



CINCINNATI BENGALS

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WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

SEPT. 20, 2016

DENVER BRONCOS (2-0)

AT

CINCINNATI BENGALS (1-1)

WEEK 3, GAME 3

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25

AT PAUL BROWN STADIUM

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 4, GAME 4

THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL, SEPT. 29 VS. MIAMI

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 1 p.m. Eastern.

Television: CBS broadcast with Ian Eagle (play-by-play), Dan Fouts (analyst) and Evan Washburn (sideline reporter). The game will be aired in the Bengals home market on WKRC-TV (Channel 3) in Cincinnati, WHIO-TV (Channel 7) in Dayton and on WKYT-TV (Channel 27) in Lexington, Ky.

Radio: Coverage on the Bengals Radio Network, led by Cincinnati flagship stations WCKY-AM (ESPN 1530; all sports) and WEBN-FM (102.7). Broadcasters are Dan Hoard (play-by-play) and Dave Lapham (analyst).

The game will also be aired to a national audience on affiliates of Sports USA radio. Broadcasters are Larry Kahn (play-by-play), former Bengals assistant coach Mark Carrier (analyst) and Troy West (sideline reporter).

Setting the scene: The Bengals are approaching a new club benchmark. They have had a .500-or-better season record after each of their last 49 games, dating back to Game 2 of 2013, when they defeated Pittsburgh to even their slate at 1-1 after an opening loss at Chicago. The only better Cincinnati performance in this area hit its high point 40 years ago, when the 1976 team finished a stretch of 55 games, dating back to 1973, without a sub-.500 ledger.

But the 1-1 Bengals need a win this week to keep the current streak alive, and the hurdle is formidable. The Denver Broncos are headed to Cincinnati, and they are 2-0, alone atop the AFC West, after winning the Super Bowl last season. They feature one of the NFL's most talented defenses and have averaged a healthy 27.5 points per game on offense under second-year QB Trevor Siemian, the successor to retired superstar Peyton Manning.

The Bengals won a tense and exciting season opener at the N.Y. Jets on Sept. 11, but last week they were a step behind most of the day in losing 24-16 at Pittsburgh. They have opened a season with two games on the road for only the second time since 1996, and now they return to Paul Brown Stadium.

"We know that this is how it's going to be every week," head coach Marvin Lewis told his team after a physical, hard-fought loss in Pittsburgh, "and now we have the defending World Champions coming to our place. We're going to learn from today, and we're going to get better."

The Bengals are 29-19 (.604) in their home opener history, including 10-6 at PBS.

Through two games, the Bengals offense has been a tale of two extremes.

On one hand, QB Andy Dalton stands as the NFL's leader in passing yards (732), having delivered a pair of 366-yard games, each with one TD, on 54-of-84 passing (64.3 percent; 94.9 passer rating). WR A.J. Green delivered fireworks in Game 1 at the Jets, notching career highs in receptions (12) and receiving yards (180), including a 54-yard TD. Last week at Pittsburgh, with the defense's attention focused on limiting Green's damage, it was rookie Tyler Boyd, who continued his coming-of-age. Boyd racked up six receptions for 78 yards in a homecoming to Heinz Field, his home stadium as a collegian at the University of Pittsburgh. Of Boyd's six receptions at Pittsburgh, four went for first downs.

On the flip side, the Bengals will look to kick start a ground attack that has totaled only 103 yards on 37 attempts the first two weeks, albeit against staunch defenses in the Jets and Steelers.

"It's something we have to do a better job of," HB Jeremy Hill said after the Pittsburgh game. "Something where we have to go back to the lab and get better, just try to get the run game going."

On the defensive side, a Bengals defense that has given up 138 rushing

yards per game will this week face a Denver ground attack, led by RB C.J. Anderson, that has averaged 141. The Broncos rank fourth in NFL rushing offense, and the Bengals rank 31st in rush defense.

But the Bengals know they're capable of doing better stopping the run. Last season they allowed the fewest rushing yards per game (92.3) in franchise history, and all the top hands from that unit are back.

Asked about facing the Broncos, CB Adam Jones said:

"I feel confident about it. We have a top team. I feel like we can compete as a Super Bowl team."

The series: Denver leads, 20-9 overall, but the series is tied 7-7 in games in Cincinnati. The Broncos won the last meeting, 20-17 in overtime last season in Denver. The Bengals won the last Cincinnati meeting, 37-28 in 2014. Each of the last two meetings has been on ESPN's Monday Night Football.

This week's game marks the fifth time for the Bengals to host Denver in their home opener. The clubs have split the previous four such meetings. In the last Bengals home opener against Denver, on Sept. 13, 2009, the Broncos won 12-7, scoring an 87-yard touchdown with 11 seconds to play on a pass that was deflected by the Cincinnati defense to WR Brandon Stokley, who was not the intended receiver. The Stokley TD stands as the longest game-winning TD play from scrimmage in the final minute of the fourth quarter in NFL history.

The Broncos have been involved in several "firsts" for the Bengals:

- The first road game of any kind in Bengals history was at Denver in the 1968 preseason. On Aug. 10, the Broncos beat Cincinnati 15-13 at Bears Stadium, Denver's minor league baseball park (later renamed Mile High Stadium). It was the second preseason game in Bengals history, following an opener at home against Kansas City.

- The first regular-season home game and first regular-season victory for the Bengals franchise was a 24-10 decision over Denver on Sept. 15, 1968 at Nippert Stadium.

- On Sept. 7, 2003, the Broncos were the opponent in Marvin Lewis' first regular-season game as Bengals coach. Denver won, 30-10 at Paul Brown Stadium.

- The Bengals' 2004 win over Denver marked the first visit of Monday Night Football to Paul Brown Stadium.

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 38, in a 38-21 victory at Riverfront Stadium in 1981. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 17, in the 38-21 win in '81. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 7, in a 17-7 victory at Cincinnati in 1976.

Broncos — MOST POINTS: 45, in a 45-14 victory at Mile High Stadium in 1991. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 31, in the 45-14 win in '91. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 0, in a 10-0 victory at Mile High Stadium in 1979.

The last meetings: Summaries of the last two Bengals-Broncos meetings — in 2014 at Cincinnati, and in '15 in Denver — are on page 14 of this news release.

Home opener history: The Bengals are 29-19 in past home openers, including 16-8 in years in which the home opener has not been the season opener. The Bengals have won four straight home openers, none of which has been the season opener.

Under head coach Marvin Lewis, the Bengals are 9-4 in home openers, including 8-2 in games that were not the season opener.

Bengals hold their own against champs: This week's game will mark the 31st time in franchise history for the Bengals to play a regular-season game against the defending Super Bowl champion.

Cincinnati shows an 11-19 record for the previous 30 contests. But after losing their first eight games against defending league champs, the Bengals have gone 11-11 over the last 22 instances, including 4-2 in the last six.

Here's a recap of the Bengals' history in their last 22 games against defending Super Bowl winners:

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT
Oct. 14, 1979	Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 34-10
Dec. 2, 1979	@Pittsburgh.....	Steelers, 37-17
Sept. 21, 1980	Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 30-28
Oct. 12, 1980	@Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 17-16
Sept. 28, 1986	Chicago.....	Bears, 44-7
Dec. 17, 1988	Washington.....	Bengals, 20-17 (OT)
Dec. 9, 1990	San Francisco.....	49ers, 20-17 (OT)
Dec. 1, 1991	N.Y. Giants.....	Bengals, 27-24
Oct. 30, 1994	Dallas.....	Cowboys, 23-20
Nov. 1, 1998	Denver.....	Broncos, 33-26
Sept. 23, 2001	Baltimore.....	Bengals, 21-10
Dec. 23, 2001	@Baltimore.....	Ravens, 16-0
Dec. 12, 2004	@New England.....	Patriots, 35-28
Sept. 24, 2006	@Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 28-20
Dec. 31, 2006	Pittsburgh.....	Steelers, 23-17 (OT)
Sept. 21, 2008	@N.Y. Giants.....	Giants, 26-23 (OT)
Sept. 27, 2009	Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 23-20
Nov. 15, 2009	@Pittsburgh.....	Bengals, 18-12
Dec. 5, 2010	New Orleans.....	Saints, 34-30
Nov. 11, 2012	N.Y. Giants.....	Bengals, 31-13
Nov. 10, 2013	@Baltimore.....	Ravens, 20-17 (OT)
Dec. 29, 2013	BALTIMORE.....	Bengals, 34-17

Records vs. Broncos: In 2011 at Denver, Bengals QB Andy Dalton and WR A.J. Green hooked up for 10 pass completions, the most in NFL history by a rookie QB-WR duo. Green totaled 124 yards and one TD.

Other records from past Bengals-Broncos games include:

• HB Corey Dillon rushed for a Bengals-record 278 yards vs. Denver on Oct. 22, 2000, at Paul Brown Stadium. The total at the time was the NFL record, breaking a mark of 275 by Chicago's Walter Payton which had stood since 1977. Dillon's 278 total now stands fourth in NFL annals. The record is now 296, posted by Minnesota's Adrian Peterson in 2007 vs. San Diego. Dillon had no receiving yards in the Oct. 22, 2000 contest, but his 278 rushing total also stands as the Bengals record for most yards from scrimmage in a game.

• Denver's Trindon Holliday had a 105-yard kickoff return vs. Cincinnati in 2012, tying for the longest play ever against the Bengals. Miami's Mercury Morris had a 105-yard KOR against the Bengals in 1969.

• The Bengals had 407 total rushing yards in the 2000 win over Denver. That is the Cincinnati team record, and it also stands as the most rushing yards in a game by an NFL team in the last 66 years. The last team to top 407 was the 1950 N.Y. Giants, who gained 423 against Baltimore. The 407 total ranks fifth all-time in the NFL for rushing yards by a team.

• On Oct. 19, 1969 at Nippert Stadium, the Broncos posted 10 sacks against the Bengals, which is tied for most ever allowed by Cincinnati in a game.

Individually vs. Broncos: The Bengals and Broncos have met in four of the last five seasons, and four Bengals offensive players have posted stats in more than one of the contests:

• QB Andy Dalton: Three games; 70-for-108 passing (64.8 percent) for 777 yards (259.0 per game), with five TDs and two INTs; passer rating of 93.8;

Dalton missed last season's game due to a thumb fracture.

• WR A.J. Green: Four games; 30 receptions for 362 yards (averages of 7.5 receptions and 90.5 yards per game), with three TDs.

• HB Jeremy Hill: Two games; 41 rushes for 210 yards (5.1) with one TD; Two receptions for minus-two yards; Hill rushed 22-for-147 with a TD in Cincinnati's 2014 win vs. Denver.

• HB Giovani Bernard: Two games; 16-for-50 rushing (3.1); Nine receptions for 74 yards (8.2) with one TD.

BENGALS-BRONCOS NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	BRONCOS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored.....	T-20th (19.5)	T-9th (27.5)
Points allowed.....	T-16th (23.0)	T-10th (20.0)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total.....	10th (396.5)	16th (353.5)
Rushing.....	31st(51.5)	4th (141.0)
Passing.....	2nd (345.0)	26th (212.5)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total.....	T-15th (357.0)	6th (293.0)
Rushing.....	32nd (138.0)	24th (120.0)
Passing.....	11th (219.0)	2nd (173.0)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential.....	T-14th (even)	T-20th (minus-1)

Red zone reports: The red zone told much of the unsuccessful tale for the Bengals last week in Pittsburgh. Cincinnati was held to field goals on each of its three possessions inside the Steelers 20-yard line, and Pittsburgh cashed TDs on each of its two trips.

The Bengals ranked fifth in the NFL last season in both offensive and defensive TD percentage, but through Week 2 of this season they rank 30th and 18th. Denver has made it to a 2-0 record despite low-ranking TD percentages on both offense and defense thus far.

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 6	Inside-20 possessions: 7
Total scores: 6 (100.0%)	Total scores: 6 (85.7%)
TDs: 1 (16.7%)	TDs: 4 (57.1%)
FGs: 5 (83.3%)	FGs: 2 (28.6%)
TD% rank: 30th	TD% rank: 18th
No scores: 0 (0.0%)	No scores: 1 (14.3%)

BRONCOS RED-ZONE REPORT

Inside-20 possessions: 6	Inside-20 possessions: 5
Total scores: 5 (83.3%)	Total scores: 5 (100.0%)
TDs: 2 (33.3%)	TDs: 4 (80.0%)
FGs: 3 (50.0%)	FGs: 1 (20.0%)
TD% rank: T-26th	TD% rank: T-28th
No scores: 1 (16.7%)	No scores: 0 (0.0%)

Bengals-Broncos connections: Bengals H-Back Ryan Hewitt is from Denver ... Broncos DE Derek Wolfe played at the University of Cincinnati ... Broncos WR Cody Latimer is from Dayton, Ohio (Jefferson Township High School) ... Broncos OT Justin Murray (practice squad) is from Cincinnati (Sycamore High School) and played at the University of Cincinnati ... Broncos NT Kyle Peko is the cousin of Bengals DT Domata Peko ... Broncos CB Bradley Roby and TE Jeff Heurman played at Ohio State ... Broncos defensive line coach Bill Kollar was drafted by the Bengals in 1974 (first round, No. 23 overall) and played with the team from '74-76 ... Broncos defensive line coach Fred Pagac played at Ohio State and coached there from 1978-2000 ... Broncos WRs coach Tyke Tolbert coached at Ohio University in 1995.

THE HEAD COACHES

Marvin Lewis in 2016 extends his Bengals-record head coaching tenure to 14 seasons. The Bengals head coaches with the second-most years in the position have been Paul Brown (1968-75) and Wyche (1984-91), each with eight seasons.

Lewis has led his teams to the postseason seven times, including the last five years. The total number of playoff appearances and the current streak of consecutive appearances are also Bengals records. The Bengals are one of only four NFL teams to reach the playoffs the last five years, joining Denver, Green

Bay and New England.

Lewis has 113 career victories, the most in Bengals history by a margin of 49 over Sam Wyche (64). Lewis' record is 113-95-2 in the regular season and 113-102-2 including postseason. The Bengals' 52-27-1 record over the last five regular seasons gives the team a .656 winning percentage for the span, ranked fifth in the NFL.

The 2015 Bengals were widely considered as Lewis' best team yet. Their 12-4 record tied the 1981 and '88 Super Bowl teams for the best winning

percentage (.750) in a 16-game season in Bengals history. Additionally, Cincinnati finished second in the NFL and first in the AFC in scoring defense, at 17.4 points allowed per game. The No. 2 NFL ranking was the highest in franchise history. Overall, the team had eight players selected for the Pro Bowl, second-most in club annals.

