# **LONGHORNS**

# TEXAS



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS • 1963, '69, '70, 2005 BIG 12 CHAMPIONS • '96, '05, '09

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS • 1920, '28, '30, '42, '43, '45, '50, '52, '53\*, '59\*, '61\*, '62, '63, '68\*, '69, '70, '71, '72, '73, '75\*, '77, '83, '90, '94\*, '95 (\*co-champs)

2016 SPRING NOTES (AS OF APRIL 5)

Longhorns Begin Third Season Of Strong Era: The University of Texas football program began its third season of the Charlie Strong era on March 7, as the Longhorns kicked off 2016 spring practices. The spring consists of 15 practice sessions, concluding with the Texas Orange-White Spring Game presented by Weber Grills on Saturday, April 16, at 1 p.m. UT begins the 2016 season on September 4 at home when they play host to Notre Dame.

Breaking Down The Schedule: The Longhorns will host six games inside of Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium during the 2016 season, while traveling for five true road games and the Red River Showdown against Oklahoma. Texas' 2016 opponents combined for an overall record of 89-64 (.582) in 2015. Nine of those opponents went to bowls, including three - Notre Dame, Oklahoma State and Oklahoma – who played in one of the New Year's Six bowls. Five opponents - Notre Dame (10), Oklahoma State (10), Oklahoma (11), Baylor (10), and TCU (11) - totaled double-digit wins. Texas plays 11 of its 12 opponents from the 2015 schedule once again in 2016, replacing their week two matchup of Rice from a season ago with UTEP.

Strong Retools Coaching Staff For 2016: Head coach Charlie Strong made significant changes to his coaching staff during the offseason, adding five new faces to the 2016 group. Among the most notable was the addition of offensive coordinator Sterlin Gilbert, who has an extensive background in the state of Texas prior to spending the past four seasons as an offensive coordinator – two at Eastern Illinois

and one each at Bowling Green and Tulsa – leading some of the nation's top offenses. Along with Gilbert came offensive line coach / running game coordinator Matt Mattox. Mattox has coached the last three seasons alongside Gilbert, including the last two as co-offensive coordinator. Strong also added Clay Jennings, a former North Texas standout, who will coach the Longhorns' defensive backs. A native of Waco, Jennings most recently coached at Arkansas for the last two seasons. Prior to that, he spent the previous nine years at three schools in the state of Texas - TCU (2008-13), Baylor (2007) and Houston (2005-06). To guide the running backs, Strong hired former Texas back Anthony Johnson, who spent the past two seasons at Toledo, and had just been named offensive coordinator. A 30-year coaching veteran with experience in both the NFL and college football, Charlie Williams will coach the Longhorns' wide receivers. The five additions to the staff will join defensive coordinator Vance Bedford, defensive line coach Brick Haley, linebackers coach Brian Jean-Mary, and tight ends coach and special teams coordinator Jeff Traylor to make up Strong's 2016 staff.

Starters Returning: The Longhorns return 15 starters from last season's team to their 2016 roster, with seven positions back on each side of the ball and starting punter Michael Dickson. Texas will return tight end Andrew Beck (10 starts) and both John Burt (12 starts) and Armanti Foreman (six starts) at wideout. Both quarterbacks who combined to start all 12 games a season ago, including Jerrod Heard who started 10, return for the Longhorns in 2016. On the

offensive line, UT returns Kent Perkins (10 starts), Patrick Vahe (10 starts) and Connor Williams (12 starts). On the defensive side of the ball, Bryce Cottrell (eight starts) and Naashon Hughes (12 starts) return up front, while freshman All-American Malik Jefferson (nine starts) is also back. In the secondary, the Longhors return safeties Dylan Haines (11 starts) and Jason Hall (11), while at cornerback Holton Hill (eight starts) and Davante Davis (five starts) are back. In total, the Longhorns return 26 players who started at least one game during the 2015 season. Those 26 players made a total of 172 starts a season ago.

