

s a v a n n a h   s t a t e   f o o t b a l l

# EYE OF THE TIGER



SOUVENIR PROGRAM | ISSUE 3 | SEPT. 27, 2025 | 6 P.M.

**SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**VS.**  
**KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
MILITARY APPRECIATION/CANCER AWARENESS DAY



# YOU CAN GET ANYWHERE FROM HERE



Established in 1890, Savannah State University is the oldest public Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in Georgia and the first institution of higher learning in the city of Savannah. Students select majors from 30 undergraduate and five graduate programs in four colleges — Business Administration, Education, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and Sciences and Technology.

**Enroll Today!**  
[Savannahstate.edu](http://Savannahstate.edu)



@SavannahState

## SAVANNAH STATE QUICK FACTS

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Location:           | Savannah, Ga.  |
| Enrollment:         | 3,000  |
| Founded:            | 1890   |
| Nickname:           | Tigers   |
| Colors:             | Burnt Orange and Reflex Blue                         |
| Affiliation:        | NCAA Division II                                     |
| Conference:         | Southern Intercollegiate Athletics Conference (SIAC) |
| President:          | Dr. Jermaine Whirl                                   |
| Alma Mater:         | Winthrop University                                  |
| Athletics Director: | Opio Mashariki                                       |
| Alma Mater:         | Bethune-Cookman University                           |

## FACILITY INFORMATION

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Stadium:               | Theodore A. Wright Stadium |
| Capacity:              | 8,500                      |
| Surface:               | Field Turf                 |
| Press Box Phone:       | (912) 358-3454             |
| Athletic Office Phone: | (912) 358-3449             |
| Ticket Office Phone:   | (912) 358-3449             |

## HISTORY

|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| First Year of Football:               | 1902                 |
| All-Time Overall Record (Since 1915): | 301-506-29           |
| All-Time SAAC Record (1935-1942):     | 19-17-5              |
| SAAC Championships:                   | 1 (1938)             |
| All-Time SEAC Record (1947-1968):     | 62-108-10            |
| SEAC Championships:                   | 3 (1950, 1956, 1967) |
| SIAC Record (1968-2000):              | 111-118-1            |
| SIAC Record (2019-Present):           | 22-19                |
| SIAC Championships:                   | 1 (1972)             |
| All-Time MEAC Record: (2011-2018)     | 10-62                |
| MEAC Championships:                   | 0                    |
| National Championships:               | 0                    |
| Division Affiliation:                 |                      |
| 1952-1973:                            | NAIA                 |
| 1973-1981:                            | NCAA Division III    |
| 1981-2000:                            | NCAA Division II     |
| 2000-2020:                            | NCAA Division I      |
| 2020-Present:                         | NCAA Division II     |

## MEDIA RELATIONS

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Assistant Athletics Director Media Relations: | Joshua C. Jackson          |
| Office:                                       | (912) 358-3454             |
| Email:  | jacksonj@savannahstate.edu |

## DIGITAL COVERAGE

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Web:          | www.ssuathletics.com |
| Social Media: | @SavStateTigers      |
| Hashtags:     | #HailSSU   #SSU      |

## ON THE COVER

Running back Joseph Hampton [Photo by Sarah Peacock]

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Quick Facts.....                | 1     |
| President.....                  | 2     |
| Director of Athletics.....      | 3     |
| SSU Head Coach.....             | 4     |
| SSU Assistant Coaches.....      | 5     |
| Support Staff.....              | 7     |
| Meet The Tigers.....            | 8-11  |
| Kentucky State Roster.....      | 12-15 |
| Kentucky State Coaches.....     | 14    |
| Theodore "Ted" Wright.....      | 15    |
| Theodore A. Wright Stadium..... | 16    |
| Tiger Tale.....                 | 17    |
| Shannon Sharpe.....             | 19    |
| Elite Fans.....                 | 20    |
| Ultimate Fans.....              | 21    |

## Program Credits:

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Layout, Design:..... | Twenty Six Twelve Media      |
| Editor:.....         | Opio Mashariki               |
| Photography:.....    | Sarah Peacock/Hunter D. Cone |

## TEAM INFORMATION

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Basic Offense:           | Multiple/RPO |
| Basic Defense:           | Multiple     |
| 2024 Record:             | 5-5          |
| 2024 Conference Record:  | 4-4          |
| 2024 Record on the Road: | 2-3          |
| 2024 Record at Home:     | 2-2          |
| 2024 Record at Neutral:  | 0-0          |

## Letterwinners Returning/Lost:

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Total:             | 62/51 |
| Starters:          | 26/16 |
| Defense:           | 30/13 |
| Offense:           | 27/26 |
| Specialist:        | 1/2   |
| Total Newcomers:   | 51    |
| Offense Newcomers: | 27    |
| Defense Newcomers: | 24    |
| Specialist:        | 2     |

## COACHING STAFF

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Head Coach:            | Aaron Kelton                           |
| Alma Mater:            | Springfield College, '92               |
| Career Record (Years): | 36-67 (12th Season)                    |
| Record @ SSU (Years):  | 12-18 (Third Season)                   |
| Johnson "Jeep" Hunter  | Assistant Head Coach/Co-Defensive Cor. |
| Nick Trist             | Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks     |
| Keon Cezar             | Defensive Line                         |
| AJ Walsh               | Offensive Line                         |
| Harold Nelson          | Tight Ends/Asst. Offensive Line        |
| Randall Moss           | Defensive Assistant                    |
| Derry Pinkston         | Running Backs Coach                    |
| Jonathan Glover        | Defensive Assistant                    |
| Elisha Shephard        | Graduate Assistant                     |

## Dr. Jermaine Whirl

Dr. Jermaine Whirl, an Aspen Fellow, is a nationally sought-after, award-winning authority in workforce & higher education. He currently serves as the 15th president of Savannah State University and past president of Augusta Technical College. During his tenure at Augusta Tech, he completed a full-rebrand of the institution, implemented a new five-year strategic plan, established 5 new academic schools, established a new School of Health Sciences Campus at Summerville in partnership with Piedmont Augusta (the first and only two-year healthcare school operating in a hospital), became the first institution of higher education in Augusta to be selected an Amazon Choice Partner, established the Augusta Advantage Transfer Program with Augusta University, established the institution's first nuclear apprenticeship program with the Savannah River Nuclear School, launched the state's first Global Cyber Summit, helped the college achieve its 10-year reaffirmation for SACSCOC accreditation, established the Jim Hudson Center for Automotive Institute (65,000 square feet – the largest automotive training facility in Georgia), established the Greater Augusta Banking and Finance Institute, launched the institution's first middle & high school STEM summer camps, secured \$4.4m of state funding to create a CDL Truck Driving Range in McDuffie County, established Accelerate Augusta- a \$2.3 million incu-

bator- microenterprise center in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority of Augusta with congressional dollars from U.S. Senator Raphael Warnock, established a ten-year sponsored program for Accelerate Augusta and ATC financial literacy programming and debit card with SRP Federal Credit Union, obtained the college's first ever million dollar gift (obtained three separate million dollar gifts in 8 months), obtained a \$1m gift to name the college's first academic school (T.R. Reddy School of Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering Technology) helped to recruit the largest freshmen class in the past three years (1,600 new students) while increasing enrollment to 5,900 credit and 6,400 noncredit students, co-chaired the Biden-Harris Workforce Hub Augusta Initiative, and most recently partnered with Augusta National Golf Course (Master's Tournament) and First Tee of Augusta to revitalize the Augusta Municipal Golf Course to establish the nation's first corridor of golf education in partnership with the City of Augusta.

