



**Game 7 | Oct. 12, 2024 | 2 PM CT**  
**#2/2 NORTH DAKOTA STATE (5-1, 2-0) AT**  
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS (2-4, 0-2)**  
**Carbondale, IL | Saluki Stadium (15,000)**  
**Series: SIU trails, 4-12 (H: 4-5, A: 0-7)**

### 2024 MVFC Standings

|                    | CONF | Pct.  | ALL | Pct. | Home | Away | Ntrl | Strk |
|--------------------|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| North Dakota State | 2-0  | 1.000 | 5-1 | .833 | 3-0  | 2-1  | 0-0  | W5   |
| South Dakota       | 2-0  | 1.000 | 4-1 | .800 | 3-0  | 1-1  | 0-0  | W3   |
| South Dakota State | 1-0  | 1.000 | 4-1 | .800 | 2-0  | 2-1  | 0-0  | W4   |
| Missouri State     | 1-0  | 1.000 | 3-2 | .600 | 2-0  | 1-2  | 0-0  | W3   |
| Illinois State     | 1-1  | .500  | 4-2 | .667 | 2-1  | 2-1  | 0-0  | W1   |
| North Dakota       | 1-1  | .500  | 4-2 | .667 | 4-0  | 0-2  | 0-0  | L1   |
| Youngstown State   | 1-1  | .500  | 2-4 | .333 | 2-1  | 0-3  | 0-0  | W1   |
| Northern Iowa      | 0-1  | .000  | 2-3 | .400 | 1-1  | 1-2  | 0-0  | L3   |
| Southern Illinois  | 0-2  | .000  | 2-4 | .333 | 1-2  | 1-2  | 0-0  | L3   |
| Indiana State      | 0-1  | .000  | 1-4 | .200 | 1-1  | 0-3  | 0-0  | L2   |
| Murray State       | 0-2  | .000  | 1-4 | .200 | 1-2  | 0-2  | 0-0  | L2   |

**Stats & Schedule:** valley-football.org  
**Contact:** Mike Kern (kern@mvc.org)

### 2024 Southern Illinois Schedule

| Date     | Opponent                | Time (CT) | Result   | TV    |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Aug. 31  | at BYU                  | 7 PM      | L, 13-41 | ESPN+ |
| Sept. 7  | at Austin Peay          | 6 PM      | W, 31-17 | ESPN+ |
| Sept. 14 | #12 Incarnate Word      | 6 PM      | W, 35-28 | ESPN+ |
| Sept. 21 | #17 SEMO (FW)           | 6 PM      | L, 21-38 | ESPN+ |
| Sept. 28 | at #5 South Dakota      | 1 PM      | L, 13-42 | ESPN+ |
| Oct. 5   | #18 Illinois State      | 6 PM      | L, 10-45 | ESPN+ |
| Oct. 12  | North Dakota State (HC) | 2 PM      |          | ESPN+ |
| Oct. 26  | at Indiana State        | 12 PM     |          | ESPN+ |
| Nov. 2   | at Missouri State       | 2 PM      |          | ESPN+ |
| Nov. 9   | Youngstown State        | 12 PM     |          | ESPN+ |
| Nov. 16  | at South Dakota State   | 2 PM      |          | ESPN+ |
| Nov. 23  | Murray State            | 12 PM     |          | ESPN+ |

**Listen:** Luke Martin, Mike Trude, Pat Poore. WCIL-FM 101.5. SIU Salukis mobile app.  
**Watch on ESPN+:** Live Stats: www.siusalukis.com

### Series versus North Dakota State

The Salukis are 4-12 all-time versus the Bison, including a 4-5 mark at home. NDSU has won 11 of the last 12 meetings, with Southern's lone win coming in 2020. That Saluki victory was the first-career start for quarterback Nic Baker and the 38-14 win ended a 39-game winning streak for the Bison, which was ranked No. 1 at the time.

### True freshman Jake Curry to make first-career start at quarterback

True freshman quarterback Jake Curry will make his first-career start for Southern on Saturday. The Edwardsville, Ill. native came off the bench last week versus Illinois State, replacing injured starter Hunter Simmons in the third quarter. Curry completed 8-of-19 passes for 133 yards and two interceptions. At Edwardsville High School, he was a Class 8A First-Team All-State pick in 2023, and passed for 5,042 career yards and 62 TDs, plus 25 rushing TDs.

It has been 35 years since the Salukis started a true freshman at quarterback. The last player to do it was Brendon Prenger, a true freshman walk-on QB, who started at Northern Iowa on Nov. 11, 1989. He passed for 159 yards in a 38-14 loss.

### Five-straight ranked opponents

The Salukis are in the midst of a five-game stretch against ranked, FCS opponents. That's only happened twice in school history — 1999 and 2005. In addition, SIU's FBS opponent this season, BYU, is currently 5-0 and ranked No. 19. To date, Southern has faced the third-toughest schedule in the FCS.

### WR Keontez Lewis leads MVFC

After recording a career-high 153 receiving yards last week versus Illinois State, WR Keontez Lewis leads the MVFC and ranks third in the nation in receiving yards (575). The Wisconsin transfer also leads the league and ranks 10th in the nation in receiving yards per game (95.8)

### LB Ben Bogle is 2nd in nation in TFL, 13th in sacks

Sophomore LB Ben Bogle ranks second in the the nation with 12.5 tackles for loss. He also ranks 13th in the nation in sacks with 5.5. Both marks lead the MVFC. Bogle had a school-record 3.5 sacks at Austin Peay in Week 2, in which he earned FCS national player-of-the-week honors. SIU's single-game season record for TFL is 18.0 (Bart Scott, 2001) and for sacks is 12.0 (James Phillips, 1978).

### Illinois State recap

- The Salukis out-gained Illinois State, 487-407.
- SIU had seven drives that ended inside the Illinois State 30. The drives resulted in 1 TD, 1 FG, 2 missed FG, 2 INTs and 1 turnover on downs.
- Keontez Lewis' 153 receiving yards were the most by a Saluki since Avante' Cox had 187 at SEMO in 2021.
- Jake Curry's 60-yard completion to Lewis was SIU's longest play from scrimmage this season.

### Salukis in the national rankings

For the first time since the end of the 2022 season, the Salukis are not nationally ranked, breaking a streak of 19-consecutive

weeks. They were ranked in all 13 polls released in 2023 (as high as #5), and were ranked in the first six polls released in 2024 (as high as #7).

### Salukis set attendance mark

The 13,421 fans in attendance on Family Weekend versus SEMO were the second-most in stadium history, behind only the standing-room crowd of 15,276 that attended the opening of the stadium in 2010 versus Division II Quincy. Saluki Stadium seats approximately 14,000 in its horseshoe-shaped seating bowl, with an official stadium capacity of 15,774 that includes the standing-room area of the berm.

### Dawg bytes

- The Salukis are one of only eight FCS team who have not lost a fumble through the first six games.
- The Salukis rank 17th in the nation in passing offense (259.3), 24th in total offense (401.2), 92nd in scoring offense (20.5) and 121st in red zone scoring (0.583).
- Three of SIU's four captains have missed the last four games due to injuries — TE Aidan Quinn, DE Dewey Greene and LB Colin Bohanek. The only captain to play was C Chase Evans.