Starters Lost: Texas will need to replace four starters on each side of the ball heading into the 2016 season, in addition to placekicker Nick Rose. Gone are center Taylor Doyle (12 starts) and guard Sedrick Flowers (11 starts) from the offensive line. Two skill players also depart in running back Johnathan Gray (10 starts) and wide receiver Daje Johnson (eight starts). WR Marcus Johnson, FB Alex De La Torre, and OL Marcus Hutchins do not return in 2016 after combining for 11 starts in 2015. On the defensive side of the ball, defensive

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tackles Hassan Ridgeway (eight starts) and Desmond Jackson (five starts) are not back with the Longhorns in 2016, while linebacker Peter Jinkens (11 starts) and cornerback Duke Thomas (12 starts) departed as well.

Competition Key To Quarterback Success In 2016: The competition will be intense during spring practice to see who comes out on top as the Longhorns' quarterback entering the 2016 season. Back are Tyrone Swoopes and Jerrod Heard, who combined to start all 12 games last season for Texas. Also in the mix is early enrollee Shane Buechele (Arlington, Texas/ Lamar). Swoopes, dangerous with his feet and arm, enters the 2016 season with a team-best 17 career rushing touchdowns. Last season, the native of Whitewright, Texas, rushed for 12 touchdowns and passed for another four, primarily working out of a feature rushing package, but also in starting the Notre Dame and Baylor games. Heard, a sophomore from Denton, Texas, passed for 1,214 yards and rushed for another 556 a season ago in 10 starts. Against Cal in his second start, he set the school record for single-game total offense with 527 yards. Heard, who suffered a minor shoulder sprain during spring practice, will not participate in the spring game.

Running At A New Speed: New running backs coach Anthony Johnson looks to build on Texas' rich tradition of running backs going into 2016 in an up-tempo offense that will provide increased snaps. Gone is Jonathan Gray, who started the first 10 games last season. But, the Longhorns return sophomore Chris Warren and junior D'Onta Foreman who combined to rush for 1,151 yards

and nine touchdowns in 2015. Warren, who started the final two games, burst onto the scene with 276 yards and four touchdowns in game 11 against Texas Tech. Foreman carried the ball 95 times for a team-high 681 yards last season, adding five touchdowns. Sophomore Kirk Johnson, who began to show his ability in 2015 and should compete for significant time in the fall, will miss spring practice with an injury.

Catching On To A New System: Two position groups that could see increased productivity in 2016 in offensive coordinator Sterlin Giblert's up-tempo system are the wide receivers and tight ends. The Longhorns return two receivers who caught doubledigit passes a season ago in John Burt (Tallahassee, Fla./Lincoln) and Armanti Foreman (Texas City, Texas/ Texas City). Burt caught 28 passes for a team-leading 457 yards, while Foreman had 12 receptions for 182 yards. Both players tied for the team high with two touchdown receptions. Several other receivers return who will look to contribute to the receptions total under the guidance of new coach Charlie Willimas. That group is led by senior Jacorey Warrick, along with juniors Lorenzo Joe, Dorian Leonard and Jake Oliver and sophomores Ryan Newsome and DeAndre McNeal. Early enrollee Collin Johnson begins his collegiate career and has quickly made a significant impact this spring. In addition, Texas returns its top two pass-catching tight ends under coach Jeff Traylor in senior Caleb Bluiett and junior Andrew Beck. Both players had eight receptions a season ago and were effective blockers.

Offensive Line Will Push Pace In **2016**: A new pace and a new style are expected under new Texas offensive coordinator Sterlin Gilbert and offensive line coach Matt Mattox. But, that pace can only be as fast as an offensive line, which returns 35 of 60 starts from a year ago. Gone are starters Taylor Doyle (12 games, center) and Sedrick Flowers (11 games, left guard) from last season. The Longhorns were the only team in the nation last year to start two true freshmen along the offensive line in Connor Williams and Patrick Vahe, and both emerged as freshman All-Americans. Williams, a native of Coppell, Texas, started all 12 games at left tackle, and Vahe (Euless, Texas/Trinity), started 10 games at right guard. Senior Kent Perkins (Dallas, Texas/Lake Highlands) started 10 games - all but two of those at right tackle. Junior Tristan Nickelson, a native of League City, Texas, also made three starts on the offensive line, and sophomore Elijah Rodriguez contributed valuable minutes as a freshman. Junior Brandon Hodges will be coming off a redshirt year, while true freshman Zach Shackelford joins the group as an early enrollee and could compete for early time at center.