Lewis ranks second in the NFL in longest current tenure with one team, trailing only Bill Belichick, who is in his 17th straight season with New England. In the category of most seasons as head coach with one or more teams, Lewis in 2016 ranks fifth among active coaches, behind Belichick (22nd season in '16), Jeff Fisher (22), Andy Reid (18) and John Fox (15).

Lewis was the consensus choice as NFL Coach of the Year in 2009, when the Bengals won the AFC North Division while sweeping all six division games. The Bengals were AFC North champions under Lewis also in 2005 and '13.

Lewis came to the Bengals with credentials as a record-setting NFL defensive coordinator, having played a huge role in a championship season. His six seasons (1996-2001) as Baltimore Ravens coordinator included a Super Bowl victory in 2000, when his defense set the NFL record for fewest points allowed in a 16-game campaign (165). That team clipped 22 points off the previous mark. The 2000 Ravens are always an entry in discussions regarding the best NFL defensive units of all time.

Lewis began his coaching career as linebackers coach at his alma mater Idaho State from 1981-84. He played LB at Idaho State, earning All-Big Sky Conference honors for three consecutive years (1978-80). He also saw action at quarterback and free safety during his college career. He received his bachelor's degree in physical education from Idaho State in 1981, and earned his master's in athletic administration in '82. He was inducted into Idaho State's Hall of Fame in 2001.

Born Sept. 23, 1958, Lewis attended Fort Cherry High School in McDonald, Pa. (near Pittsburgh), where he was an all-conference quarterback and safety.

He also earned high school letters in wrestling and baseball. He and his wife, Peggy, have a daughter, Whitney, and a son, Marcus. Marcus Lewis has been on the Bengals' coaching staff since 2014.

Gary Kubiak is in his second season as Broncos head coach and his 10th season as an NFL head coach. Last year, in his first Broncos season, he led the team to the NFL championship, with a win over Carolina in Super Bowl 50. He was head coach of the Houston Texans from 2006 through Game 13 of 2013, compiling a 63-66 record, including 2-2 in postseason. Both of his postseason wins for the Texans came in Wild Card round games at home against the Bengals, in the 2011 and 2012 seasons. He 17-4 with Denver, including 3-0 in postseason, and his overall record is 80-70, including 5-2 in postseason.

Released by the Texans late in the 2013 season, he served in 2014 as offensive coordinator for the Baltimore Ravens.

Prior to joining the Texans, Kubiak spent 11 years (1995-2005) as Denver's offensive coordinator, helping guide the Broncos to back-to-back world championships in Super Bowls XXXII and XXXIII and three AFC West Division titles.

He began his coaching career at his alma mater, Texas A&M, as quarterbacks coach from 1992-93.

A Houston native, Kubiak played QB at Texas A&M from 1979-82, earning All-Southwest Conference honors as a senior. He played for the Broncos from 1983-91 as John Elway's backup, throwing 14 career TD passes. As a player he was part of three teams that reached the Super Bowl.

Lewis vs. Broncos: Broncos lead, 6-2.

Lewis vs. Kubiak: Kubiak leads 6-0, including 4-0 in regular season and 2-0 in postseason. Kubiak is 1-0 (regular season) as Broncos coach.

Kubiak vs. Bengals: Same as Kubiak vs. Lewis.

BENGALS NOTES

Dalton airs it out: The Bengals have passed the ball more than they'd ideally want to in their first two games. Andy Dalton has averaged 42 throws per game, including a career-high 54 last week, whereas last year's 12-4 division championship team averaged only 31.6 per outing.

But Dalton this week holds a place that a Bengal has not held over the last 40 full seasons. He's leading the NFL in passing yards at 732 (366.0 per game), two ahead of NFL passer rating leader Matt Ryan of Atlanta. The Bengals' only previous passing yards leader for a full season has been Ken Anderson, who led twice, with 2667 yards in 1974 and 3169 in 1975. Those were 14-game seasons in an era of tougher passing rules, so even Anderson's 3169 is far short of the current Bengals record, 4293 by Dalton in 2013.

Back to this season, it's not as if Dalton's passing yards lead is totally a product of high attempt totals. Dalton's yards-per-attempt is 8.71, ranked third in the NFL behind Ryan (10.00) and Minnesota's Sam Bradford (9.23).

Dalton's passer rating thus far is a solid 94.9. It has upped his Bengals-best career passer rating from a season starting point of 88.4 to 88.6. But Dalton is shooting for much higher of course, after leading the AFC and ranking second in the NFL last season at 106.3. Dalton ranks 13th in the NFL in rating this week.

"Andy is just one of the best," says WR A.J. Green, who ranks tied for third in the NFL in receptions (14) and third in receiving yards (218). "He's so confident, so poised, and he's having fun. I've been with Andy six years now, and his level of play has risen so high."

Dalton didn't have the size (6-2, 210) or the absolute rocket arm to be a first-round NFL draft choice after his stellar career at TCU. The Bengals got him in round two. But he's as tall and strong as many top QBs in NFL history, and he has justified the faith the Bengals showed in his accuracy and his smarts.

"Andy is just so good at getting us into the right plays and out of the wrong ones," says head coach Marvin Lewis. "The decisions he makes before the snap put us in position to be successful when the ball is in play."

366 times two: The last two games have seen Andy Dalton become the first Bengals passer with 366 or more yards in consecutive contests, though his 732 total is not a two-game Bengals record (it ranks fifth). And trivia buffs can make note that Dalton is the first passer in NFL history to pass for exactly 366 in consecutive games.

Bank on Bengals with Dalton at 100: Andy Dalton has posted 29 career games with a passer rating at 100 or above, including this year's season opener against the Jets, and Cincinnati's record in those contests is 26-3 (winning percentage of .897).

The Bengals have won their last nine with Dalton at 100 or above. Their last loss with Dalton in triple figures was a 42-21 defeat vs. Pittsburgh in 2014, when Dalton posted a 128.8.

LaFell on Andy: WR Brandon LaFell, signed as a free agent for 2016, previously spent time with Carolina and New England, taking throws from Cam Newton and Tom Brady. And he's seen no drop-off in his QB partner since joining Andy Dalton with the Bengals.

"Watching them reel off eight straight wins (in 2015), I knew Andy was pretty good," LaFell said. "But he's way better than advertised. The first two things that impress you are his ball placement and accuracy. Then it's how fast he gets the ball out. His command of the huddle. The way he always has us in the right play. The way he demands everybody to play to a certain level."

Dalton was leading the NFL in passing last season entering the Game 13 Pittsburgh contest in which he suffered a season-ending thumb fracture.

Taking care of Andy: It's sort of a joke, but sort of serious. Some of his teammates don't want QB Andy Dalton attempting any heroics this season on a play where the defense finds itself in possession of the ball. Adam Jones, Cincinnati's always-salty CB, puts it this way:

"Oh yeah. We've made that clear here. Whatever happens out there, he needs to run his butt back to the sidelines."

Jones refers, of course, to the worst break the Bengals got last season — a thumb fracture that ended Dalton's year in Game 13 vs. Pittsburgh. Dalton suffered it while making a solo tackle on 303-pound Steelers DE Stephon Tuitt following an interception.

But the best thing Bengals fans saw last season before the injury was Dalton's unquestioned arrival into the upper tier of NFL QBs. He led the team to a 10-2 record in the games he started and finished, and he was the AFC passing champion, with a 106.3 rating that was a Bengals record, ranking second in the NFL. Only Seattle's Russell Wilson (110.1) was better.

"If you go back and look at what he was doing before he hurt his hand, if he's not the top, he's at least in the top three," Jones said. "He's stepped up tremendously with his leadership, and well you saw how good he played. He's not careless with the ball. That's the biggest thing, if it's not there, throw it away or check it down. He's done a great job."

Ready for another streak: Though QB Andy Dalton is coming off an injury-shortened 2015 season, he still rates as a very durable performer. Prior to his thumb fracture in Game 13 of last season, he had not missed a regular-

season or postseason start for the Bengals, covering 81 games. And the fracture occurred during unusual duty, as he made a solo tackle on 303-pound DE Stephon Tuitt after an interception.

"On that play I was the hitter, not the 'hittee,'" Dalton said. "As far as when I have the ball, I think it's knowing how to take a hit and when not to take a hit. That's part of it. I've been fortunate."

Dalton opened his career with 77 consecutive regular-season starts, a Bengals record for quarterbacks at any point during a career. The previous mark had been 61, posted by Boomer Esiason from 1985-89. Dalton's streak ranks third in NFL history for the start of a career by a QB, trailing only Peyton Manning of Indianapolis (208) and Joe Flacco of Baltimore (122).

Key to a record: A huge factor in Andy Dalton's Bengals-record 106.3 passer rating last season was his re-setting of a 34-year-old performance standard for Bengals passers — best ratio of TD passes compared to interceptions.

Ken Anderson had held the mark at 2.9-to-1 since 1981, when he had 29 TDs and just 10 INTs. But Dalton last year had 25 TD passes against seven INTs, a mark of 3.6-to-1.

"It's just a basic for your quarterback," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "Produce touchdowns, and don't give the ball away to the other team."

Dalton's 106.3 ranks 24th all-time among NFL passers for a season, and that includes after-the-fact calculation of passer performances prior to the institution of the rating system. Sammy Baugh, for example, is credited with a 109.9 for 1945. The top all-time season rating has been 122.5, by Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers in 2011.

This season, Dalton has two TD passes and one INT.

Postseason is Andy's standard equipment: Bengals QB Andy Dalton has joined Baltimore's Joe Flacco as the NFL's only starting QBs in the Super Bowl era to lead a team to postseason in each of his first five campaigns. Flacco did it with Baltimore from 2008-12, and Dalton has done it from 2011-15. Flacco's streak was snapped when the Ravens missed the playoffs in 2013. If Dalton leads the Bengals to the playoffs again in 2016, he'll have set a new benchmark in this category.

An Andy roundup: Other records and other notable accomplishments in QB Andy Dalton's career include:

- Dalton's .652 winning percentage as a starter (51-27-1 regular season) ranks fifth among active QBs with 50 or more starts, behind Tom Brady (.771), Russell Wilson (.712), Ben Roethlisberger (.673) and Aaron Rodgers (.669).
- Dalton's .652 winning percentage also is the best of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts.
- Dalton and Peyton Manning are the only NFL QBs to pass for 3000 or more yards in each of their first five seasons.
- Dalton holds club season records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33), both set in 2013.
- His career 14.5-to-1 ratio of TD passes to INTs (87-6) in the red zone ranks sixth among active NFL passers.
- He is the only Bengals passer to throw for 300-plus yards in four consecutive games (2013).
- Since entering the NFL in 2011, Dalton is one of just six QBs not drafted in the first round who have started at least nine games in at least four seasons. The other five are Drew Brees (second round), Russell Wilson (third), Tom Brady (sixth), Ryan Fitzpatrick (seventh) and Tony Romo (undrafted).

A.J. still tops AFC yards list: Despite being held to two receptions for 38 yards last week by a determined Pittsburgh zone defense, Bengals WR A.J. Green leads the AFC in receiving yards for the second straight week. He had an NFL-best 180 yards in Week 1, and his 218 total through Week 2 has him seven ahead of Houston rookie Will Fuller in the AFC.

Green ranks third in the NFL in yards, trailing Stefon Diggs of Minnesota (285) and Willie Snead of New Orleans (226).

Green also led the NFL through Week 1 in catches (12), and his 14 total for the young season ranks tied for second in the AFC and tied for third in the NFL. The league leader is Jarvis Landry of Miami (17), and Diggs of Minnesota is second at 16. Green shares third place in the NFL with three other players.

For all his exploits while making five first-ballot Pro Bowls in his five-year career, Green has yet to win a league or conference title in catches or receiving yards. His highest rankings have been sixth in catches (98 in 2013) and fifth in receiving yards (1426 in 2013).

The Bengals have won six previous AFC receiving yards titles, but only one NFL crown. That was in 2006, when Chad Johnson paced all receivers at 1369. Johnson won four straight AFC titles from 2003-06 and is the only player ever to win four straight in either conference. The other Bengals to win AFC receiving yards titles have been Isaac Curtis in 1973 and Eddie Brown in 1988.

Green's 12 catches against the Jets tied his career high for any game, and his yardage total was the fourth-best of his career.

Bengals coach Marvin Lewis sometimes just shrugs and smiles when asked to expound on Green's exploits, pleading that there's nothing to say beyond his many past attempts. But after the Jets game, after a friendly brush-off of an initial Green question, Lewis sighed and did his best with a repeat query.

"Big day," Lewis said. "He's everything as advertised. We know that, in every way. We need him to make catches and great runs all year long, and we know he's up to the task."

Says NT Domata Peko:

"That's why people buy tickets. To watch guys like A.J. make plays. I see people in the seats up close, and they'll be like, 'I can't believe what I see.'"

Call it 'Phase II' for Amazing A.J.: A.J. Green has done his time as one of the most promising "young" wide receivers in Bengals history. The 2011 first-round draft choice (fourth overall) turned 28 early in training camp, and with five seasons under his belt, he's now in contention for recognition as the best WR in the NFL, period. And he's heading into prime years that could push him past Chad Johnson for the Bengals' all-time leads in receptions, receiving yards and receiving TDs.

Johnson, who played twice as many Bengals seasons (10) as Green has, remains for now a runaway leader in the first two of the above three categories. Johnson's 751 receptions are 221 more than No. 2 Carl Pickens (530), and is 10,783 receiving yards are 3682 more than second-place Isaac Curtis (7101).

But Green, who through last week has 429 receptions and 6389 yards, has had a largely healthy career, and he said as training camp began that he thinks he can play at least 12 seasons.

Though Detroit superstar WR Calvin Johnson announced his retirement this past offseason after a nine-year career, Green doesn't see a parallel.

"Calvin's a big guy," Green said. "His body took a lot of pounding. I feel like I'm more of a slim guy (at 6-4 and 210). My knees don't have that much wear and tear. Calvin used to take big hits, cheap shots. The way he hit the ground all the time, that's a big body at 230 (pounds) slamming down. I think my body is set up differently."

And if one extrapolates to 12 years Green's averages of 83 catches and 1234 yards for his five full seasons, it's Chad Johnson who becomes outpaced by a Bengals country mile. After season 12, Green would have 996 catches (245 more than Johnson) and 14,810 yards (4027 more).

One could say Green won't produce at those levels forever, especially not in seasons 11 and 12. But even if Green played just 10 seasons at the pace of his first five full seasons, he'd top Johnson by 79 catches (830) and by 1584 yards (12,342).

In all-time receiving TDs, Chad Johnson leads the Bengals with 66, three more than Pickens. Green already has 46. He averaged 9.0 TDs for his first five seasons, which projects to 90 after 10 seasons.