He's a graduate of the Executive Leadership Augusta Forum, Leadership Columbia County, Furman University's Diversity Leadership Institute (DLI), the SC Economic Development Institute, Leadership Greenville Class 44, and Leadership Gwinnett Class of 2016. He is also the only college president in the United States selected to serve a three-year term on the U.S. Inaugural 21st Cen-



tury Energy Workforce Advisory Board that provides guidance to the Secretary of Energy. Dr. Whirl also serves other regional and national boards, taskforces, and councils for organizations such as TD Bank, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Queensborough National Bank, and The Warrior Alliance.

A Charleston, South Carolina native he earned his associate of arts degree at Trident Technical College, a bachelor's degree in economics at Winthrop University, a Master of Business Administration degree at Charleston Southern University, a second master's degree in adult education & community leadership at Georgia Southern University, and a doctorate in organizational leadership at Valdosta State University.

Dr. Whirl is married to Mrs. Marqueta Whirl and has two children: Jaylen Lee Whirl and Madison Renee Whirl.

## Opio Mashariki

Throughout his career, Savannah State Director of Athletics Opio Mashariki, a 20-year veteran of athletics, has helped guide multiple college sports programs through the faithful execution of a range of administrative duties.

Beginning at his alma mater, Bethune-Cookman College, Mr. Mashariki worked in Sports Information for a total of 18 years. During his six years at Bethune-Cookman, he furthered the mission of the athletics' department by coordinating press conferences and developing external and internal communications as an intern, then as the Assistant Sports Information Director and ultimately as the Interim Sports Information Director.

In March of 2005, he was named the Assistant Athletics Director for Media Relations at Savannah State University. During his 15 years in that position, Mr. Mashariki oversaw media relations for 15 sports, developed several social media

platforms, produced the first ever media guides and publications for SSU Athletics and coordinated all athletic home contests.

Mr. Mashariki was promoted to Associate Athletics Director for Media Relations in 2017 and while maintaining his work in sports information, took over supervision of men's and women's basketball, softball and volleyball. He also directed SSU Athletics training, strength and conditions and equipment management.

In August of 2018, he was selected as the Interim Athletics Director.

He accepted the position of Director of Athletics in January of 2019 and is overseeing the transition from NCAA Division I to Division II.

Mashariki worked closely with the NCAA and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC), in implementing a new era for the Tigers.

He is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y.



and earned his bachelor's degree in Mass Communications and Public Relations from Bethune-Cookman College in 2001.



## Aaron Kelton

Savannah State Athletics hired Aaron Kelton as the 27th head football coach on April 5, 2022.

Kelton came to Savannah State from Howard University where he was the defensive backs coach and recruiting coordinator. He also served as interim head coach at Howard in 2019.

Prior to that, the Boston, Massachusetts native was the co-defensive coordinator at Morgan State, and the head football coach at Shorter University.

He also served stints at Williams College, Columbia University, Virginia State University, Concord College,

Clarion University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Through his nearly three-decades of coaching experience, Kelton has served as an intern with four NFL teams and coached over 30 all-conference players.

He earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Springfield College and is a master's degree candidate at Virginia State University.



### AT A GLANCE

**Full Name:**

Aaron Kelton

**Education:**

Springfield College, 1992

**Playing Experience:**

Springfield College, 1987-1992

**Coaching Experience:**

Wellesley HS, 1993-1995 | Assistant Coach

Wayland HS, 1996 | Assistant Coach

Clarion University, 1997 | Defensive Backs

Concord University, 1998-2000 | Defensive

Coordinator

Virginia State University, 2000-2005 | Defen-

sive Coordinator

Columbia University, 2005-2010 | Defensive

Coordinator

Williams College, 2010-2016 | Head Football

Coach

Shorter University, 2016-2017 | Head Football

Coach

Morgan State, 2018 | Co-Defensive Coordi-

nator

Howard University, 2019-2021 | Defensive

Backs

Savannah State, 2022 | Head Football Coach

**Favorite Athletes:**

Bo Jackson, Allen Iverson,

Randall Cunningham

**Favorite Foods:**

Lasagna, Lobster, Sea Food

**Favorite Leaders:**

God, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X,

Barack Obama

# ASSISTANT COACHES



**JEEP HUNTER**  
Assistant Head Coach  
Co-Defensive, Co-Special  
Teams Coordinator



**NICK TRIST**  
Offensive Coordinator  
Quarterbacks



**HAROLD NELSON**  
Tight Ends  
Asst. Offensive Line



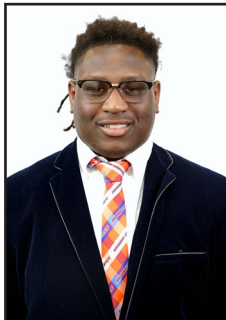
**KEON CEZAR**  
Defensive Line



**AJ WALSH**  
Offensive Line



**RANDALL MOSS**  
Defensive Assistant



**DERRY PINKSTON**  
Offensive Assistant



**ELISHA SHEPHARD**  
Graduate Assistant



**JONATHAN GLOVER**  
Defensive Assistant



SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE  
ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

LEADERS  
RISE  
HERE

Proud Conference OF



# SUPPORT STAFF



JENNIFER KINGSBY  
Head Athletics Trainer



JOSHUA JACKSON  
Assistant AD  
for Media Relations



TINA JOLLEY  
Assistant AD  
for Compliance/SWA



MARQUE JOHNSON  
Community Liaison



SHALONDA MULLGRAV  
Faculty Athletics  
Representative (FAR)



KAYLA HARRIS  
Ticket Manager



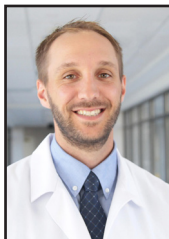
MICHAEL MCBROOM, PA-C  
Team Physician Asst.



