13 starts ... Spent first three collegiate seasons at Pittsburgh, where he was an early enrollee and participated in spring practice in 2022 ... Made first collegiate start in 2024 season opener versus Kent State (8/31) while at Pittsburgh.

2024 (Sophomore Season - Pittsburgh):

Season: Started all 13 games ... First collegiate start came in 17th career game versus Kent State (8/31) in the season opener.

Kent State (8/31): Chipped in four stops. **at Cincinnati (9/7):** Posted three tackles ... Added one pass breakup. **West Virginia (9/14):** Had four tackles - three solos. **Youngstown State (9/21):** Totaled three stops. **at North Carolina (10/5):** Made one tackle. **California (10/12):** Posted two stops. **Syracuse (10/24):** Added two tackles ... Broke up one pass. **at SMU (11/2):** Posted six stops - three solo ... Combined on first-career tackle for loss in the first quarter. **Virginia (11/9):** Totaled four tackles. **Clemson (11/16):** Chipped in three stops. **at Louisville (11/23):** Made five tackles. **at Boston College (11/30):** Had two tackles ... Had first career punt return in the second quarter.

2023 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Pittsburgh)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games.

Wofford (9/2): Posted first collegiate tackle in the first quarter on defense. **at West Virginia (9/16):** Logged two stops. **at Wake Forest (10/21):** Made one stop. **at Notre Dame (10/28):** Had one tackle. **Florida State (11/4):** Notched one tackle. **at Duke (11/25):** Posted one stop.

2022 (Freshman Season - Pittsburgh)

Season: Appeared in four games and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut against West Virginia (9/1) in the season opener ... Also appeared against Tennessee (9/10), Rhode Island (9/24) and in the Sun Bowl versus UCLA (12/30) ... Did not accumulate any statistics.

Prep/Personal

Defensive back for head coach Bryant Appling at Buford High School ... Tabbed a four-star prospect by ESPN ... Three-star recruit per 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-No. 42 cornerback nationally by ESPN ... Rated a top-50 prospect in Georgia by ESPN (No. 41) and On3 (No. 46) ... Helped lead BHS to three-consecutive Class 6A state championships ... Selected All-Region 8-AAAAAA as a senior ... Son of Rajaunnda and Ricky Gandy ... Has one sister.

Kyler Garcia

DL • 6-4 • 293

Nashville, Tenn./Pearl-Cohn

Prep/Personal: Defensive lineman for head coach Tony Brunetti at Pearl-Cohn High School ... Helped P-CHS to the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class 4A state title as a junior for school's first state title since 1997 ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-100 defensive lineman nationally by ESPN and On3 ... Rated a top-30 prospect in Tennessee per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Earned all-city and second-team all-conference as a junior ... Posted 46 tackles with 19.0 tackles for loss and 8.0 sacks as a senior ... Produced 71 tackles with 22.0 tackles for a loss and 9.0 sacks as a senior ... Logged 52 stops with 13.0 tackles for loss and 4.0 sacks as a junior ... Also forced one fumble.

Jhrevious Hall

DL • 6-2 • 310

Columbia, Tenn./Columbia Central

Prep/Personal

Defensive lineman for head coach Tradarius Goff at Columbia Central High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Consensus top-100 defensive lineman nationally by all four recruiting services ... Rated top-30 prospect in Tennessee per 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Named Tennessean Dandy Dozen prior to senior season ... Tabbed Region 5-5A Defensive Lineman of the Year as a junior ... Made 47 tackles with 17.0 tackles for loss and 10.0 sacks as a senior ... Totaled 82 tackles with 40.0 tackles for loss and 13.0 sacks as a junior ... Added four forced fumbles ... Scored one defensive touchdown.

Roman Hemby

RB • 6-2 • 202

Edgewood, Md./John Carroll (Maryland)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 41 career games with 38 starts over four seasons at Maryland ... Two-time honorable mention All-Big Ten (2022 & 2023) ... Tabbed College Sports Communicator Academic All-District (2023) ... Owns 3,352 all-purpose yards (2,347 rushing, 921 receiving, 84 kickoff return) ... Scored 27 career touchdowns (22 rushing, 5 receiving) ... Owns seven career 100-yard rushing games (1, 2024; 2, 2023; 4, 2022) ... Has five career multi-touchdown games (3, 2022; 1, 2023; 1, 2024) ... One career game with a rushing and receiving touchdown ... Has a reception in 26-straight games and 37 of 41 career games.

2024 (Junior Season - Maryland)

Season: Started all 12 games ... Posted one 100-yard rushing game ... Logged first-career game with a rushing and receiving touchdown at Indiana (9/28) ... Owned a reception in all 12 games.

UConn (8/31): Rushed 14 times for 66 yards and one touchdown ... Posted 4-yard rushing score in the third quarter ... Added three grabs for 15 yards. **Michigan State (9/7):** Carried 12 times for 35 yards ... Lone catch was a 1-yard reception. **at Virginia (9/14):** Gained 33 yards on 10 carries ... Four catches accounted for 12 yards. **Villanova (9/21):** Scored one rushing touchdown with 67 yards on 14 carries ... Scored on a 6-yard touchdown run in the first quarter ... Lone reception went for 15 yards. **at Indiana (9/28):** Produced 165 all-purpose yards ... Logged first career game with a rushing and receiving touchdown ... Rushed for 117 yards on 10 carries with one touchdown ... Touchdown run covered 75 yards ... Added five receptions for 48 yards and one score ... Caught a 7-yard pass for a score in the fourth quarter. **Northwestern (10/11):** Totaled 42 yards on 14 carries ... Made two catches for 1 yard. **USC (10/19):** Rushed for 12 yards on four carries with one touchdown run ... Carried for a 10-yard touchdown as part of a 14-point fourth-quarter comeback ... Totaled 52 yards on six grabs. **at Minnesota (10/26):** Gained 31 yards on eight carries ... Caught two passes for 8 yards. **at Oregon (11/9):** Totaled 34 yards on 11 carries with one touchdown ... Punched in a 1-yard touchdown ... Logged three catches for 11 yards ... Made one tackle. **Rutgers (11/16):** Produced 146 yards of total offense on 21 touches ... Scored once as part of a 16-carry, 87-yard rushing day ... Logged a 1-yard touchdown run in the third quarter ... Made five catches for 59 yards. **Iowa (11/23):** Rushed eight times for 19 yards ... Totaled 31 yards on five catches. **at Penn State (11/30):** Gained 64 yards on 13 carries ... Caught three passes for 20 yards ... Made one tackle.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Maryland)

Awards: Garnered All-Big Ten honorable mention from the conference coaches.

Season: Started all 13 games ... Posted two 100-yard rushing games ... Caught at least one pass in all 13 games.

Towson (9/2): Gained 58 yards on 12 carries and one touchdown ... Added two catches for 14 yards ... Capped a third-quarter scoring drive with a 9-yard touchdown rush. **Charlotte (9/9):** Compiled 217 all-purpose yards on 23 touches ... First 100-yard rushing effort of the season came via 19 carries for 162 yards and one score ... Gained 55 yards on four receptions ... Scored on a 15-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. **Virginia (9/15):** Posted 23 yards rushing on nine carries with two touchdowns ... Caught three passes for 25 yards ... Scored on a 3-yard rush in the second quarter ... Added a 3-yard rushing score in the fourth quarter. **at Michigan State (9/23):** Had 12 yards on 10 rushes ... Lone reception went for 4 yards. **Indiana (9/30):** Made 16 offensive touches ... Gained 54 yards on 14 carries ... Added two receptions for 19 yards. **at Ohio State (10/7):** Rushed eight times for 35 yards ... Had one catch for no gain. **Illinois (10/14):** Produced 133 all-purpose yards on 17 touches ... Gained 70 yards on 12 carries ... Added five receptions for 63 yards. **at Northwestern (10/28):** Carried four times for 27 yards ... Gained 41 yards on six receptions with one touchdown ... Had 24-yard catch-and-run for a first-quarter touchdown ... Also returned one kickoff for 18 yards. **Penn State (11/4):** Made seven offensive touches for a total of 10 yards ... Caught a 7-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter. **at Nebraska (11/11):** Totaled 74 yards on 16 carries ... Gained 15 yards on three receptions. **Michigan (11/18):** Carried 11 times for 35 yards ... Made three catches for 28 yards. **at Rutgers (11/25):** Gained 127 all-purpose yards on 20 touches ... Posted second 100-yard rushing game of the season with 113 yards on 15 touches ... Caught five passes for 14 yards and one touchdown ... Hauled in a 17-yard scoring pass in the first quarter. **vs. Auburn (12/30):** Lone reception went for 61 yards ... Added seven carries for 17 yards.

2022 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Maryland)

Awards: Tabbed honorable mention All-Big Ten from the conference media and coaches.

Season: Started all 13 games ... Finished No. 3 among FBS freshman in total yards from scrimmage (1,287) ... Posted second-most rushing touchdowns by a freshman in Maryland history (10).

