

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time (ET)
8/30	at Louisville	3 p.m.
9/6	Houston Christian	6 p.m.
9/13	at Marshall	6 p.m.
9/20	at West Georgia*	6 p.m.
9/27	Nicholls	6 p.m.
10/11	Austin Peay *	6 p.m.
10/18	at North Alabama*	7 p.m.
10/25	Tarleton State*	3 p.m.
11/1	at Central Arkansas*	[*] 5 p.m.
11/8	Southern Utah*	3 p.m.
11/15	Abilene Christian*	3 p.m.
11/22	at Utah Tech*	4 p.m.

* UAC game; Home games in bold; ¹FCS Playoffs

GAMEDAY

MEDIA COVERAGE

TV: ACC Network

Play-By-Play: Jorge Sedano Analyst: Rodney McLeod Sideline: Victoria Arlen

Audio: EKU Sports Network
Play-By-Play: Greg Stotelmyer
Analysts: Wes Chandler, Jim Tirey

ONLINE

Live Stats: EKUSports.com

X: @EKUFootball Facebook: EKU Football Instagram: @eku_football

Hashtags: #E2W|#MatterOfPride

SERIES HISTORY

All-Time: UL, 20-8-1 Last Meeting: UL, 30-3 (2021) Last EKU win: 45-21 (1985, Away)

RECORD BOOK



EKU at LOUISVILLE SATURDAY, AUG. 30 3 PM ET - ACC NETWORK LOUISVILLE, KY L&N STADIUM

CARDINALS

2024 Record / ACC	Record	9-4 / 5-3
AP / FBS Coaches	Poll	RV / RV
Head Coach		Jeff Brohm
Record at U of L (Y	ears)	19-8 (3rd)
Career (Years)		85-52 (11th)
Last Game	W, 35-34 vs	s. Wash. (12/31)

COLONELS

2024 Record / UAC Record	8-5 / 6-2
STATS FCS / FCS Coaches Poll	RV / RV
Head Coach	Walt Wells
Record at EKU (Years)	30-26 (6th)
Career (Years)	Same
Last Game W, 21-15 vs. North Ala	abama (11/23)



	QUICK COMPARISON	
36.5	Points/Game	22.8
24.1	Points Allowed/Game	23.8
185.2	Rush Yards/Game	184.3
132.5	Rush Yards Allowed/Game	148.8
264.1	Pass Yards/Game	168.8
236.2	Pass Yards Allowed /Game	244.6
449.2	Total Offense/Game	353.0
368.7	Total Defense/Game	393.3
21.2	First Downs/Game	19.75
-2	Turnover Margin	+2
	2024 STATISTICS	



OPENING KICK

- Saturday's meeting is the first for the two commonwealth programs since 2021, a 30-3 win for U of L
- EKU is seeking its first win over the Cardinals since 1985
- Transfer Myles Burkett makes his first start under center for EKU after transferring from Albany (Ny.)
- Saturday marks the first game in the Wells' era without LT Payton Collins who started over 50 straight games for EKU through last season
- The Colonels enter the season with a UAC leading six Preseason All-UAC selections (RB) Brayden Latham, (WR) Marcus Calwise, (LB) Braden Sullivan, (DB) Jaheim Ward, (RS) Jalen Montgomery, (P) Jacob Baker
- The Colonels are looking to return to the FCS Playoffs in 2025 after making it in 2024 for the 24th time in program history, the second most of any FCS insitution all-time
- Saturday's matchup with Louisville marks the third straight season EKU has opened the season at a "Power Four" school



Num	Player	Pos	Ht	Wt	CI	Hometown/High School/Previous School
0 0 1 2 3 4 5 5	Jakob Dixon Tommy Ziesmer Cam Junior Cameron Hergott Marcus Calwise Jr. Jeremiah Bailey Khatavian Franks Jordyn Potts Vito Tisdale Jr.	WR DL OLB WR DL LB OB DB	6-4 6-2 6-2 6-3 5-10 6-2 6-1 6-0 5-11	207 296 225 208 190 277 220 188 175	Jr. R-So. R-Sr. So. R-Jr. Gr. Jr. R-Sr.	Louisville, Ky. / Pleasure Ridge Park / Danville, Ky. / Boyle County / Kentucky Miami, Fla. / Middletown / Cincinnati Fort Thomas, Ky. / Beechwood / Youngstown, Ohio / Newton / Smyrna, Tenn. / Smyrna / Americus, Ga. / Creekside HS / Duquesne Powell, Tenn. / Powell / Tennessee Tech Bowling Green, Ky. / Bowling Green / Colorado/
6 7 7	Ron Vann Jr. Colbey Lamberth Gabe Stephens	WR QB OLB	6-2 6-4 6-4	182 234 229	R-Sr. R-So. R-Sr.	Kentucky San Diego, CA / Bonita Vista / Reedley College/NMSU Dickson, Tenn. / Dickson County / Mount Holly, N.C. / Mountain Island Charter / North
8	Kylan Robinson	LB	5-11	220	Gr.	Carolina Southaven, Miss. / DeSoto Central / Northwest
9 10 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 17 18 19 20 21 22	Jaheim Ward Myles Burkett Derek Taylor D.J. Galva Telly McCallister Kam Montgomery Brayden Latham Garnell Wilds Jr. Jackson House Aden Tagaloa-Nelson Tyler Travers Rossie Grimes Jr. Dequan Stanley Charles Ingram V Rishad Hence Frank Lee IV	DB QB DB DB RB QB RB DB WR DB QB DB DB DB DB	6-2 6-0 6-3 6-1 5-9 6-4 5-11 6-0 6-1 6-2 5-10 5-11 5-11 6-1	189 213 206 179 194 213 220 201 200 202 210 195 185 191 163 235	R-Sr. R-Jr. So. R-Sr. Fr. Jr. Sr. R-So. R-So. Fr. Jr. R-Sr. Gr.	Mississippi C.C. Moultrie, Ga. / Colquitt County / Austin Peay Milwaukee, Wis. / Franklin / Albany (N.Y.) Greenbrier, Tenn. / Greenbrier / Cumberland (Tenn.) Bartow, Fla. / Bartow / Akron, Ohio / Streetsboro / Spring, Texas / Canton McKinley HS / Knoxville, Tenn. / Knoxville West / Tampa, Fla. / JW Mitchell / Baton Rouge, La. / Dunham School / Lexington, Ky. / Woodford County / West Virginia Mount Juliet, Tenn. / Mount Juliet / Clayton, Ga / Morrow / Tuskegee St. Augustine, Fla. / St. Augustine / South Florida Nashville, Tenn. / Ensworth / Furman Detroit, Mich. / Martin Luther King / Akron Orangeburg, S.C. / Orangeburg Wilkinson / Carson-
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	Jalen Montgomery Kaden Smith Jack McGrath Peyton Smith EJ Clinkscale Jaylen Herrud Kevin Ford	RB LB OLB RB DB LB	5-9 6-2 6-3 5-8 5-9 6-3 6-0	171 222 225 186 158 230 175	R-Sr. So. Rf. Fr. Rf. Gr. Sr.	Newman Columbia, S.C. / Cardinal Newman / Middle Tenn. St. Campbellsville, Ky / Taylor County / Deerfield, IL / Loyola Academy / Campbellsville, Ky. / Frederick Douglass / Youngstown, OH / Frederick Douglass / Nashville, Tenn. / Summit / Indianapolis, Ind. / Warren Central / Saint Francis
30 31 32 33	Jeffrey Kinley Isaiah Brutus Jack Chappell Braden Sullivan	DB DB OLB LB	6-0 6-2 6-3 6-2	201 194 217 245	R-Jr. Fr. Rf. Jr.	(Fort Wayne) Richmond, Ky. / Madison Central / Kissimmee, Fla. / Tohopekaliga / London, Ky / North Laurel / New Smyrna Beach / Fla. / New Smyrna Beach /
34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43	Brody Wells Davion Sturgis Buzz Flabiano Blake Howard Tavarion James Cam Jessee Brock Driver Darius Akal Brady Hensley Zach Russell	LB OLB K LB/LS DB LB DB RB TE	6-1 6-3 6-0 6-2 5-10 6-1 6-2 5-10 5-11 6-3	225 199 175 225 161 240 208 178 211 261	R-So. Fr. R-Jr. R-So. Fr. Fr. Fr. So. R-Sr.	Highland CC Corbin, Ky. / Corbin / Versailles, Ky. / Woodford County / Murphy, Texas / Plano East / UTEP Cincinnati, Ohio / Princeton / East Tennessee Belle Glade, Fla. / Glades Central / Louisville, Ky. / DuPont Manual / Danville, Ky. / Boyle County / Lynch, Ky. / Harlan / Richmond, Ky / Lexington Christian Academy / Johnson County, Ky. / Johnson Central / Boyling
44	Davi'yon Hawkins-	DL	6-2	270	Rf.	Green Cocoa, Fla. / Cocoa /
45 46 47 48 49 50	Ingram Quaid Luginbill Leland Germany Jacquez McGowan CJ Tolbert III Jacob Baker Liam Coppinger	LS TE OLB TE K/P OL	6-0 6-4 6-1 6-1 6-2 6-3	227 218 205 261 214 300	Rf. Fr. Sr. Jr. R-So. R-Sr.	Waxhaw, NC / Weddington / Dallas, Texas / Lake Highlands / Valdosta, Ga. / Valdosta / Tennessee Tech Katy, Texas / James E. Taylor / Bakersfield CC Corbin, Ky. / Corbin / Everson, Wash. / Nooksack Valley / College of Idaho



Num 51 52	Player Druce Clarke Jr. Brandon McGraw	Pos LB OL	Ht 5-11 6-6	Wt 231 336	CI R-So. Gr.	Hometown/High School/Previous School Decatur, Ala. / Austin HS / Rising Sun, Ind. / South Dearborn / Wilmington
53 55 56 57 58 60 61 63 64 65 71 72 76 77 78 79	Fenadale Hicks Brody Riffe Blake Gamez Graysen Riffe Isaiah Bunn Anthony Johns Brendan Pohl Hunter Gulley Samuel Eskridge Joe Schlarman O'Brien Jackson Fred Hinton Mason Sulla Zane Mullins Jaylen Eberhardt Antonio Gaines Jakobie Hughes	OL O	6-6 6-7 6-2 6-7 6-2 6-3 6-3 6-3 6-4 6-4 6-4 6-4 6-3 6-2 6-2	264 314 300 313 308 294 262 309 288 294 300 318 286 312 294 312 234	Fr. R-So. Gr. R-So. R-Sr. R-Jr. Rf. Jr. Rf. R-Sr. So. R-So. R-So. R-So. R-Jr. R-Jr.	College Camilla, Ga. / Mitchell County / Ocoee, Fla. / West Orange / Pittsburgh Goodyear, Ariz. / Verrado / Tennessee State Ocoee, Fla. / West Orange / Pittsburgh Lauderhill, Fla. / Deerfield Beach / Butler C.C. Winchester, Ky. / Lexington Christian Academy / Asheville, N.C. / A.C. Reynolds / Winchester, Ky. / George Rogers Clark / Kings Mountain, N.C. / Kings Mountain / Norfolk State Lexington, Ky / Lexington Catholic / Murfreesboro, Tenn. / Blackman / Miami, Fla. / IMG Academy / Lancaster, Ky. / Garrard County / Stanford, Ky. / Lincoln County / Cincinnati, OH / Princeton / Columbia, S.C. / Ridge View / Charlotte Springfield, Ky. / Washington County / Uni. of the
81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 88	Mena Mannan Jayden West Bryant Mathis AJ Johnson Braylon Newcomb T.J. Mitchell III Kyle Vaka Darius Sterling Tyree Weatherspoon Caeleb Schlachter	TE WR WR WR WR WR DL WR	6-3 6-3 5-8 6-5 5-7 5-8 6-0 6-2 6-5 6-3	243 170 182 194 168 162 189 312 190 240	R-So. R-So. Fr. Fr. Fr. R-Fr. R-Sr. Fr. R-Jr.	Cumberlands Franklin, Tenn. / Franklin / Richmond, Ky. / Madison Central / Richmond, Ky. / Madison Central / Gary, Ind. / Cathedral / Dayton, Ohio / Bellefontaine / Brunswick, Ga, / Brunswick / Johns Creek, Ga. / Kell / Richmond, Va. / Thomas Dale / Lincoln Univ. Deltona / Lake Mary / Kelowna, B.C., Canada / Clearwater Academy
90 91 92 93 94 95 96	Andrew Hines Devin Orr Simon Ghee Brad Gurley Jr. Preston Swope RJ Dardy Jalen Hand	DL K DL DL OLB DL DL	6-3 6-0 6-2 6-3 6-5 6-3	251 202 272 293 212 256 318	Fr. Rf. R-So. R-Jr. Fr. R-So. R-So.	International / South Alabama Kissimmee, Fla. / Tohopekaliga / Cincinnati, Ohio / Archbishop Moeller / Bowling Green, Ky. / Warren East / Bowling Green, Ky. / Bowling Green / West Palm Beach, Fla. / Seminole Ridge / Dublin, Ga. / Dublin / Kennesaw State Lexington, Ky. / Frederick Douglass / Western
98 99	Cedric Andrews Jr. Gabe Fletcher	DL DL	6-1 6-3	297 285	Rf. R-Sr.	Kentucky Panama City, Fla. / Rutherford / Memphis, Tenn. / Maplewood /

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

0	Tommy Ziesmer - Zees-mer	55	Brody Riffe - Sounds like life
2	Cameron Hergott - Her-gut	56	Blake Gamez - Gah-mez
5	Khatavian Franks - Kuh-Tay-Vee-On	57	Graysen Riffe - Sounds like life
9	Jaheim Ward - Juh-Heem (rhymes with seem)	64	Samuel Eskridge - Esk-Ridge
11	D.J. Galva - Gal-vuh	76	Mason Sulla - Soo-la
17	Aden Tagaloa-Nelson - Aye-den Tag-uh-Low-uh Nelson	78	Jaylen Eberhardt - EE-bur-heart
27	EJ Clinkscale - Clink-Scale	81	Mena Mannan - Mean-uh Man-an
28	Jaylen Herrud - Her-Rud	87	Kyle Vaka - Vah-Kah
36	Buzz Flabianao - Flah-bee-On-oh	89	Caeleb Schlachter - Shh-lack-ter
41	Darius Akal - Uh-Call	95	Ramontei Dardy - Ruh-mon-tay
44	Davi'yon Hawkins - Day-vee-On		
47	Jacquez McGowan - Mick-Gow-an		
50	Liam Coppinger - Cop-In-ger (soft "g")		
53	Fenadale Hicks - Fen-uh-Dale		

Requesting Credentials

Requests for press credentials and working space for Eastern Kentucky University home football games must be made via email to Isaac Ray in the EKU Athletics Communications Office no later than Wednesday at 2 PM ET (1 PM CT) prior to a specified home contest. The request should be made by the sports director of the newspaper, magazine, radio, or television outlet wishing to send reporter(s) and/or photographer(s) to the game.

Confirmation of the request will be made by Thursday the week of a game by EKU Athletics Communications personnel. Approved media members and visiting team personnel may pick up their credential on game day at the EKU Athletics Ticket Office inside the Rick Erdman Olympic Sport Training Center (OSTC).

Those requesting credentials for the press box should be aware that the press box is at the top of Roy Kidd Stadium's west stand and up several flights of stairs with no elevator access. If you do not feel like you are able to access the press box this way, then please notify Director of Athletics Communications Isaac Ray and other arrangements will be made.

Credentials ARE NOT issued to spouses, friends, or children, in accordance with the working code of the College Sports Communicators and the Football Writers Association of America. The press box is a working area, and cheering or inappropriate behavior will be grounds for removal.

Parking on Game Day

Media parking is at the Greg Adams Tennis Center across from Roy Kidd Stadium.

Media Game Day Information

Game notes from both institutions and flip cards will be provided as well in the press box on gameday. Stats will only be printed in-game for television and radio personnel, though full game packets will be printed for all media during postgame.

A media meal will be provided for all credentialed personnel from the time gates open through the conclusion of the first quarter on the lower tier of the press box down the southwest stairs.

Field Access

Field access for media in game is limited to videographers, photographers, and radio sideline personnel. No writers are permitted at field level once the game begins unless that individual is also the media entity's photographer. All representatives working at the field level must always have the required credential present and visible.

Due to HIPAA regulations, we ask all photographers, both television and print, not to photograph any injury evaluations done in the bench/sidelines area. Additionally, per the credential policy, there is no selling of game photos taken by media members without the express written agreement from Eastern Kentucky University.

External media members are at no time authorized to enter team sideline areas. Field-level personnel must stay within the dotted line boundaries outside the team areas. Please note: External media must stay behind the second set of dotted lines at field level, as the first line is designated for the ESPN production crew/camera operators.

Press Box Seating

All credentialed personnel, both external and visiting team will be issued a seat in the press box on the top level of Roy Kidd Stadium. Visiting team communications and primary beat reporters will be given priority in the seat selection process.

Visiting Team Radio

Visiting radio stations have a separate booth on the top floor in the press box at Roy Kidd Stadium. Visiting team broadcast teams are asked to please provide a list of necessary equipment and access via email to Isaac Ray.

Game Day Interview Policy

EKU's postgame press conference with Head Coach Walt Wells and select players will occur in the media studio inside the OSTC. No additional individual interviews, outside of live TV broadcasts previously agreed upon, will be permitted with any EKU personnel. In addition, the EKU locker room is closed to the media.

We will accept postgame media requests during the fourth quarter of the game. Written media wishing to attend the postgame press conference may proceed with a EKU Athletics Communications game day staff member to the field in the northwest corner of the stadium with shortly after the game.

Non-Game Day Interview Policy

Head coach Walt Wells and selected players will be available for a press conference via Zoom on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Media members wishing to attend this press conference should reach out to Isaac Ray for more information and access. One-off media requests for print, radio or TV purposes will be handled on an individual basis. Advanced notice for one-off requests is greatly appreciated.



QUICK FACTS AND NOTES

Eastern Kentucky Quick Facts

THE UNIVERSITY
NameEastern Kentucky University
LocationRichmond, Kentucky
Founded1906
Enrollment13,327
NicknameColonels
ColorsMaroon (PMS 209) and White
Affiliantion NCAA Division I FCS
ConferenceUnited Athletic Conference
PresidentDr. David McFaddin
VP & Director of Athletics Kyle Moats
Senior Woman Administrator Rachel Sloan

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Walt Wells
Season at EKU	6th Season
Record at EKU	30-26
Career Record	30-26
Defensive Coordinator / Inside L	inebackers Jake
Johnson	
Offensive Coordinator / RBs	Andy Richman
GM / WR Coach	Caleb Cox
Special Teams Coordinator / OLE	Bs Derek Day
Assistant Head Coach / Nickles.	Mike Dietzel
Defensive Secondary	. Rashad Watson
Offensive Line	Eric Ravellette
Quarterbacks	
Defensive Line	.Dayton LeBlanc
Tight Ends	Isaac McClain
Assistant Defensive Backs Coac	hJosh McClurg
Assistant Offensive Line Coach.	Ryan Jackson
Assistant Wide Receivers Coach	Jalen Burbage
Assistant Linebackers Coach	Alex Cline

PROGRAM INFORMATION

THOUSE AND THE STATE OF THE STA
First year1909
All-time record (109th season) 639-417-38
All-time UAC Record11-4
Home venueRoy Kidd Stadium/Hanger Field
2024 Record / UAC Finish 8-5 / T2
Postseason FinishL, First Round @ No. 16
Villanova
NCAA Postseason Appearances24
All-Time Postseason Record16-21
FCS National Championships 2 (1979, 1982)
FCS National Championship Appearances 4('79,
'80, '81, '82)
Conference Championships22
Last Conference Championship 2022 (ASUN)
Most Wins in a Season
Most Consecutive Wins 18 (1982-83)
Consecutive games without a loss 19 (1982-83), 1
tie

EKUSports Communications

I b contact Isaac Ray
Office Phone: (859) 622-2720
Cell Phone:(717) 514-3152
E-Mail:isaac.ray@eku.edu
EKU Athletics Web Site: www.EKUSports.com
UAC Conference Web Site:
www.UACFootball.com
Overnight Mailing:
EKU Athletics, 521 Lancaster Avenue, 1212

Commonwealth, Richmond, KY 40475

Ward of the No Fly Zone

- The EKU pass defense is led by Preseason All-American Jaheim Ward (DB)
- In 2024, Ward recorded the third-most tackles on the team with 66, including five tackles for loss with two forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, two interceptions, and nine pass breakups.