Green has been signed by the Bengals for at least four more seasons, through 2019.

A.J. climbing in '16: A.J. Green started the season in sixth place on the Bengals in all-time receptions, but he's now at No. 4. He has 429 catches and has passed Isaac Curtis (416) and Cris Collinsworth (417).

A 93-catch season total, which Green has twice surpassed, would put Green in third place, ahead of T.J. Houshmandzadeh (507).

Green is in his sixth Bengals season, whereas Curtis played 12 seasons, with Collinsworth and Houshmandzadeh at eight.

It would take a 116-catch season — four more than Houshmandzadeh's Bengals record 112 and 18 more than Green's own career best, for Green to pass Carl Pickens (530 in eight seasons) into second place. Green is, however, on a very early pace to finish the season tying the Bengals record at 112.

Green is still 322 catches behind first-place Chad Johnson (751 in 10 seasons). But if Green remains his productive self, he could pass Johnson in 2019.

In receiving yards, Green has 6389 through Week 2 of this season. He ranks fifth in Bengals annals, but he has an excellent chance to be in second place by season's end. He needs just 309 to pass fourth-place Collinsworth (6698), 499 to pass third-place Pickens (6887) and 713 to pass second-place Curtis (7101). Green needs 4370 yards to pass Johnson for the all-time lead, another feat that projects to possible passage in 2019.

He's humble, too: Folks who know A.J. Green even a little bit know that despite his exploits at a high-profile NFL position, he would never be called a "diva" wide receiver.

He's always low-key about his own high achievements and high on those of his teammates. An example came in Week 1 in New York, when Green was asked about a tough 11-yard gain he made to the Jets 29 with just over a minute to play. Green didn't get a first down on the third-down play — the Bengals needed 13 yards — but his gain was enough to set up Mike Nugent's game-deciding 47-yard field goal.

"Oh yeah, I know it's coming to me in that situation," Green said. "It had to. I was just trying to make a play, and I should have gotten that first down. I definitely should have gotten that first down. But 'Nuge' put the field goal right through for us. And we came out with a win. It was a complete team win. Defense did their part, offense did their part."

Boyd just needs to shake it off: Take away the fourth-quarter fumble that the Bengals didn't believe was really a fumble, and rookie WR Tyler Boyd had quite a fine day last week in his return to his home base of Greater Pittsburgh. On a rainy day when receiving conditions were tough, the Clairton (Pa.) High School and University of Pittsburgh star led all WRs in catches (six) and receiving yards (78).

Boyd has eight catches for 102 yards in two games, on an early pace for big season numbers.

"Obviously we saw a lot in Tyler, as a second-round draft choice, but he has been even better to this early point than we had reason to expect," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "He's a young guy (not turning 22 until Nov. 15), but he's in tune with everything we're doing."

There was the fumble, however, and it came at a crucial time. With the Bengals trailing 24-16 late in the fourth quarter and having a first down at the Pittsburgh 39, Boyd was brought to the ground after a six-yard catch. The ball squirted out of a pile on the ground and the Steelers recovered, effectively securing their win. The Bengals believed replays showed Boyd's knee hitting the ground before the ball came loose — "I was told it was down even by the officials on our sideline," said head coach Marvin Lewis — but the fumble call stood after replay review.

So for Boyd and his teammates, it's "on to Denver."

"I definitely thought my knee was down, but the guys did a real great job having my back," Boyd said. "They were telling me to keep my head up. I felt real bad because we were in great position to go down and score. And once I saw it on the screen, I just felt we were going to have another chance, another snap at it. But it didn't go our way."

Said QB Andy Dalton:

"Tyler played well, just like he has since he's been here. He can't focus on the fumble. Obviously it was a big play in the game, but he has to move past it. That's the way it is. We have another really good team we're going to be playing this week, so you have to move on from it and learn from it. I think he will."

Boyd on Boyd: Rookie WR Tyler Boyd has this to say about his promising NFL start:

"I feel like I've practiced hard, and worked hard in the classroom, and that it has paid off. I didn't just bring my skills in here and think it would all fall into place without the effort. I'm just trying to increase my performance with every game."

LaFell providing what offense needs: Bengals fans had not seen much of WR Brandon LaFell before this regular season began. The veteran free agent acquisition had only one brief game appearance in preseason, due to a hand injury. But his play in the first two games has reinforced confidence that he'll amply fill the role of a veteran to play in the base offense along with flagship pass-catcher A.J. Green.

LaFell has seven catches for 130 yards in the first two games, and besides catching three-for-29 last week at Pittsburgh, he drew a pass interference penalty against the Steelers in the end zone in the third quarter. At the N.Y. Jets in the season opener, LaFell caught a four-for-91, including a nice 49-yard grab on a deep ball.

LaFell came to the Bengals with plenty of skins on the wall after six seasons with Carolina and New England. He had 74 catches for New England's 2014 Super Bowl winners, and he scored the first TD in the Patriots' climactic victory over Seattle.

"He's healthy, and he doesn't have to be taught how to play in a game," said Green. "That guy is the ultimate pro, and a good veteran for me to still learn things from. I haven't really had that in my first five years here, at least not to the

extent he can provide it. He's played well everywhere he's been, and he's going to be big for us."

"The guy has played a lot of wide receiver at a very high level, and for a long time by NFL standards," says Bengals wide receivers coach James Urban. "He's tough. He's big (6-3, 210). He's physical."

1-2 punch: Standout TE Tyler Eifert has yet to get on the field for the Bengals in 2016, due to surgery he required for an ankle injury suffered in the Pro Bowl, but his return is anticipated soon.

When that happens, says veteran CB Adam Jones, the Bengals will again boast a 1-2 punch that is key to the current era of NFL offenses, with Eifert and five-time Pro Bowl WR A.J. Green.

"When I got drafted (in 2005), Antonio Gates was the only tight end in the league running like a wide receiver," Jones says. "Now, every tight end is running fast as hell. That's a big, big difference. That's the biggest mismatch going. If you've got a good No. 1 receiver and a good tight end, it makes it really hard. You can't double both. So pick your poison."

Dalton and Green made five-year history: WR A.J. Green and QB Andy Dalton were the Bengals' first two draft selections in 2011, and they had quite a ride for their first five seasons (2011-15).

Per Elias Sports Bureau, they stand as the most productive QB-WR duo in NFL history for players in their first five seasons. Their 395 completions and 5789 yards are most by any duo for seasons 1-5, and their 40 TD connections are tied for most with Dan Marino and Mark Clayton of Miami (1983-87).

Only A.J.: Cincinnati's A.J. Green is the only NFL receiver since the 1970 merger to start his career with five consecutive 1000-yard seasons (averaging more than 1200 yards) and five trips to the Pro Bowl. The last pass-catcher to start his career with five consecutive Pro Bowl appearances was Hall of Fame TE Mike Ditka (1961-65).

HB Bernard shows his receiving stuff: Fourth-year HB Giovani Bernard had 100 receiving yards on a career-best nine catches last week at Pittsburgh. His 25-yard TD catch in the fourth quarter was his sixth career receiving TD. The only other NFL RB with a 100-yard receiving game this season is Spencer Ware of Kansas City, who had 129 yards in Week 1 against San Diego.

Last week's effort was the second time Bernard has been in triple digits in receiving yards. His 128 yards at Arizona last season is the franchise record for receiving yards by a RB in a game. Bernard also holds the Bengals record for receptions by a RB in a season, with 56 in 2013.

Bernard has 11 catches this season, second on the Bengals and just one off the NFL lead for RBs. He has 105 receiving yards, ranked third on the Bengals.

Last week, Bernard rushed five-for-17 and led the team in scrimmage yards (117) as well as receiving yards. He has averaged a solid 4.2 yards per rush this season, at 10-for-42.

Bernard has averaged 49.3 receptions over his first three seasons, and with 49 more in 2016, he would already have the second-most receptions by a RB in team history at 197, trailing only James Brooks (297 in eight seasons). Bernard has averaged 1146.6 yards from scrimmage for his first three seasons.

Hill declines the dance: HB Jeremy Hill has scored a lot of touchdowns for the Bengals — 22 in 34 regular-season games, and two more over a pair of postseason games. He had 12 TDs last season, most by a Bengals RB since Rudi Johnson had 12 in 2006, and he tied for the NFL lead last season in rushing TDs (11).

He has one TD this season, a determined 12-yard burst through traffic in the season opener at the Jets.

"That's what we want," Bengals LOT Andrew Whitworth said. "That's the Jeremy I watched at LSU, me watching as an LSU alumnus. I think he's a guy that is ready to have a big season. I think he's prepared and excited for that opportunity."

Said WR A.J. Green:

"Jeremy is a big, physical guy, and our coaches preach to him, 'Keep the play alive; nobody wants to tackle you.'"

Over the previous two seasons, Hill also became known for his TD celebrations — the best the Bengals have seen since iconic shuffler Ickey Woods. But Hill didn't celebrate after either of his two preseason TDs, and last week after scoring, he handed the ball to an official and then began shaking hands with teammates, including G Clint Boling, who threw the key block.

"I'm just out there working," Hill says. "Not having any distractions, just working. And I want to be a leader on this team."

The coach likes it: In the view of head coach Marvin Lewis, the no-nonsense attitude of HB Jeremy Hill (see previous item) befits the third-year player's situation.

"He's a great young player and has shown a lot, but he's a guy with something to prove this year," Lewis says.

Indeed, Hill comes off a sophomore season that was not as good as his freshman edition. His 223 rushes were one more than he had in 2014, but he gained 230 fewer yards (794 after 1124 as a rookie). His receiving yards total dropped from 215 to 79, and in the Wild Card playoff loss to Pittsburgh, he had a crucial lost fumble.

"I have to be more dynamic this year, make more plays," Hill says. "And take care of the ball at all times. I feel healthier than last year. I had some little things last year that didn't keep me out, but I think they slowed me down some. I feel quicker."

The Bengals know the talent is there. Over the last nine weeks of the 2014 campaign, Hill's 929 rushing yards were the most in the NFL, and by more than 100. He also became only the third rookie in NFL history to rush for 140 or more yards in four games.

Hill has been accessible and forthright with media in discussing his costly fumble in the Pittsburgh playoff game. He owns the miscue and says he uses it now as motivation.

"He's still the same old Jeremy," says WR A.J. Green, "but I think he's just got a fire lit under him. He's definitely on a mission this year."

Guenther challenges the 'bullpen': It was a very good year for the Bengals defense in 2015. Cincinnati led the AFC and ranked second in the NFL in fewest points allowed, at 17.4 per game. The No. 2 NFL ranking was the best in franchise history, topping a fifth-place finish in 1972. The Bengals allowed just two more points (279 total) than league-leading Arizona (277).

"My job is to limit points, period," said defensive coordinator Paul Guenther. "It's not holding a team to 200 yards and have three plays be touchdowns. Regardless of where they get the ball — the 10-yard line or wherever — let's go play defense, hold them to three. I'm paid to keep them off the scoreboard."

But one area that didn't fully please Guenther last year was the defense's work in holding late leads.

"We only lost five games (including the Wild Card playoff)," Guenther said, "but we lost on a one-minute drive at Arizona. And to a certain extent, the Denver game. And obviously the playoff game (in which Pittsburgh drove for a late winning FG). Those crucial times at the end of games, we have to understand and practice those situations and talk through them. That's when the best players have to come up and be ready to play. We have to be better closers."

Remarkable, really: It's not a mainstream NFL statistic, but it illustrates the Bengals' defensive effectiveness in their two seasons under coordinator Paul Guenther:

It's the differential between INTs made and TD passes allowed.

The Bengals ranked third in the NFL in INTs (21) last season and ranked second in fewest TD passes allowed (18). Only Cincinnati and Carolina had more INTs than TD passes allowed, both finishing plus-three in the category. Numerous teams were minus-10 or worse, including one at minus-33.

The Bengals also excelled in this category in 2014, when their plus-two (20 INTs, 18 TD passes allowed) made them one of only two teams with a plus.

Over Guenther's first two seasons as coordinator (2014-15), the Bengals led the league at plus-five and were the only team with a plus.

Thus far this season, however, the Bengals are more back in the pack in this area, at minus-two. They have three INTs, but all five opponent TDs have come on passes.

More bad Geno news for NFL offenses: Bengals opponents will be doing plenty of planning this season for DT Geno Atkins, who last season copped his second first-team berth on the Associated Press NFL All-Pro team. But if they think they've seen the worst of the damage Atkins can inflict, perhaps not.

"He's running after the ball better; he's quicker," says defensive coordinator Paul Guenther. "In practice I've seen a spin move he never used to have. He plays the run well, and to me he's the best inside pass rusher in the league. Just when you think he can't get any better, he has."

In the season opener against the Jets, Atkins' four tackles included the team's only sack plus two other tackles for loss. He had three tackles last week at Pittsburgh.

Injury now ancient history for Geno: On Halloween Night in 2013 at Miami, the Bengals suffered what for a time seemed potentially as one of the most damaging injuries in franchise history.

DT Geno Atkins, playing monstrously well and coming off a 2012 season in which his 12.5 sacks blew away the field among NFL interior linemen, suffered a major knee injury (torn ACL) against the Dolphins. It shelved him for the remainder of the season, and though he came back to start every game in 2014, he clearly was not the same. His 34 tackles and 3.0 sacks were career lows for him as a starter. The injury was the first major one in Atkins' entire football career, and though his knee was deemed medically sound for '14, his full football package was still under renovation.

But last season, Atkins quickly erased any doubts that his career as one of the NFL's elite defensive linemen was resumed. He regained the first-team Associated Press All-Pro honors he had claimed in 2012 and led the Bengals to a No. 2 NFL rank in scoring defense (17.4 per game). He had 11.0 sacks, second on the team to DE Carlos Dunlap's 13.5, and he led the team in total tackles-for-loss (17) while ranking second in QB hits (19).

Without question, Atkins stands as one of the biggest draft bargains in Bengals history. He came out of Georgia with good reviews but no eye-popping accomplishments, and 119 players were off the board before the Bengals selected him in the fourth round. He was considered a bit undersized (6-1, 290) to rate as a top NFL prospect.

But on draft day, then-defensive line coach Jay Hayes made comments that today seem prescient.

"Geno is not small," Hayes said. "He's short, but he benched 34 times at the Combine. He's strong. He runs a 4.8 in the 40, and he's very quick in tighter space. He uses his hands well. His father (Gene Atkins, NFL DB from 1987-96) was a heck of a player in this league, so Geno has known what the NFL is like from an early age. All of this is why we project him as a guy who can help us."

Not content to envision an NFL future as a garden-variety fourth-rounder, Atkins forecast his own success prior to his rookie season.