### Postseason success under Hill

Of SIU's 11 playoff appearances in school history, Hill was the quarterback of two teams (2006, 2007) and head coach of three (2020, 2021, 2023). The Salukis have won 11 playoff games in school history and Hill was a part of six of them (quarterbacked three wins and coached three more).

**2024 Southern Illinois Team Rankings**

| Category                                     | Nation | MVFC | Value  |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|------|--------|
| 3rd Down Conversion Pct (123 ranked)         | 34     | 8    | 0.420  |
| 3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (123 ranked) | 103    | 9    | 0.463  |
| 4th Down Conversion Pct (123 ranked)         | 108    | 8    | 0.250  |
| 4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (123 ranked) | 58     | 7    | 0.462  |
| Blocked Kicks (30 ranked)                    | 30     | 1    | 1      |
| Blocked Kicks Allowed (122 ranked)           | 1      | 1    | 0      |
| Blocked Punts Allowed (118 ranked)           | 1      | 1    | 0      |
| Completion Percentage (123 ranked)           | 85     | 9    | 0.562  |
| Fewest Penalties (123 ranked)                | 102    | 11   | 44     |
| Fewest Penalties Per Game (123 ranked)       | 81     | 10   | 7.33   |
| Fewest Penalty Yards (123 ranked)            | 103    | 11   | 397    |
| Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game (123 ranked)   | 89     | 10   | 66.17  |
| First Downs Defense (123 ranked)             | 113    | 11   | 137    |
| First Downs Offense (123 ranked)             | 25     | 4    | 116    |
| Fumbles Lost (123 ranked)                    | 1      | 1    | 0      |
| Fumbles Recovered (97 ranked)                | 97     | 10   | 1      |
| Kickoff Return Defense (123 ranked)          | 83     | 8    | 21.50  |
| Kickoff Returns (123 ranked)                 | 65     | 5    | 20.33  |
| Net Punting (123 ranked)                     | 20     | 5    | 40.13  |
| Passes Had Intercepted (123 ranked)          | 77     | 7    | 5      |
| Passes Intercepted (106 ranked)              | 49     | 6    | 4      |
| Passing Offense (123 ranked)                 | 17     | 2    | 259.3  |
| Passing Yards Allowed (123 ranked)           | 122    | 11   | 295.7  |
| Passing Yards per Completion (123 ranked)    | 48     | 5    | 12.25  |
| Punt Return Defense (123 ranked)             | 64     | 8    | 9.86   |
| Punt Returns (122 ranked)                    | 110    | 10   | 2.25   |
| Red Zone Defense (120 ranked)                | 92     | 9    | 0.895  |
| Red Zone Offense (123 ranked)                | 121    | 11   | 0.583  |
| Rushing Defense (123 ranked)                 | 60     | 7    | 156.7  |
| Rushing Offense (123 ranked)                 | 67     | 9    | 141.8  |
| Sacks Allowed (123 ranked)                   | 109    | 11   | 3.17   |
| Scoring Defense (123 ranked)                 | 105    | 10   | 35.2   |
| Scoring Offense (123 ranked)                 | 92     | 9    | 20.5   |
| Tackles for Loss Allowed (123 ranked)        | 94     | 10   | 6.83   |
| Team Passing Efficiency (123 ranked)         | 79     | 8    | 119.82 |
| Team Passing Efficiency Defense (123 ranked) | 105    | 10   | 156.45 |
| Team Sacks (123 ranked)                      | 34     | 4    | 2.33   |
| Team Tackles for Loss (123 ranked)           | 45     | 3    | 5.8    |
| Time of Possession (123 ranked)              | 84     | 8    | 28:55  |
| Total Defense (123 ranked)                   | 109    | 10   | 452.3  |
| Total Offense (123 ranked)                   | 24     | 5    | 401.2  |
| Turnover Margin (123 ranked)                 | 58     | 7    | 0.00   |
| Turnovers Gained (123 ranked)                | 78     | 7    | 5      |
| Turnovers Lost (123 ranked)                  | 29     | 4    | 5      |

**Southern Illinois Individual Rankings**

| Statistic                | Player        | Nation | MVFC | Value |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|------|-------|
| Forced Fumbles           | Ubayd Steed   | 22     | 1    | 0.33  |
| Fumble Recoveries        | Isaiah Bigby  | 23     | 3    | 1.00  |
| Punting                  | Paul Geelen   | 20     | 2    | 43.6  |
| Receiving Yards          | Keontez Lewis | 3      | 1    | 575   |
| Receiving Yards Per Game | Keontez Lewis | 10     | 1    | 95.8  |
| Yards Per Reception      | Keontez Lewis | 24     | 3    | 19.17 |
| Sacks                    | Ben Bogle     | 13     | 1    | 0.92  |
| Tackles For Loss         | Ben Bogle     | 2      | 1    | 2.10  |

Since 2019, only three FCS programs have won three or more playoff games (South Dakota State, North Dakota State and Southern Illinois).

**Saluki Football in the last four seasons...**

- Three FCS Playoff appearances and three playoff wins
- 12-13 against FCS ranked teams, including wins over No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4.
- Power Five win at Northwestern (9/17/22) — the only FCS team to beat a Power Five in 2022
- FBS win at Northern Illinois (9/6/23)
- FCS Playoffs Elite 8 (Spring, 2021)
- Playoffs Sweet 16 (Fall, 2021, 2023)
- Twenty-two weeks ranked in the FCS Top 10, as high as No. 3 (Oct. 25, 2021)

**Salukis have a deep, experienced O-line**

The Salukis have 133 games of starting experience on the offensive line including multiple starts by C Chase Evans (44), G Jake Green (33), OT Abdou Toure (24), G Derek Harden Jr. (19), OT Noah Fenske (5) and G Marcello Mendiola (5).

**2024 Preseason All-MVFC**

Despite entering the season ranked No. 10 in the nation in the FCS, the Salukis had no players named to the preseason All-MVFC team.

|    |                  |                   |
|----|------------------|-------------------|
| WR | Vinson Davis III | 2nd Team          |
| C  | Chase Evans      | 2nd Team          |
| LB | Colin Bohanek    | 2nd Team          |
| S  | Ubayd Steed      | 2nd Team          |
| TE | Aidan Quinn      | Honorable Mention |
| G  | Jake Green       | Honorable Mention |

**Safeties Ubayd Steed and Iverson Brown headline secondary**

S Iverson Brown (44 tackles) and S Ubayd Steed (35 tackles), rank second and third on the team in tackles this season. Brown has one interception and four pass breakups, while Steed has two forced fumbles.

The veteran duo combined to start 24 games for SIU last season. Steed started every game in 2023, ranked third on the team in tackles (83) and was named to the MVFC Newcomer Team. He had the game-clinching interception in the win at Northern Illinois. Brown made 11 starts and recorded 33 tackles with a pair of forced fumbles.