New Sherriff Under Center

- Transfer QB, Myles Burkett was named the starter for EKU ahead of the 2025 season
- Burkett joins the Colonels after transferring from Albany (NY) where he threw 1,845 yards and 10 touchdowns going 145-of-265 through the air, averaging 205 passing yards per game in nine appearances
- Burkett initially signed to Wisconsin out of Franklin High School in Milwaukee in 2022 before transferring to Albany in 2024

BB Express

- Running back Brayden Latham enters 2025 as the Colonels top running back
- A unanimous Preseason All-UAC selection this season, in 2024, the junior rushed for 622 yards on 141 attempts scoring three touchdowns

Nickname of "Butterball" or "BB" was given by his mother as a child

Oh Captains My Captains

- Ahead of the 2025 season, Antonio Gaines, Jacob Baker, Myles Burkett, Jalen Montgomery, Cam Junior, Jackson House, Brayden Latham, Jeremiah Bailey, and Jaheim Ward were named team captains
- Team captains are voted on by the entire team

Homegrown in the Bluegrass

38 members of the Colonels' roster come from the the Commonwealth of Kentucky

It's All About the U(AC)

- 2025 will be the third season of the United Athletic Conference
- Since joining the UAC, EKU is 11-4 in conference play
- Following the 2025 season, the UAC will be a full sport conference featuring; EKU, Austin Peay State, Central Arkansas, North Alabama, West Georgia, Tarleton State, Abilene Christian, and UT Arlington



DEPTH CHART

OFF	EN	NSE			ī	CAREER GAME	ES/STAR	rs
QВ		Myles Burkett (R-Jr., 6-0, 213)	5 R 7	Jordyn Potts (Jr., 6-0, 188) Colbey Lamberth (R-So., 6-4, 234)	# 0 0	Name Jakob Dixon Tommy Ziesmer ^{6/0}	Games 15 0	Starts 5 0
RB	14	Bryaden Latham (Jr., 5-11, 220)	23 R 42	Jalen Montgomery (R-Sr., 5-9, 171) Brady Hensley (So., 5-11, 211)	1 2 3	Cam Junior ^{3/0} Cameron Hergott Marcus Calwise Jr. Jeremiah Bailey	24 25 13 26	15 0 8 13
TE	89	Caeleb Schlachter (R-Jr., 6-3, 240)	43	Zach Russell (R-Sr., 6-3, 261)	5	Khatavian Franks 15/8 Jordyn Potts 15/11	0	0
WR	3	Marcus Calwise Jr. (So., 5-10, 190)	16	Jackson House (R-So., 6-0, 200)	6	Vito Tisdale Jr ^{22/3}	13	12
WR	82	Jayden West (R-So., 6-3, 170)	87	Kyle Vaka (R-Fr., 6-0, 189)	6 7	Ronn Vann Jr ^{3/0} Gabe Stephens	13 24	11 5
WR	6	Ron Vann Jr. (R-Sr., 6-2, 182)	19	Dequan Stanley (R-Sr., 5-10, 185)	7 8	Colbey Lamberth Kylan Robinson	1 10	0 1
LT	72	Fred Hinton (So., 6-4, 318)	57	Graysen Riffe (R-So., 6-7, 313)	9	Jaheim Ward ^{23/3} Myles Burkett ^{11/9}	12 0	10 0
LG	50	Liam Coppinger (R-Sr., 6-3, 300)	76	Mason Sulla (R-So., 6-4, 286)	11	D.J. Galva	12	0
C	60	Anthony Johns (R-Jr., 6-1, 294)	58	Isaiah Bunn (R-Sr, 6-2, 308)	12 14	Telly McCallister Brayden Latham	19 23	0 1
RG	79	Antonio Gaines (R-Jr., 6-2, 312)	52	Brandon McGraw (Gr., 6-6, 336)	15 16	Garnell Wilds Jr. Jackson House	2 13	0 1
RT	64	Samuel Eskridge (Jr., 6-2, 288)	55	Brody Riffe (R-So., 6-7, 314)	17	Aden Tagaloa-Nelson 6/0	0	0
DFF	FN	NSE			18 19	Rossie Grimes Jr. ^{22/0} Dequan Stanley ^{11/0}	18	6
DE	4	Jeremiah Bailey (R-Jr., 6-2, 277)	44	Davi'yon Hawkins-Ingram (R-Fr., 6-2, 270)	20 21	Charles Ingam V ^{20/0} Rishad Hence ^{22/5}	0	0 0
NT	0	Tommy Ziesmer (R-So., 6-2, 296)	96	Jalen Hand (R-So., 6-3, 318)	22	Frank Lee IV 13/11 Jalen Montgomery 26/0	21 13	15 1
DE	93	Brad Gurley Jr. (R-Jr., 6-3, 293)	99	Gabe Fletcher (R-Sr., 6-3, 285)	24	Kaden Smith	13	Ô
OLB		•			30	Kevin Ford Jeffrey Kinley	11 13	0 0
	1	Cam Junior (R-Sr., 6-2, 225)	47	Jacquez McGowan (Sr., 6-1, 205)		Jack Chappell Braden Sullivan	2 13	0 11
LB	33	Braden Sullivan (Jr., 6-2, 245)	34	Brody Wells (R-So., 6-1, 225)	34	Brody Wells Buzz Flabiano ^{24/0}	11 0	0 0
LB		Kaden Smith (So., 6-2, 222)	5	Khatavian Franks (Gr., 6-1, 220)	37	Blake Howard	11	0
OLB		Frank Lee IV (Gr., 6-1, 235)	7	Gabe Stephens (R-Sr., 6-4, 229)	43	Brady Hensley Zach Russell	13 20	0 2
CB	6	Vito Tisdale Jr. (R-Sr., 5-11, 175)	20	Charles Ingram V (R-Jr., 5-11, 191)		Jacquez McGowan 22/19 Jacob Baker	13 14	5 0
S	9	Jaheim Ward (R-Sr., 6-2, 189)	30	Jeffrey Kinley (R-Jr., 6-0, 201)	50	Liam Coppinger	10	8
S	10	Derek Taylor (R-Jr., 6-3, 206)	17	Aden Tagaloa-Nelson (R-So., 6-1, 202)	56	Brandon McGraw 16/16 Blake Gamez 32/11	11 O	0
CB	21	Rishad Hence (R-Sr., 5-11, 163)	11	DJ Galva (So., 6-1, 179)		Isaiah Bunn Anthony Johns	18 19	16 0
SPE	<u>CI</u>	<u>AL TEAMS</u>			64 71	Samuel Eskridge 16/14 O'Brien Jackson	0 23	0 3
P	49	Jacob Baker (R-So., 6-2, 214)	36	Buzz Flabiano (R-Jr., 6-0, 175)	72	Fred Hinton Antonio Gaines 4/3	11 2	1
FG	36	Buzz Flabiano (R-Jr., 6-0, 175)	91	Devin Orr (R-Fr., 6-0, 202)	81	Mena Mannan	11	1
KO	36	Buzz Flabiano (R-Jr., 6-0, 175)	91	Devin Orr (R-Fr., 6-0, 202)	82 86	Jayden West T.J. Mitchell III	14 1	5 0
LS	45	Quaid Luginbill (R-Fr., 6-0, 227)	37	Blake Howard (R-So., 6-2, 225)		Darius Sterling Caeleb Schlachter	10 13	0 4
Н	49	Jacob Baker (R-So., 6-2, 214)	16	Jackson House (R-So., 6-0, 200)	92	Simon Ghee Brad Gurley Jr.	1 13	0
PR	23	Jalen Montgomery (R-Sr., 5-9, 171)	3	Marcus Calwise Jr. (So., 5-10, 190)	95	RJ Dardy ^{1/0}	0	0
KR		Jalen Montgomery (R-Sr., 5-9, 171)	3	Marcus Calwise Jr. (So., 5-10, 190)		Jalen Hand ^{1/0} Gabe Fletcher	0 30	0

##/## Indicates GP/GS at a previous NCAA school

PLAYER TIDBITS - OFFENSE

LT-72 - Fred Hinton So. • 6-4 • 318 Miami, Fla

- Appeared in 11 games with one start in 2024
- A three-star national prospect according to On3 and 247Sports, Hinton was a member of the IMG Academy Ascenders in his

senior season LT - 57 - Graysen Riffe R-So. • 6-7 • 313

Transfers to EKU after two seasons at Pitt where he did not play

Ocoee, Fla.

Twin brother of Brody Riffe also on the team

LG - 50 - Liam Coppinger R-Sr. • 6-3 • 300 Everson, Wash.

- 2024 marked his first season with EKU
- Played in 10 games making 8 starts
- Spent his first two seasons at the College of Idaho

LG-76 -Mason Sulla R-So. • 6-4 • 286 Lancaster, Ky.

Has not played in previous two seasons at EKU

C - 60 - Anthony Johns R-Jr. • 6-1 • 294 Winchester, Ky.

Played in 9 games in 2024 Helped the Colonels tally 38 touchdowns and 4,522 vards of total offense

<u> RG - 79 - Antonio Gaines</u> R-Jr. • 6-2 • 312 Columbia, S.C.

- Did not play in 2024 will see his first game action since 2023
- In that season he played in two games making one start

RT- 64 - Samuel Eskridge Jr. • 6-2 • 288 Kings Mountain, N.C.

- Joined EKU after transferring from Norfolk State after two seasons
- At NSU he was a FCS Football Central Freshman All-American

C - 58 - Isaiah Bunn R-Jr. • 6-2 • 308 Lauderhill, Fla.

- Played in 7 games, making 5 starts for EKU in 2024
- Was a KSR All-State Football selection in 2021

RG-52 - Brandon McGraw Grad. • 6-6 • 336 Rising Sun, Ind.

Played in 11 games in 2024 Joined EKU in 2024 after spending two seasons at Wilmington College

RT-55 -Brody Riffe R-So. • 6-7 • 314 Ocoee, Fla.

- Transfers to EKU after two seasons at Pitt where he did not play
- Twin brother of Graysen-Riffe also on the team

WR - 3 - Marcus Calwise, Jr. So. • 5-10 • 190 Youngstown, Ohio.

- 2024 Freshman All-Amer-
- Led the Colonels in receiving statistics in 2024 with 42 receptions for 526 yards, and five touchdowns ... scored in each of the Colonels' last four games

WR - 16 -Jackson House R-So. • 6-0 • 200 Baton Rouge, La

- Appeared in all 13 games for EKU a season ago Transitioned from QB to
- WR in 2024

WR - 82 - Jayden West R-So. • 6-3 • 170 Richmond, Ky.

- Appeared in all 13 games in 2024, making five starts Recorded nine receptions
- for 83 yards In high school, helped Madison Central improve from one win during his freshman and sophomore seasons to 10 wins as a iunior and nine as a senior

WR - 87 - Kyle Vaka R-Fr. • 6-0 • 189 Johns Creek, Ga.

- Did not play in 2024
- Totaled 1,710 all-purpose yards at the 5A level in Georgia, leading the classification in yards per reception with 23.44 in 2023
- He also added 11 touchdown receptions

WR - 6 -Ron Vann Jr. R-Sr. • 6-2 • 182 Chula Vista, Calif.

- Played in all 13 games making 11 starts a season
- Recorded 215 receiving yards on 21 receptions averaging 10.2 yards per catch and 1.8 receptions a game with one touchdown

WR - 19 -Dequan Stanley R-Sr. • 5-10 • 185 St. Augustine, Fla.

Played in 10 games, staring in six, hauled in 27 receptions for 372 yards and five touchdowns all touchdowns came in a four-game stretch in the middle of the season

TE - 89 -Caeleb Schlachter R-Jr. • 6-3 • 240 Kelowna, B.C., Canada

- Played in all 13 games, made four starts
- Had six receptions for 61 yards with one touchdown
- Had one kick return that he took 73-yards for a touchdown against No. 16 Central Arkansas (Nov. 9).

TE - 43 -Zach Russell R-Sr. • 6-3 • 261 Johnson County, Ky.

- Transfered from Bowling Green State in 2023
- Appeared in 12 games in 2024, making two starts
- Had offers from Army, Coastal Carolina, and various MAC schools coming out of high shcool

RB - 14 -Brayden Latham Jr. • 5-11 • 202 Knoxville, Tenn.

- Unanimous Preseaon All-UAC selection
- In 2024, played in all 13 games rushed for 622 yards on 141 attempts, scoring three touchdowns
- Recorded a career-high 103 rushing yards and one touchdown against North Alabama (Nov. 23).

RB - 23 - Jalen Montgomery R-Sr. • 5-9 • 171 Columbia,, S.C.

- Preseason All-UAC selection
- Played in all 13 games, made one start
- Averaged 23.9 yards per kick return attempts and 14.3 yards per punt return, the most in the UAC

<u>QB - 10 - Myles Burkett</u> R-Jr. • 6-0 • 213 Milwaukee, Wis.

- Transfer from Albany (NY)
- In 2024, Played in nine games ... Threw for 1,845 yards and 10 touchdowns going 145-of-265 through the air, averaging 205 passing yards per game ... Rushed for 129 yards on 76 attempts.

<u>QB - 5 - Jordyn Potts</u> Jr. • 6-0 • 188 Powell, Tenn.

- Transfer from Tennessee Tech
- With the Golden Eagles, he appeared in seven games in 2024 threw for 965 yards and six touchdowns ... completed 97-of-171 passes ... averaged 137.9 yards per game.

QB - 7 - Colbey Lamberth R-So. • 6-4 • 234 Dickson, Tenn.

- Appeared in one game last season against Morehead State
- A Three-star prospect according to 247Sports and Rivals ... TSSAA All-Region 6-6A selection ... DGA Battle of the States QB MVP ... No. 9-ranked quarterback in the state of Tennessee

RB - 42 -Brady Hensley So. • 5-11 • 211 Richmond, Ky.

- In 2024, played in all 13 games on special teams ... made five total tackles
- In high school, earned firstteam All-State honors from the Courier Journal
- Rushed for 2,408 yards on 235 attempts with 47 total touchdowns during the 2023 season with Lexington Christian Academy



PLAYER TIDBITS - DEFENSE

DE- 4 - Jeremiah Bailey R-Jr. • 6-2 • 277 Smyrna, Tenn.

- Fourth Team All-UAC : Phil Steele -2024
- Started all 13 games
- Recorded 43 total tackles, 2.5 sacks, and five tackles for loss ...recorded three quarterback hurries and one pass break up

Did not play in 2024

High School

onship

In high school was a three-

star prospect from Cocoa

Helped the Tigers to a 14-1

season in 2023, claiming a FHSAA State Champi-

NT- 0 -Tommy Ziesmer R-So. • 6-2 • 296 Danville, Ky.

Transfer from Kentucky In 2024, saw action in four games

DE-93 - Brad Gurley R-Jr. • 6-3 • 293 Bowling Green, Ky.

- Earned a scholarship ahead of the 2024 season
- In 2024, he played in 12 games making 15 total

OLB-1-Cam Junior R-Sr. • 6-2 • 225 Miami, Fla.

- In 2024, played in all 13 games, starting eight
- Recorded 49 total tackles with three TFLs, and one fumble recovery in the FCS Playoffs against Villanova

OLB - 47- Jacquez McGowan Sr. • 6-1 • 205 Valdosta, Ga.

- In 2024, Played in 13 games, made five start recording 37 total tackles with one forced fumble
- In 2023, he recorded 72 total tackles averaging 6.5 tackles per game and had one interception

CB - 6 - Vito Tisdale R-Sr. • 5-11 • 175 Bowling Green, Ky.

- A transfer from Colorado and previously Kentucky
- Appeared in three games last season seeing three snaps
- In 2021 at UK, he played in nine games recording 21 tackles and a pass breakup

CB - 20 -Charles Ingram V R-Sr. • 5-11 • 191 Nashville, Tenn.

- Transfer from Furman after three seasons
- Appeared in nine games for the Paladins in 2024
- Recorded 18 total tackles with three pass breakups

DE-44 - Davi'yon Hawkins-Ingram NT- 96 - Jalen Hand R-Fr. • 6-2 • 270 R-So. • 6-3 • 318 Cocoa, Fla. Lexington, Ky.

- Transfer from Western Kentucky
 - Appeared in one game during the 2024 season - WKÚ's win over UTEP on Oct. 10. He tallied one tackle and one quarterback hurry in the game

DE-99 - Gabe Fletcher R-Sr. • 6-3 • 285 Memphis, Tenn.

- In 2024, Played in all 13 games ... made 13 tackles, five TFLs, and recorded three sacks
- Recovered one fumble against Morehead St.

<u>LB- 33 -Braden Sullivan</u> So. • 6-2 • 228 New Smyrna Beach, Fla

- Second Team All-UAC in 2024 after transferring from Highland CC
- Recorded 92 tackles in 2024 the most of any returner in 2025

LB-34 - Brody Wells

R-So. • 6-1 • 225

Corbin, Ky.

Played in 11 games in 2024

Helped Corbin HS to back-

to-back regular seasons

and a 20222 KHSAA 4A

state championship

appearance

Recorded 1 total tackle

LB - 48-Kaden Smith So. • 6-2• 222 Campbellsville, Ky.

- A two-star prospect according to 247Sports coming out of Taylor County HS
- In his senior season he

- recorded 103 total tackles with 13.5 sacks

- A second team All-NEC slection in 2024 at
- Racked up 34 tackles (21 solos) in seven games played after battling an early injury

<u>LB-5-Khatavian Franks</u> Grad. • 6-1 • 220 Americus, Ga.

Duquesne

S - 9 -Jaheim Ward R-Sr. • 6-2 • 189 Moultrie, Ga.

- Preseason 2025 All-Amer-
- Recorded third-most total tackles on the team with 66
- 2 FFs, 1 FR, 2 INTs, 9 PBUs

S-30-Jeffrey Kinley

R-Jr. • 6-0 • 201

Richmond, Ky. Played in all 13 games last

season after not playing

in his first two seasons

with EKU

S - 10 -Derek Taylor R-Jr. • 6-3 • 206 Greenbrier, Tenn.

- All-Mid South Conference(NAIA) at Cumberland (Tenn.) in 2024 and 2023
- Signed with Tennessee out of high school as a three-star prospect

S-17-Aden Tagaloa-Nelson Jr. R-So. • 6-1 • 202 Lexington, Ky.

- A transfer from West Virginia
- Was a member of both the football and basketball teams as a Mountaineer

OLB - 22 - Frank Lee IV Grad. • 6-1 • 235 Orangeburg, S.C.

- Longest standing member of the team
- Played in 10 games, starting eight ... recorded 21 total tackles with two being for losses ... had one fumble recovery in 2024

OLB - 7 - Gabe Stephens R-Sr. • 6-4 • 229 Mount Holly, N.C.

- Played in all 13 games making four starts in 2024
- Recorded 35 tackles, 6.5 TFLs, and a team-leading 4.5 sacks

CB - 21 - Rishad Hence R-Sr. • 5-11 • 163 Detroit, Mich.

Appeared in four games last season after transferring from Akron where he spent two seasons

CB - 11 - DJ Galva So. • 6-1 • 179 Bartow, Fla.