THOMAS ALEXANDER, MD  
Team Physician



MICHAEL COHEN  
Strength and  
Conditioning



FRED HAROLD, DO  
Team Physician



STEVEN GREER, MD  
Team Physician

# MEET THE TIGERS



# SAVANNAH STATE ROSTER

|    |                                       |       |       |      |     |   |                          |
|----|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|-----|---|--------------------------|
| 0  | <a href="#">Nathaniel Chisholm</a>    | DL    | Sr.   | 6-1  | 290 | Savannah, Ga. / Islands HS                  |                          |
| 0  | <a href="#">TaDarius Vaughn</a>       | WR    | Jr.   | 6-4  | 215 | Memphis, Tenn. / DeSoto Central HS          | Hinds CC                 |
| 1  | <a href="#">Jadon Adams</a>           | ATH   | Gr.   | 6-3  | 190 | Savannah, Ga. / Islands HS                  |                          |
| 1  | <a href="#">Tony Rountree Jr.</a>     | DL    | Sr.   | 6-3  | 330 | Augusta, Ga. / T.W. Josey HS                |                          |
| 3  | <a href="#">Kirk Smith</a>            | DB    | Gr.   | 6-3  | 190 | Augusta, Ga. / Grovetown HS                 |                          |
| 4  | <a href="#">Tavare Brewton</a>        | LB    | Sr.   | 6-2  | 218 | Savannah, Ga. / Islands HS                  |                          |
| 5  | <a href="#">Christian Burks</a>       | QB    | R-Jr. | 6-0  | 185 | Bremen, Ga. / Bremen HS                     |                          |
| 5  | <a href="#">James Shellman, IV</a>    | DB    | Gr.   | 6-1  | 205 | Savannah, Ga. / Islands HS                  | Middle Tennessee State   |
| 6  | <a href="#">Braylon Fowler</a>        | TE/WR | R-Jr. | 6-2  | 210 | Jacksonville, Fla. / Bartram Trail HS       | UNC-Pembroke             |
| 6  | <a href="#">Emari Napper</a>          | DB    | R-Sr. | 6-1  | 170 | Jacksonville, Fla. / Jean Ribault Senior HS |                          |
| 7  | <a href="#">Ahlk Booker</a>           | DB    | Sr.   | 5-10 | 170 | New York, N.Y. / Jonesboro HS               |                          |
| 7  | <a href="#">Cinsere Clark</a>         | WR    | Sr.   | 6-0  | 180 | Durham, N. C. / Southern Durham HS          | Saint Francis Univ. (PA) |
| 9  | <a href="#">Joseph Hampton</a>        | RB    | Sr.   | 6-0  | 190 | Augusta, Ga. / Evans HS                     |                          |
| 9  | <a href="#">Uchenna Nwoha</a>         | LB    | Sr.   | 6-0  | 215 | Atlanta, Ga. / South Cobb HS                |                          |
| 10 | <a href="#">Devon Tott</a>            | QB    | Jr.   | 6-2  | 190 | New Orleans, La. / Mandeville HS            | Copiah-Lincoln CC        |
| 11 | <a href="#">Gary Davis, Jr.</a>       | LB    | Sr.   | 6-0  | 215 | Cairo, Ga. / Cairo HS                       |                          |
| 11 | <a href="#">RaShawn Trueell</a>       | QB    | Fr.   | 6-2  | 220 | Savannah, Ga. / New Hampstead HS            |                          |
| 12 | <a href="#">Zyaire Williams</a>       | RB    | Sr.   | 6-2  | 220 | Greenville, N.C. / South Central HS         | Louisburg College        |
| 13 | <a href="#">Ameer Phillips</a>        | DL    | R-Jr. | 6-2  | 220 | Savannah, Ga. / Alfred E. Beach HS          |                          |
| 14 | <a href="#">Devon Smoot</a>           | DB    | Fr.   | 6-0  | 180 | Kathleen, Ga. / Perry HS                    |                          |
| 15 | <a href="#">James McGlaun</a>         | DB/LB | Sr.   | 6-0  | 205 | Pensacola, Fla. / Booker T. Washington HS   | Bluefield State          |
| 16 | <a href="#">Terrell Gordon, Jr.</a>   | DB    | Fr.   | 5-10 | 165 | Miami, Fla. / Miami Northwestern Senior HS  |                          |
| 16 | <a href="#">Jamal Hill</a>            | WR    | R-Jr. | 6-0  | 180 | Marietta, Ga. / Ardrey Kell HS              | Butler CC                |
| 17 | <a href="#">Anthony Glover</a>        | WR    | So.   | 6-1  | 180 | Jacksonville, Fla. / Terry Parker HS        |                          |
| 17 | <a href="#">Austin Williams</a>       | QB    | R-Sr. | 6-1  | 185 | Fayetteville, Ga. / Whitewater HS           |                          |
| 18 | <a href="#">Kevin Stokes, Jr.</a>     | DB    | R-So. | 6-0  | 185 | Jacksonville, Fla. / Jean Ribault Senior HS |                          |
| 18 | <a href="#">Fabian Walker</a>         | QB    | Fr.   | 6-0  | 185 | Decatur, Ga. / Chamblee HS                  | Iowa Western CC          |
| 19 | <a href="#">Jordan Anderson</a>       | WR    | So.   | 6-3  | 190 | Jacksonville, Fla. / First Coast HS         | East Tennessee State     |
| 20 | <a href="#">Amiri Johnson</a>         | LB    | Sr.   | 6-1  | 215 | Atlanta, Ga. / Benjamin E. Mays HS          |                          |
| 20 | <a href="#">Jordan Turner</a>         | DB    | Fr.   | 5-10 | 175 | Atlanta, Ga. / Booker T. Washington HS      |                          |
| 21 | <a href="#">Jaylin Nabor</a>          | DB    | Fr.   | 5-11 | 170 | Pooler, Ga. / Life of Christ Academy        | Manchester Coll.         |
| 21 | <a href="#">Elijah Stephens</a>       | WR    | R-Jr. | 5-8  | 165 | Ashburn, Ga. / Turner County HS             |                          |
| 22 | <a href="#">Darrian Bell</a>          | LB    | Gr.   | 6-2  | 230 | Danville, KY / Danville HS                  | Louisville               |
| 22 | <a href="#">Jayden Turner</a>         | DB    | Fr.   | 5-10 | 175 | Atlanta, Ga. / Booker T. Washington HS      |                          |
| 23 | <a href="#">Jahziah Avilez</a>        | WR    | R-Fr. | 5-9  | 160 | Warner Robins, Ga. / Warner Robins HS       |                          |
| 24 | <a href="#">Kendarius Brown</a>       | RB    | So.   | 5-7  | 180 | Hiram, Ga. / Hiram HS                       |                          |
| 25 | <a href="#">Christopher Murray</a>    | DB    | Gr.   | 5-10 | 175 | Augusta, GA / Academy of Richmond County    |                          |
| 25 | <a href="#">Kade Spence</a>           | RB    | Fr.   | 5-10 | 180 | Atlanta, Ga. / Archer HS                    |                          |
| 26 | <a href="#">Evan Guyton</a>           | RB    | R-Jr. | 5-10 | 195 | Dublin, Ga. / West Laurens HS               |                          |
| 27 | <a href="#">Eszaunie Earls</a>        | DB    | So.   | 5-9  | 160 | Snellville, Ga. / Central Gwinnett HS       |                          |
| 27 | <a href="#">Jimmy Tran</a>            | K     | Sr.   | 5-9  | 180 | Gainesville, Ga. / Gainesville HS           | McPherson Coll.          |
| 28 | <a href="#">Amaari Smith</a>          | DB    | So.   | 6-0  | 185 | Belle Glade, Fla. / Pahokee HS              | UT-Chattanooga           |
| 29 | <a href="#">Cameron Leonard</a>       | LB    | R-Jr. | 5-10 | 230 | Atlanta, Ga. / Jonesboro HS                 |                          |
| 30 | <a href="#">David Gardner, Jr.</a>    | RB    | Gr.   | 5-11 | 215 | Birmingham, Ala. / Minor HS                 | Lindsey Wilson Univ.     |
| 31 | <a href="#">Du'Shauntae Holloway</a>  | RB    | Gr.   | 5-11 | 200 | Atlanta, Ga. / Villa Rica HS                | Yale University          |
| 32 | <a href="#">Carmelo Byrd</a>          | RB    | Fr.   | 5-11 | 200 | Gainesville, Ga. / Gainesville HS           |                          |
| 33 | <a href="#">John "Wesley" Bentley</a> | DL    | Sr.   | 6-3  | 235 | Thomaston, Ga. / Upson-Lee HS               | Butler CC                |