**Top-10 Defense in 2023**

Under the direction of first-year defensive coordinator Antonio James, the Salukis had one of the best defensive units in school history, ranking in the Top 10 of the FCS in numerous categories.

- 4th in points allowed (16.2 points/game)
- 4th in total yards allowed (282.3 yards/game)
- 5th in run defense (94.2 yards/game)
- 6th in sacks (3.00 sacks/game)
- 7th in pass efficiency defense (111.73)
- 4th in 4th down conversion percentage (.333)
- 4th in fumbles recovered (13)
- 7th in turnovers gained (25)

**Quick Facts**

- S Jeffery Wells (19) is the team's active career leaders in special teams tackles.
- G Jake Green has the longest active streak of games started (30).
- C Chase Evans leads the team with 44 career starts.

**MVFC PRESEASON POLL**

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. South Dakota State (42) | 482 |
| 2. North Dakota State (1)  | 437 |
| 3. South Dakota            | 371 |
| 4. Southern Illinois       | 293 |
| 5. North Dakota            | 276 |
| 6. Illinois State          | 264 |
| 7. Youngstown State        | 255 |
| 8. Northern Iowa           | 227 |
| 9. Missouri State (1)      | 164 |
| 10. Indiana State          | 68  |
| 11. Murray State           | 67  |



### One of two FCS teams to beat FBS opponents in both 2022 and 2023

Southern Illinois was one of two FCS teams that beat FBS opponents in both 2022 and 2023. The Salukis defeated Northwestern in 2022 and beat Northern Illinois in 2023. Sacramento State beat Colorado State (2022) and Stanford (2023).

### MVFC player-of-the-week honors in Week 3 vs. Incarnate Word

Quarterback DJ Williams, WR Keontez Lewis and C Chase Evans earned Missouri Valley Football Conference player-of-the-week honors, following their performances in the team's 35-28 win over No. 12 Incarnate Word.

A transfer from Murray State, Williams completed 19-of-27 passes for 301 yards and two touchdowns to earn Offensive Player of the Week honors. He also led the team in rushing with 12 carries for 79 yards including a 28-yard TD run.

A Wisconsin transfer, Lewis caught eight passes for 148 yards and one touchdown to earn Newcomer of the Week honors. He also added another touchdown on a 57-yard end-around.

Evans graded out at 91 percent on blocking assignments with five knockdowns and no sacks allowed. A senior, Evans leads SIU with 41 career starts.

### QB Hunter Simmons debuts with back-to-back 300+ passing games

QB Hunter Simmons became the second quarterback in school history to pass for 300+ yards in his first-two career starts (joining Scott Gabbert, 1989). He had 341 versus SEMO on Sept. 21 and 304 at South Dakota on Sept. 28. The school-record for consecutive 300+ passing games is three — Sherard Poteete (1999), Sam Straub (2016) and Sam Straub (2018). Simmons did not throw an interception in 128 pass attempts before suffering a season-ending broken left tibia versus Illinois State on Oct. 5.

### Related — or Not?

#### Brothers

DT Kenny Butler III and DE Kris Butler

WR Allen Middleton and WR Timothy Middleton II

DL Caden Reeves, DL Peyton Reeves (not related to K Chase Reeves)

#### Not related

WR Bradley Clark, LS Jace Clark, TE Clayton Clark

LB Stephen Green, G Jake Green, WR Gage Green

CB DJ Johnson, CB Drake Johnson

CB Denym Mitchell, WR Dayton Mitchell

### Salukis on active NFL rosters

- SIU currently has three players on NFL rosters — S Jeremy Chinn (Washington), TE MyCole Pruitt (Pittsburgh) and S PJ Jules (Cincinnati, practice squad).
- Chinn was a second-round draft pick (64th overall) in the 2020 draft and runner-up for Defensive Rookie of the Year.
- Pruitt enters his 10th NFL season with 71 catches and 12 TDs.

### Salukis' NFL Tradition

- 42 SIU football alums went on to play in the NFL
- RB Brandon Jacobs was a two-time Super Bowl Champion with New York Giants.
- QB Jim Hart was a four-time Pro Bowl selection who threw for 34,665 career yards with the St. Louis Cardinals. Later, he served as SIU's director of athletics.
- LB Bart Scott was an 11-year NFL pro with the Baltimore Ravens and New York Jets.
- OL Carl Mauck was a 13-year NFL veteran and a 21-year NFL assistant coach (OL).

### In 11 Playoff Appearances, SIU is 11-10

- 1983:** Beat Indiana St. in the first round 23-7, beat Nevada in the second round 23-7 and beat Western Carolina in Charleston, SC for the **1AA Championship**, 43-7.
- 2003:** Lost at Delaware in the first round, 45-7.
- 2004:** Lost to Eastern Washington in the first round, 35-31.
- 2005:** Won at Eastern Illinois in the first round 21-6 and lost at Appalachian St. in the second round, 38-24.
- 2006:** Beat UT-Martin 36-30 in the first round and lost at Montana 20-3 in the second round.
- 2007:** Beat Eastern Illinois 30-11 in the first round, beat Massachusetts 34-27 in the second round and lost to Delaware in the **Final Four**, 20-17.
- 2008:** Lost to New Hampshire in the first round, 29-20.
- 2009:** Beat Eastern Illinois, 48-7 in the first round and lost to William and Mary in the second round, 24-3.
- 2020-21 (Spring):** Won at Weber St. in the first round, 34-31 and lost at South Dakota St. in the **Elite Eight**, 31-26.
- 2021:** Won at South Dakota in the first round, 22-10. Lost at North Dakota State in the second round, 38-7.
- 2023:** Beat Nicholls State, 35-0. Lost at Idaho, 20-17 (OT)

### Quick Facts

Carbondale, Illinois is located in the southern tip of the state — about a five-hour drive south of Chicago and two hours southeast of St. Louis...Many of SIU's alums

are concentrated in those two cities...The Southern Illinois region is informally known as "Little Egypt," hence the adoption of the Saluki (an Egyptian hunting dog) as the school mascot.