Buffalo (9/3): Posted first-career 100-yard rushing game with seven carries for 114 yards and two touchdowns ... Opened the scoring with a 33-yard touchdown run ... Added a 70-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. **at Charlotte (9/10):** Totaled 29 yards rushing on nine carries ... Added 29 yards on three receptions. **SMU (9/17):** Produced 213 all-purpose yards on 20 touches ... First Terrapin in the last 25 years to have 150 yards rushing yards and 50 yards receiving in a game ... Ran for 151 yards on 16 carries and one touchdown ... Capped off a fourth-quarter drive with a 1-yard touchdown run to tie the game at 27-27 ... Caught four passes for 62 yards. **at Michigan (9/24):** Carried 16 times for 48 yards ... Gained 17 yards on three receptions. **Michigan State (10/1):** Ran nine times for 27 yards ... Gained 29 yards on five catches. **Purdue (10/8):** Posted 63 yards receiving on five catches with one touchdown grab ... Added 26 yards on seven rushes ... Caught an 11-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter. **at Indiana (10/15):** Carried 17 times for 107 yards and one touchdown ... Scored the go-ahead touchdown in the fourth quarter on a 6-yard run ... Four receptions went for 25 yards. **Northwestern (10/22):** Carried 24 times for 179 yards and three touchdowns ... Most rushing touchdowns in a game by a Terrapin since 2018 ... First rushing score was a 14-yard rush in the first quarter ... Added an 18-yard score in the third quarter ... Covered 75 yards for the game winning touchdown run with 3:22 left in the fourth quarter ... Caught two passes for 14 yards. **at Wisconsin (11/5):** Rushed 16 times for 66 yards ... Returned three kickoffs for 35 yards. **at Penn State (11/12):** Gained 68 yards on 13 carries ... Caught one pass for no gain. **Ohio State (11/19):** Toted 11 times for 39 yards ... Added four catches for 37 yards. **Rutgers (11/26):** Produced second game with three rushing touchdowns on the season ... Carried 19 times for 70 yards ... Returned one kickoff for 8 yards ... Scored on a pair of 1-yard runs in the second quarter ... Added an 8-yard touchdown rush in the third quarter. **vs. NC State (12/30):** Carried 24 times for 65 yards .. Caught two passes for 22 yards.

2021 (Freshman Season - Maryland)

Season: Appeared in three games and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut against Howard (9/11) ... Also played against Michigan (11/20) and in the Pinstripe Bowl versus Virginia Tech (12/29).

Howard (9/11): Rushed 12 times for 45 yards and one touchdown ... Capped scoring with a 1-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. **vs. Virginia Tech (12/29):** Carried five times for 26 yards and one touchdown ... Scored on a 2-yard touchdown rush in the third quarter ... Caught one pass for 1 yard ... Returned first career kickoff for 28 yards.

Prep/Personal

Running back for head coach Ken Brinkman at John Carroll High School ... Tabbed a three-star recruit per ESPN and 247Sports ... Rated a top-45 prospect in Maryland by ESPN (No. 45) and 247Sports (No. 40) ... Named first-team All-Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association as a junior ... Two-time all-county as a sophomore and junior ... Senior football season consisted of one game due to the COVID-19 pandemic ... Named JCHS Offensive MVP as a junior and Offensive Rookie of the Year as a sophomore ... Tallied 1,543 yards rushing and 18 touchdowns in two varsity seasons at JCHS ... Added 568 yards receiving and seven receiving touchdowns ... Honor Roll Student all four years at John Carroll.

Makai Jackson

WR • 6-0 • 200

Levittown, Pa./Harry S. Truman (Appalachian State)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 37 career games with 20 starts over three collegiate seasons ... Spent two seasons at Appalachian State (2023-24) with 25 games played and 11 starts ... Began collegiate career at St. Francis (Pa.) (2022) and played in 12 games with nine starts ... Earned FCS All-America honors as a freshman at SFU ... Owns a reception in 24-straight games and 36 of 37 career games played ... Boasts seven career 100-yard receiving games (5, 2022; 2, 2024) ... Has two multi-receiving touchdown games (2, 2022) ... Teammates with Elijah Sarratt at St. Francis (Pa.) in 2022 where both earned Freshman All-America honors.

2024 (Junior Season - Appalachian State)

Season: Appeared in all 11 games with 10 starts ... Caught at least one pass in all 11 games ... Posted back-to-back 100-yard receiving games to end the season.

East Tennessee State (8/31): Caught two passes for 24 yards ... Added one rush for 47 yards and one touchdown ... Covered 47 yards on a fourth-quarter touchdown run. **at Clemson (9/7):** Gained 54 yards on six receptions with one touchdown ... Caught a third-quarter touchdown pass ... Carried twice for 24 yards. **at East Carolina (9/14):** Made six catches for 86 yards and one touchdown ... Brought in a 36-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter to give the Mountaineers the lead for good. **South Alabama (9/19):** Two receptions covered 32 yards. **at Marshall (10/5):** Had five catches for 29 yards ... One rush covered 17 yards. **at Louisiana-Lafayette (10/12):** Made five grabs for 48 yards. **Georgia State (10/26):** Had one touchdown catch as part of a 4-catch, 67-yard performance ... Caught an 18-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter ... Gained 2 yards on one rushing attempt. **Old Dominion (11/2):** Lone reception went for 15 yards. **at Coastal Carolina (11/7):** Gained 71 yards on two receptions. **James Madison (11/23):** Posted first 100-yard receiving game of the season with 162 yards on five receptions ... Had a 64-yard scoring reception in the second quarter ... Returned one punt for 12 yards. **at Georgia Southern (11/30):** Logged a 100-yard receiving game with 157 yards on eight catches ... Pulled in a 6-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter ... Lone punt return went for 12 yards.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Appalachian State)

Season: Appeared in all 14 games with one start ... Caught at least one pass in each of the final 13 games of the season.

Gardner-Webb (9/2): Returned one kickoff for 9 yards. **at North Carolina (9/9):** Caught two passes for 10 yards. **East Carolina (9/16):** Totaled 43 yards on two receptions. **at Wyoming (9/23):** Pulled in two passes for 17 yards. **at ULM (9/30):** Gained 4 yards on one catch. **Coastal Carolina (10/10):** Lone reception went for 67 yards. **at Old Dominion (10/21):** Caught one pass for 23 yards. **Southern Miss (10/28):** Made two receptions for 25 yards. **Marshall (11/5):** Lone catch was a 29-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter. **at Georgia State (11/11):** Had three catches for 98 yards and one touchdown ... Caught a 44-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. **at James Madison (11/18):** Posted five receptions for 49 yards. **Georgia Southern (11/25):** Caught two passes for 6 yards. **at Troy (12/2):** Two receptions went for 6 yards. **vs. Miami (Ohio) (12/16):** Totaled three receptions for 35 yards.

2022 (Freshman Season - St. Francis (Pa.))

Awards: Named finalist and finished No. 3 in the voting for the Jerry Rice Award, which honors the FCS most outstanding freshman ... Garnered FCS Freshman All-America ... Tabbed first-team All-Northeast Conference and NEC Offensive Rookie of the Year ... Earned FCS National Freshman of the Week once ... Two-time NEC Offensive Player of the Week ... Garnered NEC Special Teams Player of the Week once ... Tabbed NEC Rookie of the Week four times.

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with nine starts ... First collegiate start came versus Richmond (9/10) ... Caught multiple passes in all 12 games ... Posted five 100-yard receiving games ... Finished tied for third in single-season program history in receptions, fourth in receiving yards and sixth in touchdowns.

at Akron (9/1): Made collegiate debut ... Caught seven passes for 81 yards. **at Richmond (9/10):** Totaled 135 all-purpose yards ... Logged first-career 100-yard receiving game with 123 yards on eight receptions with one touchdown ... Pulled in a 45-yard pass for a touchdown in the second quarter ... Carried once for 1 yard ... Returned one kickoff for 11 yards. **at Wagner (9/17):** Logged up 211 all-purpose yards ... Recorded second 100-yard receiving game of the season ... Lone kickoff return was a 79-yard first-quarter return for a touchdown ... Carried three times for 15 yards ... Pulled in 11 passes for 117 yard and one touchdown ... Had a 16-yard touchdown catch in the third quarter. **at Norfolk State (9/24):** Third-straight 100-yard receiving game came via nine receptions for 105 yards and two touchdowns ... Posted first-career multi-touchdown game ... Pulled in a first-quarter touchdown pass of 10 yards ... Added a 19-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter ... Carried twice for 8 yards. **Central Connecticut State (10/1):** Totaled four catches for 26 yards and one touchdown ... Pulled in a 29-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter ... Lone rush went for 6 yards. **at LIU (10/15):** Caught seven passes for 72 yards ... Rushed three times for 13 yards. **Stonehill (10/22):** Gained 52 yards on seven catches. **at Sacred Heart (10/29):** Posted second-career multi-touchdown game ... Pulled in six receptions for 31 yards and two scores ... Caught touchdown passes for 1 and 5 yards in the second quarter. **at Georgetown (11/5):** Fourth 100-yard receiving game of the season came via nine receptions for 116 yards ... Added 8 yards rushing on two carries. **Duquesne (11/12):** Posted six grabs for 81 yards and one touchdown ... Pulled in a 10-yard touchdown reception in the first quarter. **at Merrimack (11/19):** Logged fifth 100-yard receiving game of the season with 116 yards on six catches. **at Delaware (11/26):** Made five receptions for 71 yards and one touchdown ... Capped the scoring with a 45-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter.