"I come in with the idea I have something to prove," he said. "A lot of people think I'm undersized. So I think I have a little chip on my shoulder."

Now the only question is whether Atkins is not only the best DT in the league, but possibly the best defensive lineman overall, challenging even an acknowledged superstar like Houston DE J.J. Watt.

"No doubt, no doubt, no question," said Bengals defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, repeating himself for effect. "He should be in that conversation. You ask anybody on any offense that we play, when they turn the tape on Monday morning, he's the first guy they look at. They say, 'Oh, shoot, we better have a plan for this guy.' We were No. 2 in scoring defense, and he's our best player."

Sign of strength: When one considers that eighth-year DE Michael Johnson might be something of a forgotten man in the Bengals front four, that's evidence enough that the 2016 team figures to send out one of the best defensive lines in franchise history.

DT Geno Atkins has his All-Pro honors. DE Carlos Dunlap comes off a 13.5-sack Pro Bowl season and has an overall playmaker upside that seems in no danger of levelling off. And DT Domata Peko drew praise last season not only for being a rock against the run, he posted a career-high 5.0 sacks.

Johnson, meanwhile, is a bit under the radar in comparison, despite getting five sacks last year and leading the team in combined forced fumbles and fumble recoveries (four). Johnson's real heyday with the Bengals was in 2012, when he logged 11.5 sacks and an interception and was designated as the club's franchise player for 2013. But his intervening seasons, due in part to battling some injuries, have been closer to good than great. It leads Johnson to say simply:

"I'm looking to have my best year ever."

Johnson faces the challenge of usually going against the opponent's highest-paid offensive lineman — the left tackle.

"You know the left tackles in this league, so it is what it is," Johnson says. "I've got to bring the lunch pail every week. I learned that from Robert Geathers (longtime former Bengals DE). The biggest thing is, don't get caught up all the other stuff and focus on doing your job to the best of your ability week in and week out. That's my mentality."

On Sept. 11 at the Jets, Johnson had a pass defended on a third-down-and-five Jets attempt from the Bengals 27, forcing New York to settle for a field goal that kept things a one-score game, with the Jets leading 16-10 after the three-pointer. He had four tackles at Pittsburgh and has six for the season.

Case of the lost kudos: It's a mystery tale known well around some NFL teams, but it's relatively new to Cincinnati this season.

Title it "Karlos Dansby and the Missing Honors."

Dansby is the new big name in the Bengals' LB corps, filling the No. 1 SLB spot. He is leading the team by six in tackles over Games 1-2, with 21 stops. He also had an end-zone pass defended last week. He's a 13th-year NFL veteran with a playmaking resume few others can match. He has 41.0 career sacks and 19 interceptions, and with one more INT, he'll become only the fifth LB in NFL history to become a 40-20 man.

The others are Ray Lewis, Seth Joyner, Wilber Marshall and Brian Urlacher. The quartet has 27 Pro Bowls among them, plus three NFL Defensive Player of the Year awards (two for Lewis and one for Urlacher).

And thus the mystery: Dansby has not made even one Pro Bowl. His career bears similarity to that of a longtime Bengals standout, CB Ken Riley (1969-83). Riley is so far ahead of his nearest Bengals competitor in career INTs, it looks like a misprint. His 65 are almost twice the total of second-place Louis Breeden. But Riley, inexplicably, also never made a Pro Bowl.

Dansby, a Birmingham, Ala., native who played at Auburn, opened his NFL career in 2004 as a second-round draft choice of Arizona. He played six seasons with the Cardinals and started all of the team's six playoff games, including a Super Bowl vs. Pittsburgh. He was twice named Arizona's franchise player.

Then came three seasons with Miami, another one with Arizona, and two with Cleveland. He topped the 100-tackle mark in four of those six seasons, with 93 as his low. He had 15.5 sacks and nine INTs in the span, with four of his picks going for touchdowns.

But no Pro Bowls. It's a mystery that Dansby admits he's frustrated with, but he moves on as a pro.

"I still get the respect," he says. "Some guys think I've been to like eight Pro Bowls, the way I play the game. They see it on film. They know what a Pro Bowl player looks like, and I fit the bill. You can say a lot of different things (about the Pro Bowl snubs). A popularity contest. Politics. Whatever. All I can do is play and try to help this team win a Super Bowl. That's the real goal in my mind."

Is this the year for Dansby? Some might think that Karlos Dansby (also featured in previous item) is too late in his career to break his puzzling streak of no Pro Bowl selections. He's in his 13th NFL season and will turn 35 on Nov. 3.

But perhaps some should think again. Dansby has started all but seven of his teams' games over the last eight seasons, and last year for Cleveland, he showed no signs of slowing down. He started every game and led the Browns in tackles (108) and INTs (three), returning two of his three picks for touchdowns. One TD was a 52-yarder, the longest INT return of his career. And his tackle total led the team by 27.

And this season, he leads the Bengals in tackles (21).

"Karlos has been great for us," says Bengals LBs coach Jim Haslett. "He's smart, he knows what to do, and he knows how to win."

"He's been everything we expected," says defensive coordinator Paul Guenther. "Great talent, and a great pro to be around. Maybe this is the year he makes it."

Dansby played briefly in each of the first three preseason games.

LBs in distinguished hands: Jim Haslett comes to the Bengals in 2016 as linebackers coach, bringing one of the most impressive overall football resumes of any position coach ever to join the franchise. To wit:

- From 1975-78, he was a four-time Little All-America player (LB and DE) at Indiana (Pa.) University.
- In 1979, he was a second-round draft choice of the Buffalo Bills.
- From 1979-87, he was a standout NFL linebacker, playing eight seasons for the Bills and one for the Jets. He earned Associated Press Defensive Rookie of the Year honors in '79, was an All-Pro selection in '80, and was later named to the Buffalo's Silver Anniversary team.
- He was an NFL head coach for six seasons (2000-05) with New Orleans, and he finished the 2008 season as St. Louis Rams head coach after Scott Linehan was released. In 2000, his first year as Saints coach, he led the team from a 3-13 year to an NFC South championship and also to the first postseason victory in franchise history.

All of the above adds up to Haslett holding a unique three-part football distinction. He is the only person to be recognized as a 1) College Football Hall of Fame member, 2) an AP NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year and 3) an AP NFL Coach of the Year.

Who in the history of Bengals coaching can match that? The comparisons are subject to differing interpretations, but here's a partial attempt:

Paul Brown, Forrest Gregg and Dick LeBeau are Pro Football Hall of

Famers. Brown's legendary accomplishments need no repeat here. Gregg was not only a top player, he coached the Bengals to a Super Bowl. But Brown, Gregg and LeBeau all were Bengals head coaches. (LeBeau was also a Bengals defensive coordinator.) Other outstanding NFL players who became Bengals position coaches include Ken Anderson, Mark Carrier, Boyd Dowler, Rodney Holman, Tim Krumrie, Mike McCormack and Dick Modzelewski.

Haslett was defensive coordinator for the Washington Redskins from 2010-14 and was out of the NFL last year, serving as a consultant to the Penn State University football program. He had several offers to return to the NFL for 2016, and he offers this accounting of how he came to the Bengals:

"My wife (Beth) asked me, 'Which one has the best chance of winning?' I told her 'Cincinnati,' and she said, 'That's what we need, don't worry about the money. Don't worry about the place. Let's go see if we win us some games. If we have a chance to win the Super Bowl, let's go see if we can.'

"So that's what we did, and we're glad to be here. When you have lofty goals and a chance to win the Super Bowl, those things are good. Most teams don't have a chance. This team does."

Punt return security: Punt returns are probably football's most dangerous endeavors when it comes to turnovers. But according to Elias Sports Bureau, over the 13 seasons plus two games of Cincinnati special teams coach Darrin Simmons, the Bengals have had the fewest fumbled punts (15) and fewest lost fumbles on punts (three) in the NFL. New Orleans has had the second-fewest fumbles (19) and Minnesota the second-fewest lost fumbles (four). And it's not as if the Bengals have sacrificed production. They rank in the league's top half in return average for Simmons' 13 full seasons, standing 15th at 9.1.

"The first thing is to make sure we have the ball when the play is over," says Simmons. "I'm looking for guys who can manage the play correctly. When their number is called, they go out there and make the correct decision. And first and foremost, that we have the ball when the play is over. I'm proud of the fact that whether it's been Brandon Tate or Adam Jones or Keiwan Ratliff or Quan Cosby, we've not been turning the ball over."

A 'one' to replace a 'one': OT Andre Smith, a Bengals first-round draft choice in 2009, has moved on for 2016, going to the Vikings as an unrestricted free agent after starting 73 games at ROT for the Bengals. But Smith has been replaced in the starting lineup by another first-rounder, second-year pro Cedric Ogbuehi of Texas A&M.

The Bengals made Ogbuehi their top choice in the 2015 draft even though they knew he would be unable to play for the bulk of his rookie season, due to a serious knee injury he suffered in his final college game. But he played the last five contests, plus the Wild Card game, and now he is the lone new starter on a Bengals line that includes first-team AP All-Pro Andrew Whitworth at LOT, Clint Boling and Kevin Zeitler at the guards, and Russell Bodine at center.

"I'm eager to show my worth and just show why they got me," Ogbuehi said. "I'm ready for the challenge. I want to show that I'm a great player. I have to keep earning it, obviously, but in my mind, right tackle is my job."

Ogbuehi brings a different style to the ROT spot. Whereas Smith was exceptionally strong but not as nimble, the 6-5, 310-pound Ogbuehi leads with his athleticism.

"I don't worry about being strong enough, but I would say with all humility that I think my athletic ability is rare for the position," Ogbuehi said. "I can block a lot of different players. From the guys who bull rush to the quick guys like Von (Miller) — quick guys — I believe I can handle it."

'Mean girls' up front? All-Pro OT Andrew Whitworth is sporting a bushier beard this season, and yes, it's a bit gray. But he's also a 'mean girl.' It's all a part of the camaraderie of the offensive line, whose front-line unit features four returning starters and a new ROT, likely second-year Cedric Ogbuehi if he heals in time from a toe injury to play against the Jets.

"We don't get a lot of attention, but our room is entertaining," Whitworth said. "We make fun of each other, we give each other a hard time. We're the guys that toughen each other in our room. We make each other tough. Sometimes some of the guys joke. They call us the 'mean girls.' You mess up around us, we're getting after you. That's just the O-line group. It's a hard way to go."

Secret (sort of) weapon: Ryan Hewitt doesn't attract much in the way of headlines, but he's a headliner in head coach Marvin Lewis' book. Thus, it was with very good feelings for the future that the Bengals H-back was signed Aug. 2 to a three-year contract extension, through 2019.

Hewitt (6-4, 255; Stanford) is a third-year NFL player in 2016. He has started in Games 1-2. He is one of the Bengals' best longshot stories of recent seasons,

a college free agent signee who quickly developed into a punishing run blocker out of the backfield and a stout pass protector. His role is often similar to that of a traditional fullback, but he also sees action as a tight end and meets with the tight end group during the practice week. He has played 33 games, with 25 starts, since signing for 2014.

"Ryan came to us undrafted and quickly became an integral part of our offense," Lewis said. "He's a strong and physical player. His role of doing the dirty work may go unnoticed sometimes by the public, but it is never unnoticed by his teammates or our opponents. We're excited to have him on board now for well beyond this season."

Hewitt has 18 career receptions for 185 yards (10.3), plus three-for-37 in postseason. He contributed last season to a scoring average of 26.2 per game, ranked seventh in the NFL.

"This team is very similar to the teams that I've always been on," Hewitt said. "Blue-collar, downhill teams. Smash-mouth in the running game and open it up in the passing game. I love being in Cincinnati. It's a great team. I love the coaching staff."

TV streak bound for 170: In each of the last 169 Cincinnati TV ratings weeks that have included a Bengals regular-season or postseason broadcast — dating back to the 2004 season — the Bengals have ruled the local airwaves. They have been the top-rated show among all programming in the Cincinnati market each week, and usually by a wide margin.

And it's near certain the streak will officially go to 170 when Cincinnati rankings are in for the week of Sept. 12-18. The Bengals' Sept. 18 game at Pittsburgh drew a Cincinnati rating of 27.8, well above what any non-Bengals programming has drawn in recent years.

Last season's Wild Card playoff vs. Pittsburgh brought the streak to 168 in fine fashion. The game drew a 46.1 Cincinnati rating, the highest since the streak began. The previous high had been 45.5, posted initially for a playoff game vs. Pittsburgh in the 2006 season and matched for the Mon., Nov. 16 game in 2015 vs. Houston. The rating number indicates the percentage of market households tuned to the game — including those not watching TV at the time.

The high rating of Bengals games has occurred despite the fact most games are played in the afternoon, when overall TV viewership is not as high as it is during the evening.

Bengals big for a smaller market: Cincinnati is the fifth smallest TV market in the NFL, defined by "TV households" (868,900). The only smaller markets are Jacksonville, New Orleans, Buffalo and Green Bay.

Cincinnati ranks 36th in TV households among all U.S. markets. There are 11 markets larger than Cincinnati that do not have NFL teams. Those markets and their rankings are Orlando (19), Sacramento (20), St. Louis (21), Portland (24), Raleigh-Durham (25), Hartford (30), Columbus (31), San Antonio (32), Salt Lake City (34) and Milwaukee (35).

A stat that matters: During the term of coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), a plus-differential in turnovers is linked to a big plus in wins. And the reverse has gone for a minus.

The Bengals are 70-15-1 in regular season under Lewis with a plus (.820 winning percentage), but they are only 16-59-1 with a minus differential. (The Bengals and Steelers were even in differential last week.)

"It makes a huge difference," Lewis says. "You see it game after game in the NFL. You've got to possess the football. If you possess the football, good things can happen. If you turn the ball over to them, you've got a harder day."

The Bengals' experience with turnovers under Lewis is backed up by league numbers. Since the start of the 2003 season, Lewis' first as head coach, here are the records of teams with varying turnover differentials.

(NOTE: Minus differentials are not included because they are the exact reverse of the plus figure for the same numbers.)

DIFFERENTIAL	W-L-T	PCT.
Plus-1.....	818-374-3	.686
Plus-2.....	648-144-0	.818
Plus-3.....	366-35-1	.912
Plus-4.....	196-6-0	.970
Plus-5 or more	92-3-0	.968

Last week held to form, as plus teams combined for 8-3 record. In Week 1, though, teams with a plus differential combined for only a 6-7 record. It was the first losing week for plus teams since Week 10 of 2013, when the record was 4-5. In 2015, plus teams went 10-0 once and twice went 12-1 (.923). Since 2003,

teams with any plus have a combined record of 2121-562-4, a winning percentage of .789.