### Nick Hill versus ...

|                   | H            | A            | All          |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Arkansas State    | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Austin Peay       | 1-0          | 1-0          | 2-0          |
| BYU               | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Dayton            | 1-0          | 0-0          | 1-0          |
| Florida Atlantic  | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Idaho             | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Illinois State    | 2-2          | 1-2          | 3-4          |
| Incarnate Word    | 1-0          | 0-1          | 1-1          |
| Indiana State     | 1-2          | 3-0          | 4-2          |
| Kansas State      | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Memphis           | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Missouri State    | 2-2          | 2-2          | 4-4          |
| Mississippi       | 0-0          | 0-1          | 0-1          |
| Miss. Valley St.  | 1-0          | 0-0          | 1-0          |
| Murray State      | 1-0          | 2-0          | 3-0          |
| Nicholls State    | 1-0          | 0-0          | 1-0          |
| Northwestern      | 0-0          | 1-0          | 1-0          |
| North Dakota      | 2-0          | 0-1          | 2-1          |
| North Dakota St.  | 1-1          | 0-4          | 1-5          |
| Northern Illinois | 0-0          | 1-0          | 1-0          |
| Northern Iowa     | 1-2          | 0-2          | 1-4          |
| SEMO              | 2-3          | 3-1          | 5-4          |
| Southeastern La.  | 1-0          | 0-0          | 1-0          |
| South Dakota      | 1-2          | 2-3          | 3-4          |
| South Dakota St.  | 0-4          | 1-3          | 1-7          |
| UMass             | 0-0          | 1-0          | 1-0          |
| UT Martin         | 1-0          | 0-0          | 1-0          |
| Weber State       | 0-0          | 1-0          | 1-0          |
| Western Illinois  | 2-1          | 3-1          | 5-2          |
| Youngstown St.    | 1-2          | 1-4          | 2-6          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>23-21</b> | <b>23-31</b> | <b>46-52</b> |

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| vs. FCS Coaches Top 25.....     | 15-27 |
| vs. FCS Coaches Top 10.....     | 8-14  |
| vs. Unranked FCS Teams.....     | 26-19 |
| When Ranked.....                | 26-21 |
| vs. FBS Teams.....              | 3-6   |
| Home.....                       | 23-21 |
| Road.....                       | 23-31 |
| Neutral.....                    | 0-0   |
| Conference.....                 | 26-38 |
| When rushing for 200+.....      | 19-10 |
| When passing for 300+.....      | 10-14 |
| When scoring 35+.....           | 28-6  |
| Opponents score <10.....        | 10-0  |
| When forcing 3 or more TOs..... | 17-4  |
| When SIU scores first.....      | 26-21 |
| When SIU leads at half.....     | 33-17 |
| When SIU trails at half.....    | 9-33  |
| When SIU is tied at half.....   | 4-1   |
| When leading after third.....   | 39-10 |
| When trailing after third.....  | 6-40  |
| When tied after third.....      | 0-1   |
| Games decided 3 or less.....    | 8-11  |
| Games decided by 11+.....       | 29-24 |
| Games decided by 8-10.....      | 4-6   |
| Games decided by 4-7.....       | 5-11  |
| Overtime games.....             | 2-0   |



### Salukis vs. the FBS

Since becoming a I-AA/FCS member in 1982, SIU is 6-37 versus FBS teams. Nick Hill was involved in five of the wins as either a player (Indiana-2006, Northern Illinois-2007) or head coach (UMass-2019, Northwestern-2022, Northern Illinois-2023).

SIU is 2-20 all-time against Power Five opponents, and head coach Nick Hill was a key factor in both wins. In 2006, Hill threw four touchdown passes and orchestrated a 35-28 win at Indiana.

The Salukis were the only FCS program to beat a Power Five opponent in 2022, topping Northwestern, 31-24. After trailing, 14-7, in the second quarter, Southern roared back to take a 31-17 lead in the fourth.

### The Golden Era of Saluki Football (Coach Jerry Kill 2003-09)

- Overall Record: 70-19 (.787)
- Conference Record: 42-8 (.840)
- Conference Championships: 5 (2003, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009)
- FBS Wins: at Indiana (2006), at Northern Illinois (2007)
- FCS Playoff Appearances: All 7 years
- FCS Playoff Wins: 5
- Deepest Postseason Run: Final Four in 2007, Nick Hill's senior year
- Weeks in Top 25: 99-consecutive weeks from 2003 to 2010
- Weeks at No. 1: 18 weeks during 2004 and 2005

### Famous non-football SIU alums

- Kenny Troutt, owner of WinStar Farm and 2018 Triple Crown winner Justify
- Walt Frazier, ex-NBA star.
- Dave Stieb and Steve Finley, MLB All-Stars
- Mark Newman, former New York Yankees Senior VP (deceased)
- Derek Shelton, Pittsburgh Pirates manager
- Curt Jones, inventor and founder of Dippin' Dots
- Dick Gregory, civil rights activist, author, and comedian (deceased)
- Joan Higginbotham, NASA astronaut who flew on the Space Shuttle Discovery
- Donald McHenry, former US ambassador to the United Nations
- Bob Odenkirk, Jim Belushi, Dennis Franz and Richard Roundtree, actors
- Hannibal Buress, comedian
- Jenny McCarthy and Melissa McCarthy, actresses

### Why the Saluki?

Southern Illinois had been known as the Maroons since intercollegiate athletics began in 1913. The name "Salukis" became official on March 19, 1951, when the student body overwhelmingly approved the dog as the new symbol of SIU athletics, easily besting "Rebels," "Knights," "Flyers," "Marauders," and "Maroons."

The oldest purebred dogs in the world with records dating back to 3600 B.C., the Saluki is an ancient Egyptian hunting dog known for its speed and hunting prowess.

So why is the name Salukis relevant to Southern Illinois? Natives of southern Illinois know that the region is frequently referred to as "Egypt." Historian Baker Brownell, in his book "The Other Illinois," explained how the region came to be known as Egypt.

He wrote, "There was a drought in the northern counties (of Illinois) in the early 1800s... the wheat fields dried up, the streams died in their beds. But in Southern Illinois, rain fell and there were good crops, and from the north came people seeking corn and wheat as to Egypt of old. Thus, the name, Egypt."

The 19th century drought in Illinois parallels the Biblical account of the country of Egypt in the Book of Genesis. "There was famine in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. All the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was so severe. And (Jacob) said, 'Behold, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down and buy grain for us there, that we may live, and not

### Stats Perform FCS Top 25

|    | Team (First-Place Votes) | Record | Points | Prev. |
|----|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1  | South Dakota State (38)  | 3-1    | 1378   | 1     |
| 2  | North Dakota State (10)  | 4-1    | 1337   | 2     |
| 3  | Montana State (8)        | 5-0    | 1312   | 3     |
| 4  | South Dakota             | 3-1    | 1210   | 5     |
| 5  | Central Arkansas         | 4-1    | 1097   | 7     |
| 6  | Villanova                | 4-1    | 1065   | 6     |
| 7  | North Dakota             | 4-1    | 1024   | 9     |
| 8  | Montana                  | 4-1    | 980    | 8     |
| 9  | UC Davis                 | 4-1    | 961    | 14    |
| 10 | Idaho                    | 3-2    | 930    | 4     |
| 11 | Mercer                   | 5-0    | 836    | 12    |
| 12 | William & Mary           | 4-1    | 833    | 11    |
| 13 | Southeast Missouri State | 4-1    | 730    | 13    |
| 14 | Tarleton State           | 4-1    | 642    | 16    |
| 15 | UIW                      | 2-2    | 609    | 15    |
| 16 | Abilene Christian        | 3-2    | 462    | 20    |
| 17 | Sacramento State         | 2-3    | 453    | 10    |
| 18 | Illinois State           | 3-2    | 314    | 18    |
| 19 | Southern Illinois        | 2-3    | 293    | 17    |
| 20 | Rhode Island             | 3-1    | 230    | 22    |
| 21 | New Hampshire            | 3-1    | 208    | 24    |
| 22 | McNeese                  | 4-2    | 204    | NR    |
| 23 | ETSU                     | 3-2    | 200    | NR    |
| 24 | Lamar                    | 3-2    | 160    | 19    |
| 25 | Northern Arizona         | 3-2    | 132    | NR    |