# SAVANNAH STATE ROSTER

|    |   |    |       |      |     |   |                       |
|----|---|----|-------|------|-----|---|-----------------------|
| 34 | <a href="#">Zavion Leggett</a>          | DB | R-So. | 6-0  | 205 | Grovetown, Ga. / Grovetown HS                 | Georgia Southern      |
| 35 | <a href="#">Desmond Callier</a>         | DB | Fr.   | 6-0  | 180 | Atlanta, Ga. / Cartersville HS                | Bethune-Cookman       |
| 35 | <a href="#">Dralin Gilbert</a>          | RB | Fr.   | 5-11 | 200 | Atlanta, Ga. / Spalding HS                    |                       |
| 36 | <a href="#">Curtis Spivey</a>           | RB | Sr.   | 5-10 | 190 | Orlando, Fla. / Apopka HS                     |                       |
| 37 | <a href="#">Sev Croom, II</a>           | DB | Fr.   | 5-11 | 160 | Sanford, Fla. / Seminole HS                   |                       |
| 38 | <a href="#">David Omene</a>             | LB | R-Fr. | 6-0  | 195 | Alpharetta, Ga. / Alpharetta HS               |                       |
| 39 | <a href="#">Cole Bowman</a>             | WR | R-Fr. | 5-9  | 170 | Orlando, Fla. / East River HS                 |                       |
| 39 | <a href="#">Richaard Williams</a>       | DB | R-Fr. | 6-2  | 180 | Savannah, Ga. / St. Andrews HS                |                       |
| 40 | <a href="#">Anthony Wilson</a>          | LB | Fr.   | 6-0  | 210 | Columbus, Ga. / Carver Columbus HS            |                       |
| 41 | <a href="#">Micah Monds</a>             | LB | Sr.   | 6-1  | 210 | Boca Raton, Fla. / West Boca HS               | St. Thomas Univ.      |
| 41 | <a href="#">Carlos Moore</a>            | WR | R-Fr. | 5-10 | 175 | Birmingham, Ala. / Minor HS                   |                       |
| 42 | <a href="#">Wadson Dieudonne</a>        | TE | Rf.   | 6-4  | 250 | Orlando, Fla. / Ocoee HS                      |                       |
| 42 | <a href="#">Bryce Thomas</a>            | DB | Fr.   | 5-11 | 175 | Atlanta, Ga. / Newton HS                      |                       |
| 43 | <a href="#">Elijah Hardy</a>            | RB | Jr.   | 6-0  | 210 | Savannah, Ga. / Sol C. Johnson HS             |                       |
| 43 | <a href="#">Kenny Iberosi</a>           | DB | R-Jr. | 6-1  | 190 | Suwanee, Ga. / Peachtree Ridge HS             |                       |
| 44 | <a href="#">William Jones</a>           | DL | Sr.   | 6-1  | 235 | Darien, Ga. / McIntosh County HS              |                       |
| 44 | <a href="#">Hashim Patterson</a>        | LB | Fr.   | 5-10 | 205 | Dalzell, S. C. / Crestwood HS                 |                       |
| 45 | <a href="#">Cayden Buchanan</a>         | DL | R-So. | 6-3  | 220 | Spring Hill, Tenn. / Spring Hill HS           |                       |
| 46 | <a href="#">Prince Brown</a>            | WR | Jr.   | 6-0  | 180 | College Park, GA / Benjamin Baneker HS        |                       |
| 46 | <a href="#">Trevor Strowbridge</a>      | DB | Fr.   | 5-10 | 170 | Savannah, Ga. / Calvary Day Sch.              | Lenoir-Rhyne          |
| 47 | <a href="#">Brandon Lane</a>            | DB | Sr.   | 6-0  | 200 | Valdosta, Ga. / Berkmar HS                    | Dean College          |
| 48 | <a href="#">Emmanuel White</a>          | DB | R-Jr. | 5-11 | 175 | Deltona, Fla. / Deltona HS                    |                       |
| 49 | <a href="#">Caleb Barbas</a>            | RB | Fr.   | 5-10 | 220 | Roswell, Ga. / Centennial HS                  |                       |
| 49 | <a href="#">Solomon Jones</a>           | DB | So.   | 6-0  | 170 | Snellville, Ga. / Brookwood HS                | Point University      |
| 50 | <a href="#">Anthony Chatman</a>         | LB | Jr.   | 6-0  | 215 | Albany, Ga. / Westover HS                     | Thomas Univ.          |
| 51 | <a href="#">Reico Collins</a>           | LB | Fr.   | 6-0  | 215 | Savannah, Ga. / Herschel V. Jenkins HS        |                       |
| 51 | <a href="#">Kahleem Murphy</a>          | OL | So.   | 6-1  | 280 | Bainbridge, Ga. / Bainbridge HS               |                       |
| 52 | <a href="#">Taj Jansen</a>              | LB | Fr.   | 6-0  | 200 | Orlando, Fla. / Boone HS                      |                       |
| 53 | <a href="#">Jamari Hinton</a>           | LB | Sr.   | 6-0  | 210 | Jonesboro, GA / North Clayton HS              |                       |
| 54 | <a href="#">Xavier Esquillen</a>        | DL | Jr.   | 6-2  | 250 | Charlotte, N.C. / Ardrey Kell HS              |                       |
| 55 | <a href="#">Jaylin Fields</a>           | DL | Jr.   | 5-10 | 265 | Dothan, Ala. / Ashford HS                     |                       |
| 56 | <a href="#">Akeem White</a>             | DL | So.   | 6-1  | 300 | Auburn, Ala. / Auburn HS                      |                       |
| 57 | <a href="#">Andrew "Robert" Horsley</a> | DL | Rf.   | 6-0  | 275 | Fort Valley, Ga. / Peach County HS            |                       |
| 58 | <a href="#">Adonis Brazili</a>          | DL | R-Fr. | 6-1  | 275 | Thomaston, Ga. / Upson-Lee HS                 |                       |
| 59 | <a href="#">Jamar Walker</a>            | DL | Sr.   | 6-0  | 245 | Irmo, S.C. / Dutch Fork HS                    | Los Angeles Valley CC |
| 61 | <a href="#">Cameron Thompson</a>        | DL | R-Fr. | 6-2  | 230 | Hampton, Ga. / Dutchtown HS                   |                       |
| 62 | <a href="#">Kason Hodges</a>            | DL | Rf.   | 6-2  | 230 | Americus, Ga. / Sumter County HS              |                       |
| 64 | <a href="#">Christian Hubbard</a>       | OL | R-Jr. | 6-1  | 310 | Richmond Hill, Ga. / Richmond Hill HS         |                       |
| 65 | <a href="#">Dillon Lattimore</a>        | OL | Fr.   | 6-4  | 255 | Cynners, Ga. / Heritage HS                    |                       |
| 66 | <a href="#">Timothy Randolph</a>        | DL | Fr.   | 6-4  | 290 | Savannah, Ga. / Herschel V. Jenkins HS        |                       |
| 67 | <a href="#">Arnez Jones</a>             | OL | R-Fr. | 6-4  | 360 | Foley, Ala. / Foley HS                        |                       |
| 69 | <a href="#">Giovanni Wilson</a>         | OL | R-Fr. | 6-2  | 295 | Covington, Ga. / Alcovy HS                    |                       |
| 70 | <a href="#">Bryce Favors</a>            | OL | R-So. | 6-3  | 290 | Stone Mountain, Ga. / Stephenson HS           |                       |
| 71 | <a href="#">Marco Fugar</a>             | OL | R-Jr. | 6-3  | 300 | Fort Lauderdale, Fla. / St. Thomas Aquinas HS | Notre Dame Coll.      |
| 72 | <a href="#">Keshawn Palmore</a>         | OL | Jr.   | 6-0  | 270 | Moultrie, Ga. / Colquitt County HS            | Colquitt County HS    |
| 73 | <a href="#">Khalifa Sene</a>            | OL | Sr.   | 6-4  | 285 | Pensacola, Fla. / Booker T. Washington HS     | Bluefield State       |
| 75 | <a href="#">Nicolas Garcia</a>          | OL | R-So. | 6-4  | 305 | Miami, Fla. / Dr. Krop HS                     |                       |
| 76 | <a href="#">Joshua Hadnot</a>           | OL | Rf.   | 6-2  | 280 | Hampton, Ga. / Dutchtown HS                   |                       |