Prep/Personal

Wide receiver for head coach Benjamin Johnson at Harry S. Truman High School ... Named first-team all-league wide receiver as a senior ... Garnered all-league honorable mention as a wide receiver during sophomore campaign ... Tabbed first-team all-league as a defensive back during his junior season ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ... Son of Lashanda and Maurice Jackson.

Amari Kamara

LB • 5-11 • 195

Ashburn, Va./Stone Bridge

Prep/Personal

Linebacker for head coach Mickey Thompson at Stone Bridge High School ... Helped SBHS to the Virginia High School League Class 5A State Championship Game in 2023 ... Named second-team all-district as a senior ... Piled up 104 stops as a senior with 2.0 sacks ... Son of Samantha and Hassan Kamara ... Has three brothers: Mikail, Naseer and Zyan ... Brother, Mikail, is a senior defensive lineman at Indiana and was a second-team All-American in 2023.

Myles Kendrick

WR • 6-0 • 181

Jacksonville, Fla./Riverside

Prep/Personal

Wide receiver for head coach Antwan Nicholas at Riverside High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Rated the No. 111 wide receiver nationally by ESPN ... Rated a top-100 recruit in Florida by ESPN and On3 ... Totaled 96 career receptions for 1,344 yards and 13 touchdowns ... Totaled 18 career touchdowns (15 receiving, 1 rushing, 1 interception return, 1 kickoff return) ... Caught 49 passes for 531 yards and three touchdowns as a senior ... Logged 40 receptions for 710 yards and nine touchdowns as a junior ... Caught seven passes for 103 yards and one score as a sophomore.

Amariyun Knighten

DB • 6-0 • 174

Hollywood, Fla./Deerfield Beach (Northern Illinois)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 25 career games with 14 starts over three seasons at Northern Illinois ... Redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut at Kentucky (9/24) in 2022 ... First collegiate start came against Ball State (10/1) in 2022 ... Logged first collegiate interception at Notre Dame (9/7) in 2024 to set up the game-winning field goal for NIU.

2024 (Sophomore Season - Northern Illinois)

Awards: Named Lott Trophy National Defensive Player of the Week after Week 2 interception versus Notre Dame (9/7) setup the game-winning field goal.

Season: Started eight games before missing the final five game due to injury ... Posted first collegiate interception at Notre Dame (9/7).

at Notre Dame (9/7): Logged three solo stops ... Posted first collegiate interception ... Fourth-quarter interception was returned for 33 yards to midfield and set up a game-winning field goal with just 24 seconds remaining in the game. **Buffalo (9/21):** Totaled one tackle ... Added one pass breakup. **UMass (10/5):** Posted four stops - three solo ... Had one pass breakup. **at Bowling Green (10/12):** Chipped in one tackle. **Toledo (10/19):** Logged two tackles with one pass breakup. **at Ball State (10/26):** Added two tackles.

2023 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Northern Illinois)

Season: Appeared in all 13 games with five starts.

at Boston College (9/2): Posted two tackles. **at Nebraska (9/16):** Had two stops. **at Akron (10/7):** Chipped in one tackle. **Ohio (10/14):** Made two tackles. **Eastern Michigan (10/21):** Had one stop. **at Central Michigan (10/31):** Posted two tackles. **Ball State (11/7):** Boasted five solo stops. **Western Michigan (11/14):** Chipped in two tackles. **Arkansas State (12/23):** Logged one pass breakup.

2022 (Freshman Season - Northern Illinois)

Season: Appeared in four games with one start ... Redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut at Kentucky (9/24) ... First collegiate start came against Ball State (10/1).

at Kentucky (9/24): Totaled two solo tackles in collegiate debut. **Ball State (10/1):** Made first collegiate start and logged 10 tackles - six solo ... Added one pass breakup. **at Eastern Michigan (10/15):** Logged one pass breakup. **Akron (1/26):** Chipped in three stops.

Prep/Personal

Defensive back for head coach Jevon Glenn at Deerfield Beach High School for his final prep season ... Played wide receiver and defensive back for two seasons for head coach Travis Harden at Stranahan High School ... Tabbed three-star prospect by ESPN ... Named team captain at SHS as a junior and DBHS as a senior ... Named all-state and All-Broward County as a senior ... Tabbed all-conference as a senior ... Career totals include 45 tackles, four interceptions and 19 pass breakups ... Participated in the Broward County Athletic Association North vs. South All-Star Game and Dade County vs. Broward County Postseason Game as a senior ... Son of T'ontea Lopez and Damian McFadden ... Born August 30.

Matt Marek

OL • 6-3 • 298

Orland Park, Ill./Sandburg

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach Troy McAllister at Sandburg High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-100 offensive lineman nationally per ESPN and On3 ... Rated a top-30 prospect in Illinois by ESPN and On3.

Mitch McCarthy

P • 6-5 • 230

Melbourne, Australia/Frankston (UCF)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 37 career games at punter over three seasons at UCF ... Landed 39 punts inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 43.0 yards per punt on 115 career punts.

2024 (Junior Season - UCF)

Season: Appeared in 12 games.

New Hampshire (8/29): Landed both punts inside the 20-yard line with a 37.5 yards per punt average. **Sam Houston State (9/7):** Averaged 39.0 yards on two punts ... Landed one punt inside the 20-yard line. **at TCU (9/14):** All three punts traveled 50-plus yards ... Landed one punt inside the 20-yard line ... Punting average was 50.7 yards per punt. **Colorado (9/28):** Hit three punts for a 42.3 yard average ... Pinned one punt inside the 20-yard line. **at Florida (10/5):** Punted three times for a 46.3-yard average. **Cincinnati (10/12):** Averaged 46.3 yards per punt on three punts ... Hit one 50-yard punt. **at Iowa State (10/19):** Punted nine times for an average of 45.2 yards per punt ... Two punts finished inside the 20-yard line. **BYU (10/26):** Landed three punts inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 43.5 yards per punt on four boots. **Arizona (11/2):** Lone punt traveled 40 yards and landed inside the 20-yard line. **at Arizona State (11/9):** Hit one punt for 48 yards ... Lone boot landed inside the 20-yard line. **at West Virginia (11/23):** Pinned two of four punts inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 44.0 yards per punt in the game. **Utah (11/29):** Averaged 42.0 yards per punt on five punts ... Put three punts inside the 20-yard line.

2023 (Sophomore Season - UCF)

Season: Appeared in 13 games.

Kent State (8/31): Lone punt traveled 42 yards. **at Boise State (9/9):** Hit two punts for 46.5 yards per punt ... Landed one punt inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt went 54 yards. **Villanova (9/16):** Averaged 48.0 yards per punt on three boots ... Placed one punt inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt went 52 yards. **at Kansas State (9/23):** One of two punts landed inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 39.0 yards per punt. **Baylor (9/30):** Booted two punts for a 34.0-yard average. **at Kansas (10/7):** Four punts averaged 37.0 yards ... One punt landed inside the 20-yard line. **at Oklahoma (10/21):** Averaged 39.0 yards on seven punts ... One punt landed inside the 20-yard line. **West Virginia (10/28):** Lone punt traveled 36 yards. **at Cincinnati (11/4):** Hit four punts for 43.0 yards per punt ... Long punt traveled 64 yards ... Landed one punt inside the 20-yard line. **Oklahoma State (11/11):** Averaged 44.3 yards per punt on three punts ... One punt finished inside the 20-yard line. **at Texas Tech (11/18):** Two of three punts finished inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 43.7 yards per punt ... Long punt went 50 yards. **Houston (11/25):** Lone punt went 33 yards. **vs. Georgia Tech (12/22):** Hit three punts for an average of 44.7 yards per punt.

2022 (Freshman Season - UCF)

Season: Appeared in 12 games ... Did not appear in first two games of the season ... Made collegiate debut at FAU (9/17).

at FAU (9/17): Made collegiate debut with one punt for 46 yards. **Georgia Tech (9/24):** Had three punts for a 43.7-yard average ... One punt landed inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt traveled 54 yards. **SMU (10/5):** Hit five punts for 41.4 yards per punt ... One punt finished inside the 20-yard line. **Temple (10/13):** Lone punt traveled 40 yards. **at East Carolina (10/22):** Booted two punts for a 43.0-yard average. **Cincinnati (10/29):** Hit five punts for a 40.6-yard average ... Landed two punts inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt traveled 52 yards. **at Memphis (11/5):** Four punts averaged 44.3 yards ... One punt landed inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt went 43 yards. **at Tulane (11/12):** Averaged 29.0 yards per punt on two boots. **Navy (11/19):** Three of four punts landed inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 48.3 yards per punt ... Long punt went 56 yards. **at USF (11/26):** Lone punt went 46 yards. **at Tulane (12/3):** Punted seven times for an average of 46.0 yards per punt ... Put two punts inside the 20-yard line ... Long punt went 52 yards. **at Duke (12/28):** hit four punts for 47.3 yards per punt ... Long punt traveled 60 yards ... Placed two punts inside the 20-yard line.