- Played in 12 games in 2024
- Made his first collegiate interception against then No. 7 Tarleton St. returning it 37 yards to the one yard line setting up a Colonel score
- Nickname is Rabbit

8

QB

#10 Myles Burkett

PASSING	Team	GP	Cmp	Att	INT	Yds	TD	PCT	Avg/P	Avg/G
2022-23	Wisc	2	4	5	0	84	0	0.08	21.0	42.0
2024-25	ALB	9	145	265	7	1845	10	54.7	12.7	205.0
TOTAL		11	149	270	7	1929	10	55.2	12.9	175.4
RUSHING	Team	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Α	vg/C	Avg/G	
RUSHING 2022-23	Team Wisc	GP 2	Att 1	Yds -9	TD 0	Long 0		vg/C -9.0	Avg/G -4.5	
	Wisc					-		_	_	

#5 Jordyn Potts

PASSING	Team GP	Cmp	Att	INT	Yds	TD	PCT	Avg/P	Avg/G
2023-24	TNTech 8	108	204	6	1132	8	52.9	10.5	141.5
2024-25	TNTech 7	97	171	5	965	6	56.7	9.9	137.9
TOTAL	15	205	375	11	2097	14	54.7	10.2	139.8
RUSHING	Team GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Α	vg/C	Avg/G	
RUSHING 2023-24	Team GP TNTech 8	Att 56	Yds 91		Long 28	Α	vg/C 1.6	Avg/G 11.4	
2023-24		56	91	2	_		-	_	
2023-24	TNTech 8	56	91	2	28		1.6	11.4	

#7 Colbey Lamberth

NO OFFENSIVE STATS

RB

#14 Brayden Latham

RUSHING	Team	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Lor	ng A	vg/C	Avg/G	
2023-24	EKU	10	7	21	0	10) _	3.0	2.1	
2024-25	EKU	13	141	662	3	42	2	4.7	50.9	
TOTAL		23	148	683	3	42	2	4.6	29.7	
RECEIVING	3 Tear	n GP	Re	c Y	ds	TD	Long	Avg/	R Avg/G	
2023-24	EKL	10	1		13	0	13	13.0	1.3	
2024-25	EKL	13	10) (36	0	22	6.6	5.1	
TOTAL		23	1	1 7	79	0	22	7.2	3.4	

#23 Jalen Montgomery

RUSHING	Team	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/C	Avg/G
2021-22	MTSU	2	7	19	0	7	2.7	9.5
2022-23	MTSU	12	3	10	0	8	3.3	0.8
2023-24	MTSU	12	5	15	0	7	3.0	1.3
2024-25	EKU	13	9	40	0	8	4.4	3.1
TOTAL		30	2/4	Ω/،	Λ	Ω	3.5	22

TOTAL	3	9	24 8	4 0	8	3	3.5	2.2
RECEIVING	Team	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/R	Avg/G
2021-22	MTSU	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2022-23	MTSU	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2023-24	MTSU	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2024-25	EKU	13	3	81	0	46	27.0	6.2
TOTAL		39	3	81	0	46	27.0	2.1

#42 Brady Hensley

NO OFFENSIVE STATS

TE

#89 Caeleb Schlachter

RECEIVING 2024-25					_	_	_	
TOTAL	13	6	61	1	19	10.2	4.7	

#43 Zach Russell

RECEIVING	Team	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/R	Avg/G	
2023-24	EKU	8	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
2024-25	EKU	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
ΤΩΤΔΙ		20	Ο	n	n	0	0.0	0.0	

WR

#3 Marcus Calwise Jr.

RECEIVING 2024-25					_	Avg/R 12.5	_	
TOTAL	13	42	526	5	67	12.5	40.5	

#16 Jackson House

RECEIVING	Team	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/R	Avg/G	
2024-25	EKU	13	2	11	0	7	5.5	0.8	
TOTAL		13	2	11	0	7	5.5	0.8	

#82 Jayden West

RECEIVING	Team	GP	Rec	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/R	Avg/G	
2023-24	EKU	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
2024-25	EKU	13	9	83	0	18	9.2	6.4	
ΤΩΤΔΙ		14	9	83	n	18	9.2	5.9	

#87 Kyle Vaka

NO NCAA GAMES PLAYED

WR Continue on next page.



		#	19 De	quai	n St	anley								4	‡6 Ro	n Va	nn ·	<u>Jr.</u>				
RECEIVING 2021-22 2022-23 2024-24 2024-24	Team USF USF EKU EKU	2 7 8 10	Rec 0 1 5 27	0 73 71 372	0 1 0 5	0 73 31 75	7: 1:	0.0 3.0 4.2 3.8	0. 10 8. 37	.0 .4 .9 7.2		RECEIVING 2021-22 2024-25 TOTAL	Team NMSU EKU	GP 3 13 16	Rec 1 22 23	Yds 6 224 230	0 1	6 20 20	(1	rg/R 6.0 0.2 0.0	2. 17 14	.0 .2
TOTAL		27	33	516	6	75	1	5.6	19		DE	Ξ										
		#	4 Jer	emi	ah E	Bailey							#44	Dav	vi'yon	Hav	wkir	ıs-In	gra	<u>m</u>		
DEFENSIVE 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 TOTAL	Team EKU EKU EKU	GP 2 11 13 26	Solo 1 4 18 23	Ast 0 9 24 33	TFL 0 2 5	PBU 0 1 1	FF 0 1 0 1	FR 0 1 0	0 0 0 0	Sacks 0 1 2.5 3.5				NO	NCAA	GAM	ES P	LAYED	1			
		#	<u>93 Br</u>	ad C	urle	ey Jr.								<u>#9</u>	99 Ga	be F	leto	<u>:her</u>				
DEFENSIVE 2023-24 2024-25 TOTAL	Team EKU EKU	GP 1 12 13	Solo 0 10 10	Ast 0 5 5	TFL 0 2 2	. PBU 0 0 0	FF 0 0 0	FR 0 0	0 0 1	Sacks 0 1		DEFENSIVE 2020-21 2021-22 2023-24 2024-25	Team EKU EKU EKU EKU	GP 3 3 11 13	Solo 1 0 1 8	2 1 4 5	1 0 0.5 5	PBU 0 0 0 1	FF 0 0 0 0	FR 0 0 0 1	0 0 1 0	Sacks 0 0 0 3
												TOTAL		30	10	12	6.5	1	0	1	1	3
											N٦	ſ										
		#	0 Ton	nmy	Zie	smer	_							4	#96 J	aler	n Ha	<u>nd</u>				
DEFENSIVE 2023-24 2024-25	Team UK UK	GP 2 4	Solo 1 1	Ast 1 1	TFL 1 0	. PBU 0 0	FF 0 0	FR 1 0	INT 0 0	Sacks 1 0		DEFENSIVE 2024-25 TOTAL	Team WestKy		Solo 0 0	1 1	0 0	PBU 0 0	FF 0 0	FR 0 0	0 0	Sacks 0 0
TOTAL		6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1												
											LE	3										
		#3	33 Br	adeı	ո Su	llivan	1							#	‡34 B	rod	y We	ells				
DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks		DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks

										_											
	#33 Braden Sullivan										#34 Brody Wells										
DEFENSIVE 2024-25	Team EKU	GP 13	Solo 45	Ast 46	TFL 2.5	PBU	FF 1	FR 1	INT 0	Sacks 0	DEFENSIVE 2024-25	Team EKU	GP 11	Solo 0	Ast 1	TFL 0	PBU 0	FF 0	FR 0	INT 0	Sacks 0
TOTAL		13	45	46	2.5	1	1	1	0	0	TOTAL		11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
		<u>‡</u>	‡24 K	<u>(ade</u>	n Sr	<u>nith</u>							<u>#5</u>	<u>Khat</u>	<u>avia</u>	n Fr	<u>anks</u>	<u>i</u>			
DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks	DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks
2024-25	EKU	13	7	7	1.5	0	0	0	0	1	2022-23	GaTech	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		13	7	7	1.5	0	0	0	0	1	2023-24	DU	8	5	8	2	0	1	0	1	2
											2024-25	DU	7	21	12	2.5	2	0	0	1	1.5
											ΤΩΤΔΙ		16	26	21	4.5	2	1	0	0	3.5



CAREER STATS

)LI	В										
			#1C	am	Juni	or							#	47	Jacq	ıuez	Mc(owa	n			
DEFENSIVE	Team	GP				PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks		DEFENSIVE	Team					PBU		FR	INT	Sacks
2021-22	UC	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2022-23	TNTech		30	29	4	1	0	0	1	0.5
2022-23	UC	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0		2023-24	TNTech		40	32	3.5	2	0	0	1	2.5
2023-24 2024-25	EKU EKU	11 13	15 29	15 20	2	0 3	2	1	0	2		2024-25	EKU	13	19	18	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	LINO	27	44	38	5	3	2	2	0	2		TOTAL		35	89	79	8.5	4	1	0	2	3
	#22 Frank Lee IV #7 Gabe Stephens																					
DEEENON/E	_	_												#	<u> 7 Gab</u>	e St	<u>eph</u>	<u>ens</u>				
DEFENSIVE 2020-21	Team C-N	GP 1	Solo 2	Ast 1	IFL 1	PBU 0	FF 0	FR	INT 0	Sacks 0		DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks
2020-21	C-N	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		2023-24	EKU	11	5	7	1	0	0	0	0	1_
2022-23	C-N	11	27	12	13.5	8	1	0	0	5		2024-25	EKU	13	19	16	6.5	2	3	0	0	4.5
2023-24 2024-25	EKU EKU	11 10	16 11	15 10	7.5 2	2 1	1 0	0 1	1 0	4.5 0		TOTAL		24	24	23	7.5	2	3	0	0	5.5
TOTAL	LNU	34	56	39	24	11	2	2	1	9.5												
											CE	}										
						_																
		<u>#</u>	6 Vit	o Ti	<u>sdal</u>	<u>e Jr.</u>							<u> </u>	#20) Cha	<u>rles</u>	Ingi	am \	<u>/</u>			
DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks		DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks
2020-21	UK	10	11	9	0.5	0	0	0	0	0		2024-25	Furman		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021-22 2023-24	UK CU	9 3	12 0	9	1.5 0	1 0	0	0	0 0	1 0		2024-25 2024-25	Furman Furman		4 10	2 8	0	0 3	0	0	0	0 0
2023-24 2024-25	EKU	13	24	11	0	8	0	0	1	0		2024-25	i ui iiiaii	J	10	O	U	J	U	U	U	U
TOTAL		35	47	29	2	9	1	2	1	1		TOTAL		20	15	10	0	3	0	0	0	0
		<u>#</u>	‡21 Ri	isha	d He	nce									#34	DJ	Galv	а				
DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks		DEFENSIVE	Team	СD				_	CC	ED	INIT	Sacks
2021-22	UA	7	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0		2024-25	EKU	12	4	45 t	0	0	0	0	1	0
2022-23	UA	11	18	10	0	2	0	0	0	0		TOTAL		12	4	3	0	1	0	0	1	0
2023-24	UA	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0												
TOTAL		22	20	15	0	3	0	0	0	0												
											S											
		į	#9 Ja	ahei	m W	ard								#3	30 Je	ffre	y Ki	nley				
DEFENSIVE	Team					PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks		DEFENSIVE	Team					PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks
2021-22	APSU	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0		2024-25	EKU	13	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022-23	APSU	11	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	0												
2023-24 2024-25	APSU EKU	7 12	8 40	12 26	0 5	4 8	0	0	0	0 0												
<u>2024-25</u> TOTAL	LNU	35	54	<u></u>	<u>5</u>	12	2	1	1	0												
												TOTAL		17	7	2	n	n	0	n	n	0

#10 Derek Taylor

NO NCAA GAMES PLAYED

2024-25 EKU 13 3 2		0 0 0
TOTAL 13 3 2	2 0 0 0	0 0 0
TOTAL 13 3 2	2 0 0 0	0 0 0

#17 Aden Tagaloa-Nelson

DEFENSIVE	Team	GP	Solo	Ast	TFL	PBU	FF	FR	INT	Sacks	
2023-24	WVU	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2024-25	WVU	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL		6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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CAREER STATS

P

#49 Jacob Baker

#36 Buzz Flabiano

PUNTING	Team	GP	Att	Yds	Long	Avg/P	TB	In 20	50+
2023-24	EKU	3	1	40	40	40.0	0	0	0
2024-25	EKU	13	61	2667	65	43.7	7	24	17
TOTAL		16	62	2707	65	43.7	7	24	17

NO PUNTING STATS

K

#36 Buzz Flabiano

#41 Devin Orr
NO NCAA GAMES PLAYED

KICKOFFS	Team	GP	Att	Yds	Avg	TB	OB	
2023-24	UTEP	12	45	2766	61.5	19	1	
2024-25	UTEP	12	34	2111	62.1	17	1	
TOTAL		24	79	4877	61.7	36	2	
FIELD GOA	LS Tea	m G	SP N	1ade	Att	Long	PCT	PAT
FIELD GOA l 2023-24	LS Tea UTE		SP N 12	1ade 10	Att 14	Long 43	PCT 71.43	PAT 29
		EP ?				-		

PR

#23 Jalen Montgomery

#3 Marcus Calwise Jr.

GP Att Yds PUNT RETURN Team TD Avg Long 2024-25 EKU 11 157 54 14.3 13 0 **TOTAL** 11 14.3 NO RETURN STATS

KR

#23 Jalen Montgomery

#3 Marcus Calwise Jr.

KICK RETURN	Team	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg
2023-24	EKU	10	3	60	0	26	20.0
2024-25	EKU	13	21	502	0	54	23.9
TOTAL		22	9	151	0	26	16.8

KICK RETURN	Team	GP	Att	Yds	TD	Long	Avg	
2024-25	EKU	13	19	453	0	54	23.8	
TOTAL		12	19	453	0	54	23.8	

Rushed 30 times in a game

Joshua Carter vs Utah Tech on Oct. 26, 2024 (31)

Rushed for 200 yards

Daryl McCleskey Jr. vs. Tennessee St. on Sept. 28, 2019 (202)

Rushed for 150 yards

Joshua Carter at Villanova on Nov. 30, 2024 (150)

Rushed for 100 yards

Joshua Carter at Villanova on Nov. 30, 2024 (150)

Rushed for 100 yards in cons. games

Joshua Carter vs. Utah Tech on Oct. 26, 2024 (167) Joshua Carter vs. No. 7 Tarleton State on Nov. 2, 2024 (149)

Rushed for 3 or more touchdowns

Braedon Sloan vs. Tarleton State on Oct. 14, 2023 (4)

Passed for 400 yards

Parker McKinney vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (454)

Passed for 300 yards

Parker McKinney at Central Arkansas on Nov. 11, 2023 (377)

Attempted 50 passes

Parker McKinney vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (57)

Attempted 40 passes

Parker McKinney vs. Southeast Missouri State on Sept. 23, 2023 (49)

Threw 5 touchdown passes

Parker McKinney vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (5)

Threw 4 touchdown passes

Parker McKinney vs. Charleston Southern on Sept. 17, 2022 (4)

Threw 3 touchdown passes

Parker McKinney vs. Central Arkansas on Nov. 5, 2022 (3)

Had 400 yards total offense

Parker McKinney vs. Western Carolina on Sept. 16, 2023 (425)

Accounted for 5 or more touchdowns

Parker McKinney vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (5)

Accounted for 4 or more touchdowns

Braedon Sloan vs. Tarleton State on Oct. 14, 2023 (4)

Accounted for 3 or more touchdowns

Matt Morrissey vs. Morehead State on Sept. 21, 2024 (3)

Caught 10 or more passes

Jaden Smith vs. Western Carolina on Sept. 16, 2023 (10)

Caught 7 or more passes

Marcus Calwise Jr. at No. 17 Abilene Christian on Oct. 19, 2024 (7)

Had 200 or more yards receiving

Orlandus Harris at Tennessee Tech on Nov. 13, 2010 (200)

Had 150 or more yards receiving

Cornelius McCoy vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (155)

Had 100 or more yards receiving Dequan Stanley at No. 17 Abilene Christian on Oct. 19, 2024 (116)

Caught 3 or more touchdown passes

Cornelius McCoy vs. North Alabama on Oct. 22, 2022 (3)

Had 2 interceptions

Jospeh Sayles at Presbyterian on Sept. 21, 2019 (2)

Had 15 or more tackles

Logan Blake at North Alabama on Sept. 30, 2023 (15)

Had 20 or more tackles

Logan Blake at Gardner-Webb on Oct. 21, 2023 (21)

Had 20 or more first downs

vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (27)

Had 400 yards rushing

vs. Morehead State on Aug. 30, 2018 (404)

Had 300 yards rushing

vs. Morehead State on Sept. 21, 2024 (301)

Had 50 or more rushing attempts

vs. No. 7 Tarleton State on Nov. 2, 2024 (50)

Had 5 or more rushing TDs

vs. Tarleton State on Oct. 14, 2023 (5)

Had 4 or more rushing TDs

vs. Morehead State on Sept. 21, 2024 (4)

Had 400 yards passing

vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (454)

Had 350 yards passing

at Central Arkansas on Nov. 11, 2023 (377)

Had 300 yards passing

at Central Arkansas on Nov. 11, 2023 (377)

Had 50 pass attempts

at Central Arkansas on Nov. 11, 2023 (54)

Completed 40 passes

at Murray State on Nov. 14, 2015 (44)

Completed 30 passes

at Central Arkansas on Nov. 11, 2023 (38)

Had 5 TDs passing

vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (5)

Had 4 TDs passing

vs. Charleston Southern on Sept. 17, 2022 (4)

Had 3 TDs passing

vs. Southeast Missouri State on Sept. 23, 2023 (3)

Had 600 yards total offense

vs. Tennessee Tech on Oct. 8, 2015 (629) Had 500 yards total offense

vs. Robert Morris on Sept. 28, 2024 (513)

Had 80 total plays

vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (82)

Scored 70 points

Scored 60 points

at Austin Peay on Nov. 12, 2016 (67)

Scored 50 points

vs. North Alabama on Oct. 22, 2022 (56)

Scored 40 points

vs. Morehead State on Sept. 21, 2024 (42)

Committed no turnovers

vs. No. 16 Central Arkansas on Nov. 9, 2024

Had two 100-yd. rushers

vs. Tennessee State on Sept. 28, 2019 (Daryl McCleskey Jr., 202; Alonzo Booth, 115)

Had two 100-yd. receivers

vs. Gardner-Webb on Nov. 26, 2022 (Cornelius McCoy, 151; Jayden Higgins, 109)

Returned a punt for TD

vs. APSU on Nov. 20, 2010 (Jeremy Caldwell)

Returned a KO for TD

vs No. 16 Central Arkansas on Nov. 9, 2024 (Caeleb Schlachter - 73 yards)

Returned an INT for TD

vs. Austin Peay on Sept. 24, 2022 (Joseph Sayles - 42 yards)

Returned a fumble for TD

vs. Utah Tech on Oct. 26, 2024

Returned a blocked punt for TD

vs. Robert Morris on Nov. 10, 2018

Blocked a punt

(Cornelius Evans)

at Central Arkansas on Oct. 16, 2021

at Marshall on Sept. 8, 2018 (Leodis Moore III)

Missed a PAT

Had a punt blocked

at Mississippi State on Aug. 31, 2024

at Villanova on Nov. 30, 2024

Was held scoreless

at Western Kentucky, Sept. 7, 2024 (31-0)

Was held scoreless at home

vs. Eastern Illinois, Nov. 19, 2016 (24-0)

Held an opponent scoreless

at Austin Peay on Oct. 4, 2014 (31-0)

vs. Tennessee State on Nov. 2, 2013 (44-0)

at Eastern Illinois on Oct. 26, 2019 (8)

Held an oppt. to 200 yards total offense

vs. Lamar on Oct. 30, 2021 (193)

Held an oppt. to less than 50 yards rushing

Held an opponent without a TD

vs. Tarleton on Oct. 2, 2021

Scored an offensive 2-pt. conversion

vs. Southern Utah on Oct. 12, 2024

vs. Morehead State on Sept. 13, 2014

Had 10 or more penalties

Had 100 penalty yards

at Western Kentucky on Sept. 7, 2024 (102)

vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (38:16)

Played an OT game vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (W, 30-27)

Scored a safety

vs. Murray State on Nov. 5, 2016

Allowed a safety

at Villanova on Nov 30, 2024

(Maddox Marcellus - 23 yards)

(Brentton Ervin - 5 yards)

vs. Kentucky on Sept. 9, 2023

Blocked a FG

(Joseph Sayles) **Blocked a PAT**

at No. 17 Abilene Christian on Oct. 19, 2024 (Patrick Nations)

Had a FG blocked

Held an oppt. scoreless at home

Held an oppt. to 10 first downs

Held an oppt. to 300 yards total offense

vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (287)

Held an oppt. to 150 yards total offense vs. Tennessee Tech on Nov. 16, 2019 (150)

Held an oppt. to less than 100 yards rushing vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (48)

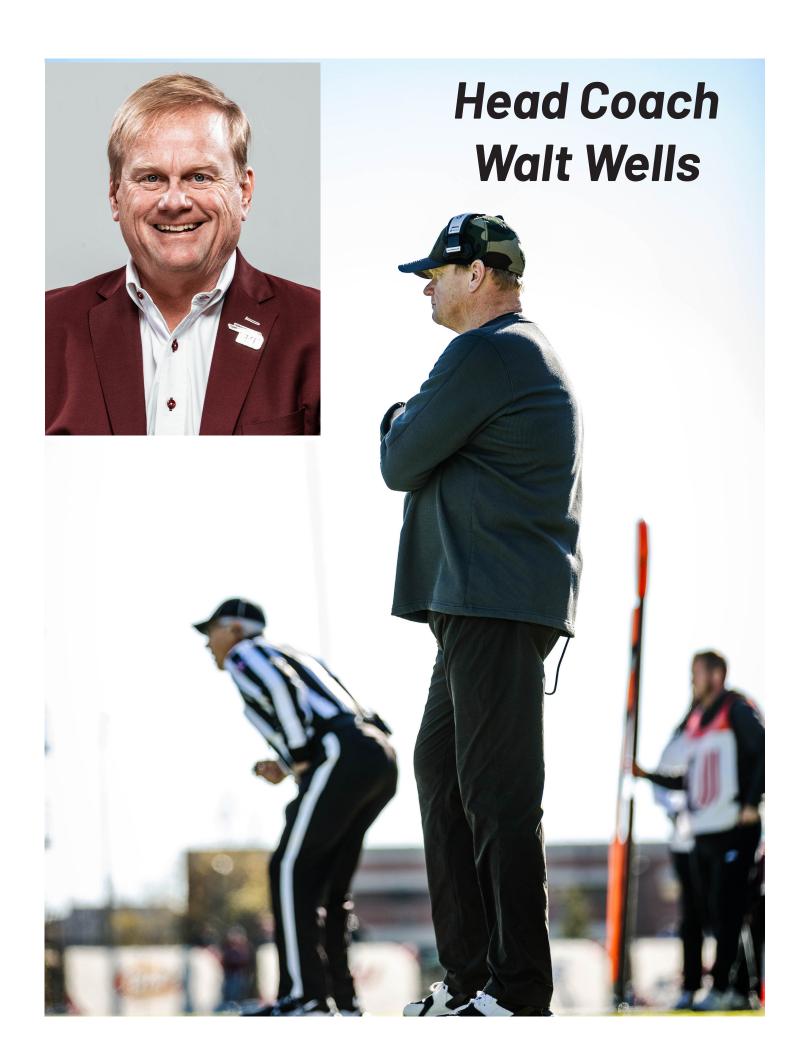
vs. Austin Peay on Nov. 16, 2024 (48)

Held an opponent to 100 yards passing vs. Lamar on Oct. 30, 2021 (77)

Scored a defensive 2-pt. conversion

at Western Kentucky on Sept. 7, 2024 (10)

Had 35 minutes ToP



Head coach Walt Wells took over the Eastern Kentucky University football program on Dec. 9, 2019 as the 15th head coach in program history.