# SAVANNAH STATE ROSTER

|    |                                   |     |       |      |     |   |                        |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|------|-----|---|------------------------|
| 77 | <a href="#">Justyn James</a>      | OL  | R-Fr. | 6-3  | 330 | Miami Gardens, Fla. / Monsignor Pace HS   |                        |
| 78 | <a href="#">Marquis Jordan</a>    | OL  | R-So. | 6-3  | 275 | McDonough, Ga. / Ola HS                   |                        |
| 80 | <a href="#">Arik Gilbert</a>      | TE  | So.   | 6-4  | 250 | Marietta, Ga. / Marietta HS               | Nebraska               |
| 81 | <a href="#">Jordan Springs</a>    | TE  | Gr.   | 6-2  | 240 | Irmo, S.C. / Dutch Fork HS                | South Carolina State   |
| 82 | <a href="#">Jake Freeman</a>      | WR  | R-Fr. | 5-10 | 175 | Orlando, Fla. / East River HS             |                        |
| 83 | <a href="#">Bynton Edge</a>       | WR  | Fr.   | 6-1  | 180 | Lake City, Fla. / Columbia HS             |                        |
| 84 | <a href="#">Zachary Coleman</a>   | WR  | Jr.   | 6-1  | 175 | Atlanta, Ga. / Heritage HS                | Coastal Carolina       |
| 85 | <a href="#">Josiah Benson</a>     | WR  | Jr.   | 6-2  | 180 | Clemson, S.C. / D. W. Daniel HS           | St. Augustine's Univ.  |
| 86 | <a href="#">Cameron Jones</a>     | WR  | Fr.   | 6-3  | 185 | Dallas, Ga. / East Paulding HS            |                        |
| 87 | <a href="#">Carter Payne</a>      | WR  | Fr.   | 6-2  | 185 | Monroe, Ga. / George Walton HS            | Valparaiso Univ.       |
| 88 | <a href="#">Ivan Kynes</a>        | TE  | So.   | 6-1  | 235 | Smyrna, Ga. / McEachern HS                |                        |
| 89 | <a href="#">Julian Hall</a>       | WR  | Fr.   | 6-4  | 190 | Atlanta, Ga. / Charles Drew HS            |                        |
| 90 | <a href="#">Mikie Anderson</a>    | DL  | Sr.   | 6-3  | 235 | Charlotte, N.C. / Rocky River HS          | Louisburg College      |
| 91 | <a href="#">Julius Gomes</a>      | DL  | Sr.   | 6-1  | 295 | Mobile, Ala. / Ben C. Rain HS             |                        |
| 92 | <a href="#">Malachi Fils-Aime</a> | DL  | R-Fr. | 6-1  | 260 | Lehigh Acres, Fla. / East Lee County HS   |                        |
| 93 | <a href="#">Emilson Emilcar</a>   | DL  | R-Fr. | 6-1  | 260 | Hiram, Ga. / Hiram HS                     |                        |
| 94 | <a href="#">Clifford Ghee</a>     | DL  | So.   | 6-3  | 290 | Tampa, Fla. / Chamberlain HS              | Kentucky Christian Uni |
| 95 | <a href="#">Kenneth Russ</a>      | DL  | Fr.   | 6-3  | 225 | Brooklyn, N. Y. / Nazareth HS             |                        |
| 96 | <a href="#">Emmanuel Talabi</a>   | DL  | R-Fr. | 6-1  | 265 | Alpharetta, Ga. / Alpharetta HS           |                        |
| 97 | <a href="#">Lenox DeGrasse</a>    | DL  | Fr.   | 6-2  | 200 | Atlanta, Ga. / KIPP Atlanta Collegiate HS |                        |
| 97 | <a href="#">Lucas Edenfield</a>   | P/K | Fr.   | 6-3  | 180 | Tallahassee, Fla. / Leon HS               |                        |
| 98 | <a href="#">Xavier Lloyd</a>      | DL  | So.   | 6-2  | 275 | Durham, N. C. / Palmetto Prep             |                        |
| 99 | <a href="#">Marcus Bovance</a>    | DL  | Fr.   | 6-1  | 220 | Kingsland, Ga. / Camden County HS         |                        |
|    | <a href="#">Jamir Williams</a>    | WR  | Fr.   | 6-0  | 170 | Brunswick, Ga. / Glynn Academy            |                        |