Prep/Personal

Did not participate in American football prior to arriving at UCF in 2022 ... Spent one year at Village Christian High School in California and participated in basketball before he was Selected No. 7 overall in the 2016 Australian Rules Football Rookie Draft by Collingwood ... Trained with ProKick Australia in the fall of 2021.

Fernando Mendoza

QB • 6-5 • 225

Miami, Fla./Christopher Columbus (California)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 20 career games with 19 starts over three seasons at California and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Ranked as the No. 14 overall prospect in the Transfer Portal and No. 3 quarterback per 247Sports.

2024 (Sophomore Season - California)

Awards: Three-time ACC Quarterback of the Week.

Season: Started the first 11 games of the season ... Missed the final regular season game of the season versus SMU (11/30) due to illness ... Entered the transfer portal prior to the LA Bowl ... Produced just the ninth 3,000-yard passing season in California history (3,004 yards).

UC Davis (8/31): Completed 15-of-22 passes for 158 yards and one touchdown ... Rushed twice for 2 yards ... Tossed a 3-yard touchdown pass to cap the scoring in the fourth quarter. **at Auburn (9/7):** Hit on 25-of-36 passes for 233 yards ... Added 12 yards rushing on five carries ... Both touchdown passes came in the first half ... Connected on scoring passes for 19 and 13 yards. **San Diego State (9/14):** Threw for 198 yards on 21-of-29 passing and two touchdowns ... Also scored one touchdown rushing ... Opened Cal's scoring with an 8-yard touchdown run in the first quarter ... Threw a third-quarter touchdown pass of 20 yards ... Tossed a 15-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter. **at Florida State (9/21):** Produced first-career 300-yard passing game ... Threw for 303 yards on 22-of-36 passing. **Miami (Fla.) (10/5):** Completed 11-of-22 passes for 285 yards and two touchdowns ... Gained 20 yards on six carries ... Threw first-half touchdown passes of 57 yards and 66 yards. **at Pittsburgh (10/12):** Threw for 272 yards on 27-of-37 passing and one touchdown ... Completed fourth-quarter touchdown pass of 19 yards. **NC State (10/19):** Had 282 yards on 30-of-42 passing. **Oregon State (10/26):** Tossed two touchdown passes as part of a 27-of-36 afternoon and 346 yards passing and two touchdowns ... Marked second-career 300-yard passing game ... Gained 25 yards on five carries ... Accounted for the first two touchdowns of the game in the first quarter ... First touchdown of the game was a 15-yard touchdown pass that he threw and then ran in for the score on a lateral ... Also connected on a 20-yard touchdown pass. **at Wake Forest (11/8):** Posted third-career 300-yard passing game on 40-of-56 passing for 385 yards ... Threw two touchdown passes ... Scored one rushing touchdown with five carries for 51 yards ... Tossed an 11-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter ... Connected on a 2-yard scoring pass in the second quarter ... Rushed for a 5-yard score in the third quarter. **Syracuse (11/16):** Posted 225 yards passing on 22-of-34 passing with one touchdown ... Final score of the game was a 5-yard touchdown pass. **Stanford (11/23):** Threw for 299 yards on 25-of-36 passing and three touchdowns ... Carried 11 times for 35 yards ... Hit on a 16-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter ... Threw a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns: 30 and 22 yards.

2023 (Redshirt Freshman Season - California)

Awards: Honored with Pac-12 Offensive Freshman of the Year honorable mention by the conference coaches ... Fourth-team All-Pac-12 per Phil Steele ... Earned Pac-12 Fall Academic Honor Roll ... Named Cal's Jonathan and Judy Hoff Football Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Season: Appeared in nine games with eight starts ... Starts came in each of the final eight games of the season ... Made collegiate debut in season opener at North Texas (9/2) ... First collegiate start came versus Oregon State (10/7) ...

at North Texas (9/2): Made collegiate debut ... Attempted one pass. **Oregon State (10/7):** First collegiate start featured 207 yards passing and two touchdowns ... Completed 21-of-32 passes ... Rushed four times for 41 yards ... First collegiate touchdown pass covered 9 yards in the second quarter ... Connected on a 30-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter. **at Utah (10/14):** Completed 10-of-17 passes for 149 yards and two touchdowns ... Added seven carries for 12 yards ... Tossed a 48-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter ... Added a 24-yard scoring strike in the third quarter. **USC (10/28):** Posted 340 yards of total offense and accounted for four total touchdowns ... Scored first collegiate rushing touchdown ... Completed 25-of-39 passes for 292 yards and two touchdowns ... Rushed for 48 yards on eight carries with two scores ... Touchdown passes covered 17 and 13 yards ... Rushed for a 2-yard score in the second quarter and a 1-yard touchdown in the third quarter. **at Oregon (11/4):** Threw for 177 yards on 18-of-34 passing. **Washington State (11/11):** Completed 14-of-21 passes for 150 yards and two touchdowns ... Added seven carries for 5 yards ... Threw a 6-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter ... Added a 13-yard scoring pass in the second quarter. **at Stanford (11/18):** Threw three touchdown passes as part of a 294-yard passing effort ... Completed 24-of-36 passes ... Connected on touchdown passes of 9, 54 and 8 yards. **at UCLA (11/25):** Threw for 178 yards on 19-of-30 passing with two touchdowns ... Hit on touchdown passes for 14 and 13 yards in the game. **vs. Texas Tech (12/16):** Completed 22-of-33 passes for 261 yards and one touchdown ... Carried 11 times for 12 yards ... Opened the scoring with a 25-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter.

2022 (Freshman Season - California)

Season: Did not appear in a game and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Quarterback for head coach Dave Dunn at Christopher Columbus High School ... Spent freshman season at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School ... Rated a three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Tabbled the No. 72 quarterback nationally per ESPN ... Selected team captain as a junior and senior ... Tabbled first-team All-Dade Count as a junior ... Career totals included 224-of-332 (.675) passing for 2,222 yards and 29 touchdowns ... Completed 107-of-169 passes (.633) for 1,109 yards with 11 touchdowns as a 2021 senior ... Helped CCHS reach as high the nation's No. 14 team before opting out of the FHSAA postseason due to COVID-19 ... Threw for 1,086 yards on 91-of-129 passing and 13 touchdowns ... Sophomore campaign featured an FHSAA 8A state title as the backup quarterback ... Completed 26-of-34 passes (.765) for 227 yards with five touchdowns ... Participated in the Elite 11 Regional and Under Armour All-American Camp Regional ... Named MVP of the Rivals Miami Wilson Connected camp ... Also lettered in tennis ... Campus ministry president, school vice president, social media director for the honors program while at CCHS ... Nominee for the Silver Knight Award given to a select group of students who have an outstanding academic history and an impressive community service record ... Son of Elsa and Fernando Mendoza ... Brother, Alberto, is a redshirt freshman quarterback at Indiana ... Born October 1, 2003 ... Coordinated the Christopher Columbus High School Turkey Drive in which 436 turkeys were given to families in need in Miami-Dade County ... Founding member of They Can Too, a global organization dedicated to helping and spreading awareness for youth in need ... Organized a Cuban Relief Service trip in which he and his grandfather, Alberto Espino, went to Cuba to give to back to their native community, locals and family members ... One of three hosts of the 2024 Golden Buddies Football Clinic for youth with and without disabilities while at Cal.

Zen Michalski

OL • 6-6 • 319

Floyds Knobb, Ind./Floyd Central (Ohio State)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 29 career games with one start over four season at Ohio State (2021-24) and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made first-career start against Nebraska (10/26) in 2024.

2024 (Junior Season - Ohio State)

Season: Appeared in seven games with one start ... Made first collegiate start against Nebraska (10/26) and was injured in that game ... Missed the final nine games of the season due to injury ... Did not appear during Ohio State's run to the College Football Playoff championship ... Saw 160 snaps at left tackle and one at left guard ... Also logged 101 snaps on special teams.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Ohio State)

Season: Appeared in 11 games ... Missed Week 10 at Rutgers ... Totaled 22 snaps at left tackle ... Played 70 special teams snaps.

2022 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Ohio State)

Season: Appeared in 10 games ... Saw 79 snaps at left tackle and one snap at left guard ... Logged 98 special teams snaps.

2021 (Freshman Season - Ohio State)

Season: Appeared in one game and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut against Michigan State ... Enrolled and participated in spring ball.

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach James Bragg at Floyd Central ... Rated a four-star prospect by 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Three-star prospect per ESPN ... Rated a top-300 national prospect per 247Sports (No. 208) and On3 (No. 251) ... Tabbed a top-30 offensive tackle by 247Sports (No. 18), Rivals (No. 29) and On3 (No. 26) ... Consensus top-6 prospect in Indiana by all four recruiting services ... Named Indiana Football Coaches Association All-State as a senior ... Tabbed first-team All-Hoosier Hills Conference as a senior ... Paved the way for an offense that averaged 37.2 points per game as a senior ... Son of Tamara and Matthew Ware, and Lennon Michalski.