And when it's even? The Bengals are 27-21 in head coach Marvin Lewis' full tenure in games when the turnover differential has been even, for a winning percentage of .563. That includes last week's loss to the Steelers, in which each defense recorded two INTs but the offense lost two fumbles. The Bengals have won 10 of their last 15 with even differential, dating back to 2012.

Turnover tables are turned: During head coach Marvin Lewis' tenure (2003-present), the Bengals rank sixth in the NFL in turnover differential, at plus-48. Prior to Lewis' tenure, the Bengals had posted a minus turnover differential for five straight years (1998-2002).

Since 2003, NFL teams with just a plus-one differential have won 68.6 percent of their games. At plus-two the percentage has been 81.8. Teams with any plus from one to five or more have won 78.9 percent of the time.

Here are the top six teams in differential since 2003:

TEAM	TAKEAWAYS	GIVEAWAYS	DIFFERENTIAL
New England.....	403.....	253.....	+150
Carolina.....	397.....	337.....	+60
Green Bay.....	363.....	310.....	+53
Indianapolis.....	344.....	293.....	+51
Seattle.....	363.....	313.....	+50
Cincinnati	385.....	337.....	+48

Since 2003, Bengals rank fourth in takeaways (385) and sixth in points off turnovers (1171).

Uniform watch: The Bengals are scheduled to wear black jerseys and white pants in the Denver game.

Since 2004, year of the Bengals' last significant uniform redesign, a number of color options for jerseys and pants have been available. Below are the records (regular season plus postseason) for the different combinations:

JERSEY	PANTS	W-L-T	PCT.
Orange*	Black.....	3-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White.....	14-6-1	.690
Black	Black.....	14-10-1	.580
Black	White.....	31-28-0	.525
White	Black.....	24-24-0	.500
White	White.....	19-25-0	.432

* — Orange is designated as a "specialty jersey" with the NFL and can be worn for only two games per year.

Bengal bites: The Bengals' September record under head coach Marvin Lewis is 26-19-0, a .578 winning percentage. Lewis' best month has been November, with a 31-21-1 mark (.594). Lewis also has a winning record (regular season) in December/January (33-28-0, .541). October has been the only losing month (23-27-1, .461) ... On Sept. 11 at the Jets, the Bengals allowed seven sacks but won the game, prevailing for only the fourth time in 21 games all-time in which they have allowed seven or more. The record with seven or more allowed is now 4-16-1. Prior to the Jets game, the Bengals' last win with seven or more sacks allowed was nearly 26 years ago, on Sept. 23, 1990 vs. New England, a 41-7 Cincinnati victory at Riverfront Stadium ... Vincent Rey's 2015 team tackling title marked the 18th consecutive season that a LB has led the Bengals, and two LBs (Karlos Dansby and Rey) are 1-2 on the team in tackles through this year's first two games. The last player at another position to claim the crown in statistics crew compilation of tackles was S Sam Shade in 1997. The last defensive lineman to lead was NT Tim Krumrie in 1992 ... DE Carlos Dunlap's 13.5 sacks last season ranked him fourth in the NFL, highest ever by a Bengal. The previous high was tied for sixth by DT Geno Atkins (12.5) in 2012 ... With their victory Dec. 6 of last season at Cleveland, the Bengals posted a new benchmark for the biggest lead held by either side in the 46-year history of the "Battle of Ohio" series. Cincinnati's lead is now seven games, at 46-39. The Browns' biggest lead in the signature series has been five games, at 6-1 after the first meeting of 1973 ... P Kevin Huber needs just one more inside-20 punt to reach 187 for his career and pass Lee Johnson (186) for the undisputed all-time team lead ... K Mike Nugent, with 647 career points, needs 14 to pass Doug Pelfrey (660) into third place. Jim Breech leads the Bengals in career scoring at 1151, and Shayne Graham is second at 779 ... The tallest player on the Bengals 53-man roster is DE Margus Hunt, at 6-8 ... The shortest player is HB Giovani Bernard at 5-9 ... The heaviest players are DT Pat Sims and OT Andrew Whitworth, both at 330 ... The lightest player is CB Adam Jones, at 180.

BENGALS QUOTES

Head coach Marvin Lewis, on the loss at Pittsburgh:

"It's a disappointing end to a football game. We didn't play well enough, early enough and long enough. We really got behind in field position, making some long fields for the offense and put the defense in some short fields. We didn't get enough key stops on third downs, and conversely on offense. Those things played a huge part in the game, so we have to be better."

HB Giovanni Bernard, on the low rushing totals in the first two games:

"I can only speak for the running backs. I know myself, I have to break more tackles. I have to help my offensive line out even if they do miss a guy or even if a guy is in the box that they don't account for. I have to make that guy miss. Got to handle that."

QB Andy Dalton, on rookie WR Tyler Boyd:

"He's got really good hands, and he's really smooth. And already you can see he has learned a lot. He's playing a lot faster than he was initially, just from knowing what's going on. He listens really well. He's got the right mindset, and it's been a lot of fun to see."

WR Brandon LaFell, on the goal of winning the Super Bowl:

"Since we (Patriots in 2014) won it all, all I've been thinking about is winning another one. I've told guys it's like playing golf. Once you hit that perfect swing, that's all you're chasing the rest of the time that you're playing. It's the same way with football. Once you win a big game, you want to continue to win big games. I wanted to come in to a great situation where I had an opportunity to play with a good quarterback, get a lot of playing time, and to win. Since I've been here, I've been seeing all those signs."

DE Carlos Dunlap, on the 2016 team:

"There is a confidence there, a level, but there's also that anxiety or hunger. We're not complacent. We've done some great things here, and we have the same team, but we're not great yet. We haven't maximized. We haven't peaked. We're climbing. We're still climbing. And until we accomplish that ultimate goal, we have room for improvement."

G Kevin Zeitler, on vets bringing younger players quickly up to speed:

"I think as a young guy, because the group's been together so long and you're the new one in there, you don't want to be the guy who messes everything up. I think there's a little extra motivation to do extra, to catch up, to figure things out, because you never want to be that guy."

WR Tyler Boyd, on joining a lineup filled with returning veterans:

"We've got a lot of vets that can help you and teach you a lot of things that you don't know. It's better than coming into a young team that hasn't seen the things that these guys have seen. Just getting a head start like that helps me and influences me and keeps me more comfortable. It allows me to know my assignment and play consistent. And just stay poised. As long as you're calm and collected, you can go out there and be yourself. They're doing a great job of making me feel comfortable."

Dalton, on working with a revamped WR corps this season, due to free agency movement and the draft:

"It would be tougher if it was my first or second year, but this is year six. It's easier for me now than early on in my career. This is going to be fun. I have to make sure they know what I want them to do on certain things and make sure they're in the right spots. And I have to learn to take advantage of their particular best skills. You don't want to have any fall off at all. You want to get better as an offense, and that's what we're shooting for."

Dalton, on Ken Zampese moving up from QBs coach to offensive coordinator:

"He's really smart. He understands, by certain ways that guys line up, how teams are attacking us, and how we can attack them. He knows the type of

players we have and what's been successful here, so there's no need to change things drastically. There will be some new stuff, and he'll have his own twist on things — that's just all part of it."

TE Tyler Kroft, on the strong finish to his 2015 rookie season:

"It gives a little more confidence to everything. Helps me trust in myself. I thought I played pretty well down the stretch, and now with Tyler (Eifert) out, I've got a big role at least in the preseason. Obviously there's a lot to clean up, a lot I can get better at, but having that in-game experience, especially later in the season when we were having some bigger games, it definitely helps coming into this."

Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, on rookie LB Nick Vigil of Utah State:

"He's the kind of kid that reminds when Vontaze (Burfict) was a rookie. If he makes a mistake, you tell him once, and he gets it. The next time he doesn't mess it up."

Guenther, on getting the most out of LB Vontaze Burfict and CB Adam Jones:

"They're two very good players, very competitive guys. They want to win at everything. Every drill. They don't want to lose at anything, and that's how I want them to be. But they have to understand, they've had some penalties that have hurt us, and now they're flagged by other teams. Other teams are going to try to get them out of their game, by doing some other things to them. They have to take the next step as a pro and walk away."

CB Dre Kirkpatrick, on continuity and chemistry:

"To win championships, you need to have good chemistry. And when I look at this team, we have some great chemistry. We grew up together. I've been here five years, and I look around, and I've been blessed to be on the same defense. It's so many of the same faces."

Bengals president Mike Brown, on LB Vontaze Burfict:

"He is one hell of a football player. We want him on the field. I regret that for the first three games this year, we won't have him. But he'll be back then, and we expect outstanding play from him. He's a difference-maker. We're lucky to have him."

Lewis, on LB Vontaze Burfict:

"He continues to be a great mentor for the defensive players, especially the young players. He's such an extension of the coaching staff as far as the scheme, and everything that way. I kept him on the sideline as often as I could during this offseason, and I'm going to do the same thing this training camp. As things stand now, him having had some foot problems lately, there's no reason for us to risk him getting hurt. He's so competitive, we have to continue to hold him back. One day he gets, it the next day he wants to fight me on it. But we are looking forward to getting him out there when it counts."

S George Iloka, on second-year pro Josh Shaw taking the team's nickel CB spot:

"He has the skill set, he has the instincts. He's bigger than Leon (Hall, who filled the role last season). He has done a good job taking things in stride. He doesn't make the same mistake twice. He's young in terms of playing the nickel in this defense and I've been impressed with how fast he's picked it up. He's out there playing fast. Even if it's not exactly how they drew it up, he runs around and he makes plays."

Secondary coach Kevin Coyle, on the defense:

"There's not a starting 11 on defense. There are 13, 14, 15 guys that are going to be regulars according to the situation. They'll all be an integral part of what we'll do."

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: Through two games, sixth-year pro **Andy Dalton** leads the NFL in passing yards, with 732, on 54-for-84 passing (64.3), with two TDs and one INT. Last week at Pittsburgh, Dalton completed 31 of his career-high 54 pass attempts, in rainy conditions nonetheless, for 366 yards and a TD (84.3 passer rating). Dalton's 54 pass attempts tied for third-most in a single game in team history (68 is the record, set by Jon Kitna vs. Pittsburgh in 2001). In the season opener at the Jets, Dalton had one of his best career performances, posting a 114.0 passer rating despite being sacked a career-high seven times.

He completed 23 of 30 passes (76.7 percent) for 366 yards, with one TD and one INT. Dalton is only the second NFL QB in the Super Bowl era to lead his team to the playoffs in each of his first five seasons, and he posted a Bengals-record 106.3 passer rating in 2015, ranked first in the AFC and second in the NFL. Dalton suffered a thumb fracture in Game 13 vs. Pittsburgh last season and missed the remainder of the season and the postseason. Dalton's 51-27-1 regular-season record as a starter works out to the best winning percentage (.652) of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts. His 88.6 career passer rating is

tops in Bengals history, and he holds club records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33) in a season. Second-year pro **AJ McCarron** has been an active-DNP for Games 1-2. McCarron finished preseason with a 106.8 passer rating. He showed much promise while filling in for Dalton after Dalton's thumb injury last season, logging a 101.1 passer rating for his three regular-season starts (2-1 record) and leading a dramatic comeback in the Wild Card playoff vs. Pittsburgh, only to see the Steelers prevail 18-16 on a late field goal. As a collegian, McCarron led Alabama to a pair of national championships. On Sept. 4, the Bengals acquired rookie **Jeff Driskel** on waivers from San Francisco. A sixth-round 49ers draft choice this year, Driskel has been inactive for Games 1-2. Driskel played in all four 49ers preseason games, after passing for 4033 yards last season at Louisiana Tech.

Running backs: The Bengals anticipate having one of the NFL's best HB duos in **Jeremy Hill** and **Giovani Bernard**. Both are players with big upsides and already proven skills. Hill was held to 22 rushing yards on 11 attempts last week at Pittsburgh while catching three passes for 37 yards. For the season, Hill has rushed 20 times for 53 yards and a touchdown. Hill has 22 TDs in 34 career games. He is a bruising 235-pounder with excellent speed and agility for his size. He scored 12 TDs last season, most total TDs by a Bengals RB since 2006, when Rudi Johnson had 12. Hill's rushing yardage total last season was 794, but it's expected he could top that number by a wide margin this season. In his rookie season of 2014, he rushed for 1124 yards, second-most by a Bengals rookie, and he led the NFL over the last nine weeks of 2014 with 929 yards. Bernard was the Bengals' leading receiver last week at Pittsburgh, logging a career-high nine catches for 100 yards. Bernard had the Bengals' lone TD of the day at Pittsburgh, a 25-yard reception in the fourth quarter. Through two games, he is second on the team in both receptions (11) and receiving yards (105), with one TD. He also rushed five-for-17 at Pittsburgh and is 10-for-42 rushing on the season. Bernard is smaller than Hill, at 5-9 and 205, but he has good power to go along with top-level speed and elusiveness. He rushed for 730 yards with a 4.7 average last season and added 472 yards on 49 receptions. Bernard has averaged 49.3 receptions over his first three seasons, and with 49 more in 2016, he would already have the second-most receptions by a RB in team history at 197, trailing only James Brooks. Bernard averaged 1146.6 yards from scrimmage for his first three full seasons. Another veteran HB on the roster with good performance record is **Rex Burkhead**. Burkhead has not yet had an offensive touch this season but stands ready should Hill or Bernard miss time due to an injury. Burkhead is a fourth-year Bengal who had a career-best 10 receptions last season, with a TD. He started at WR in a 2014 season playoff game, in part due to injuries among the WR corps. Veteran HB **Cedric Peerman**, a Pro Bowl special teams player last year, suffered a left forearm fracture on Aug. 28 at Jacksonville and was placed Sept. 4 on the Reserve/Injured list. It's hoped he'll recover in time for consideration as the one R/I player each team may return to the roster later in the season.