Since then, he has led a resurgence in Colonel football as EKU has captured an ASUN Conference Championship in 2022 and two FCS Playoff appearances (2022, 2024) the first coach to lead the Colonels to multiple playoff appearances in a decade.

The success has garnered national recognition with the Colonels finishing the 2024 season in the final Stats Perform FCS Top 25 and AFCA Polls at No. 21/25 respectively, the first time the Colonels had done so since 2014.

Compiling a 30-26 record as head coach, the Colonels have recorded a win over a top-25 opponent in every season under Wells' leadership including back-to-back top-25 wins in 2024 against then No. 7 Tarleton State on the road, 17-13, before returning to Roy Kidd Stadium for a 31-24 win over No. 16 Central Arkansas.

Student-athletes have found immense success as well developing under Wells' leadership with 11 different Colonels earning All-American honors while playing for him, with four in Matthew Jackson, T.K. McClendon, Josiah Ezirim, and Mike Smith Jr. currently playing in the NFI

Additionally, former Colonel in linebacker Willie Taylor III is active in the UFL.

The 2025 season will be his sixth as head coach of the Eastern Kentucky University Colonels.

2024

2024 was a season for the record books as the Colonels made it back to the FCS Playoffs for the 23'rd time in program history, the second-most in the NCAA all-time with an 8-5 overall record finishing in both FCS top-25 polls.

Five of those eight wins came in a winning streak to end the regular season including two over then nationally ranked teams in the UAC in Tarleton State and Central Arkansas.

The Colonels also went a perfect 6-0 at CG Bank Field at Roy Kidd Stadium, the first undefeated season at home since 2010.

Additionally, running back Joshua Carter recorded three-consecutive game-winning touchdowns in EKU's wins over No. 7 Tarleton St., No. 16 Central Arkansas, and Austin Peay.

In the final win over Austin Peay, Carter saved his best for last with a thrilling walk-off winner in overtime breaking through multiple APSU defenders on a 23-yard touchdown run on the second play of EKU's overtime possession lifting the Colonels to a 30-27 win.

Against APSU, Josh Carter eclipsed 1,000 rushing yards this season and 2,000 rushing yards in a career.

He became the 17th and 18th individual to accomplish those feats at EKU.

The defense saw a resurgence in 2024 for EKU allowing only 23.7



points per game, marking a nearly 10-point improvement from 2023.

The defense was spearheaded by captain and All-American defensive back Mike Smith Jr. who ended the season tied for the most interceptions in the UAC with four, and was the rated the 10th best safety in all of Division I football by Pro Football Focus.

His impressive final season in Maroon and White saw him earn unanimous First Team All-UAC honors along with All-American honors from four separate publications as the Jacksonville, Fla. native earned first team recognition from the Walter Camp Football Foundation and AFCA, third team by FCS Central, and fourth team by Phil Steele.

Smith also accepted an invitation to the East-West Shrine Bowl.

He was joined in receiving All-American honors by Payton Collins who finished a stellar career at EKU with a program record, 54 career starts.

Collins anchored the Colonels' offensive line starting every game earning First Team All-UAC recognition along with three All-American selections including a first team selection by Stats Perform FCS.

Two freshmen in Marcus Calwise Jr. and Tyrell Green earned Freshmen All-American honors from FCS Central and Phil Steele.

2024 saw the most all-conference selections in the Wells' era in seven with Collins, Smith, Maddox Marcellus, Jacob Baker, and Patrick





Nations earning first team recognition from the UAC.

They were joined by second-team members Darrian Baker and Jaheim Ward.

Nations was unanimous all-conference selection while also being the league's specialist of the year.

A preseason All-American, Nations ended his EKU career with the program records in field goals made with 54 and kicking points in a Colonel career with 309.

In 2024, Nations went 9-of-13 on field goals with a long of 48, with 3,758 total kickoff yards including a conference-leading 40 touchbacks.

The Colonels got it done in the classroom as well in 2024 recording the program's highest fall-term GPA, 2.934.

12 Colonels recorded perfect 4.0 GPAs with 17 earning Dean's and/or President's list distinction, and a total of 74 earning Colonel Scholar recognition with a 3.0 GPA or higher term GPA.

2023

The fourth season of the Walt Wells era was one of late game dramatics with the average point differential against FCS opponents being 4.8 points per game. EKU went 5-4 against FCS opponents and 4-2 in the inaugural season of the United Athletic Conference.

The Colonels first win came against then No. 16 South East Missouri, as EKU came back from being down 17-0 in the game to win 41-38 as Patrick Nations drilled a 46-yard field goal to seal the win.

The game winning field goal was set up after an 86-yard drive with 2:34 remaining capped off with a two-yard touchdown pass from Parker McKinney to Jackson Hensley tying the game at 38 all with 30 seconds remaining. EKU's defense then stepped up as Jeremiah Bailey stripped the SEMO quarterback on their own-28 as Darius Sterling recovered the loose ball setting up the game-winning field goal.

Two weeks later, on Homecoming the Colonels treated the fans at Roy Kidd Stadium to a classic, defeating conference foe Tarleton State, 41-35 in double-overtime. In the second overtime LB Logan Blake picked off the TSU quarterback before McKinney sealed the win with a QB sneak from one-yard out to earn the win.

On the season the Colonels were led by their three All-Americans in offensive lineman Josiah Ezirim, linebacker Logan Blake, and all-purpose selection Braedon Sloan. Additionally, in all conference recognition, OB Parker McKinney, TE Hunter Brown, OL Payton Collins and Josiah Ezirim, and LB Logan Blake earned first team All-UAC honors.

McKinney closed out his historic career as a Colonel with program records in passing attempts (1,719), completions (1081), yards (12,751) passing touchdowns(94), and total offense(14,422). He leaves Richmond with the 11th most passing yards in FCS history.

Logan Blake finished the season 4th in the FCS in total tackles with 114.

2022

In his third season at EKU, Wells led the Colonels to their first NCAA FCS Playoff berth since 2014 and a share of the ASUN regular-season championship. EKU went 6-2 against FCS opponents and beat an FBS team for the first time in eight seasons. The Colonels rose to No. 16 in the national polls and posted a 5-2 mark at Roy Kidd Stadi-

um. Wells earned the ASUN Coach of the Year honor for the second consecutive season.

The Colonels beat FBS foe Bowling Green 59-57 in seven overtimes, which tied the record for the second-longest game in Division I football history. EKU also knocked off No. 15 Southeast Missouri on the road for the program's third win over a ranked opponent in as many seasons.

EKU quarterback Parker McKinney was named the ASUN's Co-Offensive Player of the Year and the Colonels landed five players on the All-ASUN team. McKinney was named an All-American, along with offensive lineman Payton Collins, linebacker Matthew Jackson, and running back Braedon Sloan, giving the Colonels four All-Americans for the first time ever in a single season.

During the 2022 campaign, EKU ranked second in the FCS in punt returns, third in passing offense, fifth in third-down conversion percentage, sixth in kickoff returns, eight in completion percentage, 10th in total offense, 11th in scoring offense and team passing efficiency, and 18th in red-zone offense.

2021

In 2021, Wells orchestrated the biggest single-season turnaround in program history as EKU went 7-4 after a 3-6 campaign in the Fall 2020 season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Colonels defeated three teams that were ranked in the preseason top-25 and went 5-1 at Roy Kidd Stadium. Eastern Kentucky climbed as high as No. 19 in the national rankings and won five consecutive games for the first time since 2014. Wells was named the ASUN Coach of the Year and was honored as the AFCA FCS Region 3 Co-Coach of the Year.

The Colonels upset No. 19 Austin Peay, 35-27, in Richmond and rallied from a 22-point road deficit to beat Central Arkansas. Eastern Kentucky also won its second consecutive Opportunity Bowl, knocking off Jacksonville State in double-overtime, 39-31.

EKU placed six players on the All-ASUN team while defensive back Davion Ross was named the ASUN Defensive Player of the Year and kicker Patrick Nations won ASUN Special Teams Player of the Year. Ross, Nations, and offensive lineman Payton Collins were each honored as All-Americans.

During 2021, the Colonels ranked second nationally in kickoff return average, fourth in defensive touchdowns and red-zone offense, 15th in red-zone defense, and 19th in sacks allowed.

2020

In his first season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Colonels faced one of the toughest schedules in program history. Among the nine games in the fall of 2020 were three contests against FBS teams and two games against a team ranked among the top-25 in the FCS. Wells led EKU to a road win at The Citadel, a near upset of FBS Troy, a victory over No. 11 Central Arkansas and a 49-17 win against Western Carolina in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl.

The Colonels suffered two heartbreaking last-minute losses during the 2020 season. The win over 11th ranked Central Arkansas was the program's first victory over a ranked team since 2013 and the first win over a non-conference ranked team since 2003 when Eastern Kentucky beat No. 11 Appalachian State.

EKU was recognized as the national team of the week three times during the 2020 season. Quarterback Parker McKinney, wide receiver Keyion Dixon and running back Alonzo Booth each earned national player of the week honors as well.

During the fall 2020 season, Eastern ranked second in the nation in interceptions and passing efficiency, and third in first downs, passing offense, passing yards per completion, fumbles recovered and turnovers gained.

Prior to Becoming Head Coach

Wells served as a quality control assistant at the University of Kentucky during the 2018 and 2019 seasons. The 2018 Wildcat team beat Florida for the first time in 32 years, posted the program's best Southeastern Conference (SEC) record in 41 years and beat No. 12-ranked Penn State in the VRBO Citrus Bowl. All totaled, the 10-3 record was Kentucky's best season in 41 years and only the third 10-win season in school history.

In 2019, the Wildcats won seven games and reach bowl eligibility again. Wells' responsibilities included breaking down the opponents' offense for the UK defense. The Kentucky defense ranked fourth in the nation in passing yards allowed, ninth in passing efficiency defense, 12th in scoring defense, 14th in fewest first downs allowed, 20th in total defense, 23rd in red-zone defense and 31st in sacks in

2019.

From 2016 to 2017, Wells worked on the staff at the University of Tennessee. He was an offensive quality control coach, working primarily with the offensive line during the 2016 season, and served as the offensive line coach during the 2017 season. He worked closely with the UT line that paved the way for 2,668 rushing yards (5.2 yards per carry) in 2016. The Vol offense also ranked 24th in the nation in scoring that season (36.4 points per game). Wells coached Freshman All-American and All-SEC right guard Trey Smith. He was ranked as a top-5 national recruiter.

Wells returned to the EKU coaching staff in the spring of 2015 as the assistant head coach and offensive line coach. His work helped the Colonels average 30.3 points per game, the 35th-most in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS). Lineman Brett Eyckmans earned first team All-Ohio Valley Conference recognition after the 2015 season.

During his first stint with the Colonels, Eastern won the 1997 OVC title with a perfect 7-0 mark and advanced to the NCAA FCS playoffs. Wells served as Kidd's tight ends coach from 1997 to 1999, and as the offensive line coach from 2000 to 2002. He coached seven All-OVC players and an All-American. EKU ranked among top-15 nationally in rushing in 2001 and 2002.

"Twenty-two years ago I came here and met coach Kidd and his staff," Wells said. "I learned many valuable lessons that have carried me through my career. I appreciate them pouring their knowledge into me, and I look forward to now passing that on to our team here."

The veteran coach brings 25 years of college coaching experience to the sidelines as both an offensive line coach and coordinator. Wells has also spent time at Cumberland University, Western Kentucky, South Florida and New Mexico State.

As the offensive line coach in 2014 at New Mexico State, Wells helped center Valerian Ume-Ezeoke earn All-Sun Belt Conference accolades. The Aggies allowed just 10 sacks all year, which ranked second-best nationally. Ume-Ezeoke went on to sign a free agent contract with the Atlanta Falcons.

Wells spent the 2013 season at South Florida as the offensive coordinator and offensive line coach. Under Wells, tight end Mike McFarland and tailback Marcus Shaw were named second team All-American Athletic Conference. He also guided wide receiver Andre Davis to a program record in single season receiving yards (735).

Prior to joining the South Florida staff in December 2012, Wells spent 10 years at Western Kentucky working with the offensive line. During the final four years of his stay at WKU, Wells' role expanded to offensive coordinator and running game coordinator. Four Hilltopper offensive linemen earned All-America honors under Wells' direction, and Western ranked in the top four in the Sun Belt Conference in rushing each of his final four seasons – leading the league with 181.6 rushing yards per game in 2011 and improving that number to 186.2 yards per game in 2012.

As a result of Wells' mentoring, Adam Smith, a four-year starter, went on to sign a free agent contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers after the 2012 season. Wells also coached Greg Ryan, who earned a free-agent contract with the Baltimore Ravens in 2009, and Anthony Oakley who went on to be a member of the Chicago Bears on their run to Super Bowl XLI in 2007.

Wells' collegiate coaching career began in 1994 at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee, as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator. He led an offense that twice topped the NAIA in rushing, while helping the Bulldogs reach a top-15 national ranking. Wells also spent two years as an assistant at Smyrna (Tenn.) High School.

Wells and his wife, Jennifer, have two children - Madison and K.J.

THE WELLS COACHING FILE

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2003-12 Western Kentucky OL Coac 2013 South Florida 2014 New Mexico State 2015 Eastern Kentucky 2016-17 Tennessee Offensive OC (2)	Position Assistant Coach Asst. HC/OC 19), OL Coach (00-02) ch (03-08), OC (09-12) OC/OL Coach OL Coach Asst. HC 016), OL Coach (2017) Quality Control Asst. Head Coach	Season 2020 2021 2022 2022 2023 2024 Totals	HEAD COACHII School Eastern Kentucky University Seasons	Record / Con	RD f. Postseason Opportunity Bowl, W, 49-17 FCS Playoffs FCS Playoffs		





Jake Johnson Defensinve Coordinator/Inside Linebackers Coach 6th Season | EKU, 2002

Former Colonel Jake Johnson returned to EKU in December 2019 as the program's defensive coordinator. Johnson previously spent 12 seasons (2004-15) on the Colonel coaching staff, including the final 11 as the defensive line coach.

2024 was a standout year for the Eastern Kentucky University defense as they only allowed 23.7 points per game, the best in the UAC, going 8-5 on the season, returning to the FCS Playoffs for the second time in three seasons.

The defense was spearheaded by captain and All-American defensive back Mike Smith Jr., who ended the season tied for the most interceptions in the UAC with four and was rated the 10th best safety in all of Division I football by Pro Football Focus.

His impressive final season in Maroon and White saw him earn unanimous First Team All-UAC honors along with All-American honors from four separate publications as the Jacksonville, Fla. native earned first team recognition from the Walter Camp Football Foundation and AFCA, third team by FCS Central, and fourth team by Phil Steele.

The impressive play earned Smith an undrafted free agent contract with the Dallas Cowboys.

The EKU defense had four players named to the UAC's All-Conference team in Smith, Darrian Baker, Jaheim Ward, and Maddox Marcellus.

In 2023, the Colonel defense was led by linebacker and NAIA graduate transfer Logan Blake. Blake earned first-team All-UAC honors after finishing with the third most total tackles in all of FCS (132), and a critical interception in 20T against Tarleton State on homecoming, setting EKU up for a 41-35 win.

Defensive back Mike Smith Jr., tied for the most passes defended in the UAC with a total of 13 (11 breakups and two interceptions).

Johnson's defense came up clutch in week four of the season against No. 16 SEMO as lineman Jeremiah Bailey stripped the Redhawks' quarterback at their 28-yard line which was recovered by Darius Sterling, setting up kicker Patrick Nations with a game-winning field goal as time expired.

The next week, the defense had one of their best statistical games of the season, recording five sacks, two recovered fumbles, and two interceptions, including one by defensive lineman Gabe Fletcher on a deflection by Jeremiah Bailey.

The defense added their stamp to the final game of the season against Stephen F. Austin as Maddox Marcellus recorded a strip sack that landed in Bailey's hands, returning the fumble 43 yards for the touchdown, giving EKU a 13-3 lead, going on to win 36-24.

In his third season at EKU, two Colonel defenders were named to the All-ASUN team and linebacker Matthew Jackson was tabbed as a Fourth-Team Phil Steele/DraftScout All-American. EKU held No. 15 Southeast Missouri to 10 points in the second half of a comeback victory and limited Central Arkansas to its lowest point total against an FCS opponent of the season.

Jackson ranked third in the ASUN with 87 total tackles, while defensive lineman TK McLendon finished the season third in the conference with six sacks.

In 2021, the Colonel defense ranked fourth nationally in defensive touchdowns and 15th in red-zone defense, allowing opponents to score just 10.1 points per game in the second half. Cornerback Davion Ross was a consensus All-American, the ASUN Defensive Player of the Year, and three EKU defenders were named to the All-ASUN team. Linebacker Matthew Jackson was tabbed as Phil Steele's ASUN Defensive Player of the Year.

Ross ranked fifth in the nation in passes defensed. Kyle Bailey finished the season sixth in the nation in solo tackles, while Jackson ranked 20th. EKU held a pair of opponents to under 250 total yards

In his first season, Johnson's defense stymied a pair of Southern Conference offenses helping EKU beat The Citadel, 37-14, on the road and Western Carolina, 49-17, in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl. EKU also knocked off No. 11 Central Arkansas for the program's first win over a top-25 ranked team since 2013, and first victory over a non-conference ranked team since 2003.

Johnson's defense held Troy to 10 second half points as EKU nearly upset the FBS Trojans on the road.

In his first season as a starter, linebacker Matthew Jackson excelled in Johnson's defense. Jackson led the nation during the fall season with two fumbles recovered and ranked ninth in the country with 9.9 tackles per game. Defensive back Kmare Carey ranked ninth in the nation during the fall season with 0.40 interceptions per game.