Louis Moore

DB • 5-11 • 200

Mesquite, Texas/Poteet (Ole Miss)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 35 career games with 12 starts ... Appeared on 24 games at Indiana with 10 starts (2022-23) ... Played in 11 games with two starts in one season at Ole Miss (2024) ... Spent two seasons at Navarro Community College (2020-21) prior to enrolling at Indiana ... First collegiate start came against Ohio State (9/2) in 2023 ... First-career interception came as part of a two-interception game versus Akron (9/23) in 2023 ... Owns four career 10-tackle games (1, 2024; 3, 2023).

2024 (Redshirt Senior Season - Ole Miss)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with two starts ... Recovered first-career fumble at Wake Forest (9/14).

Furman (8/31): Totaled four tackles ... Combined on a second-quarter tackle for loss ... Posted a third-quarter solo stop behind the line. **Middle Tennessee State (9/7):** Posted four stops ... Broke up a fourth-quarter pass. **at Wake Forest (9/14):** Made six tackles ... Combined on a second-quarter sack ... Added first-career fumble recovery in the fourth quarter. **Georgia Southern (9/21):** Chipped in one stop. **at LSU (10/12):** Added one tackle. **Oklahoma (10/26):** Made three stops. **at Arkansas (11/2):** Logged four tackles. **at Florida (11/23):** Posted fourth-career double-digit tackle game and first at Ole Miss with 10 stops. **Duke (1/2):** Posted three tackles.

2023 (Senior Season)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with ten starts ... Made first career start against No. 3/4 Ohio State (9/2) ... One of 18 Hoosiers to make first career start.

Ohio State (9/2): Made six stops - all solo - in first career start ... Added first career pass break up. **Indiana State (9/8):** Totaled four tackles. **Louisville (9/16):** Had nine tackles. **Akron (9/23):** Posted six stops ... Had two interceptions ... Made first-career interception in the second quarter ... Second interception was in the third quarter and returned for 22 yards ... First career touchdown. **at Maryland (9/30):** Logged one solo tackle. **at Michigan (10/14):** Charted seven solo stops. **Rutgers (10/21):** Registered six tackles. **at Penn State (10/28):** Collected first career double-digit tackle game with 10 tackles ... Forced a fumble in the first quarter. **Wisconsin (11/4):** Totaled six stops ... Forced fumble in the fourth quarter that was recovered by Josh Sanguinetti on the last play of the game to seal the win. **at Illinois (11/11):** Charted ten tackles ... Intercepted John Paddock in the second quarter which led to a touchdown drive ... Forced a fumble in the fourth quarter. **Michigan State (11/18):** Registered 12 tackles for his second career double-digit tackle game. **at Purdue (11/25):** Totaled six tackles ... Brought Deion Burks down for a 5-yard loss in the second quarter.

2022 (Junior Season)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games ... One of 16 transfer student-athletes to make IU debut in 2022 ... One of 33 student-athletes to make collegiate debut in 2022.

Illinois (9/2): Made Indiana debut. **Idaho (9/10):** Made first career tackle. **at Nebraska (10/1):** Made two tackles ... Combined with Cam Jones on a second-quarter sack and forced the fumble in the end zone that was picked up by Myles Jackson for an Indiana touchdown. **Michigan (10/8):** Recorded four tackles. **Maryland (10/15):** Made one tackle. **Purdue (11/26):** Chipped in one stop.

2020-21 (Navarro Community College)

Wide receiver and safety for head coach Ryan Taylor at Navarro College in Corsicana, Texas ... Totaled 48 receptions for 713 yards and five touchdowns in 2020 and 2021 ... Caught 24 passes for 428 yards and four TDs in 2021 ... Returned four kickoffs for 66 yards ... Collected 18 tackles, two for loss, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, and one pass breakup ... Played in nine games ... Pulled in 24 balls for 285 yards and one score in 2020 ... Added 27 rushing yards on four attempts ... Returned one kick for nine yards ... Played in seven games.

Prep/Personal

Two-way player for head coach Kody Groves at Poteet High School ... Son of Lavonda and Joe Moore ... Born January 29, 2001.

Tyler Morris

WR • 5-11 • 185

Bolingbrook, Ill./Nazareth Academy (Michigan)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 34 career games with 14 starts over three seasons at Michigan ... Helped UM to the 2023 College Football Playoff national championship ... First collegiate start came at Nebraska (9/30) in 2023 ... First collegiate touchdown catch came against Alabama (1/1) in the CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl.

2024 (Junior Season - Michigan)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with 10 starts.

Fresno State (8/31): Caught three passes for 15 yards. **Texas (9/7):** Made two receptions for 17 yards. **Minnesota (9/28):** Lone reception was an 11-yard touchdown reception in the second quarter ... Had one punt return for 3 yards. **at Washington (10/5):** Made one reception for 8 yards. **at Illinois (10/19):** Logged one catch for 22 yards. **Michigan State (10/26):** Lone reception went for 23 yards ... Returned one punt for 14 yards. **Oregon (11/2):** Had three catches for 38 yards and one touchdown ... Opened the scoring for Michigan with a 7-yard touchdown reception in the first quarter. **at Indiana (11/9):** Pulled in three passes for 36 yards. **Northwestern (11/23):** Caught seven passes for 64 yards ... Carried once for 9 yards ... Returned one punt for 19 yards. **at Ohio State (11/30):** Made one catch for 14 yards ... Lone punt return went for 2 yards.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Michigan)

Season: Appeared in 15 games with four starts ... Helped Michigan win the College Football Playoff national championship ... First collegiate start came at Nebraska (9/30) ... First collegiate touchdown catch came against Alabama (1/1) in the CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl.

UNLV (9/9): Caught three passes for 40 yards ... Added one punt return for 5 yards. **Bowling Green (9/16):** Returned one punt for 22 yards. **at Nebraska (9/30):** Made first collegiate start ... Made one reception for 5 yards ... Lone punt return covered 30 yards. **Indiana (10/14):** Posted four catches for 54 yards ... Had one punt for 27 yards. **at Michigan State (10/21):** Returned two punts for 3 yards. **Purdue (11/4):** Caught two passes for 27 yards ... Lone punt return went for 1 yard. **at Maryland (11/18):** Lone reception was for 26 yards. **vs. Alabama (1/1):** Caught two passes for 45 yards and one touchdown ... First-career touchdown came on a 38-yard completion in the second quarter.

2022 (Freshman Season - Michigan)

Season: Appeared in eight games ... Made collegiate debut against Colorado State (9/3).

Colorado State (9/3): Made collegiate debut on offense. **Hawaii (9/10):** First collegiate reception went for 9 yards. **at Rutgers (11/5):** Caught one pass for 9 yards. **Nebraska (11/12):** Made one reception for 7 yards.

Prep/Personal

Wide Receiver for head coach Tim Racki at Nazareth Academy ... Transferred to Plainedge East in Winter 2021 to graduate ... Consensus four-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Rated as a top-200 national recruit per ESPN (No. 180), 247Sports (No. 104) and Rivals (No. 155) ... Tabbed a top-25 wide receiver nationally by ESPN (No. 24), 247Sports (No. 18) and Rivals (No. 24) ... Rated as a top-10 recruit in Illinois by all four services: ESPN (No. 5), 247Sports (No. 4), Rivals (No. 5) and On3 (No. 10) ... Helped NA to a 26-2 record his final two prep seasons and back-to-back appearances in the Illinois High School Athletic Association Class 7A State Championship Game ... Part of the state title team at Nazareth Academy as a sophomore ... Named Sun-Times All-Area as a sophomore ... Missed senior season due to injury ... Junior season featured just four games due to the COVID-19 pandemic ... Totaled more than 1,700 all-purpose yards and 24 touchdowns as a sophomore ... Logged 1,237 yards and 17 touchdowns on 68 receptions ... Caught 22 passes for 419 yards with three touchdowns as a freshman ... Participated in the Army All-American Bowl ... Also lettered in track and field ... Won 15-16 high jump event at the 2018 AAU Junior Olympic Games ... Son of Shirley and Michael Morris ... Born November 18, 2003.

PJ Nelson**LB • 6-1 • 212****Cincinnati, Ohio/Princeton****Prep/Personal**

Linebacker for head coach Andre Parker at Princeton High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-50 linebacker nationally by ESPN and Rivals ... Consensus top-60 prospect in Ohio by all four recruiting services ... Selected Ohio Prep Sports Writers Association Defensive Player of the Year as a junior ... Garnered Greater Miami Conference Player of the Year and Cincinnati Enquirer Defensive Player of the Year as a junior ... Tabbed all-state, all-district and All-GMC as a junior ... Totaled 137 tackles (85 solo) with 24.0 tackles for loss and 8.0 sacks as a senior ... Added one interception ... Scored two defensive touchdowns ... Logged 89 tackles (59 solo) with 23.5 tackles for loss and 12.0 sacks as a junior ... Forced five fumbles with one interception ... Blocked three punts.