Longhorns Looking For DL To Be A Strength: Defensive line coach Brick Haley will look to continue to build the defensive line as he enters his second season coaching the group. On the inside, the Longhorns will need to overcome the loss of significant experience in both Desmond Jackson (52 games/21 starts) and Hassan Ridgeway, who declared for the 2016 NFL Draft as a junior. Paul Boyette, who started six games a year ago, and Poona Ford, who started five games last season, will be looked to in order to fill the void after combining for 76 tackles, 14.0 TFL and 5.5 sacks. Sophomores Chris Nelson and Jake McMillon will also be given a large share of time during spring practice while the unit awaits depth from a sizable incoming freshman class in the summer. At end, senior Bryce Cottrell took over starting duties for the last eight games last season and shared time with departed senior Shiro Davis. On the other side, junior Naashon

		YEARS	RECORD	PCT.
1.	Notre Dame	127	_892-313-42 _	732
2	Michigan	136	_925-331-36 _	730
3.	Boise State	48	_ 417-159-2	723
4.	Ohio State	126	_875-320-53 _	722
5.	Oklahoma	121	_861-319-53 _	720
6.	Alabama	121	_864-326-43 _	718
7.	TEXAS	123	_886-353-33 _	710
8.	USC	122	_813-333-54 _	700

9. Nebraska \_\_\_\_\_ 126 \_\_\_\_880-368-40 \_\_\_\_ .699

NCAA ALL-TIME TEAM RECORDS

		YEARS	WINS
1.	Michigan	136	925
2.	Notre Dame	127	892
3.	TEXAS	123	886
4.	Nebraska	126	880
5.	Ohio State	126	875
6.	Alabama	121	864
7.	Oklahoma	121	861
8.	Tennessee	119	820
9.	USC	122	813

Hughes started all 12 games at fox end and totaled 57 tackles, 9.0 TFL and 5.5 sacks. Sophomores Derick Roberson and Charles Omenihu, along with former transfer Quincy Vasser, will be looking to extend their roles, however Roberson will be limited during spring practice due to injury.

Young Linebackers Group Building **Depth**: After a 2015 season in which he was named a freshman All-American, Mesquite, Texas native Malik Jefferson returns to help lead the Longhorns' linebackers in 2016. Jefferson finished last season second on the team with 61 total tackles, behind just departed first-team All-Big 12 recipient Peter Jinkens. Jefferson will be joined by the likes of Anthony Wheeler, who played in all 12 games last season and registered 36 tackles and a forced fumble. Several other linebackers will also compete for playing time, and a starting job in 2016. Seniors Timothy Cole (three starts in 2015) and Dalton Santos both bring leadership to the group, as Santos makes his return from missing last season with an injury. Sophomores Edwin Freeman and Breckyn Hager both made valuable contributions last season under the guidance of Brian Jean-Mary.

Experience Keys Secondary At #DBU: In 2016, the Longhorns will return 46 starts from the 2015 secondary, but will look to replace both the skill and leadership of Duke Thomas who started all 12 games a season ago. Back are the likes of safeties Dylan Haines (23 career starts) and Jason Hall, who both started 11 games in 2015. Haines, the team leader with five interceptions, missed the final game at Baylor due to injury. Joining that duo will be Holton Hill (eight starts) and Davante Davis

(five starts), who earned honorable mention All-Big 12 honors as true freshmen at corner. In addition, John Bonney and Antwuan Davis both return with starting experience at corner. The line of young talent continues with sophomores CB Kris Boyd, S DeShon Elliott and S P.J. Locke, while the group will benefit from the return of senior Sheroid Evans, who has missed the last two seasons due to injury, and the depth of senior Kevin Vaccaro. Defensive coordinator Vance Bedford and first-year defensive backs coach Clay Jennings have the pieces to work with as the Longhorns return players who made 12 of the team's 13 interceptions last year.

Special Teams Make Special Teams: Special teams coordinator Jeff Traylor will be looking to find players to step up during spring practices, as the Longhorns need to fill the voids left by the departures of Daje Johnson at returner and Nick Rose at kicker. Back is sophomore punter Michael Dickson, who was named honorable mention All-Big 12 as a true freshman in 2015. Dickson, a native of Sydney, Australia, averaged 41.3 yards per punt on 77 attempts. Deep snapper Kyle Ashby and holder Trey Holtz also return.