Others Receiving Votes (schools listed on two or more ballots):

Richmond (3-2, 1-0 CAA), 107; Northern Iowa (2-2, 0-0 MVFC), 83; Chattanooga (1-3, 0-1 SoCon), 62; Stony Brook (4-1, 1-0 CAA), 55; Florida A&M (2-2, 0-0 SWAC), 53; Monmouth (3-2, 1-0 CAA), 41; Wofford (2-2, 0-1 SoCon), 40; Lafayette (2-2, 0-0 Patriot), 28; North Carolina Central (3-2, 1-0 MEAC), 28; Weber State (2-3, 1-0 Big Sky), 22; Western Carolina (1-3, 0-0 SoCon), 18; Nicholls (1-3, 0-0 Southland), 17; Duquesne (2-2, 0-0 NEC), 16; Southern Utah (2-3, 1-0 UAC), 10; Brown (2-0, 1-0 Ivy), 3; Dartmouth (2-0, 0-0 Ivy), 2; UT Martin (2-3, 0-1 Big South-OVC), 2

### FCS Coaches Poll

|    | Team (First-Place Votes) | Record | Points | Prev. |
|----|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1  | South Dakota State (21)  | 3-1    | 620    | 1     |
| 2  | North Dakota State (3)   | 4-1    | 598    | 2     |
| 3  | Montana State (1)        | 5-0    | 575    | 3     |
| 4  | South Dakota             | 3-1    | 546    | 5     |
| 5  | Villanova                | 4-1    | 508    | 6     |
| 6  | North Dakota             | 4-1    | 481    | 8     |
| 7  | Central Arkansas         | 4-1    | 475    | 7     |
| 8  | UC Davis                 | 4-1    | 434    | 11    |
| 9  | Montana                  | 4-1    | 425    | 9     |
| 10 | William & Mary           | 4-1    | 388    | 12    |
| 11 | Mercer                   | 5-0    | 356    | 13    |
| 12 | Idaho                    | 3-2    | 354    | 4     |
| 13 | Southeast Missouri State | 4-1    | 320    | 14    |
| 14 | Tarleton State           | 4-1    | 315    | 16    |
| 15 | UIW                      | 2-2    | 229    | 18    |
| 16 | New Hampshire            | 3-1    | 194    | 20    |
| 17 | ACU                      | 3-2    | 160    | 22    |
| 18 | Northern Iowa            | 2-2    | 150    | 19    |
| 19 | Illinois State           | 3-2    | 143    | 15    |
| 20 | Sacramento State         | 2-3    | 139    | 10    |
| 21 | Richmond                 | 3-2    | 134    | 23t   |
| 22 | Florida A&M              | 2-2    | 109    | 21    |
| 23 | Southern Illinois        | 2-3    | 102    | 17    |
| 24 | McNeese                  | 4-2    | 72     | NR    |
| 25 | Rhode Island             | 3-1    | 50     | NR    |

Stony Brook, 28; Missouri St., 27; Lafayette, 24; East Tennessee St., 22; Northern Arizona, 22; Chattanooga, 21; Monmouth (N.J.), 18; Lamar, 17; North Carolina Central, 13; Duquesne, 12; Butler, 9; Dartmouth, 5; Jackson St., 4; Western Carolina, 4; Brown, 3; Drake, 3; Murray St., 3; Nicholls, 3; Bucknell, 2; Dayton, 2; Weber St., 2; Wofford, 2; Alabama A&M, 1; UAlbany, 1.

die.' So, 10 of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt."

In Egypt at that time, Salukis were accepted as the finest animal a family could possess. Adopting such a well-respected dog as its mascot fit perfectly for a school in a region known as "Little Egypt."



## Saluki Offense 2-Deep

|    |    |                                         |
|----|----|-----------------------------------------|
| WR | 11 | <b>Nah'shawn Hezekiah, 6-2, 210 Sr.</b> |
|    | 9  | Bradley Clark, 6-0, 208, Sr.            |
| WR | 1  | <b>Keontez Lewis, 6-2, 190, Jr.</b>     |
|    | 13 | Jay Jones, 6-4, 205, Jr.                |
| WR | 0  | <b>Vinson Davis III, 5-8, 175, Jr.</b>  |
|    | 15 | Allen Middleton, 5-11, 190, rFr.        |
| LT | 60 | <b>Cameron Dye, 6-4, 300, Jr.</b>       |
|    | 64 | Quentin Boeke, 6-6, 280, Fr.            |
| LG | 77 | <b>Marcelo Mendiola, 6-4, 320, Sr.</b>  |
|    | 67 | Blaine Halley, 6-7, 300, rFr.           |
| C  | 62 | <b>Chase Evans, 6-4, 300, Sr.</b>       |
|    | 75 | Jon Nalley, 6-6, 300, Jr.               |
| RG | 79 | <b>Jake Green, 6-5, 310, Sr.</b>        |
|    | 61 | Aiden Logan, 6-6, 320, Sr.              |
| RT | 70 | <b>Abdou Toure, 6-6, 300, Sr.</b>       |
|    | 76 | Jimmy Lansing, 6-6, 300, Jr.            |
| QB | 7  | <b>Jake Curry, 5-11, 185, Fr.</b>       |
| RB | 28 | <b>Shaun Lester Jr., 5-11, 210, Jr.</b> |
|    | 33 | Jerrian Parker, 5-10, 205, Fr.          |
| TE | 48 | <b>Colton Hoag, 6-3, 240, Sr.</b>       |
|    | 47 | Miles Marshall, 6-5, 245, So.           |

## Saluki Defense 2-Deep

|    |    |                                         |
|----|----|-----------------------------------------|
| DE | 99 | <b>Caden Reeves, 6-3, 285, Jr.</b>      |
|    | 58 | Jamond Mathis, 6-3, 245, rFr.           |
| DT | 65 | <b>Devin Love, 6-3, 310, Sr.</b>        |
|    | 90 | Peyton Reeves, 6-2, 315, Jr.            |
| DE | 22 | <b>Louis Wilbert, 6-2, 240, Jr.</b>     |
|    | 20 | Jake Parrella, 6-2, 252, Jr.            |
| LB | 6  | <b>Chris Presto, 6-2, 218, So.</b>      |
|    | 42 | Shane Roth, 5-10, 210, Jr.              |
| LB | 35 | <b>Ben Bogle, 6-2, 225, So.</b>         |
|    | 37 | Miles Wash, 5-11, 222, rFr.             |
| LB | 33 | <b>Shug Walker, 6-2, 225, Jr.</b>       |
|    | 38 | Stephen Green, 5-11, 200, So.           |
| CB | 4  | <b>Jamir Conn, 6-0, 180, So.</b>        |
|    | 17 | Jeremiah Baxter, 6-2, 198, Sr.          |
| S  | 2  | <b>Desman Hearn, 6-0, 195, So.</b>      |
|    | 5  | Cejai Parson, 6-2, 195, Jr.             |
| S  | 7  | <b>Ubayd Steed, 5-11, 195, Sr.</b>      |
|    | 12 | Johnny Schmitt, 6-1, 190, rFr.          |
| S  | 1  | <b>Iverson Brown, 6-2, 207, Sr.</b>     |
|    | 24 | Vinny Pierre Jr., 6-1, 200, So.         |
| CB | 13 | <b>Sebastian Vargas, 6-1, 190, rFr.</b> |
|    | 8  | Jeremiah McClendon, 6-0, 185, Jr.       |