As a team, Eastern Kentucky was third in the country during the fall season with 16 turnovers gained.

"I'm excited to have Jake back in Richmond and at EKU," head coach Walt Wells said. "It's a place that is so dear to his heart, and it's great to have a former Colonel leading our defense. Jake did a great job at Murray State, as the special teams coordinator and the defensive coordinator, developing Quincy Williams and Marquez Sanford into NFL players. We're fortunate to have him back and to have his leadership on defense."

Johnson worked on the staff at Murray State University from 2016 to 2019. After spending his first two seasons with the Racers as the linebackers coach and special teams coordinator, Johnson served as the defensive coordinator in 2018 and 2019 while still also coaching the linebacker position group.

Under his guidance as defensive coordinator, Murray State improved its scoring and rushing defense each season. Linebacker Quincy Williams was selected in the third round of the 2019 NFL Draft, the highest draft pick in MSU history. In addition, defensive back Marquez Sanford signed a free agent contract with the Jacksonville Jaguars in 2019.

Johnson recruited multiple all-conference players. In 2018 he successfully recruited the No. 1 and No. 5 ranked players in the Ohio Valley Conference. As the special teams coordinator, Johnson tutored kicker Connor Mitchell who led the nation in field goals per game (1.82) and set a school record with six field goals in a game during the 2016 season.

In his first stint at Eastern Kentucky, Johnson helped the Colonels win OVC Championships in 2007, 2008 and 2011 and make four FCS playoff appearances. He coached 17 defensive linemen who earned All-Ohio Valley Conference honors and five who picked up All-America recognition. In 2015, Noah Spence and Bryce Krebs were named to the All-OVC team. Spence was also chosen as the OVC Co-Defensive Player of the Year, earned All-America honors and was drafted in the second round of the 2016 NFL Draft. EKU ranked first or second in the OVC in rushing defense in each of his final four seasons as defensive line coach.

After graduating from Eastern in 2002 with a bachelor's of science degree in geography, with an emphasis in global studies, Johnson spent a year at Wingate University as an assistant coach. His duties there included serving as the Bulldogs' full-time tight ends coach and assistant offensive line coach, while also aiding in player recruitment and game-day planning. Johnson then returned to Eastern Kentucky in 2004 as a graduate assistant coach.

A three-year starting offensive lineman during his collegiate career, Johnson garnered All-Ohio Valley Conference accolades at center in 2001. That same year, Johnson served as the Colonels' offensive team captain and was named the squad's offensive lineman of the year.

Johnson earned four letters from 1997-2001 and was a freshman on the 1997 Colonel team which captured an OVC championship. He found success on and off the field at EKU, earning two spots on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and five Colonel Scholar awards.

Johnson married the former Kate Lyon, a four-year volleyball letter winner at Eastern who was named team co-MVP in 2000, in the summer of 2007. The Johnsons have two children – Sam and Zoey.





Andy Richman Offensive Coordinator / Running Backs Coach 6th Season | EKU, 2002

Andy Richman was chosen as EKU's offensive coordinator and running backs coach in January 2020.

The Colonels returned to the FCS Playoffs for the 23rd time in program history in 2024, the second-most in the NCAA all-time with an 8-5 overall record, finishing in both FCS top-25 polls.

Five of those eight wins came in a winning streak to end the regular season, including two over then nationally ranked teams in the UAC in Tarleton State and Central Arkansas.

The Colonels also went a perfect 6-0 at CG Bank Field at Roy Kidd Stadium, the first undefeated season at home since 2010.

It was a stellar season on the ground for the Colonels in 2024 as running back Joshua Carter eclipsed 1,000 rushing yards this season and 2,000 rushing yards in a career, becoming the 17th and 18th individual to accomplish those feats at EKU.

Additionally, Carter recorded three consecutive game-winning touchdowns in EKU's wins over No. 7 Tarleton St., No. 16 Central Arkansas, and Austin Peay.

In the final win over Austin Peay, Carter saved his best for last with a thrilling walk-off winner in overtime, breaking through multiple APSU defenders on a 23-yard touchdown run on the second play of EKU's overtime possession, lifting the Colonels to a 30-27 win.

EKU also found a star in the passing game with Freshman All-American, Marcus Calwise Jr. as the freshman from Covington, Ga. stepped up in a big way in 2024 for the Colonels' offense being the top target for quarterback Matt Morrissey as EKU finished 8-4 in the regular season, going 6-2 in UAC play.

The first year wide out posted five touchdown receptions and 526 yards on 42 receptions, averaging 12.5 yards per catch.

Recording at least one reception in all but one game in 2024, Calwise got hot at the end of the season, scoring a touchdown in EKU's last four games, including an 11-yard reception for six in the FCS Playoffs.

Calwise posted a career-best performance in the last week of the regular season with 99 yards on five receptions and one touchdown against North Alabama. His score proved to be the game winner in the fourth quarter as on third-and-14 from his own 33, quarterback Matt Morrissey found Calwise over the middle for the catch and sprint to the end zone for a 67-yard touchdown, reclaiming the lead at 21-15 with 8:10 remaining in regulation.

The performance earned him his second consecutive Freshman of the Week honor in the UAC and third overall of the season, tied for the most in the conference.

2024 also marked the end of an era, with it being the final season for long-time offensive linemen John Stone, Vincent Munlin Jr., and Payton Collins.

Collins set a new program record in 2024 with 56 consecutive career starts before signing with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the CFL as Munlin signed with the Montreal Allouettes.

The 2023 season saw the Colonels post the total offense numbers in the UAC, averaging 437.4 yards per game with a total of 4,811 yards on the season.

On the ground, EKU running backs tallied 1,778 total rushing yards and 17 touchdowns on 347 attempts. Both marks were the highest in Richman's time at EKU.

The offense posted its best overall statistical game against a new conference foe, Utah Tech, posting 496 yards of total offense with Parker McKinney throwing for three touchdowns and 322 yards going 22-of-34 through the air in a 34-30 win.

WR Mo Edwards Jr. tallied 101 yards receiving on just three receptions, including a 69-yard catch and run for a touchdown.

On the ground, running back Joshua Carter led the team, rushing for 125 yards and one touchdown on 20 carries.

The offense featured four UAC First Team All-Conference selections in quarterback Parker McKinney, tight end Hunter Brown, and offensive linemen Payton Collins and Josiah Ezirim.

Ezirim collected four separate All-American selections after a stellar season up front before being drafted in the 2024 NFL Draft by the New Orleans Saints in the seventh round.

In his third season at EKU, the Colonels ranked third in the nation in passing offense, fifth in third-down conversion percentage, eighth in completion percentage, 10th in total offense, 11th in scoring offense and team passing efficiency, and 18th in red-zone offense. EKU set a school record with 434 points scored, posting at least 40 points in six games, and quarter-back Parker McKinney broke every school single-season and career passing record.

McKinney, offensive lineman Payton Collins, and running back Braedon Sloan each earned All-American honors. Sloan became the first Colonel in at least two decades to record 500 yards rushing and 500 yards receiving in a single season.

 $In 2021, Eastern \, Kentucky \, boasted \, the \, fourth-best \, red-zone \, offense \, in \, the \, country, \, scoring \, on \, 31 \, of \, its \, 33 \, trips \, (93.9 \, percent) \, inside \, the \, red \, zone. \, EKU \, scored \, 30 \, points \, in \, six \, different \, games \, and \, McKinney \, set \, a \, school \, record \, with \, 229 \, pass \, completions.$

Running back Da'Joun Hewitt was named ASUN Freshman of the Week three times during the 2021 season and also earned ASUN Offensive Player of the Week honors after rushing for three touchdowns in the season opener against Western Carolina.

In his first season, Richman led an offense that concluded the fall third in the nation in passing offense (247.4 yards per game) and fourth in the country in total offense (376.4 yards per game). The Colonels ran up a season-high 590 yards of offense against Western Carolina in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl. The unit totaled 400 yards or more of offense in six of the final seven games of the season.

Three offensive players – quarterback Parker McKinney, wide receiver Keyion Dixon and running back Alonzo Booth – were each chosen as the national player of the week during the 2020 season. Booth led the nation in rushing yards and rushing touchdowns during the fall. Dixon was third in the country in receiving yards and fourth in receiving touchdowns. McKinney was among the nation's passing leaders for much of the season before missing the final three and a half games due to an injury. He still ranked fourth in passing touchdowns.

Receivers Jacquez Jones (4th) and Jackson Beerman (6th) also ranked among the national leaders in receiving yards.

Richman utilized three different starting quarterbacks during the 2020 season. McKinney started the first six games but suffered a season-ending injury just before halftime against No. 11 Central Arkansas. Dakota Allen came on and led the team on a last minute, game-winning touchdown drive to beat the nationally ranked Bears. Allen would start the next two games. Isaiah Velz was called on to make his first collegiate start in the season finale. He threw for 310 yards while leading EKU to a 49-17 win in the Opportunity Bowl.

"It's great to have Andy back to leading our offense here at EKU," head coach Walt Wells said. "He has done a great job since he left at all his stops, including Wisconsin, at Valdosta State where he called the plays for a national championship team, and helping New Mexico State to their first bowl game in a long time as the run game coordinator and offensive line coach. I've known Andy for a long time. He's a great coach and is doing great things with our offense."

Richman was the offensive line coach and run game coordinator at New Mexico State University from 2015 through the 2019 season. He coached a Sunbelt Conference Newcomer of the Year and an Associated Press All-America running back. In 2017, the Aggies' offense ranked sixth in the nation in passing offense while winning seven games and earning a victory in the Arizona Bowl. It was NMSU's first bowl appearance since 1960.

From 2011 through the 2014 season, Richman served on the staff at Valdosta State University. He was the offensive line coach and run game coordinator during the 2012 season and the offensive coordinator in 2013, 2014 and 2015. Richman tutored six first team all-conference linemen, four All-America offensive linemen selections and a fourth round NFL Draft pick. VSU had two 1,000-yard rushers in 2012 on its way to winning the Division II National Championship.

Richman was an offensive line quality control assistant for the Wisconsin Badgers from 2008 to 2010. He helped Wisconsin reach three bowl games including the 2011 Rose Bowl after winning the Big Ten Championship. Richman was an offensive line assistant, working primarily with the centers and guards, at Louisiana during the 2007 season.

Richman worked with EKU Head Coach Walt Wells at Western Kentucky University during the 2006 season, serving as the tight ends coach. He also coached the defensive line at Denison University (2005), and running backs and tight ends at Reedley College (2004).

During the 2002 and 2003 seasons, Richman was a graduate student assistant at Eastern Kentucky, working with the tight ends in 2002 and the defensive line in 2003.

Richman was the offensive line coach at his alma mater, Wisconsin-Stevens Point, in 2001. He was part of two conference championships and one playoff team during his collegiate career (1996-99). He earned a physical education degree from Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2002. Richman completed a master's degree in sport administration at EKU in 2004.

Richman is married to the former Heather Proctor.





Caleb Cox General Manager / Wide Receivers Coach / Recruiting Coordinator 6th Season | Kentucky Christian, 2013

Caleb Cox was chosen as EKU's wide receivers coach in January 2020.

The Colonels aerial attack in 2024 was led by Freshman All-American, Marcus Calwise Jr. who stepped up in a big way in 2024 for the Colonels' offense being the top target for quarterback Matt Morrissey as EKU finished 8-4 in the regular season, going 6-2 in UAC play returning to the FCS Playoffs.

The first year wide out posted five touchdown receptions and 526 yards on 42 receptions, averaging 12.5 yards per catch.

Recording at least one reception in all but one game in 2024, Calwise got hot at the end of the season, scoring a touchdown in EKU's last four games, including an 11-yard reception for six in the FCS Playoffs.

Calwise posted a career-best performance in the last week of the regular season with 99 yards on five receptions and one touchdown against North Alabama. His score proved to be the game winner in the fourth quarter as on third-and-14 from his own 33, quarterback Matt Morrissey found Calwise over the middle for the catch and sprint to the end zone for a 67-yard touchdown, reclaiming the lead at 21-15 with 8:10 remaining in regulation.

The performance earned him his second consecutive Freshman of the Week honor in the UAC and third overall of the season, tied for the most in the conference.

Cox's recruiting prowess shined in the 23-24 season as the Colonels brought in the eighth best recruting class at the FCS level according to 0n3 Sports.

In 2023, the EKU receiving core helped the Colonels to the 11th best passing offense in all of FCS with 275.7 yards through the air per game, the best in the United Athletic Conference.

Wideout Jaden Smith also posted the third most receiving yards in the UAC with 781 on the year. Smith also finished second in the conference in receiving yards per game with an average of 71.

In his third season at EKU, the Colonel wide receivers helped quarterback Parker McKinney set single-season records for passing yards, completions, and touchdowns. Three different wideouts caught at least 50 passes for at least 700 yards.

EKU's passing attack topped 300 yards in nine different games, combining for 881 yards in the final two games of the season. The Colonels ranked third nationally in passing offense (329.7 yards per game), eighth in completion percentage (68.6%), and 11th team passing efficiency (161.26).

During the 2021 season, five different Colonel wide receivers caught touchdown passes and hauled in 160 catches to help McKinney set the program single-season record with 229 completions.

Against top-ranked Sam Houston, EKU's passing game racked up 338 yards through the air, led by 103 receiving yards from Matt Wilcox, Jr. The Colonels closed the season with 299 yards passing in an Opportunity Bowl victory over Jacksonville State.

In his first season, Cox helped the offense conclude the fall third in the nation in passing offense (247.4 yards per game) and fourth in the country in total offense (376.4 yards per game). The Colonels ran up a season-high 590 yards of offense against Western Carolina in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl. The unit totaled 400 yards or more of offense in six of the final seven games of the season.

Wide receiver Keyion Dixon was chosen as the national player of the week during the 2020 season. Dixon was third in the country in receiving yards and fourth in receiving touchdowns. Receivers Jacquez Jones (4th) and Jackson Beerman (6th) also ranked among the national leaders in receiving yards.

Cox served as an offensive assistant at the University of Tennessee from 2016-19. In 2015, Cox was an offensive assistant at EKU. He worked as the wide receivers coach at Kentucky Christian University in 2013 and 2014.

Cox helped Tennessee reach the Music City Bowl in 2016 and the Tax Slayer Bowl in 2019. He has coached three players who were either drafted or received invitations to an NFL camp, including former Colonel offensive lineman Justin Adekoya.

Cox has extensive recruiting experience in Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and North Carolina.

A 2013 graduate of Kentucky Christian, Cox earned a bachelor's of science degree in university studies and Biblical studies while playing wide receiver for the Knights. He earned a master's in Christian leadership from KCU in 2017 and a master's in agriculture leadership education communication at Tennessee in 2018.



Derek DayOutside Linebackers Coach/Co-Special Teams Coordinator 6th Season | Butler, 2009

Derek Day was chosen as EKU's inside linebackers coach and co-special teams coordinator in January 2020. He had previously worked on the staffs at Butler, Tennessee, Iowa State and Western Kentucky.

It was a standout year on special teams for the Colonels in 2024 en route to the FCS Playoffs for the second time in three seasons, going 8-4 in the regular season with top-25 wins over No. 7 Tarleton State and No. 16 Central Arkansas.

Kicker Patrick Nations earned the UAC's Specialist of the Year Award as he ended his EKU career with the program records in field goals made with 54 and kicking points in a Colonel career with 309.

In 2024, Nations went 9-of-13 on field goals with a long of 48, with 3,758 total kickoff yards, including a conference-leading 40 touchbacks.

Punter Jacob Baker was the top punter in the UAC as he posted a punting average of 43.7 yards per punt with 17 punts of 50 yards or longer (most in the UAC) while also having a long of 65 yards.

Along with his power, Baker showed precision with 24 punts downed inside the 20, the most in the UAC, as well as delivered critical punts late in games, giving EKU an edge in the field position battle.

Day's outside linebackers were also pivotal in the Colonels holding opponents to just 23.7 points per game, the lowest amount in the UAC.

Additionally, the position group combined for 142 total tackles and 4.5 sacks.

2023 saw Day's outside linebackers help EKU record the most fumbles recovered in the UAC with 10 on the season and the most sacks with 2.18 per game.

On special teams, the Colonels posted the second best kickoff return average in the conference with 21.33 yards per return while kicker Patrick Nations lead the nation in field goals per game with 1.73.

In his third season at EKU, Day helped coach linebacker Matthew Jackson to an All-American season. Jackson ranked third in the ASUN in tackles and made 41 stops over the final three games of the season.

EKU's defense held No. 15 Southeast Missouri to 10 points in the second half of a comeback victory and limited Central Arkansas to its lowest point total against an FCS opponent of the season.

Before the 2021 season, Day switched from coaching inside linebackers to coaching outside linebackers. The Colonel defense ranked fourth nationally in defensive touchdowns and 15th in red-zone defense, allowing opponents to score just 10.1 points per game in the second half.

Linebackers Kyle Bailey and Matthew Jackson each recorded 102 tackles, with Jackson being tabbed as Phil Steele's ASUN Defensive Player of the Year. Fellow linebacker Eli Hairston



finished third on the team in tackles.

In his first season, Day helped the defense stymie a pair of Southern Conference offenses helping EKU beat The Citadel, 37-14, on the road and Western Carolina, 49-17, in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl. EKU also knocked off No. 11 Central Arkansas for the program's first win over a top-25 ranked team since 2013, and first victory over a non-conference ranked team since 2003. The Colonel defense held Troy to 10 second half points as Eastern nearly upset the FBS Trojans on the road.

In his first season as a starter, linebacker Matthew Jackson excelled. Jackson led the nation during the fall season with two fumbles recovered and ranked ninth in the country with 9.9 tackles per game. As a team, Eastern Kentucky was third in the country during the fall with 16 turnovers gained.

For three seasons (2017-19), Day served as the linebacker coach, co-special teams coordinator and recruiting coordinator at Butler. He coached two all-conference linebackers and an all-league kicker.

As a defensive quality control assistant working with linebackers at Tennessee in 2015 and 2016, Day helped the Volunteers reach the 2015 Outback Bowl and the 2016 Music City Bowl. He coached All-Southeastern Conference linebacker Jalen Reeves-Maybin who was a fourth round NFL Draft pick, and all-freshman team linebacker Darrin Kirkland Jr.

In 2012 and 2013, Day was a defensive graduate assistant linebackers coach at Iowa State. He helped the Cyclones reach the 2012 Liberty Bowl. He worked with two All-Big 12 and fifth round NFL Draft picks – linebackers AJ Klein (2013) and Jeremiah George (2014).

At Western Kentucky, Day served as a defensive graduate assistant with the defensive line and linebackers.

Day earned a bachelor's of science degree in education at Butler in 2009. He was a four-year starter at defensive end with the Bulldogs. Day received a master's degree in education at lowa State in 2014. He and his wife Lacey have two children – Landyn and Cameron.



Mike Dietzel Assistant Head Coach / Safties Coach 5th Season | Otterbein, 1983

Mike Dietzel, who has 30-plus years of coaching experience at the college and professional level, joined the Eastern Kentucky staff as safeties coach in March of 2021.

EKU's safeties were a force in 2025 as the Colonels returned to the FCS Playoffs for the 23rd time, as Mike Smith Jr. and Jaheim Ward both earned First Team All-UAC honors.

Smith, who earned All-American recognition, ended the season tied for the most interceptions in the UAC with four and was rated the 10th-best safety in all of Division I football by Pro Football Focus.

His impressive final season in Maroon and White saw him earn unanimous First Team All-UAC honors along with All-American honors from four separate publications as the Jacksonville, Fla. native earned first team recognition from the Walter Camp Football Foundation and AFCA, third team by FCS Central, and fourth team by Phil Steele.

For the season, Smith recorded impressive numbers with four interceptions (tied for the most in the UAC), 63 total tackles, and six pass break-ups as a safety.

Smith's interceptions were also timely, with his ones against Tarleton State and North Alabama coming in the final seconds of regulation to seal wins for the Colonels.

The impressive play earned Smith an undrafted free agent contract with the Dallas Cowboys.

Ward made an immediate impact in his first season as a Colonel, posting 66 total tackles, 5 TFLs, two forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, one interception, and eight pass breakups.

His nine passes defended put him in the top 10 of the UAC.