Riley Nowakowski**TE • 6-1 • 243****Milwaukee, Wis./Marquette University High School (Wisconsin)****Career Notes & Records**

Appeared in 40 career games with 10 start over five seasons at Wisconsin (2020-24) and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Has played linebacker, fullback and tight end in collegiate career ... First collegiate start came against Ohio State (10/28) in 2023.

2024 (Senior Season - Wisconsin)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with nine starts.

Western Michigan (8/30): Caught two passes for 22 yards. **at USC (9/28):** Gained 9 yards on lone reception. **Purdue (10/5):** Had two receptions for 21 yards. **at Rutgers (10/12):** Caught two passes for 4 yards. **Penn State (10/26):** Lone reception went for 8 yards. **at Iowa (11/2):** Posted two catches for 2 yards. **at Nebraska (11/23):** Logged one catch for 8 yards.

2023 (Junior Season - Wisconsin)

Season: Appeared in nine games with one start ... First collegiate start came against Ohio State (10/28) ... Caught first-career touchdown at Minnesota (11/25).

at Illinois (10/21): Caught one pass for 14 yards. **Ohio State (10/28):** Made first collegiate start. **at Indiana (11/4):** Caught two passes for 31 yards. **Northwestern (11/11):** Lone reception went for 5 yards. **at Minnesota (11/25):** Pulled in two passes for 6 yards ... First-career touchdown came on a 5-yard reception in the third quarter. **vs. LSU (1/1):** Lone catch gained 1 yard.

2022 (Sophomore Season - Wisconsin)

Season: Appeared in 13 games ... Saw time on offense and special teams ... Logged 147 snaps on special teams units ... Added 120 offensive snaps, mainly at fullback.

Washington State (9/10): Had two tackles on special teams.

2021 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Wisconsin)

Season: Appeared in two games ... Saw time against Northwestern (11/13) and in the Las Vegas Bowl versus Arizona State (12/30).

2020 (Freshman Season - Wisconsin)

Season: Appeared in four games and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut versus Illinois (10/23).

Illinois (10/23): Made collegiate debut ... Chipped in one tackle on special teams.

Prep/Personal

Linebacker and running back for head coach Jeffrey Mazurczak at Marquette University High School ... Selected first-team all-state by the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association as a senior ... Earned John Anderson Award as Wisconsin's top linebacker ... Nominated as the Wisconsin representative for the National Football Foundation Team of Distinction ... Totaled 126 tackles with 29.0 tackles for loss and 3.0 sacks as a senior ... Added four forced fumbles and two interceptions ... Also lettered in basketball and track and field ... Helped MUHS set the program record in the 4x400m relay.

Evan Parker**OL • 6-4 • 302****Carmel, Ind./Carmel****Prep/Personal**

Offensive lineman for head coach John Hebert at Carmel High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-90 offensive line prospect nationally by ESPN and 247Sports ... Rated a top-40 recruit in Indiana per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Named to the Indy Super Team as a senior ... Garnered Underclass All-State as a junior.

Dominique Ratcliff**DL • 6-3 • 285****Conroe, Texas/Conroe (Texas State)****Career Notes & Records**

Appeared in 38 career games with four starts over five collegiate seasons ... Played three seasons at Texas State (2022-24) ... Spent two seasons at Louisiana-Lafayette (2020-21) and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut against Texas State (10/30) in 2021 ... First collegiate start came versus Arkansas State (11/19) in 2023.

2024 (Senior Season - Texas State)

Awards: Earned All-Sun Belt honorable mention from College Football News.

Season: Appeared in 12 games.

Lamar (8/31): Both tackles went for a loss ... Combined on a second-quarter tackle for loss ... Posted a solo stop behind the line on third down in the third quarter. **UTSA (9/7):** Posted two stops. **Arizona State (9/12):** Had three tackles ... Combined on a tackle for loss in the third quarter. **vs. Sam Houston State (9/28):** Chipped in two stops. **at Troy (10/3):** Made three tackles. **Arkansas State (10/12):** Added one tackle. **at Old Dominion (10/19):** Made one stop. **Louisiana-Lafayette (10/29):** Posted two tackles **at ULM (11/9):** Made two tackles ... Had a solo sack in the first quarter. **Southern Miss (11/16):** Chipped in one tackle. **Georgia State (11/23):** Logged one stop. **at South Alabama (11/29):** Posted two tackles ... Combined on a second-quarter tackle for loss.

2023 (Junior Season - Texas State)

Season: Appeared in 13 games with three starts ... Finished No. 15 nationally among defensive linemen in run stop percentage per PFF.

at UTSA (9/9): Chipped in one tackle. **Nevada (9/23):** Made two stops. **at Southern Miss (9/30):** Had three tackles ... Posted a solo tackle for loss in the second quarter. **at Louisiana-Lafayette (10/7):** Chipped in two stops. **ULM (10/14):** Made four tackles. **Troy (10/28):** Posted three stops ... Combined on a fourth-quarter tackle for loss. **Georgia Southern (11/4):** Lone tackle was a combined tackle for loss in the third quarter. **at Coastal Carolina (11/11):** Had two tackles. **at Arkansas State (11/18):** Made first collegiate start ... Made four tackles and logged first-career multi-sack game ... Logged a pair of solo sacks in the second quarter. **South Alabama (11/25):** Chipped in two tackles. **vs. Rice (12/26):** All four stops went for a loss or no gain ... Totaled 1.5 tackles for loss ... Combined on a third-quarter sack ... Added a solo tackle for loss in the fourth quarter.

2022 (Sophomore Season - Texas State)

Season: Appeared in all 12 games with one start ... First collegiate start came against Arkansas State (11/19).

Houston Christian (9/24): Chipped in one tackle. **at James Madison (10/1):** Posted one solo stop. **Appalachian State (10/8):** Posted two tackles ... Logged first-career sack on a combine quarterback takedown in the fourth quarter. **Southern Miss (10/22):** Totaled five tackles. **at ULM (11/5):** Chipped in one stop. **at South Alabama (11/12):** Had one tackle. **Louisiana-Lafayette (11/26):** Made three tackles ... Assisted on two tackles for loss.

2021 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Louisiana-Lafayette)

Season: Appeared in one game ... Made collegiate debut against Texas State (10/30).

Texas State (10/30): Made collegiate debut ... Logged first career tackle in the fourth quarter on defense.

2020 (Freshman Season - Louisiana-Lafayette)

Season: Did not appear in a game and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Defensive lineman for head coach Jeffery Sickler at Conroe High School ... Tabbed a three-star prospect per ESPN and 247Sports ... Two-time All-District 15-6A selections ... Two-time first-team all-country pick ... Career totals included 118 tackles, 33.0 tackles for loss and 11.5 sacks ... Also forced four fumbles, blocked one punt and had one interception in prep career ... Son of Keisha and Michael Ratcliff ... Has one sister: Victoria ... Born December 13, 2001.

Garrett Reese

DB • 6-2 • 190

Chicago, Ill./Nazareth Academy

Prep/Personal

Defensive back for head coach Tim Racki at Nazareth Academy ... Helped NA to three Illinois High School Association Class 3A state titles ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed the No. 84 defensive back nationally by ESPN ... Rated a top-45 prospect in Illinois per ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Named Defensive MVP at the Top Gun 7x7 Chicago event ... Selected for the Blue-Gray All-American Bowl ... Totaled 45 tackles with two interceptions, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery as a junior ... Added 25 receptions for 261 yards and one touchdown on offense ... Also lettered in track and field ... Qualified for the IHSAA State Track and Field Championships in the triple jump as a junior.

Zacharey Smith

DB • 5-11 • 161

Union City, Ga./Hapeville Charter Academy

Prep/Personal

Defensive back for head coach Winston Gordon at Hapeville Charter Academy ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-80 defensive back nationally per ESPN and On3 ... Rated the No. 97 prospect in Georgia per On3 ... Selected first-team All-Region 6-4A as a junior ... Made 20 tackles with seven interceptions and 10 pass breakups as a senior ... Led Georgia in interceptions as a junior with eight ... Added 26 tackles and 15 pass breakups.

Holden Staes

TE • 6-4 • 248

Atlanta, Ga./Westminster School (Tennessee)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 34 career games with 12 starts ... Played two seasons at Notre Dame (2022-23) ... Spent one season at Tennessee (2024) ... Made collegiate debut against Marshall (9/10) ... First collegiate start came at North Carolina (9/24) ... First-career touchdown reception came against Tennessee State (9/2) ... Owns one career 100-yard receiving game ... Has one career multi-touchdown game.

2024 (Junior Season - Tennessee)

Season: Appeared in 13 games with three starts.

UT-Chattanooga (8/31): Caught two passes for 13 yards. **vs. NC State (9/7):** Made one catch for 18 yards. **Kent State (9/14):** Lone reception covered 16 yards. **at Oklahoma (9/21):** Had two catches for 8 yards. **Florida (10/12):** Gained 5 yards on two receptions. **Alabama (10/19):** Lone catch went for 5 yards. **Kentucky (11/2):** Three-catch day totaled 27 yards. **at Georgia (11/16):** One reception covered 9 yards. **UTEP (11/23):** Caught two passes for 30 yards.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with eight starts ... First-career touchdown reception came against Tennessee State (9/2).