# KENTUCKY STATE ROSTER

| <i>No.</i> | <i>Name</i>            | <i>Pos.</i> | <i>Ht.</i> | <i>Wt.</i> | <i>Cl.</i> | <i>Hometown/High School or Previous</i>           |
|------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| 0          | Tray Blackmon Jr.      | DB          | 5-9        | 160        | Jr.        | LaGrange, Ga. / Troup County HS                   |
| 1          | Jaden Hale             | SLOT        | 5-8        | 165        | Sr.        | East St Louis, Ill. / East St. Louis Senior HS    |
| 2          | Micah McGowan          | RB          | 5-9        | 190        | Gr.        | Petal, Miss. / Mercer University                  |
| 3          | Denim Johnson          | QB          | 5-10       | 150        | Jr.        | Humble, Texas / C.E. King HS                      |
| 4          | Jon McCall             | WR          | 6-3        | 200        | Sr.        | New Orleans, La. / Sophie B. Wright HS            |
| 5          | Navy Curry             | DB          | 6-0        | 171        | Jr.        | Athens, Ga. / Athens Christian School             |
| 6          | Torrence Bardell       | QB          | 6-0        | 215        | Gr.        | Kenner, La. / Langston University                 |
| 7          | Lawrence McConnell     | DB          | 5-9        | 150        | Jr.        | St. Louis, Mo. / Cardinal Ritter Prep             |
| 8          | Kendrick Curry         | LB          | 5-10       | 205        | So.        | Athens, Ga. / Clarke Central HS                   |
| 9          | Matt Balanos           | P           | 6-2        | 165        | Jr.        | Lake Elsinore, Calif. / Temescal Canyon HS        |
| 10         | Darius Cyprian         | WR          | 5-11       | 177        | Jr.        | Baton Rouge, La. / Alcorn State                   |
| 11         | Jordan Diggins         | DT          | 5-9        | 250        | So.        | Indianapolis, Ind. / Lawrence North HS            |
| 12         | Juan Gainous           | QB          | 6-3        | 214        | So.        | Orlando, FL / Olympia HS                          |
| 13         | Cameron Tucker         | WR          | 5-9        | 180        | So.        | LaGrange, Ga. / Callaway HS                       |
| 15         | Jaylen Middleton       | RB          | 6'0        | 208        | So.        | Houston, Texas / Waltrip HS                       |
| 17         | Dakota Arrington       | QB          | 6-1        | 170        | R-Fr.      | McDonough, Ga. / McDonough HS                     |
| 18         | Elijah Henderson       | LB          | 6'         | 180        | Jr.        | Jackson, Miss. / Slaughter Community Charter      |
| 19         | Caleb Gonzales         | WR          | 5-10       | 180        | Fr.        | McAllen, Texas / Zachary HS (La.)                 |
| 20         | Donovan Journey        | RB          | 5'9        | 170        | Sr.        | Buford, Ga. / Mill Creek HS                       |
| 22         | Jeremiah Sanders       | DB          | 6'2        | 200        | Sr.        | Houston, Texas / Stanford HS                      |
| 23         | Arron Finott           | WR          | 4-11       | 165        | Fr.        | Evansville, Ind. / Bosse HS                       |
| 24         | Isaiah Clay            | DB          | 6-1        | 160        | Jr.        | Newark, N.J. / Timber Creek Regional              |
| 25         | Malikh Riggins         | DB          | 5-10       | 178        | R-So.      | St. Louis, Mo. / Cardinal Ritter College Prep     |
| 26         | Roman Hernandez        | DB          | 5-10       | 165        | Sr.        | Gary, Ind. / Morton HS                            |
| 27         | Josh Woods             | LB          | 6-0        | 205        | So.        | Pike HS (Ind.) / Marian University                |
| 28         | Leland Gantz           | K/P         | 5-11       | 170        | Fr.        | Centerville, Ohio / Centerville HS                |
| 29         | Donovan Dillingham     | CB          | 6-1        | 178        | So.        | Hebron, Ky.                                       |
| 30         | Jayce Lassien          | DB          | 5-9        | 150        | Fr.        | Fayetteville, Ark. / South View HS                |
| 31         | Deshun Tisdale Jr.     | DB          | 6-1        | 180        | So.        | Lawrenceville, Ga. / Dacula HS                    |
| 32         | Landon Edwards         | DB          | 5-8        | 173        | So.        | Louisville, Ky. / Fern Creek HS                   |
| 33         | Chad Elzy Jr           | RB          | 5-10       | 200        | Fr.        | Belle Rose, N.C. / Ascension Catholic             |
| 34         | Micheal Daniels        | DL          | 5-10       | 235        | So.        | Jacksonville, Fla. / Brunswick HS                 |
| 35         | Mark Flores            | LB          | 6-0        | 220        | Sr.        | Gary, Ind. / Calunet New Tech HS                  |
| 36         | Nyal Johnson           | RB          | 5-8        | 193        | Jr.        | Columbus, Ohio / Bishop Hartley                   |
| 37         | Lorenzo Engleman       | DB          | 6-0        | 170        | So.        | Cincinnati, Ohio / Hughes STEM HS                 |
| 38         | Aiden Anestor          | DB          | 6-2        | 161        | So.        | Miami, Fla. / American Senior HS                  |
| 39         | Michael Jones Jr       | DB          | 6-0        | 190        | So.        | Cincinnati, Ohio / Hughes STEM HS                 |
| 40         | Eric Hogan Jr          | DL          | 6-3        | 252        | Jr.        | Goodlettsville, Tenn. / Alabama A&M               |
| 41         | Mark Clark             | DE          | 6-1        | 240        | Jr.        | St. Louis, Mo. / Hazelwood West High              |
| 42         | Clindon Hurst          | DB          | 5-10       | 200        | So.        | Thibodaux, La. / Baker HS                         |
| 43         | Christian Olson        | DB          | 5-11       | 178        | Fr.        | Columbus, Ga. / Harris County HS                  |
| 44         | Mataye Youman          | LB          | 5-10       | 228        | So.        | Ellerslie, Ga. / Harris County HS                 |
| 45         | Noah McCullars         | K           | 5-11       | 175        | Fr.        | St. Mary's, Ga. / Camden County HS                |
| 46         | Lensley Dieujuste      | LB          | 6-0        | 230        | Jr.        | Irvington, N.J. / Sussex County CC                |
| 48         | Carlos Bazert          | TE          | 6-2        | 250        | Jr.        | Mansura, La. / Avoyelles HS / Butler CC           |
| 49         | Timothy Pitts          | TE          | 6-1        | 225        | Jr.        | East St Louis, Ill. / East St. Louis Senior HS    |
| 50         | Christopher Price Jr   | OLB         | 6-0        | 220        | Jr.        | Madisonville, Ky. / Eastern Kentucky              |
| 51         | Kristian Gerton        | LB          | 6-2        | 226        | Fr.        | Lexington, Ky. / Bryan Station HS                 |
| 52         | Cory Redding           | OL          |            |            | Fr.        | Marietta, Ga.                                     |
| 53         | Jamarkius Garret       | OL          | 6-2        | 275        | R-So.      | LePanto, Ark. / UAPB                              |
| 54         | Terrell Eackles        | DL          | 6-1        | 260        | Jr.        | Baton Rouge, La. / Coalinga College               |
| 55         | Chandler Wilson        | OL          |            |            | Fr.        |   |
| 56         | Moses Mafuta           | OLB         | 6-2        | 248        | Fr.        | Lexington, Ky. / Paul Dunbar HS                   |
| 57         | Nahemiah Mutangi       | DT          | 6-1        | 310        | Fr.        | Louisville, Ky. / Louisville Male                 |
| 58         | Jasyia Richards        | OLB         | 6-0        | 190        | Fr.        | Danville, Ky / Boyle County HS                    |
| 59         | Jasiah Clay            | ILB         | 5-10       | 212        | So.        | Lexington Ky. / Fredrick Douglas HS               |
| 60         | Adam Badwan            | OL          | 6-0        | 290        | Jr.        | St. Louis Mo. / St Mary's                         |
| 61         | Jeremiah Swartz        | C           | 6-0        | 270        | So.        | Missouri City, Texas / Kisttower HS               |
| 62         | Peyton Starling        | DL          | 6-1        | 250        | Fr.        | Dalton, Ga. / Dalton HS                           |
| 63         | Deshawn Jones          | DL          | 6-0        | 230        | Fr.        | Cincinnati, Ohio / Cincinnati College Preparatory |
| 65         | Cameran Henson         | OT          | 6-3        | 275        | So.        | Murfreesboro, Tenn. / Rockvale HS                 |
| 66         | Antoine Jones          | DL          | 5-9        | 295        | Fr.        | Opa-locka, Fla.                                   |
| 67         | Steven Thomas          |             |            |            |            |   |
| 68         | Daniel Bostic          | OL          | 6-3        | 292        | R-So.      | Pine Bluff, Ark. / NCAT                           |
| 69         | Dominic Motthey        | DT          | 5-11       | 244        | Fr.        | Houston, Texas                                    |
| 70         | Chris Jarred Von Stamm | OL          | 6-0        | 310        | So.        | IMG Academy                                       |
| 71         | Rodricue Jackson II    | OL          | 6'3        | 383        | Sr.        | Lexington Ky. / Fredrick Douglas HS               |
| 72         | Rashod Harris          |             |            |            |            |   |
| 73         | Patrick Burris         | OL          | 6-0        | 270        | Fr.        | Marietta, Ga. / Walton HS                         |
| 75         | Justin Hilton          | C           | 6-3        | 353        | So.        | Taylors, SC / Blue Ridge High School              |
| 76         | Demarcus Elliot        | OL          | 6-2        | 280        | Fr.        | Bowling Green, Ky. / Hawamba CC                   |
| 77         | Jaylen Frances         | OL          | 6-8        | 330        | Jr.        | Detroit, Mich. / Hazel Park HS / UAPB             |
| 79         | Ramsees Stephens       | OL          | 6-3        | 270        |            | Mary Hardin Baylor                                |
| 80         | Cory Jackson Jr        | WR          | 6-3        | 193        | Fr.        | Ponchatoula, La. / Ponchatoula HS                 |
| 81         | Tim Hudson             | TE          | 6-3        | 235        | Fr.        | Hamilton, Ga. / Harris County HS                  |