The 2023 season saw the emergence of safety Mike Smith Jr. under coach Dietzel as Smith tied for first in the conference with 13 passes defended consisting of 11 breakups and two interceptions.

Fellow safety Nic Cheeley recorded the second most total tackles on season for EKU with 80.

In 2022, three of EKU's safeties ranked in the top-11 on the team in tackling, led by Nic Cheeley's 57 stops. EKU held No. 15 Southeast Missouri to 10 points in the second half of a comeback victory and limited Central Arkansas to its lowest point total against an FCS opponent of the season.

Safety Joseph Sayles returned an interception 40 yards for a touchdown against Austin Peay, while Mike Smith Jr. recorded his first career interception against North Alabama. The Colonels held five different opponents to less than 175 yards through the air.

In his first season in Richmond, EKU safeties recorded five of the Colonels' 13 interceptions on the season. Eastern Kentucky's defense ranked fourth nationally in defensive touchdowns and 15th in red-zone defense, allowing opponents to score just 10.1 points per game in the second half.

Sayles tallied three interceptions, broke up three passes, forced one fumble, and block the potential game-tying kick in EKU's victory at Central Arkansas.

Dietzel served as the defensive backs/safeties coach at Ball State during the 2019 and 2020 seasons. He helped the Cardinals to a 7-1 record in 2020, a victory over No. 23 Buffalo in the Mid-American Conference Championship game and a win over No. 19 San Jose State in the Offerpad Arizona Bowl.

Ball State ranked 15th nationally in turnovers gained (24) in 2019. In 2020, BSU was seventh in the nation in defensive touchdowns. The Cardinals led the MAC and were 29th in the country with 10 interceptions last season.

Dietzel spent seven seasons at Western Kentucky (2003-09), including three as defensive coordinator. As the linebackers/secondary coach/special teams coordinator, he helped Central Michigan to bowl appearances in three of his four seasons with the Chippewas (2015-18) before joining the Ball State staff. He mentored three-time All-MAC linebacker Malik Fountain and All-MAC safety Kavon Frazier, a 2016 draft choice of the Dallas Cowboys, at CMU

Over nine seasons at Buffalo (2010-14) and CMU, Dietzel's teams ranked second in the MAC in total defense four times. While serving as the secondary/co-special teams coach and recruiting coordinator, he helped Buffalo to the 2013 Famous Idaho Potato Bowl. He helped WKU to two Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoff appearances and then a 7-5 record in the first year of its transition to the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) level.

Dietzel helped the 2001 Kent State team to its first winning season in 14 years while serving as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach.

In 2001, Dietzel served as the secondary coach/defensive passing game coordinator for the New York/New Jersey Hitmen of the XFL. His Hitmen team led the XFL in pass defense.

As the running backs/wide receivers/tight ends coach at Army (1995-99) Dietzel mentored a running backs group that led the nation in rushing in 1996 and 1998. He coached in the 1989 Rose Bowl as a graduate assistant outside linebackers coach with Michigan, where he worked under the legendary Bo Schembechler and was on a staff that included Gary Moeller and Lloyd Carr.

As the inside linebackers coach at Pennsylvania (1998) he helped the team to a share of the 1988 lvy League championship.

Dietzel also coached at Colorado (1985-86), Earlham (1987) and Johns Hopkins (1994).

Dietzel played football at Otterbein University, where he was an honorable mention all-conference defensive back in 1983. He earned his bachelor's degree in educational administration from Otterbein (1985) and his master's in educational administration from Colorado (1986). Dietzel started the Fellowship of Christian Athletes program at Earlham in 1987. He also coached track & field in his one year at Johns Hopkins.

He and his wife Jennifer, a Bowling Green, Kentucky native, have one son - Taylor.





Maxwell Smith Quarterbacks Coach 3rd Season | Kentucky, 2014

Maxwell Smith was hired as EKU's quarterbacks coach in February 2023.

2024, saw the emergence of graduate transfer quarterback Matt Morrissey, who led the Colonels back to the FCS Playoffs for the 23rd time in program history.

On the season, Morrissey threw for 2,088 yards (10th most in a single season at EKU) and 14 touchdowns while adding three on the ground.

His best game of the season came against West Georgia, throwing for two touchdowns and 277 yards with a 56.7 completion percentage.

In Smith's first season, quarterback Parker McKinney was named First Team All-UAC with 3,033 yards passing with 20 touchdowns adding to his all-time school records in both categories. McKinney finished his career with 12,751 yards passing with 94 touchdowns with a completion percentage of 63.

McKinney finished fourth in all of FCS football on the year in total offense averaging 296.2 yards per game and 25th in points responsible with 142.

McKinney threw for over 200 yards in all but two games on the year, with one of those coming against Cincinnati of the Big XII. McKinney also recorded at least one touchdown pass in every game in 2023.

Before arriving in Richmond, Smith served as the quarterbacks coach at Heidelberg University for two seasons. Under Smith's tutelage, Heidelberg quarterback Drew Sims ranked in the top-10 nationally in yards per completion in 2021 and 2022. Sims was also an All-OAC selection following the 2021 season.

Prior to joining the staff at Heidelberg, Smith coached for three seasons at Kentucky as a grad assistant.

As a player, Smith started 11 games at quarterback for Kentucky. In 2013, he led the Wildcats in passing, throwing for 1,276 yards and nine touchdowns against just one interception. Smith was a Freshman All-SEC performer in 2011, setting a UK school record for most passing yards by a true freshman with a 283-yard performance against Ole Miss.

Smith transferred to San Diego State in 2015 and won the starting job for the Aztecs. The Granada Hills, Calif., native threw for 1,529 yards and 13 touchdowns while setting an SDSU record by going 10 consecutive games without throwing an interception. As the starter, Smith guided the Aztecs to seven consecutive wins as SDSU captured the Mountain West Conference championship and won the Hawaii Bowl.



Rashad Watson Defensive Secondary Coach 2nd Season | Alabama A&M. 2001

Rashad Watson was named the defensive secondary coach in February of 2024.

The Colonel secondary was a force in 2024 led by Mike Smith Jr. and Jaheim Ward.

The defense was spearheaded by captain and All-American defensive back Mike Smith Jr., who ended the season tied for the most interceptions in the UAC with four and was rated the 10th best safety in all of Division I football by Pro Football Focus.

His impressive final season in Maroon and White saw him earn unanimous First Team All-UAC honors along with All-American honors from four separate publications as the Jacksonville, Fla. native earned first team recognition from the Walter Camp Football Foundation and AFCA, third team by FCS Central, and fourth team by Phil Steele.

The impressive play earned Smith an undrafted free agent contract with the Dallas Cowboys.

Ward earned Second Team All-UAC honors, recording the third-most tackles on the team with 66, including five tackles for loss with two forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, two interceptions, and nine pass breakups.

Watson comes to Richmond after spending the last two seasons as the defensive coordinator at Tuskegee University in Alabama. While in charge of the Tiger defense, Watson helped lead Tuskegee to back-to-back winning seasons and a SIAC West Championship in 2023.

Watson's defense also led the SIAC in interceptions and produced seven defensive all-conference honorees.

Prior to Tuskegee, Watson served as the defensive coordinator at Miles College from 2019-2021.

While at Miles, Watson oversaw the overhaul of a defense that went from last to first in the SIAC in rushing defense, interceptions, and sacks as Miles went on to claim a SIAC Championship in 2019.

The new Colonel coach also holds head coaching experience having spent two years as the head football coach at Franklin Pierce, where he led the program's transition into NCAA Division II membership. It was his first head coaching post, which was preceded by a five-year stint at Missouri Southern State.

In this time, he developed nine all-conference selections for the Lions.

Watson also holds professional experience serving as the NFL's Bill Walsh Diversity Fellowship Coach with the Pittsburgh Steelers in June of 2021 and with the Kansas City Chiefs in June of 2014. In these roles, he coached secondary during NFL Training Camp and assisted with special team units.

Watson played four years collegiately at Alabama A&M (1997-2001). Originally from Bessemer, Ala., Watson is a two-time graduate of Alabama A&M, with a bachelor's degree in business management and a master's degree in business marketing.





Eric Ravellette Offensive Line Coach 2nd Season | Western Kentucky, 2003

Eric Ravellette was named the offensive line coach for EKU football on June 7, 2024.

In his first season in charge of the Colonels in the trenches, the EKU offense produced 38 touchdowns and 4,522 yards of total offense, returning to the FCS Playoffs for the 23rd time in program history.

The line was led by Captain Payton Collins, who ended his time in Richmond as an All-American in two seasons (2022, 2024), and was a first team all-conference selection from 2021-2024, including being named the ASUN's Offensive Lineman of the Year in 2022 and the UAC's in 2024 by Phil Steele.

In 2024 alone, the Columbus, Ohio native earned All-American honors from Stats Perform FCS, Phil Steele, and FCS Football Central, earning an invite to the Hula Bowl All-Star game at the end of the season.

The offensive tackle was instrumental in both of the Colonels' most recent runs to the FCS Playoffs in 2022 and 2024.

Ravellette comes to Richmond from Trine University, where he served as offensive line coach, run game coordinator, co-offensive coordinator, and assistant head coach over the last 12 seasons.

During his tenure with the Thunder, he helped lead the team to back-to-back MIAA Conference titles in the 2017 and 2018 seasons. Under his guidance, the offense posted numbers in the top ten nationally in Division III for rushing offense, scoring offense, and yards per rush.

Ravellette developed two All-Americans, eight All-Region, and 31 All-Conference student-athletes as a coach with the Thunder.

Prior to his time at Trine, Ravellette spent four seasons at Ferris State University, overseeing the Bulldogs' offensive line and strength and conditioning. Before Ferris, he spent two seasons as the tight ends coach and recruiting coordinator at Division I Southeast Missouri State University.

A native of Vincennes, Ind., Ravellette graduated from Western Kentucky University in 2003, where he was a starter for the 2002 team that won the Division I-AA (now FCS) National Championship. He also spent two seasons at WKU, coaching the tight ends in 2003 and 2005. Between those stints, Ravellette served as a graduate assistant at New Mexico State.

His family includes his wife Jeanine and daughters Leah and Brynn.



Dayton LeBlanc Defensive Line Coach 1st Season | North Texas, 2021 LeBlanc was named the defensive line coach for the Colonels on April 14, 2025.

LeBlanc comes to Richmond from the University of Georgia, where he was an assistant defensive line coach from 2023 through last season under head coach Kirby Smart.

With the Bulldogs, he helped in the development of All-SEC sections, Nazir Stackhouse, and Mykell Williams en route to a Capital One Orange Bowl victory in 2023 and an SEC Championship last season.

In the 2023 season, the Bulldogs had the top defense in the SEC and 9th best in all of FBS for total defense only allowing 289.1 yards per game, allowing only 15.6 points per game, the fifth-best mark in the country.

On the ground that season, UGA allowed only 113.6 yards per game, the 18th-best figure in the FBS.

Prior to Athens, LeBlanc served as a student assistant for the defensive line at North Texas in 2022, helping them to a 7-7 record, including appearances in the C-USA Championship game and the Frisco Bowl.

LeBlanc played for the Mean Green from 2018-2021, being named to the C-USA All-Freshman team in 2019 with 30 tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss, and one sack, appearing in all 12 games that season.

LeBlanc graduated from UNT with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 2021 and a Master's degree in Sports Management in 2022.

He is no stranger to the commonwealth, having graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in 2018, where he was a three-star prospect by 247Sports, recording 41 tackles and one fumble recovery for the Broncos.



Isaac McClain **Tight Ends Coach** 2nd Season | New Mexico State, 2019

Isaac McClain was named to the EKU coaching staff ahead of the 2024 season as the assistant offensive line coach, and was promoted to tight ends coach ahead of the 2025 season.

Prior to Richmond, McClain spent three seasons as the offensive line coach at Santa Barbra City College in California.

The highlight of those three seasons coming in 2022 as the Vaqueros went 10-1 on the year including a 2022 SBCC Beach Bowl win over Desert

Before getting into coaching, McClain played college football first at SBCC from 2015-16 before transferring to New Mexico State where he was a lineman on the 2017 Arizona Bowl winning team for the Aggies.

He is originally from Manteca, California.





Josh McClurg Assistant Inside Linebackers Coach 2nd Season | Morehead State, 2023

McClurg joined the EKU coaching staff in the Spring of 2024 as an assistant inside linebackers coach before changed to assistant defensive backs coach in 2025.

In 2024, EKU's linebacker group was anchored by Maddox Marcellus and Braden Sullivan. Marcellus paced the unit with 97 tackles, including seven tackles for loss, two interceptions and a forced fumble. Sullivan added 92 tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and one forced fumble in his sophomore campaign.

In 2023, McClurg served as the tight ends coach at UVA Wise.

McClurq comes to Richmond as a Lexington native with three years of collegiate playing experience from Morehead State.

In three seasons, McClurg appeared in 13 games as a member of the Eagles defense with 8 tackles his final season before having to medically retire due to injury.



Ryan Jackson Assistant Offensive Line Coach 1st Season | Eastern Kentucky University, 2024

Jackson joined the Eastern Kentucky staff after completing his playing career in 2024 as a defensive lineman for the Colonels.

He appeared in more than 56 games during his career, totaling over 121 tackles, 19.5 tackles for loss and 5.5 sacks. Jackson was a key contributor to the 2024 defense that helped EKU reach the NCAA FCS Playoffs. In the regular-season finale against North Alabama, he recorded five tackles, one sack and two tackles for loss.

In 2024, EKU's offensive line also paved the way for one of the top rushing attacks in the ASUN Conference, producing 2,709 yards on the ground and 22 touchdowns.



Jalen Burbage
Assistant Wide Receivers Coach
2nd Season | Eastern Kentucky, 2024

In his first season the Colonel passing attack was led by Freshman All-American Marcus Calwise Jr. On the season he finished with more than 500 yards, 42 receptions and five touchdowns. He posted a career-best 99 yards on five catches and a score against North Alabama, including the game-winning 67-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter.

As a unit, the Colonels totaled 2,100 passing yards and 14 touchdowns on the season.

Burbage joined the staff after his finishing his playing career in 2023 as a Colonel. That season he played in all 11 games with six total starts recording 403 yards and four touchdowns while earning a place on the UAC All-Academic Team.

Before coming to Richmond, Burbage spent four seasons playing at Leigh University appearing in 30 games with 81 receptions, 918 yards, and four touchdowns.

He also served as a primary returnman on special teams in 2022 with 32 kick returns totaling 697 yards and an 89-yard kickoff return for a



touchdown.

Alex Cline
Assistant Linebackers Coach
1st Season | Eastern Kentucky, 2025

Cline joined the Eastern Kentucky staff after completing his playing career in 2024 as a long snapper for the Colonels.



Jeff GriffithChief of Staff

Jeff Griffith joined EKU as a senior analyst in June of 2023 before being named Chief of Staff in 2024.

In his first season as Chief of Staff, Griffith helped guide EKU to an 8-5 record and an NCAA FCS Playoff appearance in 2024.

Griffith also helped land the No. 18-ranked "post-spring transfer portal class" by Sports Illustrated's FCS Football Central

In 2023, EKU went 5-6 overall with the average point differential against FCS opponents being 4.8 points per game. EKU went 5-4 against FCS opponents and 4-2 in the inaugural season of the United Athletic Conference.

Prior to coming to EKU, Griffith spent 33 years coaching throughout the Commonwealth, most recently guiding Warren East H.S. to an undefeated regular season in 2022.

In six seasons at Warren East, Griffith led the Raiders to six appearances in the 4A state playoffs. Griffith's career also includes head coaching stops at Barren County H.S., Boone County H.S., and Wayne County H.S. Griffith served as a defensive coordinator at Bowling Green H.S. from 2002-12 and helped guide the Purples to back-to-back 5A state championships in 2011 and 2012.

Griffith, a graduate of Madison Central H.S., played outside linebacker at Western Kentucky from 1986-89. He began his coaching career as an assistant at Bowling Green H.S. from 1990-94 before spending three seasons as an assistant at Greenwood H.S.



Daniel BerezowitzDirector of Football Operations

Daniel Berezowitz joined the EKU football staff in the Spring of 2024 as the Director of Football Operations.

In Berezowitz's first year at EKU, the Colonels finished 8-5 overall and clinched a spot in the NCAA FCS playoffs for the 23rd time in program history. The team ended the regular season on a five-game winning streak and went undefeated at Roy Kidd Stadium with a 6-0 record.

A veteran of college football, Berezowitz joined the Colonels with over 20 years of working experience in the industry.

Before coming to Richmond he spent nine years in Lexington at the University of Kentucky as the Wildcats director of recruiting and chief of staff under head coach Mark Stoops.

In his time at UK, the Wildcats went 59-53 winning four bowl games out of six total appearances, as he served as the programs liaison to all other internal departments and managing roster numbers annually for signing and scholarship limits.

From 2007 through 2010, he served as a recruiting coordinator at the University of Minnesota organizing a top-20 recruiting class for the Golden Gophers, managing all aspects of the day-to-day recruiting operations and budget.

Prior to Minnesota, he spent six years at the University of Arizona starting out as the director of football and recruiting operations before transitioning to the director of personnel and research helping the Wildcats bring in multiple top-25 recruiting classes.

He began his career in college football in 1996 at the University of North Carolina as the director of video operations and Keenan Football Center before joining the University of Texas as a special assistant to head coach Mack Brown from 1998-2000.

Berezowitz graduated from the Univeristy of Wisconsin Whitewater in 1994 with a bachelor's of arts degree in athletic administration and minor in coaching.



Billy BrownDirector of Football Sports Performance

Billy Brown was chosen as EKU's director of football sports performance in February 2020.

In 2024, Eastern Kentucky posted an 8-5 overall record and went 6-2 in United Athletic Conference play.

The Colonels were undefeated at Roy Kidd Stadium (6-0) and returned to the NCAA FCS Playoffs.

EKU rebounded from a 3-4 start to win five straight games, including two against ranked opponents.

The program's success was fueled by a balanced team effort, with the defense ranking first in the UAC in scoring defense and the offense producing one of the league's top rushing attacks.

In 2023, EKU went 5-6 overall with the average point differential against FCS opponents being 4.8 points per game. EKU went 5-4 against FCS opponents and 4-2 in the inaugural season of the United Athletic Conference.

In his third season at EKU, the Colonels earned their first NCAA FCS Playoff berth since 2014 and a share of the ASUN regular-season championship. EKU went 6-2 against FCS opponents and beat an FBS team for the first time in eight seasons. The Colonels rose to No. 16 in the national polls and posted a 5-2 mark at Roy Kidd Stadium.

In 2021, EKU completed the biggest single-season turnaround in program history as the Colonels went 7-4 after a 3-6 campaign in 2020. Eastern Kentucky defeated three teams that were ranked in the preseason top-25 and went 5-1 at Roy Kidd Stadium. EKU climbed as high as No. 19 in the national rankings and won five consecutive games for the first time since 2014.

In his first season, he helped the Colonels to a road win at The Citadel, a near upset of FBS Troy, a victory over No. 11 Central Arkansas and a 49-17 win against Western Carolina in the 2020 Opportunity Bowl. The win over the 11th ranked Bears was the program's first victory over a ranked team since 2013 and the first win over a non-conference ranked team since 2003 when Eastern Kentucky beat No. 11 Appalachian State. EKU was recognized as the national team of the week three times during the 2020 season.

Before coming to Eastern Kentucky, Brown was the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Marshall from February of 2013 to 2020. While with the Thundering Herd, he collaborated on the design and execution of all aspects of the football strength and conditioning program, and implemented unique strength and conditioning programs for softball and baseball. He also created and directed all elements of the nutrition program at Marshall.

From January 2012 to February 2013, Brown served as a graduate assistant strength and conditioning coach at The Citadel. He oversaw the strength and conditioning programs for baseball and cross country while providing year-round assistance with the football and wrestling teams. While serving as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Central Florida from May 2010 to December 2011, Brown worked directly with the football, baseball, tennis, soccer, track and men's golf programs.

Brown earned a bachelor's of science degree in exercise physiology from Central Florida in May 2011. He also is certified by the Collegiate Strength & Conditioning Coaches Association.





Carson KippAssistant Director of Football Sports Performance

Carson Kipp joined the EKU football staff in the winter of 2025 as the Assistant Director of Football Sports Performance.