## Saluki Specialists 2-Deep

|    |    |                                        |
|----|----|----------------------------------------|
| K  | 97 | <b>Paul Geelen, 6-6, 205, Jr.</b>      |
|    | 98 | Chase Reeves, 6-2, 190, So.            |
| KO | 97 | <b>Paul Geelen, 6-6, 205, Jr.</b>      |
|    | 98 | Chase Reeves, 6-2, 190, So.            |
| P  | 97 | <b>Paul Geelen, 6-6, 205, Jr.</b>      |
|    | 98 | Chase Reeves, 6-2, 190, So.            |
| LS | 44 | <b>Ross Pedro, 6-0, 225, Jr.</b>       |
|    | 51 | Jace Clark, 6-1, 210, rFr.             |
| H  | 85 | <b>Ryan LaHood, 6-3, 195, So.</b>      |
|    | 82 | Dayton Mitchell, 5-11, 185, Jr.        |
| KR | 8  | <b>Tae Marrero Jr., 5-10, 185, Jr.</b> |
|    | 0  | Vinson Davis III, 5-8, 175, Jr.        |
| PR | 8  | <b>Tae Marrero Jr., 5-10, 185, Jr.</b> |
|    | 0  | Vinson Davis III, 5-8, 175, Jr.        |

## 2024 Game-By-Game Starters

| Opponent           | LT     | LG       | C     | RG    | RT    | QB       | RB     | WR/TE    | WR    | WR        | TE          | K      |
|--------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------|----------|-------|-----------|-------------|--------|
| BYU                | Fenske | Mendiola | Evans | Green | Toure | Williams | Lester | Hezekiah | Lewis | Davis III | Schwendeman | Geelen |
| Austin Peay        | Fenske | Mendiola | Evans | Green | Toure | Williams | Lester | Hezekiah | Lewis | Davis III | Schwendeman | Geelen |
| Incarnate Word     | Fenske | Mendiola | Evans | Green | Toure | Williams | Lester | Hezekiah | Lewis | Davis III | Schwendeman | Geelen |
| SEMO               | Fenske | Mendiola | Evans | Green | Toure | Simmons  | Parker | Hezekiah | Lewis | Davis III | Schwendeman | Geelen |
| South Dakota       | Fenske | Halley   | Evans | Green | Dye   | Simmons  | Lester | Jones    | Lewis | Davis III | Hoag        | Geelen |
| Illinois State     | Dye    | Mendiola | Evans | Green | Toure | Simmons  | Lester | Hezekiah | Lewis | Davis III | Hoag        | Geelen |
| North Dakota State |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |
| Indiana State      |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |
| Missouri State     |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |
| Youngstown State   |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |
| South Dakota State |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |
| Murray State       |        |          |       |       |       |          |        |          |       |           |             |        |

  

| Opponent           | DE        | NT        | DE        | LB/DT     | LB      | LB     | CB     | S     | S     | S     | CB     | P      |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| BYU                | C. Reeves | Love      | Greene    | Presto    | Bohanek | Walker | Conn   | Hearn | Steed | Brown | Parson | Geelen |
| Austin Peay        | Wilbert   | P. Reeves | Greene    | Presto    | Bohanek | Walker | Baxter | Bigby | Steed | Brown | Parson | Geelen |
| Incarnate Word     | Wilbert   | Love      | C. Reeves | Presto    | Bogle   | Walker | Conn   | Bigby | Steed | Brown | Vargas | Geelen |
| SEMO               | Wilbert   | Love      | C. Reeves | Presto    | Bogle   | Walker | Conn   | Hearn | Steed | Brown | Baxter | Geelen |
| South Dakota       | Wilbert   | Love      | Mathis    | P. Reeves | Bogle   | Walker | Conn   | Hearn | Steed | Brown | Baxter | Geelen |
| Illinois State     | Wilbert   | Love      | P. Reeves | Presto    | Bogle   | Walker | Conn   | Hearn | Steed | Brown | Vargas | Geelen |
| North Dakota State |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| Indiana State      |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| Missouri State     |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| Youngstown State   |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| South Dakota State |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| Murray State       |           |           |           |           |         |        |        |       |       |       |        |        |



## Entering his ninth season as head coach in 2024, Nick Hill has elevated his alma mater into one of the elite programs in FCS Football.

A native son of Southern Illinois and one of Saluki Football's all-time great quarterbacks, Hill made it his mission to restore the program to its place among the nation's best. By any standard, he has achieved that goal.

Playing in the toughest conference at the FCS level, the Salukis have advanced to the playoffs three times in the last four seasons. Southern is one of only four FCS programs to accomplish this feat, joining North Dakota State, South Dakota State and Montana.

SIU was one of only two FCS teams in the nation to beat FBS opponents in both 2022 (Northwestern) and 2023 (Northern Illinois), joining Sacramento State, which beat Colorado State (2022) and Stanford (2023).

In its history, Saluki Football has won six games against FBS-level teams, and Hill has been a part of five of those wins (two as starting quarterback, three as head coach).

The Salukis have dominated in-state competition under Hill, winning their last eight games against in-state schools (Northern Illinois, Northwestern, Illinois State twice, Western Illinois four times).

Southern has beaten 11 ranked FCS teams in the last four seasons, including wins over the No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4-ranked opponents.

Since 2020, the Salukis have been nationally ranked for 43 weeks, including 18 weeks in the top 10 and as high as No. 3. They enter the 2024 season having been ranked every week since Week 1 of 2023.

SIU has won three playoff games in the last four seasons, winning at Weber State (2020), at South Dakota (2021) and versus Nicholls State (2023), in the first home playoff game in Saluki Stadium history.

The program has produced multiple NFL players during Hill's tenure, including safeties Jeremy Chinn and Ryan Neal, cornerbacks Craig James and Madre Harper, plus tight end MyCole Pruitt. Chinn was a second-round draft pick of the Carolina Panthers and the 64th player chosen overall in 2020.

A leader on and off the field, Hill won the 2023 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Grant Teaff Coach of the Year Award, sponsored by the AFCA.

Hill's journey to the top job at SIU started just 20 miles north of campus, where he was a football and basketball icon at DuQuoin High School. During his senior year of high school in 2002-03, Hill was the area's Player of the Year in both sports and guided the Indians to the Illinois High School Association 3A state championship football game.