The Youth Movement: Throughout Charlie Strong's first two seasons, the Longhorns have relied on underclassmen to play significant snaps. Of his 43 signees in his first two classes, 32 of them have seen significant snaps as freshmen and sophomores. Last season, the Longhorns started 10 true freshmen, playing a total of 17. 33 of UT's 40 touchdowns came from underclassmen, while 12 of their 13 interceptions came from players who are also expected to return this season.

## **UT ALL-TIME RECORDS**

Overall (123 years)	886-353-33 (.710)
Home	510-132-13 (.789)
Away	274-147-10 (.647)
Neutral	102-74-10 (.575)

### vs. Ranked Opponents

All-time*	133-145-8 (.479)	
Home	48-42-4	
Away	38-49-0	
Neutral	47-53-4	
Ranked matchup	109-79-5	
As the higher-ranked tear	n+71-34-2	
As the lower-ranked team	n+38-46-3	
* as ranked by either The AP Poll or Coaches Poll		
+ both teams ranked		

### W/L vs. unranked opponents (since 1936)

All-time*	491-123-7 (.796)
Home	276-54-2
Away	187-61-3
Neutral	28-8-2

# 2016 TEXAS LONGHORNS BY THE NUMBERS

**8** Texas had eight 100-yard rushers in the last eight games of the 2015 season. Of those 100-yard games, seven were produced by underclassmen.

**10** 10 true freshmen started a game during the 2015 season - a UT record. The 10 true freshmen combined to start 73 games.

**11** A Longhorn has appeared in 11 straight Super Bowls dating back to the 2006 season, tied for the longest streak in school history.

**12** All but one of Texas' 13 interceptions a season ago were recorded by underclassmen.

14 UT returns a total of 14 starters from last season's team. In total, the Longhorns return players who combined to make 172 starts a season ago.

17 Of the 23 signees in Charlie Strong's 2015 class, 17 of them played as true freshmen.

**33** Of the Longhorns' 40 touchdowns scored in 2015, 33 of the 40 (82.5%) came from players returning in 2016.

**45** Texas has had 45 all-time first round draft picks in the NFL. That currently ranks seventh among all NCAA FBS schools.

### LONGHORNS IN THE NFL

Emmanuel Acho, Philadelphia Eagles Sam Acho, Chicago Bears Chykie Brown, Cincinnati Bengals Malcolm Brown, Los Angeles Rams Malcom Brown, New England Patriots Tarell Brown, New England Patriots Carrington Byndom, Arizona Cardinals Jamaal Charles, Kansas City Chiefs Phil Dawson, San Francisco 49ers Quandre Diggs, Detroit Lions Marquise Goodwin, Buffalo Bills Michael Griffin, Minnesota Vikings Donald Hawkins, Carolina Panthers Jordan Hicks, Philadelphia Eagles Tony Hills, New Orleans Saints Trey Hopkins, Cincinnati Bengals Lamarr Houston, Chicago Bears Michael Huey, San Diego Chargers Jackson Jeffcoat, Washington Redskins Derrick Johnson, Kansas City Chiefs Colt McCoy, Washington Redskins Henry Melton, Tampa Bay Buccaneers Roy Miller, Jacksonville Jaguars Alex Okafor, Arizona Cardinals Brian Orakpo, Tennessee Titans Adrian Phillips, San Diego Chargers Cedric Reed, Buffalo Bills Cory Redding, Arizona Cardinals Keenan Robinson, New York Giants Brian Robison, Minnesota Vikings Lyle Sendlein, Arizona Cardinals Jaxon Shipley, Arizona Cardinals Geoff Swaim, Dallas Cowboys Earl Thomas, Seattle Seahawks Mykkele Thompson, New York Giants Justin Tucker, Baltimore Ravens Kenny Vaccaro, New Orleans Saints Chris Whaley, Dallas Cowboys Fozzy Whittaker, Carolina Panthers Aaron Williams, Buffalo Bills



Longhorns In The Super Bowl: Fozzy Whittaker's appearance in Super Bowl 50 with the Carolina Panthers in 2016 marked the 11th straight season in which a former Longhorn has appeared in the Super Bowl. That stretch, which began in 2007, is tied for the longest in UT history. In total, 53 former Longhorns have been members of 44 different Super Bowl squads. Twenty-three of those players have claimed Super Bowl Champion rings, with Casey Hampton, Dan Neil, Terry Orr and Aaron Ross all claiming a pair of titles.