Before arriving, Kipp spent the 2024 football season at The University of Washington. During their inaugural BIG10 season, coach Kipp assisted the strength and conditioning staff in a sports science role working with Catapult GPS systems.

Prior to his time at UW, Kipp spent roughly 2 years at Boise State University in an internship position with strength and conditioning. In the 2023 Football season, the Boise State Broncos would be crowned Mountain West Champions and would go on to play UCLA in the LA Bowl.

Coach Kipp is also an Army Veteran by way of the 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell, KY. Kipp served in 3rd battalion - 187th infantry regiment (Iron Rakkasan's) as a gunner in a mortar squad. While in the service Kipp completed the Army's Air Assault School earning his Air Assault Badge. Kipp, along with his 3 other squad members would go on to win the 101st Airborne Division's "Best Mortar Competition" earning the right to compete on the international level.

Kipp was then deployed to the southern border of the United States for 11 months assisting Border Patrol in the apprehension and deportation of individuals entering the country illegally.

Carson was awarded two Army Achievement Medals for both his time at the border and winning the Best Mortar Competition.

After completing his service, Kipp went on to graduate from Boise State University, earning his Bachelor of Science.



Pierce Hamilton Director of Football Equipment

Pierce Hamilton joined the EKU football staff in the Summer of 2022 as the assistant director of football equipment before transitioning to the head of football equipment in July of 2024.

Before EKU he served as the head equipment intern at Ohio beginning of the Spring of 2019.

He graduated college in 2020 with a bachelor's degree from the University of Ohio.



Jax Egan Director of Player Personnel & Recruiting

Jax Egan joined the Colonel staff in October of 2024 as the Director of Player Personnel & Recruiting.

Egan helped the Colonels sign 12 high school players in the 2025 recruiting class on National Signing Day, including two quarterbacks, two wide receivers, one offensive lineman, one tight end, three defensive backs, one linebacker, one defensive lineman and one athlete.

Egan showed recruiting prowess helping land the No. 18-ranked "post-spring transfer portal class" by Sports Illustrated's FCS Football Central.

Before coming to Richmond, Egan served as a full-time scouting and recruiting intern for Kansas football beginning in August of 2021.

With the Jayhawks, Egan directly assisted offensive coordinators Andy Kotelnicki and Jeff Grimes with prospect evaluation, organizing recruiting trips, and day-to-day recruiting operations.

He also coordinated all game day, unofficial, and official visits for hundreds of prospects across the multiple seasons he was with the Jayhawks.

Additionally, he was Kansas' point of contact for all transfer portal related documents and information for prospects in the portal.

In the Summer of 2021, Egan served as a training camp intern with the Kansas City Chiefs organizing daily training camp operations.

Egan holds a bachelor's of science in sport management from the University of Kansas with a minor in business.



Alex Morgan Video Coordinator

Morgan previously served as a video intern at the University of Tennessee. Morgan graduated from the University of Kentucky, where he worked as a student assistant on the video team.



POLLS, STANDINGS.& HONORS



UAC ADMINSTRATION STAFF

Jeff Bacon	Exec. Director/Commissioner (ASUN)
Brian Thornton	Exec. Director/Commissioner (WAC)
	Chief Operations Officer
David Johnston	Chief Commerical Officer
Michael O'Brien	Corporate Partnerships Director
Dave Chaffin	Chief Financial Officer
Matt Bovd	
	Coordinator of Officials

UAC COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

Brian Morgan	Chief Communications Officer
	morgan@uacfootball.com
Office: 904-2	10-1012

Kendra Sheehan. Digital Communications Email: ksheehan@wac.org

Facebook

Southern Utah

West Georgia

Twitter/X.

Instagram.

Website

Website.

Twitter/X

SOCIAL MEDIA	
Twitter/X	@uacfootbal
Instagram	@uacfootbal
Website	www.uacfootball.com
MEMBER SOCIAL MEDIA	

Abilene Christian	Abilene, Texas
Twitter/X	@ACUFootball
Instagram	@acufootball
Facebook	ACU Football
Website	www.acusports.com
Austin Peay	Clarksville, Tenn.
Twitter/X	@GovsFB
Instagram	@govsfootball
Facebook	Austin Peay Football
Website	www.letsgopeay.com
Central Arkansas	Conway, Ark.
Twitter/X	
Instagram	

Facebook	UCA Bears Football
Website	www.ucasports.com
EKU	Richmond, Ky.
Twitter/X	Richmond, Ky. @EKUFootball
Instagram	@eku_football
Facebook	EKŪ Football
Website	www.ekusports.com
North Alabama	Florence, Ala.
Twitter/X	@UNAFootball
Instagram	@una_football

Instagram	(a)suutb
Facebook	Southern Utah Football
Website	www.suubirds.com
Tarleton State	Stephenville, Texas
Twitter/X	@TarletonFB
Instagram	@tarletonFB
Facebook	Tarleton Football
Website	www.tarletonsports.com
Utah Tech	St. George, Utah
Twitter/X	@UtahTechFB
Instagram	@utahtech_fb
Website	www.utahtechtrailblazers.com

UNITED ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Effective July 1, 2026, the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) will rebrand as the UAC and join the Atlantic Sun Conference (ASUN) to form a groundbreaking strategic alliance. The consortium will be led by Executive Director Jeff Bacon, current ASUN Commissioner.

The UAC and the ASUN will remain independent conferences, each with their own automatic qualifying bid for postseason play. Both conferences will continue to meet the NCAA sport sponsorship and membership standards.

STRONG HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

UAC Football members own an impressively strong history of success in college football having created a resume that includes 40 FCS Play-off Appearances, two (2) FCS National Champi-onships and two (2) National Runner-up Finishes. In addition, the group produced a stretch of three (3) consecutive DII National Championships along with a DIII National Championship on the gridiron.

DEVELOPMENTAL TIMELINE

2024

In its second season as a single-sport conference, the UAC surprised the FCS landscape with three teams in ACU, TSU, and EKU making it to the FCS Playoffs. ACU took the conference title, only the second UAC title of all time.

Conference Champion: Abilene Christian (7-1)

FCS Playoff Participant: ACU, TSU, EKU Participating Membership (9): Abilene Christian, Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, EKU, North Alabama, Southern Utah, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton State, Utah Tech

2023

North Alabama Football

www.roarlions.com

Carrollton, Ga.

@UWGFootball

@uwgwolvesfb www.uwgathletics.com

Cedar City, Utah@SUUFB_

Operating for the first season as a single-sport conference with an independent budget, policies and governing documents, the UAC participating membership of nine teams played a six-game league slate and recognized a debut season champion. The regular season champion, decided by conference-only winning percentage, earned the league's AO for the NCAA FCS Play-offs. In addition, the UAC selected its inaugural postseason award winners and all-conference

Conference Champion: Austin Peay (6-0 vs UAC)

FCS Playoff Participant: Austin Peay Participating Membership (9): Abilene Christian, Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, EKU, North Alabama, Southern Utah, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton State, Utah Tech

2022

Continuing their partnership to provide an AQ to the NCAA FCS Playoffs, the ASUN Conference and Western Athletic Conference did not play a league schedule but utilized the ASUN-WAC Power Ranking system to choose a representative postseason participant. The power ranking was a metric created and calculated specifically for the group by nationally-recognized bracke-tologist Warren Nolan which utilized a measure similar to the NCAA RPI (NCAA Championship se-lection/seeding rating). The ASUN and WAC both played conference schedules and named their own regular season champions (by their own formulas) to be considered for the AQ selection comparison.

FCS Playoff Participant: EKU Participating Membership (12)

ASUN - Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, EKU, Jacksonville State*, Kennesaw State, North Alabama

WAC - Abilene Christian, Southern Utah, Sam Houston*, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton State, Utah Tech

'= Ineligible for AQ consideration due to FBS transition

Officially titled the WAC-ASUN Challenge, the Western Athletic Conference and ASUN Conference agreed on a football scheduling alliance that allowed for their seven eligible institutions to compete for an automatic qualification (AQ) into the NCAA FCS Playoffs. The group, termed the AQ7, played a single round-robin schedule with each institution having three home and three road contests and the team owning the highest winning percentage among AQ7 games earning the AQ bid for the playoffs. In addition, a trophy was presented to the conference with the higher winning percentage against the other (ASUN was

Champion: Sam Houston (6-0 vs A07) FCS Playoff Participants: Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin (at-large)

Participating Membership (9)

ASUN - Central Arkansas, EKÚ, Jacksonville

WAC - Abilene Christian, Lamar, Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton State*, Utah Tech (Formerly Dixie State)*

= Participated in joint schedule but were ineligible for AQ consideration as transitioning DI proaram



EKU POLLS, STANDINGS,& HONDRS

2025 SCHEDULE	
Saturday, August 23 Tarleton State @ Portland State	
Thursday, August 28 Central Arkansas @ Missouri	n m
Friday, August 29 Tarleton State @ Army	p.m.
EKU @ Louisville3	p.m.
Austin Peay @ Middle Tennessee	p.m.
Abilene Christian @ Tulsa	p.m. p.m.
UC Davis @ Utah Tech	p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6 West Georgia @ Nicholls State	TRA
Austin Peav @ Georgia	p.m.
Utah Tech @ Northern Arizona	p.m.
North Alabama @ Southeast Missouri	p.m. p.m.
Mississippi Valley State @Tarleton State	p.m. p.m.
Southern Utah @ San Diego	p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 13 Utah Tech @ Idaho	p.m.
ETSU @ West Georgia 6 EKU @ Marshall 6	p.m.
Tarleton State @ Central Arkansas	p.m. p.m.
Morehead State @ Austin Peav	p.m.
Abilene Christian @ TCU 8 Northern Arizona @ Southern Utah 8:30	p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 20 North Alabama @ Illinois State	n m
EKU @ West Georgia6	p.m.
Chattanooga @ Tarleton State	p.m.
Austin Peay @ Abilene Christian8 Central Arkansas @ Sacramento State9:30	p.m. p.m.
Central Arkansas @ Sacramento State	p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 27 Utah Tech @ Austin Peay	p.m.
Abilene Christian @ UIW7	p.m.
Central Arkansas @ Lamar	p.m. p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 4 North Alabama @ Abilene Christian	n m
West Georgia @ Austin Peay	p.m.
Utah Tech @ Central Arkansas 5 Southern Utah @ Tarleton State 7	p.m. p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 11 Abilene Christian @ West Georgia	n m
Central Arkansas @ North Alabama4	p.m.
Austin Peay @ EKU	p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 18	
EKU @ North Alabama	p.m.
Abilene Christian @ Southern Utah9:30	p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 25 Central Arkansas @ West Georgia2	p.m.
Tarleton State @ EKU 3 North Alabama @ Austin Peay 4	p.m.
Southern Utah @ Utah Tech8	
Saturday, Nov. 1	
North Alabama @ Utah Tech	p.m.
EKU @ Central Arkansas	p.m. p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 15	
Samford @ Austin Peay	p.m. p.m.
Abilene Christian @ EKU	p.m.
North Alabama @ Tarleton State	p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 22	
Southern Utah @ North Alabama	p.m.
Abilene Christian @ Central Arkansas 5 Austin Peay @ Tarleton State 5	p.m. p.m.

Honors & Awards

UAC Offensive Player of the Week

UAC Defensive Player of the Week

UAC Special Teams Player of the Week

UAC Freshman of the Week



2025 PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

Offensive Player of the Year: * Victor Gabalis (Tarleton State) Defensive Player of the Year: * Will Shaffer (Abilene Christian)

Offensive All-Conference Team
Pos.Name School Class
QB *Victor Gabalis TSU Sr.
RB *Brayden LathamEKU Jr.
RB Jayvian Allen UNA R-Sr.
WR Henry Malachi UCA So.
WR Marcus Calwise Jr. EKU Hometown Duvall, Wash Knoxville Tenn. Freeport, N.Y. Van Buren, Ark. WR Marcus Calwise Jr. Youngstown, Ohio TE Jed Castles ACU R-Sr. Wichita Falls, Texas
OL Will Diggins
OL Jamal Mull
OL *Ryan Walker ns UCA Sr. II UCA Sr. (Ilker UNA R-So nith TSU Sr. Chandler Kirton Bryant, Ark. Clarksville, Tenn. Alabaster, Ala. Rockwall, Texas OL Hunter Smith **APSU** R-Sr. Atlantic Beach, Fla.

Defensive All-Conference Team Pos.Name School Class DL Chris Wright. ACU R-Sr. DL Bradley Clark UCA Sr. DL Lando Brown USU R-Sr. DL Brandon Tolvert TSU Sr. DL Braden Sullivan EKU Jr. Beach, Fla. LB Ty Rawls TSU Sr. Wetumpka, Ala. DB Dorian Plumley ACU R-Sr. El Reno, Okla. DB Ellis Ellis Jr. APSU R-Jr. Hendersonville, Tenn. DB Dillon Williams UCA Jr. Southaven, Miss. DB Jaheim Ward EKU R-Sr. Moutrie, Ga. Chicago, Ill.

Specialist All-Conference Team Pos. Name SchoolClass K Carson Smith APSU R-Sr. P Jacob Baker EKU R-So.. RS Jalen MontgomeryEKUR-Sr. Columbia, S.C. LS Gavin Lipkin USU Sr. Las Vegas, Nev.

* - Denotes unamious selection NOTE - Ties in voting resulted in 12-member Defensive Team

PRESEASON COACHES POLL School (1st Place Votes)2025 Record (UAC) Points

1. Tarleton State (8) 2. Abilene Christian (1) 3. EKU 4. Southern Utah 5. Central Arkansas 6. Austin Peay 7. North Alabama	10-4 (6-2) 9-5 (7-1) 8-5 (6-2) 7-5 (6-2) 6-6 (3-5) 4-6 (3-5) 3-9 (3-5) West Georgia	80 68 59 50 45 41 26 4-7 (1-7)
9. Utah Tech	1-11 (1-7)	13





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Combined Team Statistics All games

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Team Results

	Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
	08/31/2024	at Mississippi St.	L	7-56	48724
	09/07/2024	at Western Ky.	L	0-31	16712
*	09/14/2024	West Ga.	w	26-7	6387
	09/21/2024	Morehead St.	W	42-13	7087
	09/28/2024	Robert Morris	W	31-7	2868
*	10/12/2024	at Southern Utah	L	21-42	5134
*	10/19/2024	at Abilene Christian	L	20-34	10411
*	10/26/2024	Utah Tech	W	28-17	7491
*	11/02/2024	at Tarleton St.	W	17-13	15281
*	11/09/2024	Central Ark.	W	31-24	7902
*	11/16/2024	at Austin Peay	Wot1	30-27	6117
*	11/23/2024	North Ala.	W	21-15	4226

Rushina

ivasiiiig									
Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Joshua Carter	12	225	1156	50	1106	4.9	13	28	92.2
Brayden Latham	12	131	654	26	628	4.8	3	42	52.3
Matt Morrissey	12	86	421	158	263	3.1	3	46	21.9
Cameron Hergott	12	20	135	10	125	6.3	1	22	10.4
Telly McCallister	11	9	76	0	76	8.4	1	25	6.9
Jalen Montgomery	12	9	40	0	40	4.4	0	8	3.3
Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	1	0	8	-8	-8.0	0	0	-0.7
Team	12	6	0	19	-19	-3.2	0	0	-1.6
Total	12	487	2482	271	2211	4.5	21	46	184.3
Opponents	12	386	1992	207	1785	4.6	14	41	148.8

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Matt Morrissey	12	125.1	178-299-8	59.5	2013	13	75	167.8
Cameron Hergott	12	50.1	3-8-0	37.5	12	0	8	1.0
Total	12	123.1	181-307-8	59.0	2025	13	75	168.8
Opponents	12	129.1	234-408-10	57.4	2935	20	65	244.6

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	40	507	12.7	4	67	42.3
Dequan Stanley	10	27	372	13.8	5	75	37.2
Ron Vann Jr.	12	21	220	10.5	1	20	18.3
Joshua Carter	12	20	181	9.1	0	30	15.1
Jakob Dixon	7	14	133	9.5	1	18	19.0
Jaycob Horn	12	12	97	8.1	0	15	8.1
Hunter Brown	8	10	106	10.6	0	25	13.3
Brayden Latham	12	10	66	6.6	0	22	5.5
Bryant Johnson	10	9	116	12.9	1	24	11.6
Jayden West	12	8	78	9.8	0	18	6.5
Caeleb Schlachter	12	6	61	10.2	1	19	5.1
Jalen Montgomery	12	3	81	27.0	0	46	6.8
Jackson House	12	1	7	7.0	0	7	0.6
Total	12	181	2025	11.2	13	75	168.8
Opponents	12	234	2935	12.5	20	65	244.6

Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	8-4	6-0	2-4	0-0
CONFERENCE	6-2	4-0	2-2	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	2-2	2-0	0-2	0-0

Team Statistics

	EKU	OPP
First Downs	237	255
Rushing	113	91
Passing	104	137
Penalty	20	27
Rushing Yardage	2211	1785
Rushing attempts	487	386
Average per rush	4.5	4.6
Average per game	184.3	148.8
TDs Rushing	21	14
Passing Yardage	2025	2935
Comp-Att-Int	181-307-8	234-408-10
Average per pass	6.6	7.2
Average per catch	11.2	12.5
Average per game	168.8	244.6
TDs Passing	13	20
Total offense	4236	4720
Average per play	5.3	5.9
Average per game	353.0	393.3
Kick returns: #-Yards	29-628	14-269
Punt returns: #-Yards	11-157	16-172
Int returns: #-Yards	10-127	8-106
Fumbles-Lost	11-6	17-6
Penalties-Yards	74-711	83-729
Punts-Avg	57-43.2	53-41.8
Time of possession / game	31:46	28:11
3rd-down conversion	75/164	63/155
4rd-down conversion	7/16	13/22
PAT-attempts	(32-33) 97%	(35-35) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(1-2) 50%	(1-1) 100%

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Mike Smith Jr.	4	25	6.3	0	20
Maddox Marcellus	2	40	20.0	0	29
Darrian Baker	1	2	2.0	0	2
Vito Tisdale	1	23	23.0	0	23
Jaheim Ward	1	0	0.0	0	0
D.J. Galva	1	37	37.0	0	37
Total	10	127	12.7	0	37
Opponents	8	106	13.3	1	51





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Combined Team Statistics All games

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Field Goals									
Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Patrick Nations	8-11	72.7	0-1	2-3	4-5	2-2	0-0	47	0
Opponents	11-16	68.8	0-0	6-7	4-5	1-4	0-0	42	0

				PAT					
Player	td	fg	kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	pts
Joshua Carter	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78
Patrick Nations	-	8-11	32-33	-	-	-	-	-	56
Dequan Stanley	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Marcus Calwise Jr.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Matt Morrissey	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Brayden Latham	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Caeleb Schlachter	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Bryant Johnson	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Ron Vann Jr.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Telly McCallister	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Cameron Hergott	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
Maddox Marcellus	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jakob Dixon	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jeremiah Bailey	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Total	36	8-11	32-33	0	1	1	0	0	274
Opponents	36	11-16	35-35	1	0	0	0	0	286

Score by Periods						
Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	ОТ	тот
Eastern Ky.	38	85	68	77	6	274
Opponents	61	100	60	62	3	286

	Punting									
(Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
)	Jacob Baker	56	2462	44.0	65	6	17	22	16	0
)	Team	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
_	Total	57	2462	43.2	65	6	17	22	16	1
_	Opponents	53	2217	41.8	65	5	14	17	9	0

no. y	vds	ava td	1 1
	,	avg td	l Ig
157	14.3	0	54
157	14.3	0	54
172	10.8	1	32
	157	157 14.3	157 14.3 0

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
alen Montgomery	19	453	23.8	0	54
Brayden Latham	6	91	15.2	0	25
Braxton Baptiste	1	0	0.0	0	0
Caeleb Schlachter	1	73	73.0	1	73
Blake Howard	1	3	3.0	0	3
Marcus Calwise Jr.	1	8	8.0	0	8
Total	29	628	21.7	1	73
Opponents	14	269	19.2	0	30