Tennessee State (9/2): Lone reception capped the first-half scoring ... Caught a 4-yard touchdown pass for first collegiate score. **at NC State (9/9):** Posted first-career 100-yard receiving game with 115 yards on four catches ... Caught a pair of touchdown passes ... Hauled in a 40-yard score in the third quarter ... Added a 35-yard receiving touchdown in the fourth quarter to cap the Notre Dame scoring. **Central Michigan (9/16):** Lone reception was a 4-yard touchdown grab in the fourth quarter. **at Louisville (10/7):** Caught two passes for 16 yards. **USC (10/14):** Gained 10 yards on two receptions. **Pittsburgh (10/28):** Two grabs totaled 14 yards. **at Clemson (11/4):** Lone reception went for 7 yards. **Wake Forest (11/18):** Made two catches for 6 yards.

2022 (Freshman Season - Notre Dame)

Season: Appeared in 11 games with one start ... Made collegiate debut against Marshall (9/10) ... First collegiate start came at North Carolina (9/24) ... Caught first-career pass against BUY (10/8).

Marshall (9/10): Made collegiate debut. **at North Carolina (9/24):** Registered first collegiate start. **BYU (10/8):** First collegiate catch went for 11 yards and a first down.

Prep/Personal

Tight end for head coach Gerry Romberg at Westminster School ... Consensus four-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed a top-300 national prospect by ESPN (No. 278) and On3 (No. 201) ... Rated a top-10 tight end prospect nationally by ESPN (No. 7), Rivals (No. 8) and On3 (No. 9) ... Ranked a top-30 prospect in Georgia by ESPN (No. 27), Rivals (No. 27) and On3 (No. 23) ... Selected team captain as a senior ... Tabbed team MVP his final prep season ... Three-time first-team all-region selection (2019-21) ... Participated in the Polynesian Bowl ... Son of Michelle and Steven Staes ... Has two siblings: Ethan and Grace ... Born June 10, 2003

Seaonta Stewart Jr.

DB • 6-1 • 195

Cincinnati, Ohio/Winton Woods

Prep/Personal

Defensive back for head coach Chad Murphy at Winton Woods High School ... Helped WWHHS to the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division I state championship as a freshman ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed the No. 19 defensive back by Rivals ... Consensus top-65 defensive back by all four recruiting services ... Rated a top-65 recruit in Ohio by all four services ... Posted 12 tackles with eight pass breakups as a senior.

Blake Thiry

TE • 6-4 • 228

Prairie Du Chien, Wis./Prairie De Chien

Prep/Personal

Tight end for head coach Aaron Amundson at Prairie De Chien High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-50 tight end prospect nationally by ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Consensus top-10 recruit in Wisconsin ... Named Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Small School Offensive Player of the Year as a senior ... Garnered honorable mention WFLA All-State at tight end and linebacker as a junior ... Named all-region offense and defense as a junior ... Named Southwest Wisconsin Conference Offensive Player of the Year as a senior ... Two-time first-team All-SWC pick his final two prep seasons ... Totaled 2,100 all-purpose yards as a senior ... Caught 40 passes with 14 touchdowns ... Rushed for 33 scores on 169 carries.

Hosea Wheeler

DL • 6-3 • 300

Elk Grove, Calif./Franklin (Western Kentucky)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 40 career games with 25 starts over four collegiate seasons ... Spent three seasons at Western Kentucky (2022-24) ... Played one season at Sacramento City College (2021) ... Tabbed first-team All-Conference USA once (2024) ... Owns four career forced turnovers (1 INT, 2 FF, 1 FR) ... Blocked two career kicks - both in 2024 ... Posted at least one tackle in 27-straight games.

2024 (Junior Season - Western Kentucky)

Awards: Earned first-team All-Conference USA.

Season: Started all 14 games ... Led Conference USA interior defenders with 619 snaps played ... Posted a tackle in all 14 games.

at Alabama (8/31): Posted a strip-sack of Jalen Milroe on the second play from scrimmage ... Logged three total tackles. **Eastern Kentucky (9/7):** Posted five tackles ... Combined on a third-quarter tackle for loss. **at Middle Tennessee State (9/14):** Chipped in three stops. **Toledo (9/21):** Made eight tackles - five solo ... Posted a solo tackle for loss in the second quarter. **at Boston College (9/28):** Posted six tackles with first-quarter combined tackle for loss. **UTEP (10/10):** Made six stops ... Combined on a third-quarter tackle for loss on third down to force a punt. **at Sam Houston State (10/16):** Made five tackles ... Blocked a fourth-quarter field goal attempt. **Kennesaw State (10/30):** Piled up eight stops ... Had a solo sack in the fourth quarter. **at New Mexico State (11/9):** Posted nine tackles ... Recovered a fumble in the second quarter that led to a WKU field goal ... Combined on a first-quarter tackle for loss. **Louisiana Tech (11/16):** Added three stops ... Blocked a fourth-quarter field goal to preserve a five-point lead. **at Liberty (11/23):** Made five tackles. **Jacksonville State (11/30):** Logged eight stops. **at Jacksonville State (12/6):** Posted five tackles. **vs. James Madison (12/18):** Chipped in one tackle.

2023 (Redshirt Sophomore Season - Western Kentucky)

Season: Appeared in 13 games with 11 starts ... First collegiate start came versus USF (9/2) in the season opener ... Owned a tackle in all 13 games.

USF (9/2): Made first collegiate start ... Posted four tackles. **Houston Christian (9/9):** Had two stops. **at Ohio State (9/16):** Lone tackle was a strip-sack of Kyle McCord in the first quarter that led to a WKU field goal ... Intercepted Devin Brown in the fourth quarter. **at Troy (9/23):** Made six tackles - four solo. **Middle Tennessee State (9/28):** Had six stops - four solo. **at Louisiana Tech (10/5):** Logged three tackles. **at Jacksonville State (10/17):** Chipped in three stops ... Had a solo sack in the first quarter. **Liberty (10/24):** Posted four tackles. **at UTEP (11/4):** Made three tackles ... Combined on a second-quarter tackle for loss. **New Mexico State (11/11):** Had four tackle. **Sam Houston State (11/18):** Chipped in two tackles. **at FIU (11/25):** Added two tackles. **vs. Old Dominion (12/18):** Posted two stops ... Combined on a third-quarter tackle for loss.

2022 (Sophomore Season - Western Kentucky)

Season: Appeared in four games and redshirted ... Made FBS debut at Hawaii (9/3) in the season opener ... Also saw time at Middle Tennessee State (10/15), at Auburn (11/19) and South Alabama (12/21) in the New Orleans Bowl.

vs. South Alabama (12/21): Posted first career tackle.

2021 (Freshman Season - Sacramento City College)

Appeared in nine games ... Totaled 24 tackles with 3.5 tackles for loss and 0.5 sack ... Made season debut against American River (9/4) with one tackle ... Posted three tackles with 1.5 tackles for loss against Diablo Valley (9/18) ... Lone stop against Siskiyou (9/25) was a solo tackle for loss ... Posted first sack in a combined effort at Fresno City College (10/23).

Prep/Personal

Defensive lineman for head coach Evan Boylan at Franklin High School ... Also played tight end.

Baylor Wilkin

OL • 6-5 • 268

Van Buren, Ohio/Findlay

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach Stefan Adams at Findlay High School ... Consensus three-star prospect per ESPN, 247Sports, Rivals and On3 ... Tabbed top-90 national offensive line prospect by ESPN, 247Sports and On3 ... Consensus top-10 recruit in Ohio by all four recruiting services ... Picked first-team All-Toledo Blade as a senior ... Selected first-team all-district as a senior ... Tabbed first-team All-Northern Lakes League Buckeye Division his final prep season.

Grant Wilson

QB • 6-3 • 217

Arlington, Va./Yorktown (Old Dominion)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 22 career games with 14 starts over five collegiate seasons ... Appeared in 15 games with 14 starts over two seasons at Old Dominion (2023-24) ... Made seven appearances in three seasons at Fordham (2020-22) and redshirted his initial collegiate season ... Collegiate debut came versus Wagner (10/9) in 2021 at Fordham ... First collegiate start was against Virginia Tech (9/2) in the 2023 season opener while at Old Dominion.

2024 (Senior Season - Old Dominion)

Season: Started three games ... Missed nine games due to injury ... Accounted for five total touchdowns (4 passing, 1 rushing).

at South Carolina (8/31): Completed 22-of-38 passes for 197 yards and one touchdown ... Rushed for 16 yards on 11 carries with one touchdown ... Connected on a 72-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter ... Added a 36-yard rushing score in the third quarter. **East Carolina (9/7):** Totaled 192 yards on 20-of-34 passing with one touchdown ... Tossed a 44-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter ... Gained 3 yards on 12 rushes. **at Bowling Green (9/28):** Passed for 118 yards and two touchdowns ... Completed 6-of-14 passes before leaving the game due to injury in the third quarter ... Both touchdown passes came in the first quarter ... Connected on a 9-yard touchdown pass to open the scoring and added a 75-yard scoring strike later in the quarter.