# KENTUCKY STATE ROSTER

| <i>No.</i> | <i>Name</i>       | <i>Pos.</i> | <i>Ht.</i> | <i>Wt.</i> | <i>Cl.</i> | <i>Hometown/High School or Previous</i>         |
|------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| 82         | Joshua Thomas     | S           | 5'10       | 17         | Fr.        | Clinton, La. / Slaughter Community Charter      |
| 83         | Alex Beard        |             |            |            |            |   |
| 84         | Jermame Shegog Jr | WR          | 6'1        | 185        | Gr.        | Lexington, Ky. / Georgetown (Ky.)               |
| 85         | Earl Gray         | WR          | 5-10       | 160        | Jr.        | St. Louis, Ill. / McClure North HS              |
| 86         | Tylon Webb        | WR          | 6-1        | 204        | R-Fr.      | Lexington, Ky. / Western Kentucky               |
| 88         | Treytan Spann     | WR          |            |            | So.        | Dallas, Texas / Midwestern State                |
| 89         | Elijah Mack       | WR          | 6'0        | 180        | Jr.        | Indianapolis, Ind. / North Central HS           |
| 90         | Leon Muller       | DE          | 6-4        | 245        | So.        | Munich, Germany / New Mexico Military Institute |
| 91         | Marquez Colvin    | DE          | 6-3        | 230        | Fr.        | Columbus, Ohio / Harvest Prep                   |
| 92         | Trevio Chambers   | OLB         | 6-1        | 235        | So.        | Miami, Fla. / New Manchester HS                 |
| 93         | Benjamin Darough  | DE          | 5-11       | 230        | Jr.        | East St. Louis, IL / O'Fallon Township HS       |
| 95         | Chandler Cliett   | DL          | 6-3        | 230        | Sr.        | Powder Springs, GA / Fort Valley State          |
| 97         | Camden Saunders   | HB          | 6-1        | 231        | Fr.        | Palm Beach, FL / Palm Beach Gardens HS          |
| 98         | Jordan Thompson   | DE          | 6-2        | 230        | So.        | Leander, TX / Tom Glenn HS / Arkansas Tech      |

# Felton Huggins Jr.

Head Coach Felton Huggins Jr. enters his second season at the helm of the Kentucky State football, being named head coach on Feb. 16, 2023.

In his first season at KSU, the Thoroughbreds achieved 1,539 receiving yards, their highest total since 2014. He ended the 2023 season with a 3-7 overall record.

Huggins comes to Kentucky State University after spending the past year as the Assistant Coach of Wide Receivers at NCAA DI school McNeese State.

Prior to McNeese State, he served as the offensive coordinator and inside wide receivers coach at Charleston Southern in 2019. He arrived at Charleston Southern after six years at LaGrange College in Georgia, where he was the associate head coach, offensive coordinator, quarterbacks coach, and academic coordinator.

In his first season calling plays for Charleston Southern, he put numerous student-athletes in the top 100 in FCS in multiple offensive categories, including pass efficiency, passing touchdowns, passing yards, points, receiving touchdowns, scoring, and yards per

attempt. Kameron Brown set the Charleston Southern single-season receiving touchdown record (10), while the Bucs posted the second-most first downs per game in Charleston Southern history (20.1).

Charleston State posted a trio of All-Big South Second Team selections (Kameron Brown – WR, Zack Evans – OL, Stephen Haralambis – OL) as the Bucs recorded the third-most total offensive yards in a CSU single season (4,341). A CSU record 21 different receivers caught passes in the 2019 season as well, with five different receivers hauling in at least 20 catches.

Huggins’ offenses at LaGrange were often among the best in the USA South conference. In his six years with the team, the Panthers ranked top five in the conference in the total offense all but one year and finished as high as second in 2017 when they averaged 408.6 yards per game.

In 2014, Huggins saw senior receiver Griffin Roelle earn USA South All-Conference honors. Rolle broke his own single-season record with 67 pass receptions and graduated as the Panthers’



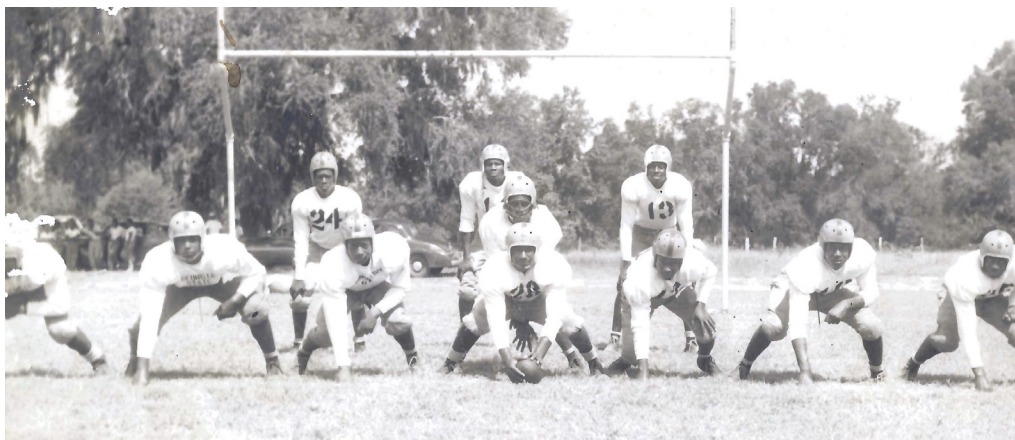
leading receiver with 126 receptions.

During the 2013 season, the Panthers’ receivers broke or tied all of the team’s receiving records. Sophomore Marsalis Jackson was named the USA South Offensive Rookie of the Year after setting school records of 902 receiving yards and 12 touchdown receptions. Freshman Ervens Oge (713) and junior Griffin Roelle (675) also broke the previous season’s record for receiving yards in a season (450).

Huggins played collegiately at Southeastern Louisiana. He started for three years and finished his time at the school as the career leader in receptions (162) and receiving yards (2,350) when he finished his collegiate career.

## COACHING STAFF

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Offensive Coordinator.....                 | Steve Wallace |
| Defensive Coordinator.....                 | Earl Chambers |
| Wide Receivers Coach.....                  | Lavell Meeks  |
| Defensive Backs/Special Teams.....         | Marco Sanchez |
| Football Operations/Linebackers Coach..... | Craig Foley   |
| Assistant Football Coach.....              | Lavon Meeks   |
| Assistant Football Coach.....              | Eli Tibbles   |
| Assistant Football Coach.....              | Terrell Lee   |
| Assistant Football Coach.....              | Bruce Hall    |

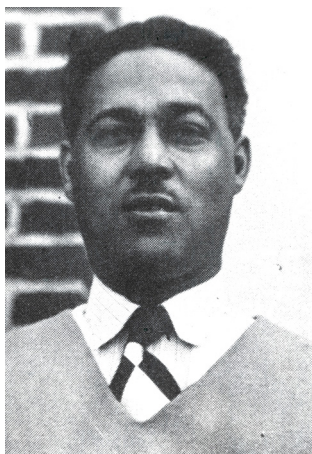


Theodore "Ted" Wright coached at Savannah State from 1947-62.

Wright came to Savannah State in 1947 and developed the school's first varsity track and field team. He also served as head coach of the football and men's basketball teams. Wright served as track coach from 1949-56. While track coach, he won seven SEAC track titles.

He served as head football coach from 1947-49. From 1948-62 he was head coach of the men's basketball team. Wright's teams won 10 SEAC basketball championships. His 1958 - 1962 "Chicago Five" won 118 games with only 18 defeats, and won the NAIA District 6 basketball title for three consecutive years.

He was named SEAC Coach of the Year in 1959-60. In 1962, his last coaching season, Savannah



State was the number one scoring team in the NAIA, averaging 97 points a game. Redell Walton, in 1962, was the first Savannah State basketball player to be named All-America.

In 1989, the SIAC awarded The-

odore Wright (posthumously) its outstanding Pioneer Award for his contributions to the development of the SIAC.

