

WAKE FOREST FOOTBALL

Essang
BASSEY

21



DB ■ Sr. ■ 5-10 ■ 190
Columbus, Ga.
Columbus

2019 (Senior)

Elected a team captain for the 2019 season ... Started three straight bowl games for the Demon Deacons ... Started all 13 games as a senior ... Played 1,019 snaps during the season ... Co-team leader in tackles vs. NC State (11/2) and Syracuse (11/30) ... Finished 10th in the ACC in passes defended with 12 or 0.92 per game ... Finished third in school history with 50 passes defended (5 interceptions and 45 pass break-ups) ... Finished second in school history with 45 passes broken-up ... Saw some action at safety in the Pinstripe Bowl against Michigan State ... Had a third quarter interception of Anthony Brown at Boston College (9/28) ... Led all defensive players with 93 snaps against Boston College ... Led the team with 77 snaps at Rice (9/6) ... Second on the team with seven tackles vs. Utah State (8/30) ... Named to the Pro Football Focus ACC Team of the Week following the Rice game.

- Reese's Senior Bowl invitee
- Third team All-ACC at cornerback
- Third team All-ACC by Phil Steele
- Co-Captain
- Preseason first team All-ACC by Pro Football Focus
- Preseason second team All-ACC by Athlon
- Preseason Jim Thorpe Award watch list
- Preseason Bronko Nagurski Award watch list
- Preseason Senior Bowl Watch List

2018 (Junior)

Named second team All-ACC ... Started all 13 games and finished third on the team with 1,095 plays from scrimmage ... Third on the team with 74 total tackles ... Led the Deacs with 93 snaps against NC State (11/8) ... Led the team in pass break-ups for the second straight year with 15 including three vs. Tulane (8/30) ... Had a season-high 10 tackles in a win over Louisville (10/27) ... Added eight stops each against Boston College (9/13) and Syracuse (11/3) ... Recorded an interception against Towson (9/8) ... Scored his second career touchdown with a 51-yard fumble return against Rice (9/29) ... His five pass break-ups vs. Syracuse (11/3) are the second-most in a game by a Deacon in school history.

2017 (Sophomore)

Honorable mention All-ACC ... Tied the school record with 19 passes defended (16 PBU, 3 interceptions) ... Was second in the ACC in passes defended ... Finished 39th in the ACC in tackles per game with 5.8 ... Led the club with 1,178 total snaps ... His 121 total plays against Syracuse were the most by a Deacon in any game in 2017 ... Started all 13 games at cornerback and saw action on kickoff coverage team ... Had nine tackles and a game-high three pass break-ups in the Belk Bowl ... Named to ESPN's All-ACC Bowl team ... Set Wake Forest bowl game record with three pass break-ups in the Belk Bowl ... Against NC State (11/18) had eight tackles, a tackle for loss, two pass break-ups and a game-sealing interception in the end zone ... Led Wake Forest with 12 tackles at Syracuse (11/11) ... Had an end zone interception of Lamar Jackson vs. Louisville (10/28) ... Led the team with 10 tackles vs. the Cardinals ... Had two tackles for loss, two pass break-ups and five tackles vs. Appalachian State (9/16) ... Had his first career interception and turned it into a 30-yard pick-six just before the half at Boston College (9/9) to give the Deacons a 21-7 lead ... Named the ACC Defensive Back of the Week for his efforts ... Finished the game with five tackles ... Earned honorable mention player of the week honors from the Jim Thorpe Award ... Earned his second varsity letter.

2016 (Freshman)

Played in all 13 games as a true freshman ... Saw action at corner and on special teams ... Earned first career start vs. Florida State (10/15) in place of the injured Amari Henderson ... Was second on the team with a career-high eight tackles vs. the Seminoles ... Forced a fumble in the Military Bowl win over Temple.

High School

Team captain and first team all-state Class 5-A by the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, Atlanta Journal-Constitution and the Georgia Sports Writers Association ... Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN ... All-Bi-City Athlete of the Year by the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer in 2015 ... As a senior, had 50 tackles, six tackles for loss, an interception and three fumble recoveries ... Rushed for 536 yards and two touchdowns ... Had 21 receptions for 577 yards and four touchdowns ... Averaged nearly 30 yards per kickoff return ... Helped the Blue Devils to the 5-A state playoffs in 2015 ... Had 31 tackles, 10 pass break-ups and five interceptions as a junior ... On offense, made 39 receptions for 503 yards and four touchdowns ... Earned All-Bi-City status in 2014 ... Four-year letterman for Coach Phil Marino.