Wide receivers: Already earning general acclaim as the top WR in Bengals history, **A.J. Green** returns for his sixth season in 2016. He was held to 38 yards on two receptions last week at Pittsburgh but remains the team's leader in both receptions (14) and receiving yards (218) through two games. He leads the AFC in receiving yards. In Week 1 against the Jets, Green tied his career receptions high (12) while gaining 180 yards, including a 54-yard touchdown. Green's 429 career receptions already rank fourth in Bengals history, and his 6389 receiving yards also rank fourth, just 712 yards short of second place. His 46 career receiving TDs also rank fourth, and his 25 games of 100 or more receiving yards rank second behind Chad Johnson, who took 10 seasons to record his record 31. The WR cast behind Green has changed for 2016, and veteran free agent signee **Brandon LaFell** and rookie second-round draft choice **Tyler Boyd** emerged from preseason in the Nos. 2-3 roles. LaFell caught three-for-39 last week at Pittsburgh and also drew a pass interference penalty in the end zone against the Steelers. In his Bengals debut in Week 1 against the Jets, LaFell gained 91 yards on four receptions. He came out strong despite seeing only very brief playing time in preseason, due to a hand injury. A seventh-year pro, LaFell caught 74 passes for New England's 2014 Super Bowl winners. LaFell's last three teams each won 12 games, and he said the Bengals' 33 wins the last three seasons put Cincinnati atop his free agent shopping list. Boyd has gotten off good start in his first two NFL games, notching eight receptions for 102 yards. Last week at Pittsburgh, in a return to his college stadium, Heinz Field, Boyd impressed with 78 receiving yards on six receptions. He also had a lost fumble, however. In just three seasons at the University of Pittsburgh, Boyd established himself as the school's career leader in receptions (254) and receiving yards (3361). Third-year pro **James Wright**, who missed all of last season for continued rehab of a serious 2014 knee injury, has been back in

action in Games 1-2 this season. Wright recorded a 10-yard catch last week at Pittsburgh that converted a first down in Steelers territory and helped set up a Bengals TD. College free agent **Alex Erickson** of Wisconsin, who made a successful longshot roster bid after impressing in preseason both as a receiver and kick returner, made a 20-yard catch in traffic last week at Pittsburgh to convert a third-and-three and keep alive a Bengals FG drive. Erickson has also played on special teams in Games 1-2. Sixth-round draft choice **Cody Core** of Ole Miss has been inactive for Weeks 1-2. Core earned a roster spot with a solid preseason, leading the team in receptions (eight) and receiving yards (135).

Tight ends/H-back: Second-year pro **C.J. Uzomah** was the Bengals No. 3 TE as a rookie last year, but he has started Games 1-2 this season, partially due to injuries to other TEs. His five catches for 68 yards through two games include a 54-yard catch-and-run against the Jets in Week 1 that helped set up a Bengals FG. Uzomah and second-year TE **Tyler Kroft** have together helped fill the void left by injured Pro Bowl TE **Tyler Eifert**, who has yet to see the field in 2016 as he recovers from an ankle injury suffered in last year's Pro Bowl game. Last week against the Steelers, Kroft, who is still working back from a knee injury in training camp that caused him to miss all four preseason games, caught three passes for 35 yards, including a 21-yarder in the first quarter to help set up a Bengals FG. A third-round 2015 draft choice, Kroft progressed steadily as a rookie. He started five of the last six games, both filling in for the injured Eifert and as part of two-TE sets. Eifert, a first-round 2013 draft choice, is on the road back to action, hopefully later this month. Eifert scored 13 TDs last season, a Bengals record for TEs and just one off the league lead, despite missing significant playing time in four games due to injuries. He had 52 catches for 615 yards, third on the team in each category. The Bengals also have a young standout at the H-back position, third-year pro **Ryan Hewitt** of Stanford, who has started Games 1-2 (no touches or targets). Hewitt made the team as a college free agent in 2014 and provided immediate impact as a blocker out of the backfield and as a situational receiver. He has played in 33 of 34 games over his first three seasons and has 18 receptions for 185 yards.

Offensive linemen: The Bengals return four well-established starters on the offensive line, and the ROT position has been claimed by **Cedric Ogbuehi**, the team's first-round draft choice in 2015. Ogbuehi missed the last three preseason games, due to a toe injury suffered during his start at ROT in the preseason opener, but he returned in time for the regular season and has started in Games 1-2. Ogbuehi played in only five games last season, but it was known at the time he was drafted that he needed recovery time from a knee injury suffered in his final college game for Texas A&M. At LOT, **Andrew Whitworth** is back after the most celebrated season of his career. An 11th-year pro for 2016, Whitworth last season was a first-team selection on the king of All-Pro teams, the long-recognized Associated Press version. He also was a first-ballot Pro Bowl selection. **Clint Boling** and **Kevin Zeitler** have been Cincinnati's starting guard tandem since 2012, Boling on the left side and Zeitler on the right. Boling joined the team in 2011 as a fourth-round draft choice, and Zeitler was a first-round pick in 2012. Since 2014, **Russell Bodine** has been between them at C. A fourth-round 2014 draft, Bodine has not missed a Bengals start, covering 34 regular-season games and two postseason contests. **Jake Fisher**, Cincinnati's 2015 second-round draft choice, has served as the "big tight end" in extra-blocker situations so far this season. Fisher played in 14 games as a rookie last year and can fill a variety of roles. He was moved to H-back late last season to replace the injured Ryan Hewitt. The Bengals also have a veteran with recent ROT experience in 10th-year pro **Eric Winston**, who has played on special teams in Games 1-2. Winston played in 17 games for the Bengals, with four starts at ROT, over the last two seasons. C **T.J. Johnson** also has Bengals playing experience, with a career-best 12 games logged last season. He suffered a concussion in preseason game three and sat out the preseason finale, but he returned for the regular season and has played on special teams in Games 1-2. Cincinnati's only 2016 draft choice on the line is **Christian Westerman**, fifth-round guard selection from Arizona State, a prolific performer in the Sun Devil weight room. Westerman played in all four preseason games and has been inactive in Games 1-2.

Defensive linemen: Seventh-year pro **Geno Atkins** is building a legacy as the best defensive lineman in Bengals history, and last week in against the Steelers, he logged three tackles. In the season opener against the Jets, Atkins' four tackles included the team's only sack plus two other tackles for loss. His one-yard sack came on third down and forced a third-quarter Jets punt. In the fourth quarter, he dropped RB Matt Forte for a one-yard loss on a second-and-goal from the Bengals one. The Jets followed with an incomplete pass on third-and-goal from the two and then settled for a 20-yard field goal that left the Bengals still leading at 20-19. Atkins went to his fourth Pro Bowl last season and earned his second first-team berth on the prestigious Associated Press All-Pro team. His 11.0 sacks tied for the NFL lead among interior linemen last season.

He also tied for the league lead in that category in 2011, and he led outright in 2012. Alongside Atkins on the interior line is another Bengals pillar, **Domata Peko**. The 11th-year pro has started 103 consecutive regular-season games, and last year he had a career-best 5.0 sacks. Peko had five tackles against the Steelers last week and has seven stops for the season. The Bengals are also flush with talent at the starting DE positions. Seventh-year pro **Carlos Dunlap** had 13.5 sacks last season, the second-most in Bengals history, and went to his first Pro Bowl. He notched five tackles and a QB hit against the Steelers last week and his 10 tackles for the season lead the line. He also has two passes defended. Dunlap has 49.0 career sacks, fourth in Bengals annals, and he also has 12 career forced fumbles, eight fumble recoveries, 28 passes defended, four blocked field goals and two touchdowns scored. DE **Michael Johnson**, an eighth-year player for 2016, had four tackles at Pittsburgh. He has six tackles and a pass defended on the season. The Bengals got strong rotational play on the interior line last season from veteran **Pat Sims**, who had three tackles and a QB hit at the Steelers. He has five tackles on the season. Sims is a ninth-year pro for 2016. Veterans at the backup DE spots are **Margus Hunt** and **Will Clarke**. Hunt logged two tackles last week against the Steelers. Hunt had his best game as a Bengal in the Jets contest, with two passes defended, a tackle-for-loss and a blocked field goal. Hunt is a second-round 2013 draftee who was in seven games last year. Clarke is a third-year player, a third-round 2014 Bengals draft choice, who played in 12 games last season. Clarke logged his first career solo sack last week against the Steelers, dropping Ben Roethlisberger in the second quarter for a nine-yard loss. **Brandon Thompson** was a contributor at DT last season, but the fifth-year pro opens 2016 still rehabbing a knee injury suffered late last season. Thompson is on the Reserve/PUP list and could return to play at some point after Game 6. Second-year DT **DeShawn Williams** had a strong preseason, with 10 tackles, and claimed a roster spot. He has been inactive for Games 1-2.

Linebackers: The Bengals open 2016 with a LB corps that appears deep as well as talented. The notable new addition for 2016 is 13th-year veteran **Karlos Dansby**, signed as a free agent and filling the starting SLB position. Last week against the Steelers, Dansby led the team in tackles with 10, and he also had an end zone pass defended in the fourth quarter. He has 21 tackles on the season, leading the team by six. Dansby led Cleveland last season in tackles (108) and INTs (three). Dansby ranks among NFL's all-time best in the combo stat of sacks-plus-INTs (61, 41-20), and he joins Hall of Famers Bobby Bell and Derrick Brooks as only LBs with six career INTs for TDs. Sixth-year pro **Vincent Rey** can play all the LB positions and last year led the team in tackles (95), playing 16 games with eight starts. He also led the team in 2014. Rey started against the Steelers last week and logged six tackles, and he is second on the team with 15 tackles on the season. MLB **Rey Mauluga** has averaged 14 starts per year since joining the team as a second-round draft choice in 2009. Mauluga is a particularly stout run defender and he played tough at Pittsburgh, second on the team with seven tackles. WLB **Vontaze Burfict**, one of the league's best instinctive talents, looks for a fully healthy season after battling knee and foot problems that limited him to 15 games over the last two years. Burfict started the last 10 games last season and led the team in tackles per game played (7.4). But his target for 2016 is regular-season Game 4, as he is out for Games 1-3 on an NFL suspension, for playing rules violations. Rookie third-round draft choice **Nick Vigil** of Utah State had a strong preseason, leading the team in tackles (17) with one INT. He has played in Games 1-2 on special teams. Vigil finished sixth in the nation last year in tackles per game (11.1) and played in a scheme similar to Cincinnati's. Also on the roster are **Marquis Flowers** of Arizona and **Trevor Roach** of Nebraska. Flowers spent 2015 on Reserve/Injured (shoulder), but the sixth-round '14 draft pick played in every game in '14. Flowers has played on special teams in Games 1-2 and has two tackles. Roach spent the '15 regular season on the practice squad after signing as a college free agent, and he made his NFL debut in the Wild Card playoff (one special teams tackle). He has played in Games 1-2 on special teams.

Defensive backs: Tenth-year vet **Adam Jones** earned his first Pro Bowl berth in 2015 and heads the CB corps as 2016 opens. Jones had four tackles last week against the Steelers, as well as an INT. He picked off a fourth-down Ben Roethlisberger pass at the Bengals 21 in the first quarter and returned two yards to the 23. He has 10 tackles, the one INT and two total passes defended for the season. Jones made the Pro Bowl last season. His time as a kick returner was limited last season by his CB duties, but he's a longtime threat in that area. In 2014, he led the NFL with a Bengals-record 31.3 average on

KOR and was second in PR (12.0). This season, he has three punt returns for an 8.3 average and two kickoff returns for a 17.5 average. **Dre Kirkpatrick**, a 2012 Bengals first-round draft choice, had an acrobatic second-quarter INT of a deep pass against the Steelers and two total passes defended. Kirkpatrick started 15 games last season and led the team in passes defended (16). He has two career INTs for TDs and has a 50-game appearance streak (including postseason). CB **Josh Shaw** of Southern California, a fourth-round draftee last year logged one defensive tackle and two special teams tackles against the Steelers. He had the game-clinching play in the season opener against the Jets, intercepting a Ryan Kirkpatrick pass intended for Eric Decker at the Jets 40 with 0:40 to play. Shaw played in 15 games as a rookie and also has the ability to play safety. The CB room also includes 2014 first-round draft pick **Darqueze Dennard** of Michigan State, who saw his first action of the season last week at Pittsburgh, logging three tackles. Dennard had been rehabbing an ankle injury he suffered the first week of training camp. Other veteran CBs on the roster are **Chris Lewis-Harris** and **Chykie Brown**. Lewis-Harris has three tackles on defense, all against the Jets, and he has also played on special teams in Games 1-2. Brown was inactive against Pittsburgh after playing on special teams against the Jets. Another first-rounder at CB, 2016 choice **William Jackson** of the University of Houston, is on the Reserve/Injured list, due to a torn pectoral muscle tendon he suffered in an early training camp practice. It's hoped he'll recover in time for consideration as the one R/I player each team may return to the roster later in the season. Jackson led the nation in 2015 with a school-record 23 pass breakups and added a career-best five interceptions, also leading nation in total passes defended (28). Fifth-year pro **George Iloka** has been Cincinnati's starting SS since 2013 and heads the corps heading into 2016. The 6-4, 225-pounder had four tackles and a pass defended in the Steelers game, and he has eight tackles with the one PD for the season. He has five career INTs and 23 total passes defended, and coaches see him as still a rising performer. Taking over this season as the starting FS is fourth-year pro **Shawn Williams**, who logged five tackles last week at Pittsburgh. He's third on the team for the season in tackles (14). Williams has played in all 53 possible games (regular season and postseason) in his Bengals career, and last year he made his first four starts. Second-year pro **Derron Smith** has played on special teams in Games 1-2, with one tackle. Smith played in every game last season, mostly on special teams. **Clayton Fejedelem** comes to Cincinnati as a seventh-round draft choice after last year being named Illinois' Defensive Player of the Year. He has played on special teams in Games 1-2. He played in all four preseason games and had nine tackles, and he also had a team-leading four special teams stops.

Special teams: The Bengals' excellent specialist trio returns for a seventh straight season working together. K **Mike Nugent**, a 12th-year NFL player in his seventh Bengals season, was three-for-three in FG attempts of 25, 33, and 31 yards last week at Pittsburgh. He had the game-deciding score at New York, hitting a 47-yard field goal with 0:58 to play, giving the Bengals their final 23-22 margin. He's six for seven on the season on field goals, with his only miss coming from 52 yards. Nugent holds club season records for points (132) and field goals (33), both set in 2011. In 2014 he kicked a club-record 57-yard FG in the playoffs, second-longest in NFL postseason history, and he also shares the club record for longest regular-season FG (55). Nugent also handles kickoffs. P **Kevin Huber** has posted the top two seasons in Bengals history for gross average and the top four for net average. Against the Steelers, he averaged 45.2 gross yards and 40.2 net on three kicks, with three inside-20 and no touchbacks. He's a 45.9 gross and 41.3 net for the season, and he's tied for sixth in the NFL in differential between inside-20 kicks and touchbacks (plus-4). Huber was an initial-ballot Pro Bowler in 2014. He also boasts the franchise's all-time best ratio of inside-20 kicks to touchbacks (3.9-to-1, with 186 inside-20s and 48 touchbacks). Huber is also the proven reliable holder for Nugent. The final member of the trio is LS **Clark Harris**, who has handled 1051 snaps in his Bengals career without an unplayable delivery. Harris is also a solid player on punt coverage, with 20 career tackles, including a career-best five last season. Veteran CB **Adam Jones** and rookie WR **Alex Erickson** have split the duties this season as punt and kickoff returners. Jones is averaging 8.3 yards on three PR and 17.5 yards on two KOR. Erickson is averaging 7.5 yards on two PR has a 15-yard KOR. Erickson was near-sensational on punt returns in preseason, averaging an NFL-leading 30.8 yards on six tries. CB **Josh Shaw** and WR **James Wright** are tied for the team lead in special teams tackles, with three each. The special teams suffered a significant blow Aug. 28 at Jacksonville when HB **Cedric Peerman**, a Pro Bowl coverage player in 2015, suffered a left forearm fracture on a rushing attempt. The team hopes he could return to action at midseason.