2023 (Junior Season - Old Dominion)

Season: Appeared in 12 games with 11 starts ... Made first collegiate start at Virginia Tech (9/2) ... Accounted for 21 total touchdowns (17 passing, 4 rushing).

at Virginia Tech (9/2): Logged 175 yards of total offense ... Threw for 94 yards on XX-of-XX passing and two touchdowns ... Connected on touchdown passes for 16-yards in the second quarter and 5-yards in the third quarter ... Rushed for 81 yards on 19 carries. **Louisiana-Lafayette (9/9):** Accounted for five total touchdowns and 250 yard of total offense ... Gained 3 yards on five carries with one touchdown ... Completed 13-of-19 passes for 247 yards and four touchdowns ... Tossed scoring strikes of 30-yards in the first quarter, 36-yards and 61-yards in the third quarter, and 37-yards in the fourth quarter ... Had a 3-yard rushing score in the second quarter. **Wake Forest (9/16):** Totaled 233 yards on 11-of-26 passing ... Opened the scoring with a 68-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. **vs Texas A&M-Commerce (9/23):** Completed 5-of-11 passes for 70 yards ... Gained 3 yards on four carries. **at Southern Miss (10/7):** Threw for 194 yards on 8-of-18 passing. **Appalachian State (10/21):** Completed 18-of-25 passes for 194 yards and one touchdown ... Added 33 yards rushing on 14 carries ... Connected on a 3-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. **at James Madison (10/28):** Posted 277 yards on 26-of-36 passing and two touchdowns ... Tossed a 58-yard first-quarter scoring pass and a 10-yard third-quarter touchdown pass. **Coastal Carolina (11/4):** Threw three touchdown passes as part of a 16-for-28 passing game and 172 yards ... Chipped in 42 yards rushing on 13 carries ... Completed touchdown passes of 6-yards in the first quarter and two 30-yard scoring strikes in the third quarter. **at Liberty (11/11):** Logged 225 yards of total offense with 161 yards passing and 64 yards rushing ... Completed 23-of-42 passes with one touchdown throw ... Connected on a 5-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter. **at Georgia Southern (11/18):** Totaled 222 yards of total offense ... Completed 17-of-27 passes for 182 yards ... Added 40 yards rushing on seven carries ... Tossed a 12-yard scoring pass in the second quarter and a 30-yard strike for a touchdown in the third quarter. **Georgia State (11/25):** Had 208 yards on 15-of-33 passing with one touchdown throw ... Threw a 31-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter ... Rushed for a 3-yard touchdown as time expired to give ODU a 25-24 victory. **vs. Western Kentucky (12/18):** Posted 249 yards of total offense and three total touchdowns ... Totaled 123 yards passing and 126 yards rushing ... Connected on 13-of-22 passes with one touchdown toss ... Touchdown pass was a 1-yard throw in the first quarter ... Rushed for an 11-yard scor in the second quarter and added a 21-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

2022 (Sophomore Season - Fordham)

Season: Appeared in four games.

at Wagner (9/1): Entered at the end of the game. **Stony Brook (10/15):** Connected on all three passes for 35 yards and one touchdown ... Carried four times for 22 yards ... Connected on a 19-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter for first-career scoring pass. **at Bucknell (11/5):** Lone completion was a 6-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter ... Lone rush covered 5 yards. **Lafayette (11/12):** Had three rushing attempts for minus-2 yards ... Long carry covered 10 yards.

2021 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Fordham)

Season: Appeared in three games ... Made collegiate debut against Wagner (10/9).

Wagner (10/9): Completed 2-of-4 passes for 16 yards ... Added 7 yards rushing on two carries. **Bucknell (10/16):** Connected on four pass attempts for 36 yards. **at Georgetown (11/6):** Played on offensive snap.

2020 (Freshman Season - Fordham)

Season: Did not appear in a game and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Quarterback for head coach Bruce Hanson at Yorktown High School ... Named team MVP as a senior ... Selected team captain as a senior ... Two-time District 6A Offensive Player of the Year ... Two-time first-team All-District selection ... Two-time conference Offensive Player of the Year ... Threw for 2,632 yards and 24 touchdowns on 179-of-264 passing as a senior ... Completed 134-of-213 passes for 1,770 yards and 15 touchdowns as a junior ... Also lettered in lacrosse ... Son of Shelley and Brian Wilson ... Has three siblings: Alex, Katie Grace and Henry.

WALK-ONS

Maverick Geske

QB • 6-0 • 195

Indianapolis, Ind./Brebeuf Jesuit

Prep/Personal

Quarterback for head coach [Name] at Brebeuf Jesuit High School ... Finalist for Indiana Mr. Football his final prep season ... Tabbed Indiana Football Coaches Association All-State as a junior and senior ... Garnered first-team All-Circle City Conference as a junior and senior ... Two-time first-team All-Marion County ... Owns BJHS career marks for yards passing (8,904), completion percentage (.599) and total touchdowns (114) ... Finished prep career as the single-season program record holder in yards passing (4,039, 2024), touchdown passes (40, 2023 & 2024) and completion percentage (.622, 2023) ... Led the state in yards passing and finished top-5 nationally during senior season (4,039) to rank No. 5 in state history ... Posted career totals of 8,904 yards on 574-of-959 passing with 104 touchdowns through the air ... Added nine career rushing touchdowns ... Senior season totals included 4,039 yards passing and 40 touchdowns ... Threw for 3,084 yards and 40 scores as a junior ... Posted 1,651 yards passing and 22 touchdowns as a sophomore ... Threw two touchdown passes and collected 130 yards passing as a freshman ... Also lettered in baseball ... Helped the Braves to an Indiana High School Athletic Association Class 3A state runner-up finish as a junior.

Garrison Hickie

OL • 6-4 • 310

Kewanna, Ind./Caston (Trine)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 21 career games with 18 starts over three seasons at Trine University ... Made collegiate debut against Anderson (Ind.) (9/1) in 2022 ... First collegiate start came against Franklin (9/16) in 2023.

2024 (Junior Season - Trine)

Season: Started all 10 games at offensive tackle ... Helped Trine score 30-plus points in six games and average 29.2 points per game.

2023 (Sophomore Season - Trine)

Season: Appeared in nine games with eight starts at offensive tackle ... First collegiate start came versus Franklin (9/16) ... Helped Trine average 35.8 points per game and lead the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Conference in passing yards per game (281.7 ypg).

2022 (Freshman Season - Trine)

Season: Appeared in two games ... Made collegiate debut against Anderson (Ind.) (9/1) ... NCAA Division III does not permit a redshirt unless for medical reasons

Prep/Personal

Offensive and defensive lineman for head coach Chris Ulerick at Caston High School ... Helped CHS average 205.1 yards rushing per game as a senior with 2,051 total yards on the ground and 21 rushing scores ... Paved the way for five 100-yard rushing efforts ... Totaled 134 career tackles with 5.0 sacks on the defensive line ... Junior season included 67 stops ... Made 46 tackles as a senior.

Chance Johnson

OL • 6-5 • 287

Jeffersonville, Ind./Jeffersonville

Prep/Personal

Offensive lineman for head coach Joe Washington at Jeffersonville High School ... Named first-team All-Hoosier Hills Conference as a senior.

Sam Lindsey

LS • 6-0 • 186

Lilburn, Ga./Parkview (Georgia State)

Career Notes & Records

Appeared in 11 career games at long snapper over two seasons at Georgia State and redshirted initial collegiate season ... Made collegiate debut at Georgia Tech (8/31) in 2024 ... Owns three career tackles.

2024 (Redshirt Freshman Season - Georgia State)

Season: Appeared in 11 games at long snapper ... Made collegiate debut against at Georgia Tech (8/31).

at Georgia Tech (8/31): Made collegiate debut. Vanderbilt (9/14): Made first collegiate tackle on punt coverage. **at Marshall (10/17):** Posted one stop on punt coverage. **at Texas State (11/23):** Had a solo stop on punt coverage.

2023 (Freshman Season - Georgia State)

Season: Did not appear in a game and redshirted initial collegiate season.

Prep/Personal

Long snapper and wide receiver for head coach Eric Godfree at Parkview High School ... Five-star prospect per Rubio Long Snapping ... Tabbed Gwinnett County Specialist of the Year as a junior and senior ... Earned first-team all-region and all-county as a senior.

Bryce Taylor

K • 5-10 • 193

Bloomington, Ind./Bloomington South

Prep/Personal

Kicker and punter for head coach [Name] at [High School] ... Five-star prospect per Kohl's Kicking ... Rated as a top-5 kicking prospect per On3 (No. 3) ... Helped BSHS to three-straight sectional titles ... Earned first-team All-Conference Indiana as a junior and senior ... Tabbed all-area as a junior and senior ... Made program-record 53-yard field goal against Columbus East in 2024 ... Finished prep career with 209 points scored ... Converted 149-of-158 extra points and 20-of-22 field goals in high school career.