Longhorns In The Pro Bowl: The Longhorns have had 41 different Pro Bowlers representing 23 teams who have made a total of 103 appearances all-time. Former Texas standouts Earl Thomas and Derrick Johnson were named Pro Bowlers in 2015, as both appeared in the 2016 game. The appearance for Thomas was his fifth consecutive, tied for the most in UT history with Earl Campbell, Casey Hampton, Bobby Layne, Bud McFadin and Tommy Nobis. Johnson's appearance was the fourth of his career, tied with Bobby Dillon, Doug English, Jerry Gray, George Sauer, Harley Sewell and Jamaal Charles. The Longhorns have had a Pro Bowler in each of the last 15 seasons, the longest consecutive streak in school history.

New Contracts, New Teams: Several new Longhorns will be sporting new jerseys for the 2016. Additionally, several former Longhorns have resigned with their current franchise for long-term deals.

\*Pro Bowler Derrick Johnson signed a three-year contract this offseason to remain with the Kansas City Chiefs. Johnson has played his entire career in Kansas City, totaling 990 tackles, 26.5 sacks and 13 interceptions since his NFL career began in 2005.

\*Colt McCoy also resigned with his current franchise, the Washington Redskins. McCoy signed a three-year deal during the offseason to remain in Washington through the 2018 season.

\*Safety Michael Griffin signed a deal with the Minnesota Vikings during the offseason, after playing the first nine seasons of his career with the Tennessee Titans. Griffin, who signed a one-year deal with the Vikings, totaled 763 tackles and 25 interceptions during his time with the Titans.

\*Linebacker Keenan Robinson also signed a one-year deal this offseason with the New York Giants. After playing the first three seasons of his career in Washington, Robinson will now play for division foe New York in 2016. He has registered 183 tackles in 36 career games.

\*Offensive lineman Donald Hawkins will play his second season with the Carolina Panthers. Last season, Hawkins was with the Dallas Cowboys.

\*Cornerback Chykie Brown, after playing with the New York Giants in each of the past two seasons, signed with the Cincinnati Bengals in the offseason.

Longhorns Coaching In The NFL: Three former Longhorns are coaching in the NFL for the 2016 season. Jerry Gray (Minnesota Vikings), Richard Hightower (Chicago Bears) and Kyle Shanahan (Atlanta Falcons) will join the other former Longhorns in the NFL this season.

\*A two-time consensus All-American with the Longhorns, Gray enters his third season coaching defensive backs for the Minnesota Vikings.

\*Hightower, who enters his first season with the Chicago Bears, will be the assistant special teams coach in 2016. A former walk-on for the Longhorns, Hightower earned the D. Harold Byrd Leadership Award as a senior at UT.

\*Kyle Shanahan, a former wide receiver at Texas, is in his second season as offensive coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons. Shannahan has spent the last six seasons as offensive coordinator for three different franchises.

Longhorns In The 2015 NFL Playoffs: In total, 14 former Longhorns were on eight NFL Playoff teams following the 2015 season, including Fozzy Whittaker who played in the Super Bowl with the Carolina Panthers. Three former UT players missed the playoffs after being placed on injured reserve - Jamaal Charles (Kansas City Chiefs), Tarell Brown (New England Patriots) and Jackson Jeffcoat (Washington Redskins). Eight Longhorns were active for NFL Playoff games this season, including C Lyle Sendlein (Arizona Cardinals), Whittaker, DT Malcom Brown (New England Patriots), LB Derrick Johnson (Kansas City Chiefs), S Earl Thomas (Seattle Seahawks), DE Brian Robison (Minnesota Vikings), LB Keenan Robinson (Washington Redskins) and QB Colt McCoy (Washington Redskins).

**2016 NFL DRAFT**: The 2016 NFL Draft will take place April 28 - April 30 at the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, Ill.