IMPORTANT DATES

2016

- Oct. 2 — NFL International Series, Indianapolis Colts vs. Jacksonville Jaguars, London, England
- Mid.-Oct. — Beginning on the sixth calendar day prior to a club's seventh regular season game (including any bye week) and continuing through the day after the conclusion of the 11th regular season weekend, clubs are permitted to begin practicing players on Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform and Reserve/Non-Football Injury or Illness for a period not to exceed 21 days. Players may be activated during the 21-day practice period, or prior to 4 p.m. Eastern on the day after the conclusion of the 21-day period, provided that no player may be activated to participate in a Week 6 game.
- Mid.-Oct. — At any time after six weeks have elapsed since a player was placed on Reserve/Injured or Reserve/Non-Football Injury/Illness, each club is permitted to designate one player for return from either list to the club's 53-player Active/Inactive List.
- Mid.-Oct. — The player who is "Designated For Return" must have suffered a major football-related or non-football-related injury after reporting to training camp and must have been placed on the applicable Reserve List after 4 p.m. Eastern on the day after the final roster reduction.
- Mid.-Oct. — A player whom the club wishes to designate for return is permitted to return to practice for a period not to exceed 21 days. The club is required to notify the League office that the player has been "Designated For Return" on the first day the player begins to practice. The player cannot be returned to the Active/Inactive List until eight weeks have elapsed since the date he was placed on Reserve.
- Oct. 18-19 — Fall League Meeting, Houston, Texas.
- Oct. 23 — NFL International Series, New York Giants vs. Los Angeles Rams, London, England.
- Oct. 30 — NFL International Series, Washington Redskins vs. Cincinnati Bengals, London, England.
- Nov. 1 — All trading ends for 2016 at 4 p.m. Eastern.
- Nov. 2 — Players with at least four previous pension-credited seasons are subject to the waiver system for the remainder of the regular season and postseason.
- Nov. 15 — At 4 p.m. Eastern, signing period ends for Franchise Players who are eligible to receive offer sheets.
- Nov. 15 — Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to sign their unsigned Franchise and Transition Players, including Franchise Players who were eligible to receive offer sheets until this date. If still unsigned after this date, such players are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2016.
- Nov. 15 — Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to sign their Unrestricted Free Agents to whom the "May 10 Tender" was made. If still unsigned after this date, such players are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2016.
- Nov. 15 — Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to sign their Restricted Free Agents, including those to whom the "June 1 Tender" was made. If such players remain unsigned after this date, they are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2016.
- Nov. 15 — Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to sign their drafted rookies. If such players remain unsigned after this date, they are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2016.
- Nov. 21 — NFL International Series, Houston Texans vs. Oakland Raiders, Mexico City, Mexico.

2017

- Jan. 2 — Earliest permissible date for clubs to renegotiate or extend the rookie contract of a drafted rookie who was selected in any round of the 2014 NFL Draft. Any permissible renegotiated or extended player contract will not be considered a rookie contract, and will not be subject to the rules that limit rookie contracts.

- Jan. 2 — Option exercise period begins for Fifth-Year Option for First-Round Selections from the 2014 NFL Draft. To exercise the option, the club must give written notice to the player on or after Jan. 2, 2017, but prior to May 3, 2017.
- Jan. 7-8 — Wild Card Playoffs.
- Jan. 8 — Assistant coaches under contract to playoff clubs that have byes in the Wild Card weekend may be interviewed for head coaching positions through the conclusion of the Wild Card games.
- Jan. 14-15 — Divisional Playoffs.
- Jan. 15 — Assistant coaches under contract to playoff clubs that won their Wild Card games may be interviewed for head coaching positions through the conclusion of Divisional Playoff games.
- Jan. 16 — Deadline for college players that are underclassmen to apply for special eligibility. A list of players who are accepted into the NFL Draft will be transmitted to clubs on Jan. 20.
- Jan. 21 — East-West Shrine Game, Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Fla.
- Jan. 22 — AFC and NFC Championship Games.
- Jan. 28 — Senior Bowl, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, Mobile, Ala.
- Jan. 29 — NFL Pro Bowl, Camping World Stadium, Orlando, Fla.
- Jan. 29 — An assistant coach, whose team is participating in the Super Bowl, who has previously interviewed for another club's head coaching job may have a second interview with such club no later than the Sunday preceding the Super Bowl.
- Feb. 5 — Super Bowl LI, NRG Stadium, Houston, Texas.
- Feb. 15 — First day for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.
- Feb. 28-March 6 — Combine Timing and Testing, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Ind.
- March 1 — Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.
- March 7-9 — During the period beginning at noon Eastern on March 7 and ending at 3:59:59 p.m. Eastern on March 9, clubs are permitted to contact, and enter into contract negotiations with the certified agents of players who will become Unrestricted Free Agents upon the expiration of their 2016 player contracts at 4 p.m. Eastern on March 9. However, a contract cannot be executed with a new club until 4 p.m. Eastern on March 9.
- March 7-9 — During the above two-day negotiating period, no direct contact is permitted between a prospective unrestricted free agent and any employee or representative of a club, other than the player's current club.
- March 9 — The 2017 League Year and Free Agency period begin at 4 p.m. Eastern. The first day of the 2017 League Year will end at 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern on March 9. Clubs will receive a personnel notice that will include all transactions submitted to the League office during the period between 4 p.m. Eastern and 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern on March 9.
- March 9 — Trading period for 2017 begins at 4 p.m. Eastern, after expiration of all 2016 contracts.
- March 26-29 — Annual League Meeting, Phoenix, Ariz.
- April 3 — Clubs that hired a new head coach after the end of the 2016 regular season may begin offseason workout programs.
- April 17 — Clubs with returning head coaches may begin offseason workout programs.
- April 21 — Deadline for Restricted Free Agents to sign Offer Sheets.
- April 26 — Deadline for prior club to exercise Right of First Refusal to Restricted Free Agents.
- April 27-29 — NFL Draft (site TBD).

2018

- Feb. 4* — Super Bowl LII, U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, Minn.

* Tentative date.

MEDIA SCHEDULE

<p>Tues., Sept. 20 — Players' off day; No media access.</p> <p>Wed., Sept. 21 — Locker room open from 11:15 a.m.-noon; Andy Dalton news conference at 11:15 a.m.; Marvin Lewis news conference at noon; Practice from 1-3 p.m. (practice open to media from 1-1:30 p.m., but no video after 1:20 p.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off the practice field; Player availability after practice is limited, and interviews must be arranged in advance; Conference calls from Denver Broncos player TBD at 3:15 p.m.; Conference calls from Denver Broncos head coach Gary Kubiak at 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Thurs., Sept. 22 — Practice from 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (practice open to media from 11:15-11:45 a.m., but no video after 11:35 a.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off practice field; Locker room open from 1:15-2 p.m.</p> <p>Fri., Sept. 23 — Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Practice from 10:45 a.m.-noon (practice open to media from</p>	<p>10:45-11:15 a.m., but no video or still cameras).</p> <p>Sat., Sept. 24 — No media access.</p> <p>Sun., Sept. 25 — Game 3, Bengals vs. Denver at Paul Brown Stadium, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Mon., Sept. 26 — Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:10-3:55 p.m.</p> <p>Tues., Sept. 27 — Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Practice from 10:45-11:50 a.m. (practice open to media from 10:45-11:15 a.m., but no video or still cameras).</p> <p>Wed., Sept. 28 — No media access.</p> <p>Thurs., Sept. 29 — Game 4, Bengals vs. Miami at Paul Brown Stadium, 8:25 p.m.</p> <p>Fri., Sept. 30 — Marvin Lewis news conference at 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>Sat., Oct. 1 — Players' day off; No media access.</p> <p>Sun., Oct. 2 — Players' day off; No media access.</p> <p>Mon., Oct. 3 — Locker room open from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</p>
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THE LAST BENGALS-BRONCOS MEETINGS

**2014 SEASON
WEEK 16, GAME 15**

Cincinnati Bengals 37, Denver Broncos 28
Monday night, Dec. 22, 2014 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals rallied from a 28-27 deficit after three quarters to defeat the Broncos on Monday Night Football and clinch a playoff berth for the fourth consecutive year. WR Brandon Tate's 49-yard punt return set up a 23-yard Mike Nugent FG for a 30-28 Cincinnati lead midway through the final period, and CB Dre Kirkpatrick had a 30-yard INT return for a TD with 2:41 left. Bengals rookie HB Jeremy Hill rushed for 147 yards, becoming the first Bengal with four games of 140-plus rushing yards in a season. Cincinnati had four INTs against Denver QB Peyton Manning, including two by Kirkpatrick. The Bengals improved to 10-4-1 and stayed a half-game ahead of Pittsburgh for the AFC North lead. Denver, already having clinched the AFC West, fell to 11-4.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Denver.....	7	0	21	0	—	28
Cincinnati.....	7	13	7	10	—	37

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Den. — A.Talib 33 interception return (C.Barth kick).....	1-10:32
Cin. — J.Hill 85 run (M.Nugent kick).....	1-10:09
Cin. — M.Nugent 37 field goal.....	2-10:23
Cin. — J.Gresham 2 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	2-7:56
Cin. — M.Nugent 49 field goal.....	2-1:03
Den. — C.Anderson 1 run (C.Barth kick).....	3-14:12
Cin. — G.Bernard 22 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	3-12:35
Den. — E.Sanders 4 pass from P.Manning (C.Barth kick).....	3-9:08
Den. — E.Sanders 5 pass from P.Manning (C.Barth kick).....	3-1:29
Cin. — M.Nugent 23 field goal.....	4-7:49
Cin. — D.Kirkpatrick 30 interception return (M.Nugent kick).....	4-2:41

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 66,107. **Time:** 3:20.

TEAM STATISTICS	DEN.	CIN.
First downs.....	22	20
Third down conversions-attempts.....	5-12	2-11
Total net yards.....	385	353
Net yards rushing.....	85	207
Net yards passing.....	300	146
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	44-28-4	25-17-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	2-11	0-0
Punts-average.....	6-47.2	5-42.2
Punt returns-yards.....	3-14	3-72
Kickoff returns-yards.....	3-121	3-134
Penalties-yards.....	6-72	7-45
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	2-1
Time of possession.....	28:22	31:38

RUSHING

DEN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
C.Anderson	18	83	27	1	J.Hill	22	147	85t	1
J.Thompson	1	2	2	0	G.Bernard	8	36	23t	9
					A.Dalton	6	25	10	0
					D.Sanzenbacher	1	-1	-1	0
TOTALS	19	85	27	1	TOTALS	37	207	85t	1

PASSING

DEN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
P.Manning	44	28	311	2-4	A.Dalton	25	17	146	2-1
TOTALS	44	28	311	2-4	TOTALS	25	17	146	2-1

RECEIVING

DEN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
C.Anderson	8	55	20	0	J.Gresham	9	62	20	1
D.Thomas	7	115	46	0	G.Bernard	5	45	22t	1
E.Sanders	6	70	33	2	M.Sanu	1	16	16	0
W.Welker	4	30	13	0	B.Tate	1	12	12	0
J.Thomas	2	33	26	0	D.Sanzenbacher	1	11	11	0
J.Tamme	1	8	8	0					
TOTALS	28	311	46	2	TOTALS	17	146	22t	2

DEFENSE

Denver (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** T.Ward 5-4-9, T.Davis 3-4-7, M.Jackson 5-0-5, D.Brunton 2-3-5, C.Harris 3-1-4, R.Moore 3-1-4, A.Talib 3-1-4, T.Knighton 3-0-3, V.Miller 2-1-3, D.Ware 2-1-3, S.Johnson 1-2-3, D.Wolfe 2-0-2, B.Roby 1-1-2, L.McCray 1-0-1, O.Bolden 1-0-1, S.Williams 1-0-1, M.Austin 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** None. **INT.-YDS.:** A.Talib 1-33. **PD:** A.Talib 3, D.Brunton 1, C.Harris 1. **FF:** D.Brunton 1, V.Miller 1. **FR-YDS.:** V.Miller 1-2.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** V.Rey 7-4-11, R.Mauluga 6-4-10, T.Newman 5-1-6, R.Nelson 5-0-5, A.Jones 4-0-4, C.Dunlap 2-2-4, L.Hall 2-1-3, W.Gilberry 2-0-2, D.Peko 2-0-2, T.Mays 1-1-2, G.Iloka 0-2-2, M.Flowers 1-0-1, D.Kirkpatrick 1-0-1, G.Atkins 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** T.Mays 1-6, C.Dunlap 1-5. **INT.-YDS.:** D.Kirkpatrick 2-30, A.Jones 1-11, R.Nelson 1-3. **PD:** D.Kirkpatrick 2, W.Gilberry 1, G.Iloka 1, A.Jones 1, R.Nelson 1, T.Newman 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

**2015 SEASON
WEEK 16, GAME 15**

Denver Broncos 20, Cincinnati Bengals 17 (OT)
Monday night, Dec. 28, 2015 at Sports Authority Field at Mile High

The Bengals learned the day before the Monday night Denver game that they had been crowned AFC North Division champions, due to a Pittsburgh loss, but they were denied against the Broncos in a bid to lock up a first-round playoff bye. The Bengals opened impressively at Denver as QB AJ McCarron, starting for the second straight game in place of injured QB Andy Dalton, led TD drives of 80 and 90 yards on the first two possessions, giving Cincinnati a 14-0 lead early in the second quarter. The Broncos came back to lead 17-14, and the Bengals tied it at 17-all on a 52-yard FG with 6:46 remaining in the fourth quarter. Denver missed a FG try at the regulation gun, but the Broncos won the OT coin toss and drove for a 37-yard FG. The Bengals were entitled to at least one possession since the Broncos did not score a TD, but it ended on the second play, as McCarron was unable to handle a shotgun snap and Denver recovered his fumble. The result left the Bengals and Broncos tied at 11-4 for the No. 2 AFC playoff seed and resulting first-round bye.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	7	7	0	3	0	17
Denver.....	0	3	7	7	3	20

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — A.Green 5 pass from A.McCarron (M.Nugent kick).....	1-7:26
Cin. — M.Sanu 6 run (M.Nugent kick).....	2-10:51
Den. — B.McManus 23 field goal.....	2-0:14
Den. — E.Sanders 8 pass from B.Osweiler (B.McManus kick).....	3-10:14
Den. — C.Anderson 39 run (B.McManus kick).....	4-11:17
Cin. — M.Nugent 52 field goal.....	4-6:46
Den. — B.McManus 37 field goal.....	5-10:00

Missed FGs: M.Nugent (45WR), B.McManus (45WL).