The legend continued on the hardwood where Hill averaged 23 points as a senior at Du Quoin and chose Western Kentucky from a host of Division I offers. A broken hand prematurely ended his freshman season at Western but ultimately led him home.

In the spring of 2004, Hill transferred to SIU to switch sports and play football under head coach Jerry Kill, just as the program was beginning its rapid rise to the top of the

### The Hill File

**Birthday:** April 5, 1985 (Age 39)

**Hometown:** Du Quoin, Illinois

**Alma mater:** Southern Illinois, 2008

**NFL Career:** Chicago Bears, Green Bay Packers

**AFL Career:** Rio Grande Valley Dorados, Orlando Predators, Tampa Bay Storm, San Antonio Talons

**Carbondale H.S.:** Head coach in 2013



### Collegiate Coaching Record

| Year                                       | School            | Assignment   | Overall      | MVFC         |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2014                                       | Southern Illinois | Quarterbacks | 6-6          | 3-5 (t-7th)  |
| 2015                                       | Southern Illinois | OC/QBs       | 3-8          | 2-6 (9th)    |
| 2016                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 4-7          | 2-6 (t-8th)  |
| 2017                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 4-7          | 2-6 (t-8th)  |
| 2018                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 2-9          | 1-7 (10th)   |
| 2019                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 7-5          | 5-3 (t-3rd)  |
| 2020                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 6-4          | 3-3 (5th)    |
| 2021                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 8-5          | 5-3 (3rd)    |
| 2022                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 5-6          | 4-4 (6th)    |
| 2023                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 8-5          | 4-4 (7th)    |
| 2024                                       | Southern Illinois | Head Coach   | 2-4          | 0-2          |
| <b>Career Southern Illinois Head Coach</b> |                   |              | <b>46-52</b> | <b>26-38</b> |

league standings.

Hill initially sat behind league Player of the Year Joel Sambursky, before taking over the starting job in 2006. In two seasons as the starter, he went 21-6 and set the school record for passing yards in 2007. He still holds the best completion percentage (68.3) in school history.

Highlights of Hill's playing career include guiding Southern to a win at Indiana in 2006, in which he passed for four touchdowns as SIU became the league's first team to defeat a Big Ten opponent. Hill capped off his career in 2007 by leading the team to the Final Four of the playoffs, where the Salukis ultimately lost a 20-17 heartbreaker to Joe Flacco and Delaware. He was also a finalist for the Peyton Award in '07.

Hill played six seasons of professional football, mostly in the Arena Football League, where he played for head coach Jay Gruden, who went on to coach NFL's Washington Redskins from 2014-2019. Hill also had brief free-agent stints with the Chicago Bears in 2008 and Green Bay Packers in 2012.

Playing for Gruden, one of the game's top offensive minds, helped shape Hill's offensive philosophy. First as Southern's offensive coordinator and now as head coach, Hill has refined his own unique style of offense that combines elements of Air Raid, spread and up-tempo.

"Coaching my alma mater is a dream come true," Hill said. "I love everything about this region and what it stands for, that blue-collar mentality. This is not my team. This is our team. Our program is going to invest in the community and make us proud on and off the field."

Hill and wife, Alicia, a former volleyball player at SIU, reside in Carbondale and have three daughters. His brother, former Saluki quarterback A.J. Hill, coaches football at Rochester (Ill.) High School.

**QUICK FACTS**

|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| School .....                    | Southern Illinois University |
| Location .....                  | Carbondale, Ill.             |
| Founded .....                   | 1869                         |
| Enrollment .....                | 11,359 (Fall, 2023)          |
| Nickname .....                  | Salukis                      |
| Colors .....                    | Maroon and White             |
| Affiliation .....               | NCAA Division I (FCS)        |
| Conference .....                | Missouri Valley Football     |
| President .....                 | Dr. Daniel F. Mahony         |
| Chancellor .....                | Dr. Austin A. Lane           |
| Director of Athletics .....     | Tim Leonard                  |
| Football Athletic Trainer ..... | Mike Lyznicki                |
| Equipment Manager .....         | Matt Orbany                  |
| Football Office Phone .....     | (618) 453-3332               |
| Ticket Office Phone .....       | (618) 453-2000               |

**FACILITY INFORMATION**

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Stadium (Capacity) ..... | Saluki Stadium (15,000) |
| First Season .....       | 2010                    |
| Surface .....            | FieldTurf Classic HD    |
| Record .....             | 40-34                   |

**TEAM INFORMATION**

|                                                                                  |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 2023 Record .....                                                                | 8-5       |
| Home .....                                                                       | 4-3       |
| Road .....                                                                       | 4-2       |
| MVFC (Finish) .....                                                              | 4-4 (7th) |
| Basic Offensive Set .....                                                        | Multiple  |
| Basic Defensive Set .....                                                        | 4-3       |
| Offensive Starters Returning .....                                               | 5         |
| C Chase Evans, G Jake Green, RT Abdou Toure, WR Vinson Davis III, TE Aidan Quinn |           |
| Defensive Starters Returning .....                                               | 3         |
| LB Colin Bohanek, S Ubayd Steed, S Iverson Brown                                 |           |
| Special Teams Returning Starters .....                                           | 1         |
| LS Ross Pedro                                                                    |           |

**MEDIA SERVICES**

|                                              |                             |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Football Contact / Senior Associate AD ..... | Tom Weber                   |
| Office Phone .....                           | (618) 453-7235              |
| Cell Phone .....                             | (618) 528-1111              |
| Email .....                                  | tomweber@siu.edu            |
| Mailing Address .....                        | Saluki Media Services       |
| .....                                        | 118 Lingle Hall             |
| .....                                        | Carbondale, IL 62901        |
| Website .....                                | SIUSalukis.com              |
| Twitter .....                                | @SIU_Football               |
| Facebook .....                               | Facebook.com/SalukiFootball |

**COACHING STAFF**

|                                            |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Head Coach .....                           | Nick Hill                                      |
| Alma Mater .....                           | Southern Illinois, 2008                        |
| Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Line ..... | Antonio James                                  |
| Alma Mater .....                           | Illinois, 2009                                 |
| Offensive Coordinator/QBs .....            | Blake Rolan                                    |
| Alma Mater .....                           | Louisville, 2005                               |
| Dan Clark .....                            | Offensive Line                                 |
| Nathan Frame .....                         | Special Teams Coordinator, Defensive assistant |
| Zach Grant .....                           | Wide Receivers/Recruiting Coordinator          |
| Nate Griffin .....                         | Tight Ends/Fullbacks                           |
| Terry Hawthorne .....                      | Cornerbacks                                    |
| Mac McLeran .....                          | Linebackers                                    |
| Lee Pronschinske .....                     | Safeties                                       |
| Larry Warner .....                         | Running Backs                                  |
| Chris Gillespie .....                      | Director of Football Operations                |
| Meade Smith .....                          | Head Strength Coach                            |
| Ryan McVicker .....                        | Offensive Quality Control                      |
| Michael Lindauer .....                     | Graduate Assistant, Defense                    |
| Jack Halperin .....                        | Director of Player Personnel & Recruiting      |