Personal

Son of Edet and Umo Bassey ... Born August 12, 1998 ... Posted a 3.7 GPA in high school ... Participated in food drives at Columbus High ... Economics major.

BASSEY'S CAREER DEFENSIVE STATS

	G-GS	S-A-Tot	TFL-Yds	Sk-Yds	Int-Yds	PBU	FF-FR
2016	13-1	16-3-19	1.5-2	0-0	0-0	3	1-1
2017	13-13	52-23-75	6.0-11	0-0	3-30	16	0-0
2018	13-13	53-21-74	2.5-10	1.0-8	1-0	15	0-1
2019	13-13	41-19-60	2.5-7	0-0	1-1	11	0-1
Career	52-40	162-66-228	12.5-30	1.0-8	5-31	45	1-3

BASSEY'S GAME-BY-GAME DEFENSIVE STATS

2016	Opp	S-A-Tot	TFL-Yds	Sk-Yds	Int-Yds	PBU	FF-FR
9/1	Tulane	0-0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
9/10	at Duke	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
9/17	Delaware	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
9/24	at Indiana	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/1	at NC State	0-0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/8	Syracuse	0-0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/15	at Florida St.	7-1-8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-1
10/29	Army	2-1-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/5	Virginia	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/12	at Louisville	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/19	Clemson	0-1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/26	Boston College	0-0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
12/27	vs. Temple	2-0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1-0

2017	Opp	S-A-Tot	TFL-Yds	Sk-Yds	Int-Yds	PBU	FF-FR
8/31	Presbyterian	1-0-1	1.0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/9	at Boston Col.	4-1-5	0-0	0-0	1-30	0	0-0
9/16	Utah State	3-2-5	2.0-3	0-0	0-0	2	0-0
9/23	at App State	5-2-7	0.5-2	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/30	Florida State	1-2-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
10/7	at Clemson	4-1-5	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
10/21	at Ga. Tech	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/28	Louisville	7-3-10	0-0	0-0	1-0	1	0-0
11/4	at Notre Dame	4-2-6	1.0-3	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
11/11	at Syracuse	8-4-12	0.5-1	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
11/18	NC State	6-2-8	1.0-1	0-0	1-0	2	0-0
11/25	Duke	2-1-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0-0
12/29	vs. Texas A&M	6-3-9	0-0	0-0	0-0	3	0-0

2018	Opp	S-A-Tot	TFL-Yds	Sk-Yds	Int-Yds	PBU	FF-FR
8/30	at Tulane	2-5-7	0-0	0-0	0-0	3	0-0
9/8	Towson	6-1-7	0.5-0	0-0	1-0	1	0-0
9/13	Boston College	4-4-8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
9/22	Notre Dame	5-2-7	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/29	Rice	3-0-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-1
10/6	Clemson	6-1-7	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/20	at Florida State	3-1-4	0.5-1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/27	at Louisville	7-3-10	1.0-8	1.0-8	0-0	1	0-0
11/3	Syracuse	7-1-8	0.5-1	0-0	0-0	5	0-0
11/8	at NC State	5-0-5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/17	Pittsburgh	2-1-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
11/24	at Duke	2-0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
12/22	vs. Memphis	1-2-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0

2019	Opp	S-A-Tot	TFL-Yds	Sk-Yds	Int-Yds	PBU	FF-FR
8/30	Utah State	6-1-7	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
9/6	at Rice	1-1-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/13	North Carolina	0-2-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/21	Elon	2-2-4	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
9/28	at Boston Col.	0-1-1	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0-0
10/12	Louisville	6-0-6	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
10/19	Florida State	5-2-7	0.5-1	0-0	0-0	3	0-0
11/2	NC State	5-1-6	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
11/9	at Va Tech	2-1-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-1
11/16	at Clemson	4-1-5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
11/23	Duke	1-1-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
11/30	at Syracuse	5-5-10	1.0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0-0
12/27	vs. Mich. St.	4-1-5	1.0-5	0-0	0-0	2	0-0