Wright received a baccalaureate degree in history in 1925 from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas and his master's degree from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

He was inducted (posthumously - with his brothers Elbert and Giles) into the Baker University Class of 1989 Athletic Hall of Fame as a football and basketball player in Baldwin City, Kansas. The SSU football stadium, which was built in 1970, was named after Wright. Ted Wright died in 1974.

He was inducted into the Savannah State Hall of Fame posthumously in 2010.



The Savannah State Tigers will be playing their 47th season in Theodore A. Wright Stadium.

In 2011, the Tigers played their first game in newly renovated T.A. Wright Stadium on October 1, after a \$6 million revitalization project in 2010 that included new professional style locker rooms, ticket booths, concession areas, brick front, and field turf.

The 2010 renovations added 500 seats to the stadium for a total capacity of 8,500, and heralded the inaugural season of competition in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. In 2009, a new press box was added, featuring a president's box. The

stadium has undergone three major renovations since it was built in 1969.

The most significant of these was the 1995 renovations that added the current track. In the 2009 a new press box was built prior to 2010's complete renovations. The original stadium's construction was part of massive school building project that spanned from 1964 to 1971.

The new stadium was built at a cost of \$133, 665 and John McGlockton, a 1935 graduate was instrumental in securing the lighting at no expense to the college. Prior to the current location in T.A. Wright Stadium the SSU football team played

in several different locations in the over 100 hundred years of competitive football. From 1902 to 1940, the Tigers played where the King-Frazier building now stands on the Savannah State campus. From 1940 to the 1970, they played on the grounds that the A.H. Gordon Library sits on today.

The SSU Track and Field team has competed in the stadium since 1995. The Tigers host multiple track and field events each year, utilizing the multiple fields inside and around T.A. Wright Stadium for events such as discuss, javelin throw, high jump, triple jump, and long jump.



Savannah State football began on Thanksgiving Day 1902 when Georgia Industrial College won its only game of the year. GIC held another one-game season on Thanksgiving Day in 1907.

Georgia Industrial College became Georgia State in 1932. In 1938, Georgia State celebrated their first football championship. The Tigers led the South Atlantic Athletic Conference with a 6-2 record. In 1947, Georgia State became a charter member of the Southeastern Athletic Conference. In 1950, the school became Savannah State College.

The second conference title came to the institution in 1967 when Savannah State College finished with a 6-2-1 record.

Savannah State joined the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in 1969 as a Division III participant and under the leadership of Coach John Myles, SSU had the best record in 1972 at 6-3-1.

1981 saw Tiger athletics move from Division III to Division

II and 2000 saw them move to Division I-AA (NCAA).

The move to Division II opened a new era in Savannah State Football. Savannah State University took her lumps through the first four years in the new division, but in 1996, along came William R. "Bill" Davis.

The Davis era lasted until 1992. During that seven year span, the SSU football program enjoyed a string of successes. Davis led the Tigers to their best ever records of 8-2 in 1988 and 8-1 in 1989.

In 1992, the Tigers played in their first ever NCAA Football Playoff. They finished the regular season with an 8-3 record.

Savannah State opted to move to Division I-AA in 1998, playing as independents. 2000 marked the first year that the university was a counter at the 1-AA level. Full membership was granted in 2002.

The 2000s were not kind to the Savannah State football program as they struggled to compete at the NCAA Division

I level. Their best year came under Robby Wells in 2008 when they finished 5-7.

The 2011-12 season marked the first year of competition for Savannah State University in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). The football program, steered by Steve Davenport and then Earnest Wilson won only four games between 2011 and 2015.

Erik Raeburn took over the program from 2016 to 2018 and finished 3-7, 3-8 and 2-8.

Shawn Quinn was hired on March 7, 2019. Quinn found success immediately. In his debut season in 2019, the Tigers posted an historic 7-3 overall record—the first winning schedule since 1998. In the program's first year of competition back in NCAA Division II and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC), Quinn led the Tigers to an incredible 5-0 conference record. The team finished 8-2 in the 2021 season, marking one of the best seasons since 1994.

# SAVANNAH STATE ATHLETICS

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SIAC Champion  
Bachelor's degree Interdisciplinary Studies

Le'Andrea Gillis  
SIAC East Division Champion  
Bachelor's degree Biology

Korbin Allan  
Medalist Alabama Spring Classic  
Bachelor's degree Biology  
Top undergraduate of the 2022 class



Shannon Sharpe was born on June 26, 1968, in Chicago, Ill., but grew up in Glennville, Ga. He led the 1988 and 1989 Tigers to a combined 15-4 record including 8-1 in 1989. He was the 1989 Co-Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Offensive Player of the Year and All-SIAC First Team Offense as a flanker. Sharpe was the second Savannah State football player selected to the Kodak Small College All-America team. He was the first Savannah State football player to play in the Blue-Gray Bowl (1990) in Mobile, Ala., and the East-West Shrine Game (1990) in Palo Alto, Ca. He was also named College Player of the Year in Georgia. A three-time All-SIAC selection, Sharpe owns SSU single-season receiving records for yardage (1,312), touchdowns (18) and yards per catch (21.5).

Sharpe graduated from Savannah State with a degree in criminal justice in 1991.

Shannon Sharpe's NFL career

spanned 14 years: 12 seasons with the Denver Broncos and two with the Baltimore Ravens. He was voted to eight Pro Bowls (1992-98, 2001), as well as to the NFL's first All-Decade Team for the 1990s. Sharpe is one of only five tight ends in NFL history to post more than one, 1,000-yard receiving season (1994: 1,010 yards; 1996: 1,062 yards; 1997: 1,107 yards) and one of four to amass 6,000 receiving yards.

A three-time Super Bowl champion, Sharpe won back-to-back with the Broncos in 1997 and 1998 and with the Ravens in 2000. He holds the NFL post-season record for longest reception, a 96-yard catch and run for a touchdown in the 2000 AFC Championship Game. He played in 12 post-season contests as a Bronco, all starts, and ranks No. 2 in franchise play-off history in receptions (47) and No. 3 in receiving yards (505).

Sharpe is a member of the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame, Georgia Sports Hall of Fame and



the Broncos Ring of Honor.

Savannah State retired his No. 2 jersey in 2009. Sharpe was inducted into the Savannah State Hall of Fame in 2010.

Sharpe co-hosts "Undisputed" on Fox Sports.



*THE SAVANNAH STATE COMMUNITY BOOSTER CLUB*

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| Patricia Clark        | Alvernia Jackson        | Lenora Moore          | Patricia West                  |
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| Alicia Gaffney        | CaTia Gilbert Jones     | Emma Preer            | Ruth Wright                    |
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Trint Height  
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Alfred Jackson  
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Charlie Frazier  
Michelle Kelley  
Dave Stevens  
Joyce Davis  
Abraham Mitchell  
Edythe Fraizer  
Robert Williams  
Moses Calhoun  
Cassandra Huntley





# 2025

*W1 vs. Edward Waters University* L, 14-41  
*Aug. 30*

*W2 vs. Shorter University* W, 13-0  
*Sept. 6, 6 p.m.*

*W3 at Miles College* W, 45-19  
*Sept. 20, 3 p.m. (CST)*

*W4 vs. Kentucky State University*   
*Sept. 27, 6 p.m.*

*W5 at South Carolina State University*  
*Oct. 4, 1:30 p.m.*

*W6 at Allen University*   
*Oct. 11, 6 p.m.*

*W7 at Fort Valley State University*   
*Oct. 18, 3 p.m.*

*W8 vs. Morehouse College*   
*Oct. 25, 3 p.m.*

*W9 at Albany State University*   
*Nov. 1, 1 p.m.*

*W10 vs. Benedict College*   
*Nov. 8, 3 p.m.*