All Purpose								
Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Joshua Carter	12	1106	181	0	0	0	1287	107.3
Brayden Latham	12	628	66	0	91	0	785	65.4
Jalen Montgomery	12	40	81	157	453	0	731	60.9
Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	-8	507	0	8	0	507	42.3
Dequan Stanley	10	0	372	0	0	0	372	37.2
Matt Morrissey	12	263	0	0	0	0	263	21.9
Ron Vann Jr.	12	0	220	0	0	0	220	18.3
Caeleb Schlachter	12	0	61	0	73	0	134	11.2
Jakob Dixon	7	0	133	0	0	0	133	19.0
Cameron Hergott	12	125	0	0	0	0	125	10.4
Bryant Johnson	10	0	116	0	0	0	116	11.6
Hunter Brown	8	0	106	0	0	0	106	13.3
Jaycob Horn	12	0	97	0	0	0	97	8.1
Jayden West	12	0	78	0	0	0	78	6.5
Telly McCallister	11	76	0	0	0	0	76	6.9
Maddox Marcellus	11	0	0	0	0	40	40	3.6
D.J. Galva	11	0	0	0	0	37	37	3.4
Mike Smith Jr.	12	0	0	0	0	25	25	2.1
Vito Tisdale	12	0	0	0	0	23	23	1.9
Jackson House	12	0	7	0	0	0	7	0.6
Blake Howard	10	0	0	0	3	0	3	0.3
Darrian Baker	12	0	0	0	0	2	2	0.2
Total	12	2211	2025	157	628	127	5148	429.0
Opponents	12	1785	2935	172	269	106	5267	438.9

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Matt Morrissey	12	385	263	2013	2276	189.7
Joshua Carter	12	225	1106	0	1106	92.2
Brayden Latham	12	131	628	0	628	52.3
Cameron Hergott	12	28	125	12	137	11.4
Telly McCallister	11	9	76	0	76	6.9
Jalen Montgomery	12	9	40	0	40	3.3
Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	1	-8	0	-8	-0.7
Total	12	794	2211	2025	4236	353.0
Opponents	12	794	1785	2935	4720	393.3





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Combined Team Statistics All games

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Team Defense

rear	eam Defense			Ta	ckles		Sacks	Dace (defens	Δ	Fumble	26	blk	rd
##	Player	an	ua		tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds			fr-yds	_		
## 11	Maddox Marcellus	gp 11	4 0	a 47	87	6-19	no-yas	2-40		qb n 2	1-yus 1-23	- !!	KICK	Sai
39		12	43	41		2.5-2		2-40	3		1-23	1	•	
	Braden Sullivan				84		•	1.0	7	1	-	1	•	•
9	Jaheim Ward	11	38	26	64	5-11	•	1-0		1	1-0	2		
2	Mike Smith Jr.	12	40	22	62		•	4-25	5			1	•	•
1	Cameron Junior	12	26	18	44	2-3			3	2		•		
13	Jordon Thomas	12	28	14	42	1-3			13		1-0			
3	Darrian Baker	12	18	18	36	7.5-23	2-15	1-2	2	6		1		
47	Jacquez McGowan	12	18	18	36	1-1			1	1		1		
4	Jeremiah Bailey	12	14	20	34	2-7	0.5-4		1	3				
6	Vito Tisdale	12	22	11	33			1-23	8	1		•		•
7	Gabe Stephens	12	17	15	32	6.5-36	4.5-30		1	2		3		
97	Ryan Jackson	12	16	15	31	3.5-31	1-27	•	2	3				
5	Kyle Kelly	3	4	22	26	0.5-0			1					
22	Frank Lee	9	8	10	18	2-3			1	3	1-0			
24	Sam Robertson	3	7	10	17							٠		
48	Kaden Smith	12	7	7	14	1.5-6	1-3			1				
93	Brad Gurley	11	8	5	13	2-13	1-10							
99	Gabe Fletcher	12	7	4	11	5-25	3-20		1	2	1-0			
0	Marvion Field	11	6	4	10	1-4	1-4							
26	Tre' Goodin	12	6	2	8									
10	Moses Sarweh	4	4	4	8									
34	D.J. Galva	11	4	3	7			1-37						
29	Kevin Ford	10	3	2	5									
30	Jeff Kinley	12	3	2	5									
42	Brady Hensley	12	2	2	4									
94	Bryce Tapp	4		3	3									
46	Patrick Nations	12	1	1	2									
6	Ron Vann Jr.	12	2		2									
12	Telly McCallister	11	2		2									
23	Jalen Montgomery	12		2	2									
21	Jaylen Houston	12	1	1	2	0.5-0								
16	Jackson House	12	1	1	2									
83	Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	1	1	2									
69	Jonathan Duff	12		1	1									
19	Dequan Stanley	10	1		1									
4	Matt Morrissey	12	1		1									
20	Jordan Marshall	1		1	1									
18	Cornelius Evans	6	1		1									
89	Caeleb Schlachter	12	1		1									
35	Brody Wells	10	_	1	1		•							
37	Blake Howard	10	1	_	1	•	•			•		•	•	-
43	Zach Russell	11	-	1	1	0.5-3	•	•	•		•		•	
50	Liam Coppinger	9		1	1	0.5 5	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
15	Garnell Wilds	2			_	•	•	•	1	•	•	•	•	•
	Totals	12	402	356	758	50-190	14-113	10-127	51	28	6-23	9	0	0
	Opponents	12	439	402	841	68-244	19-131	8-106	42	36	65		2	
	Opponents	12	733	702	0-71	00.244	10.101	0-100	72	50	03	U		- 0





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Overall Team Statistics All games

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Team Statistics

	EKU	OPP
Scoring	274	286
Points per game	22.8	23.8
Points Off Turnovers	47	48
First Downs	237	255
Rushing	113	91
Passing	104	137
Penalty	20	27
Rushing Yardage	2211	1785
Yards gained rushing	2482	1992
Yards lost rushing	271	207
Rushing attempts	487	386
Average per rush	4.5	4.6
Average per game	184.3	148.8
TDs Rushing	21	14
Passing Yardage	2025	2935
Comp-Att-Int	181-307-8	234-408-10
Average per pass	6.6	7.2
Average per catch	11.2	12.5
Average per game	168.8	244.6
TDs Passing	13	20
Total offense	4236	4720
Total plays	794	794
Average per play	5.3	5.9
Average per game	353.0	393.3
Kick returns: #-Yards	29-628	14-269
Punt returns: #-Yards	11-157	16-172
Int returns: #-Yards	10-127	8-106
Kick return average	21.7	19.2
Punt return average	14.3	10.8
Int return average	12.7	13.3
Fumbles-Lost	11-6	17-6
Penalties-Yards	74-711	83-729
Average per game	59.3	60.8
Punts-Yards	57-2462	53-2217
Average per punt	43.2	41.8
Net punt average	38.4	37.0
Kickoffs-Yards	54-3462	57-3327
Average per kick	64.1	58.4
Net kick average	40.6	36.7
Time of possession / game	31:46	28:11
3rd-down conversion	75/164	63/155
3rd-down pct	46%	41%
4rd-down conversion	7/16	13/22





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Overall Team Statistics All games

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	EKU	OPP
4rd-down pct	44%	59%
Sacks by-Yards	14-113	19-131
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	36	36
Field goals - attempts	8-11	11-16
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-1
Red-zone scores	(32-40) 80%	(36-45) 80%
Red-zone touchdowns	(26-40) 65%	(26-45) 58%
PAT-attempts	(32-33) 97%	(35-35) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(1-2) 50%	(1-1) 100%
Attendance	35961	102379
Games / Avg per game	6/5994	6/17063
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	ОТ	тот
Eastern Ky.	38	85	68	77	6	274
Opponents	61	100	60	62	3	286





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Overall Defense Statistics All games

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Team Defense

				Та	ckles		Sacks	Pass o	defens	ie .	Fumble	es	blkd
##	Player	gp	ua	а	tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick saf
11	Maddox Marcellus	11	40	47	87	6-19		2-40	3	2	1-23		
39	Braden Sullivan	12	43	41	84	2.5-2			1	1	1-0	1	
9	Jaheim Ward	11	38	26	64	5-11		1-0	7	1	1-0	2	
2	Mike Smith Jr.	12	40	22	62			4-25	5			1	
1	Cameron Junior	12	26	18	44	2-3			3	2			
13	Jordon Thomas	12	28	14	42	1-3			13		1-0		
3	Darrian Baker	12	18	18	36	7.5-23	2-15	1-2	2	6		1	
47	Jacquez McGowan	12	18	18	36	1-1			1	1		1	
4	Jeremiah Bailey	12	14	20	34	2-7	0.5-4		1	3			
6	Vito Tisdale	12	22	11	33			1-23	8	1			
7	Gabe Stephens	12	17	15	32	6.5-36	4.5-30		1	2		3	
97	Ryan Jackson	12	16	15	31	3.5-31	1-27		2	3			
5	Kyle Kelly	3	4	22	26	0.5-0			1				
22	Frank Lee	9	8	10	18	2-3			1	3	1-0		
24	Sam Robertson	3	7	10	17								
48	Kaden Smith	12	7	7	14	1.5-6	1-3			1			
93	Brad Gurley	11	8	5	13	2-13	1-10						
99	Gabe Fletcher	12	7	4	11	5-25	3-20		1	2	1-0		
0	Marvion Field	11	6	4	10	1-4	1-4						
26	Tre' Goodin	12	6	2	8								
10	Moses Sarweh	4	4	4	8								
34	D.J. Galva	11	4	3	7			1-37					
29	Kevin Ford	10	3	2	5								
30	Jeff Kinley	12	3	2	5								
42	Brady Hensley	12	2	2	4								
94	Bryce Tapp	4		3	3								
83	Marcus Calwise Jr.	12	1	1	2								
16	Jackson House	12	1	1	2								
21	Jaylen Houston	12	1	1	2	0.5-0							
23	Jalen Montgomery	12		2	2								
12	Telly McCallister	11	2		2								
6	Ron Vann Jr.	12	2		2								
46	Patrick Nations	12	1	1	2								
18	Cornelius Evans	6	1		1								
50	Liam Coppinger	9		1	1								
43	Zach Russell	11		1	1	0.5-3							
37	Blake Howard	10	1		1								
35	Brody Wells	10		1	1								
89	Caeleb Schlachter	12	1		1								
20	Jordan Marshall	1		1	1								
4	Matt Morrissey	12	1		1								





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Overall Defense Statistics All games

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				Tackles			Sacks	Pass o	se	Fumbl	es	blkd		
##	Player	gp	ua	а	tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
19	Dequan Stanley	10	1		1									
69	Jonathan Duff	12		1	1									
15	Garnell Wilds	2							1					
	Totals	12	402	356	758	50-190	14-113	10-127	51	28	6-23	9	0	0
	Opponents	12	439	402	841	68-244	19-131	8-106	42	36	65	6	2	0





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Game Results All games

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Team Results

	Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	Conf	Time	Attend
	08/31/2024	at Mississippi St.	L	7-56	0-1	0-0	3:16	48724
	09/07/2024	at Western Ky.	L	0-31	0-2	0-0	3:19	16712
*	09/14/2024	West Ga.	W	26-7	1-2	1-0	3:24	6387
	09/21/2024	Morehead St.	W	42-13	2-2	1-0	4:19	7087
	09/28/2024	Robert Morris	W	31-7	3-2	1-0	3:29	2868
*	10/12/2024	at Southern Utah	L	21-42	3-3	1-1	4:05	5134
*	10/19/2024	at Abilene Christian	L	20-34	3-4	1-2	3:13	10411
*	10/26/2024	Utah Tech	W	28-17	4-4	2-2	3:11	7491
*	11/02/2024	at Tarleton St.	W	17-13	5-4	3-2	3:33	15281
*	11/09/2024	Central Ark.	W	31-24	6-4	4-2	3:36	7902
*	11/16/2024	at Austin Peay	Wot1	30-27	7-4	5-2	3:46	6117
*	11/23/2024	North Ala.	W	21-15	8-4	6-2	3:17	4226





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Team Game-by-Game All games

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			Rushi	ng			Receiv	ing		Pas	sing			Kid	k Re	tur	ns	Pu	nt Re	tur	ns	tot
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	off
08/31/2024	at Mississippi St.	38	126	0	16	22	169	1	21	22-38-1	169	1	21	3	38	0	20	0	0	0	0	295
09/07/2024	at Western Ky.	40	190	0	42	11	76	0	15	11-20-0	76	0	15	2	21	0	17	0	0	0	0	266
09/14/2024	West Ga.	37	88	1	10	17	277	2	46	17-30-0	277	2	46	2	68	0	42	1	22	0	22	365
09/21/2024	Morehead St.	43	301	4	25	13	162	2	27	13-19-0	162	2	27	4	118	0	54	2	13	0	13	463
09/28/2024	Robert Morris	44	242	2	27	18	271	2	57	18-34-0	271	2	57	1	22	0	22	2	22	0	23	513
10/12/2024	at Southern Utah	22	69	1	20	24	207	1	22	24-36-1	207	1	22	2	54	0	46	1	12	0	12	276
10/19/2024	at Abilene Christian	29	92	1	27	20	265	2	75	20-33-3	265	2	75	4	66	0	20	0	0	0	0	357
10/26/2024	Utah Tech	55	287	3	23	10	75	0	15	10-18-0	75	0	15	1	25	0	25	2	0	0	4	362
11/02/2024	at Tarleton St.	50	243	2	28	6	31	0	11	6-11-1	31	0	11	1	24	0	24	0	0	0	0	274
11/09/2024	Central Ark.	39	160	2	39	10	108	1	35	10-20-0	108	1	35	3	86	1	73	1	54	0	54	268
11/16/2024	at Austin Peay	49	172	3	23	21	230	1	20	21-33-1	230	1	20	5	91	0	28	2	34	0	27	402
11/23/2024	North Ala.	41	241	2	46	9	154	1	67	9-15-1	154	1	67	1	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	395
Eastern Ky	'.	487	2211	21	46	181	2025	13	75	181-307-8	2025	13	75	29	628	1	73	11	157	0	54	4236
Opponents		386	1785	14	41	234	2935	20	65	234-408-10	2935	20	65	14	269	0	30	16	172	1	32	4720

Eastern Ky. Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
12	4.5	11.2	123.1	21.7	14.3	429.0	353.0

		Т	ackle	s	Sacks	Fu	ımble	Pass D	efer	ıse	blkd	PAT at	ttemp	ots		off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/31/2024	at Mississippi St.	23	44	67	3.0-14	1-7	1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	1-1	0	0	0	0	7
09/07/2024	at Western Ky.	36	24	60	1.0-1	0-0	1	1-0	0-0	0	3	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
09/14/2024	West Ga.	22	50	72	3.0-7	0-0	1	1-0	0-0	1	5	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	26
09/21/2024	Morehead St.	31	26	57	5.0-24	2-16	2	1-0	2-28	6	1	0	6-6	0	0	0	21	42
09/28/2024	Robert Morris	32	20	52	2.0-7	2-7	0	0-0	1-2	2	9	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	31
10/12/2024	at Southern Utah	36	46	82	3.0-13	1-10	0	0-0	0-0	1	4	0	1-1	0	1	0	0	21
10/19/2024	at Abilene Christian	37	36	73	4.0-8	0-0	1	1-0	1-0	5	3	0	2-3	0	0	0	13	20
10/26/2024	Utah Tech	40	14	54	5.0-21	2-14	1	1-23	0-0	5	7	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
11/02/2024	at Tarleton St.	32	40	72	4.0-15	2-13	0	0-0	3-86	1	6	0	2-2	0	0	0	10	17
11/09/2024	Central Ark.	40	24	64	8.0-23	1-7	1	1-0	1-0	2	4	0	4-4	0	0	0	3	31
11/16/2024	at Austin Peay	33	16	49	6.0-20	1-9	1	0-0	0-0	0	6	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	30
11/23/2024	North Ala.	40	16	56	6.0-37	2-30	0	0-0	2-11	3	3	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	21
Eastern Ky		402	356	758	50.0-190	14-113	9	6-23	10-127	28	51	0	32-33	0	1	0	47	274
Opponents		439	402	841	68.0-244	19-131	6	65	8-106	36	42	2	35-35	1	0	0	48	286

					Punt	ting					Field	Goa	ls		Kic	koffs		
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
08/31/2024	at Mississippi St.	8	304	38.0	52	1	0	0	1	1	0-0	0	0	2	130	65.0	2	0
09/07/2024	at Western Ky.	7	327	46.7	65	0	2	3	3	2	0-1	0	0	1	65	65.0	1	0
09/14/2024	West Ga.	5	196	39.2	43	0	1	1	0	3	2-2	47	0	6	390	65.0	5	0
09/21/2024	Morehead St.	2	89	44.5	49	0	1	1	0	1	0-1	0	0	7	463	66.1	6	0
09/28/2024	Robert Morris	5	210	42.0	58	0	0	1	1	1	1-1	23	0	5	325	65.0	4	0
10/12/2024	at Southern Utah	2	101	50.5	51	0	0	0	2	2	2-3	47	0	5	325	65.0	5	0
10/19/2024	at Abilene Christian	4	151	37.8	43	0	0	2	0	1	0-0	0	0	4	260	65.0	3	0
10/26/2024	Utah Tech	6	255	42.5	55	0	1	1	2	2	0-0	0	0	5	320	64.0	4	0
11/02/2024	at Tarleton St.	4	179	44.8	60	0	0	2	1	2	1-1	34	0	4	251	62.8	3	0
11/09/2024	Central Ark.	5	246	49.2	56	0	0	2	3	2	1-1	21	0	6	388	64.7	3	0
11/16/2024	at Auctin Doay	5	ววว	116	50	Λ	Λ	2	1	3	11	36	Λ	5	າດາ	5Ω /	2	Λ





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Team Match Lows All games

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Eastern Ky. - Game Lows

Eastern Ky Game Lows		
RUSHES	22	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
YARDS RUSHING	69	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
YARDS PER RUSH	2.4	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
TD RUSHES	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
	0	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)
PASS ATTEMPTS	11	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
PASS COMPLETIONS	6	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
YARDS PASSING	31	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
YARDS PER PASS	2.8	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
TD PASSES	0	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
	0	Utah Tech (10/26/2024)
	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
TOTAL PLAYS	56	North Ala. (11/23/2024)
TOTAL OFFENSE	266	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
YARDS PER PLAY	3.9	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)
POINTS	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
SACKS BY	0	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
	0	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
FIRST DOWNS	13	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
PENALTIES	1	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
PENALTY YARDS	15	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
INTERCEPTIONS BY	0	at Austin Peay (11/16/2024)
	0	Utah Tech (10/26/2024)
	0	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
	0	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
	0	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)
PUNTS	2	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
	2	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
PUNTING AVG	37.8	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
LONG PUNT	43	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
	43	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
	1	Robert Morris (09/28/2024)
	1	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
	1	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)
LONG PUNT RETURN	0	North Ala. (11/23/2024)
	0	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
	0	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
	0	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
	0	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)





2024-25 Eastern Ky. Football Team Game Highs All games

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Eastern Ky. - Game Highs

Eastern Ky Gaine nighs		
RUSHES	55	Utah Tech (10/26/2024)
YARDS RUSHING	301	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
YARDS PER RUSH	7.0	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
TD RUSHES	4	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
PASS ATTEMPTS	38	at Mississippi St. (08/31/2024)
PASS COMPLETIONS	24	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
YARDS PASSING	277	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
YARDS PER PASS	10.3	North Ala. (11/23/2024)
TD PASSES	2	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
	2	Robert Morris (09/28/2024)
	2	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
	2	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
TOTAL PLAYS	82	at Austin Peay (11/16/2024)
TOTAL OFFENSE	513	Robert Morris (09/28/2024)
YARDS PER PLAY	7.5	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
POINTS	42	Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
SACKS BY	2	North Ala. (11/23/2024)
	2	at Tarleton St. (11/02/2024)
	2	Utah Tech (10/26/2024)
	2	Robert Morris (09/28/2024)
	2	7
FIRST DOWNS		at Austin Peay (11/16/2024)
		Morehead St. (09/21/2024)
PENALTIES	10	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
PENALTY YARDS		at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
TURNOVERS	3	at Austin Peay (11/16/2024)
	3	at Abilene Christian (10/19/2024)
PUNTS	8	
PUNTING AVG	50.5	at Southern Utah (10/12/2024)
LONG PUNT	65	at Western Ky. (09/07/2024)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	3	at Austin Peay (11/16/2024)
	3	West Ga. (09/14/2024)
LONG PUNT RETURN	54	Central Ark. (11/09/2024)