**PRONUNCIATIONS**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Jimmy Athans .....       | Ā-thins            |
| Andrew Behm .....        | Bame               |
| Quentin Boeke .....      | Bake-EE            |
| Ben Bogle .....          | Bōgle              |
| Max Bremer .....         | Bremmer            |
| Joe Brumleve .....       | BRUM-levv-ee       |
| Vontrell Chairse .....   | Shar-EESE          |
| Aiden Duerig .....       | DURR-ig            |
| Amir Dwight .....        | UH-meer            |
| Noah Fenske .....        | FEN-ski            |
| Ben Fiegel .....         | Feegle             |
| Nah'shawn Hezekiah ..... | NAY-shawn          |
| Michael Lindauer .....   | LIND-hour          |
| Tae Marrero .....        | Tay Muh-RARE-oh    |
| Payton Mazur .....       | Mazzer             |
| Denym Mitchell .....     | Denim              |
| Cejai Parson .....       | CJ                 |
| Cooper Phalin .....      | FAY-lin            |
| Lee Pronschinske .....   | pron-CHIN-ski      |
| Alex Robarge .....       | ROW-barge          |
| Ubayd Steed .....        | OOH-bade           |
| Abdou Toure .....        | AB-doo, TOE-ray    |
| Shug Walker .....        | Shoog (like sugar) |



## Miscellaneous Stats & Honors

### Career Starts

| Player             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | Career | Cons. |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------|-------|
| Jeremiah Baxter    | —  | —  | —  | —  | 3  | 3      | —     |
| Isaiah Bigby       | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | —     |
| Ben Bogle          | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 4  | 5      | 4     |
| Colin Bohanek      | —  | —  | —  | 12 | 2  | 14     | —     |
| Iverson Brown      | —  | —  | —  | 11 | 6  | 17     | 15    |
| Jamir Conn         | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 4     |
| Vinson Davis III   | —  | —  | —  | 12 | 6  | 18     | 8     |
| Cameron Dye        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | 2     |
| Chase Evans        | 3  | 12 | 11 | 12 | 6  | 44     | 8     |
| Noah Fenske        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | —     |
| Paul Geelen        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 6  | 6      | 6     |
| Jake Green         | 2  | 1  | 11 | 13 | 6  | 33     | 30    |
| Blaine Halley      | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      | —     |
| Derek Harden Jr.   | —  | —  | 4  | 12 | —  | 19     | —     |
| Desman Hearn       | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 5  | 6      | 3     |
| Nah'shawn Hezekiah | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 1     |
| Colton Hoag        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | 2     |
| Jay Jones          | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      | —     |
| Shaun Lester Jr.   | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 2     |
| Keontez Lewis      | —  | —  | —  | —  | 6  | 6      | 6     |
| Aidan Logan        | —  | —  | —  | 1  | —  | 1      | —     |
| Devin Love         | —  | —  | 1  | —  | 5  | 5      | 4     |
| Jamond Mathis      | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      | —     |
| Marcello Mendiola  | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 1     |
| David Miller       | —  | 10 | 11 | —  | —  | 21     | —     |
| Jerrian Parker     | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      | —     |
| Cejai Parson       | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | —     |
| Chris Presto       | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 1     |
| Aidan Quinn        | —  | —  | —  | 13 | —  | 13     | —     |
| Caden Reeves       | —  | —  | —  | —  | 4  | 4      | 1     |
| Peyton Reeves      | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | —     |
| Ryan Schwendeman   | —  | —  | —  | 4  | 4  | 8      | —     |
| Hunter Simmons     | —  | —  | —  | —  | 3  | 3      | 3     |
| Ubayd Steed        | —  | —  | —  | 13 | 6  | 19     | 19    |
| Abdou Toure        | —  | —  | 6  | 13 | 5  | 24     | 1     |
| Sebastian Vargas   | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      | 1     |
| Shug Walker        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 6  | 6      | 6     |
| Louis Wilbert      | —  | —  | —  | —  | 5  | 5      | 5     |
| DJ Williams        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 3  | 3      | —     |

### Special Teams Tackles (Career)

| Player             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | Career |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Jeffery Wells      | 8  | 5  | 1  | 4  | —  | 19     |
| Shane Roth         | —  | 1  | 5  | 5  | 4  | 15     |
| Ben Bogle          | —  | —  | —  | 7  | —  | 7      |
| Desman Hearn       | —  | —  | —  | 7  | —  | 7      |
| Colton Hoag        | —  | —  | —  | 5  | —  | 5      |
| Jamir Conn         | —  | —  | —  | 4  | 1  | 5      |
| Cejai Parson       | —  | —  | 3  | —  | 1  | 4      |
| Stephen Green      | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2  | 4      |
| Vinny Pierre Jr.   | —  | —  | —  | 3  | 1  | 4      |
| Chris Presto       | —  | —  | —  | 3  | —  | 3      |
| Louis Wilbert      | —  | —  | 3  | —  | —  | 3      |
| Miles Marshall     | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 2  | 3      |
| Ross Pedro         | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 1  | 3      |
| Aidan Quinn        | —  | 1  | 1  | —  | —  | 2      |
| Jimmy Athans       | —  | —  | —  | 2  | —  | 2      |
| Ubayd Steed        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 2  | 2      |
| Dev Walton         | —  | —  | —  | 1  | —  | 1      |
| Shug Walker        | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      |
| Devin Walton       | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      |
| Jeremiah McClendon | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      |
| Jay Jones          | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 1      |

### Career 100-yard Rushing Games

| Player           | Times | Last Time                  |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| DJ Williams      | 1     | 121 at BYU, 8/31/24        |
| Shaun Lester Jr. | 1     | 111 at Austin Peay, 9/7/24 |

### Career 100-yard Receiving Games

| Player             | Times | Last Time                       |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| Vinson Davis III   | 2     | 13 vs. SEMO, 9/23/24            |
| Keontez Lewis      | 2     | 153 vs. Illinois State, 10/5/24 |
| Nah'shawn Hezekiah | 1     | 118 vs. Incarnate Word, 9/14/24 |

### Career 300-yard Passing Games

| Player         | Times | Last Time                       |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| Hunter Simmons | 2     | 306 at South Dakota, 9/28/24    |
| DJ Williams    | 1     | 301 vs. Incarnate Word, 9/14/24 |

### MVFC Weekly Awards

#### Defensive Player of The Week

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| David Miller, CB | at Indiana State, 11/13/21 |
| Ben Bogle, LB    | at Austin Peay, 9/7/24     |
| DJ Williams, QB  | Incarnate Word, 9/14/24    |

#### Offensive Lineman of The Week

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Chase Evans, G | at Murray State, 10/14/23   |
| Chase Evans, C | vs. Incarnate Word, 9/14/24 |

#### Newcomer of The Week

|                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Keontez Lewis, WR | Incarnate Word, 9/14/24 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|

### National Weekly Awards

#### Stats Perform Defensive Player of The Week

|               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Ben Bogle, LB | at Austin Peay, 9/7/24 |
|---------------|------------------------|