Attendance: 76,868. **Time:** 3:22.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	DEN.
First downs.....	22	22
Third down conversions-attempts.....	10-17	4-11
Total net yards.....	294	390
Net yards rushing.....	108	113
Net yards passing.....	186	277
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	35-22-0	39-27-0
Sacks against-yards lost.....	2-14	3-22
Punts-average.....	5-47.4	5-43.4
Punt returns-yards.....	4-8	2-20
Kickoff returns-yards.....	2-34	3-68
Penalties-yards.....	6-45	5-40
Fumbles-lost.....	1-1	1-1
Time of possession.....	37:28	27:50

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	DEN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
J.Hill	19	63	14	0	C.Anderson	9	73	39t	1
A.McCarron	4	21	16	0	R.Hillman	9	35	8	0
G.Bernard	8	14	5	0	B.Osweiler	3	5	6	0
M.Sanu	2	10	6t	1					
TOTALS	33	108	16	1	TOTALS	21	113	39t	1

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	DEN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.McCarron	35	22	200	1-0	B.Osweiler	39	27	299	1-0
TOTALS	35	22	200	1-0	TOTALS	39	27	299	1-0

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	DEN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
A.Green	5	57	17	1	D.Thomas	7	59	13	0
T.Kroft	4	46	15	0	O.Daniels	5	70	26	0
G.Bernard	4	29	9	0	E.Sanders	4	67	35	1
M.Jones	3	33	15	0	J.Norwood	4	37	14	0
M.Sanu	3	29	20	0	R.Hillman	4	37	14	0
J.Hill	2	-2	2	0	B.Fowler	1	13	13	0
R.Burkhead	1	8	8	0	C.Anderson	1	8	8	0
					V.Green	1	8	8	0
TOTALS	22	200	20	1	TOTALS	27	299	35	1

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** D.Kirkpatrick 7-0-7, V.Burfit 5-1-6, C.Dunlap 5-1-6, M.Johnson 5-1-6, A.Jones 5-0-5, L.Hall 4-1-5, S.Williams 4-0-4, R.Mauluga 3-1-4, P.Sims 1-2-3, D.Peko 2-0-2, W.Gilberry 1-0-1, V.Rey 1-0-1, J.Shaw 1-0-1, R.Nelson 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** C.Dunlap 3-22. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** R.Nelson 2, D.Kirkpatrick 1, R.Mauluga 1, S.Williams 1. **FF:** M.Johnson 1. **FR-YDS.:** R.Nelson 1-0.

Denver (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** D.Trevathan 8-4-12, B.Marshall 5-2-7, C.Harris 5-0-5, V.Walker 4-1-5, B.Roby 4-0-4, V.Miller 3-0-3, D.Wolfe 3-0-3, M.Jackson 2-1-3, D.Stewart 2-1-3, D.Ware 2-1-3, A.Talib 2-0-2, S.Barrett 1-0-1, J.Bush 1-0-1, S.Keo 1-0-1, S.Ray 1-0-1, T.Ward 1-0-1, S.Williams 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** V.Walker 1-9, D.Wolfe 1-5. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** C.Harris 1, B.Roby 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** D.Ware 1-0.

GAME SUMMARIES

WEEK 1, GAME 1

Cincinnati Bengals 23, N.Y. Jets 22 Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016 at MetLife Stadium

The Bengals survived a seesaw battle to win a road season opener for the third year in a row. They trailed 7-0 but blocked a 22-yard Jets FG try to avoid getting two scores down. They came back to lead 10-7, but trailed 16-13 at halftime. They led 20-16, but later trailed 22-20. With 58 seconds left, K Mike Nugent got the winning points on a 47-yard FG. The Jets' last chance for a comeback was snuffed with 40 seconds remaining when second-year CB Josh Shaw intercepted a pass from QB Ryan Fitzpatrick. QB Andy Dalton posted a 114.0 passer rating despite being sacked seven times. It was the first Bengals win with seven or more sacks allowed since 1990. WR A.J. Green posted NFL-leading totals for Week 1 with 12 receptions and 180 receiving yards.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	3	10	7	3	—	23
N.Y. Jets.....	7	9	0	6	—	22

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
NYJ — Q.Enunwa 3 pass from R.Fitzpatrick (N.Folk kick).....	1-7:40
Cin. — M.Nugent 33 field goal.....	1-1:29
Cin. — A.Green 54 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	2-11:23
NYJ — E.Decker 15 pass from R.Fitzpatrick (kick failed).....	2-9:38
NYJ — N.Folk 45 field goal.....	2-3:19
Cin. — M.Nugent 21 field goal.....	2-0:00
Cin. — J.Hill 12 run (M.Nugent kick).....	3-3:09
NYJ — N.Folk 20 field goal.....	4-11:26
NYJ — N.Folk 23 field goal.....	4-3:23
Cin. — M.Nugent 47 field goal.....	4-0:54

Missed FGs: M.Nugent (52WR), N.Folk (22B).
Attendance: 78,160. **Time:** 3:01.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	NYJ
First downs.....	18	22
Third down conversions-attempts.....	3-11	4-12
Total net yards.....	381	340
Net yards rushing.....	57	152
Net yards passing.....	324	188
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	30-23-1	35-19-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	7-42	1-1
Punts-average.....	3-48.0	3-51.3
Punt returns-yards.....	2-21	2-11
Kickoff returns-yards.....	3-50	3-110
Penalties-yards.....	5-44	7-95
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	1-0
Time of possession.....	25:07	34:53

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	NYJ	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
J.Hill	9	31	12t	1	M.Forte	22	96	14	0
G.Bernard	5	25	11	0	B.Powell	4	41	16	0
A.Dalton	3	7	5	0	R.Fitzpatrick	4	15	9	0
J.Wright	2	-6	2	0					
TOTALS	19	57	12	1	TOTALS	30	152	16	0

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	NYJ	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.Dalton	30	23	366	1-1	R.Fitzpatrick	35	19	189	2-1
TOTALS	30	23	366	1-1	TOTALS	35	19	189	2-1

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	NYJ	NO	YDS	LG	TD
A.Green	12	180	54t	1	Q.Enunwa	7	54	23	1
B.LaFell	4	91	49	0	M.Forte	5	59	24	0
C.Uzomah	2	59	54	0	B.Marshall	3	32	18	0
T.Boyd	2	24	14	0	E.Decker	2	37	22	1
G.Bernard	2	5	4	0	B.Powell	2	7	7	0
J.Wright	1	7	7	0					
TOTALS	23	366	54t	1	TOTALS	19	189	24	2

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** K.Dansby 5-6-11, V.Rey 5-4-9, S.Williams 4-5-9, A.Jones 5-1-6, C.Dunlap 4-1-5, G.Atkins 3-1-4, G.Iloka 2-2-4, J.Shaw 3-0-3, C.Lewis-Harris 2-1-3, M.Johnson 0-2-2, D.Peko 0-2-2, P.Sims 0-2-2, M.Hunt 1-0-1, D.Kirkpatrick 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** G.Atkins 1-1. **INT.-YDS.:** Shaw 1-0. **PD:** C.Dunlap 2, M.Hunt 2, M.Johnson 1, D.Kirkpatrick 1, J.Shaw 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.
N.Y. Jets (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** M.Wilkerson 5-2-7, D.Revis 5-2-7, D.Lee 3-3-6, L.Williams 3-3-6, S.McLendon 5-0-5, M.Williams 3-1-4, D.Harris 2-2-4, B.Skrine 2-1-3, L.Mauldin 1-2-3, M.Gilchrist 2-0-2, L.Thomas 1-1-2, E.Henderson 1-0-1. **SKS-YDS.:** L.Williams 2-5-19.5, M.Wilkerson 1-5-7.5, S.McLendon 2-14, L.Mauldin 1-1. **INT.-YDS.:** M.Williams 1-14. **PD:** D.Harris 1, M.Williams 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

WEEK 2, GAME 2

Pittsburgh Steelers 24, Cincinnati Bengals 16 Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016 at Heinz Field

The red zone told a big part of the story as the Bengals fell one score short against the Steelers. Cincinnati was held to FGs on each of its three possessions inside the Pittsburgh 20-yard line, while the Steelers score TDs on each of their two penetrations. Trailing 24-9 after Pittsburgh scored a TD with 6:48 left, the Bengals got their first TD of the day on a 75-yard drive. Cincinnati's defense then got a three-and-out, and the offense drove to a first down at the Steelers' 39 at the two-minute warning. But rookie WR Tyler Boyd, who had posted good numbers for the day in his hometown, had a lost fumble on the next play. The Bengals contended that replay video did not support the fumble call, but the fumble ruling was upheld after review. Bengals QB Andy Dalton passed for 366 yards for the second straight game and ended Week 2 as the NFL passing yards leader, but Cincinnati had a poor rushing output for the second straight week, netting only 46 yards on 18 carries. The Bengals fell to 1-1 on the season, and Pittsburgh improved to 2-0.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	3	3	3	7	—	16
Pittsburgh.....	7	3	7	7	—	24

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Pitt. — X.Grimble 20 pass from B.Roethlisberger (C.Boswell kick).....	1-3:46
Pitt. — M.Nugent 25 field goal.....	1-0:23
Pitt. — C.Boswell 49 field goal.....	2-4:10
Cin. — M.Nugent 33 field goal.....	2-0:00
Pitt. — J.James 9 pass from B.Roethlisberger (C.Boswell kick).....	3-6:16
Cin. — M.Nugent 21 field goal.....	3-2:10
Pitt. — D.Williams 4 pass from B.Roethlisberger (C.Boswell kick).....	4-6:48
Cin. — G.Bernard 25 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	4-3:25

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 65,072. **Time:** 3:14.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	PITT.
First downs.....	21	19
Third down conversions-attempts.....	4-16	7-17
Total net yards.....	412	374
Net yards rushing.....	46	124
Net yards passing.....	366	250
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	54-31-0	37-19-2
Sacks against-yards lost.....	1-0	1-9
Punts-average.....	9-45.2	8-47.1
Punt returns-yards.....	3-19	5-45
Kickoff returns-yards.....	0-0	1-22
Penalties-yards.....	5-31	5-54
Fumbles-lost.....	2-2	0-0
Time of possession.....	27:05	32:55

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	PITT.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
J.Hill	11	22	5	0	D.Williams	32	94	11	0
G.Bernard	5	17	10	0	B.Roethlisberger	1	14	14	0
A.Dalton	2	7	5	0	S.Coates	1	6	6	0
					D.Richardson	1	6	6	0
					F.Toussaint	1	4	4	0
TOTALS	18	46	10	0	TOTALS	36	124	14	0

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	PITT.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.Dalton	54	31	366	1-0	B.Roethlisberger	37	19	259	3-2
TOTALS	54	31	366	1-0	TOTALS	37	19	259	3-2

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	PITT.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
G.Bernard	9	100	25t	1	A.Brown	4	39	17	0
T.Boyd	6	78	29	0	D.Williams	4	38	20	1
B.LaFell	3	39	17	0	J.James	3	29	11	1
J.Hill	3	37	25	0	S.Coates	2	97	53	0
T.Kroft	3	35	21	0	X.Grimble	2	26	20t	1
C.Uzomah	3	9	5	0	E.Rogers	1	9	9	0
A.Green	2	38	21	0	F.Toussaint	1	9	9	0
A.Erickson	1	20	20	0	D.Heyward-Bey	1	7	7	0
J.Wright	1	10	10	0	D.Johnson	1	5	5	0
TOTALS	31	366	29	1	TOTALS	19	259	53	3

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** K.Dansby 8-2-10, R.Mauluga 6-1-7, V.Rey 3-3-6, S.Williams 5-0-5, C.Dunlap 3-2-5, D.Peko 3-2-5, G.Iloka 3-1-4, M.Johnson 3-1-4, A.Jones 3-1-4, D.Dennard 3-0-3, P.Sims 2-1-3, G.Atkins 1-2-3, D.Kirkpatrick 2-0-2, M.Hunt 1-1-2, W.Clarke 1-0-1, J.Shaw 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** W.Clarke 1-9. **INT.-YDS.:** A.Jones 1-2, D.Kirkpatrick 1-0. **PD:** A.Jones 2, D.Kirkpatrick 2, K.Dansby 1, G.Iloka 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.
Pittsburgh (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** R.Shazier 5-6-11, R.Golden 5-3-8, L.Timmons 6-1-7, W.Gay 4-0-4, M.Mitchell 3-1-4, S.Tuitt 3-1-4, R.Cockrell 2-1-3, A.Moats 1-2-3, A.Chickillo 2-0-2, C.Heyward 2-0-2, A.Burns 1-1-2, J.Jones 1-1-2, S.Davis 1-0-1, J.Hargrave 1-0-1, J.Harrison 1-0-1, D.McCullers 1-0-1, R.Mathews 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** A.Moats 1-0. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** R.Cockrell 2, W.Gay 2, C.Heyward 2. **FF:** J.Harrison 1. **FR-YDS.:** R.Golden 1-21, C.Heyward 1-1.

IN 2016, THE BENGALS ARE:

REGULAR SEASON

0-0 at home
1-1 on the road
0-0 when scoring first
1-1 when opponent scored first
1-0 in games decided by three points or fewer
1-0 in games decided by seven points or fewer
0-0 when leading at halftime
0-0 when tied at halftime
1-1 when trailing at halftime
1-0 when leading after three quarters
0-0 when tied after three quarters
0-1 when trailing after three quarters
0-0 when rushing for 100 net yards

0-0 when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards
0-0 with plus turnover differential
1-1 with even turnover differential
0-0 with minus turnover differential
1-1 when passing for 250 net yards
0-1 when opponent passes for 250 net yards
1-0 when scoring 20 points or more
1-1 when opponent scored 20 points or more
1-1 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
0-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
0-1 on natural grass
1-0 on synthetic surface
1-1 with fewer penalty yards

UNDER MARVIN LEWIS, THE BENGALS ARE:

2003-PRESENT (REGULAR SEASON)

63-39-2 at home
50-56-0 on the road
76-31-1 when scoring first
37-64-1 when opponent scores first
21-20-2 in games decided by three points or fewer
53-44-2 in games decided by seven points or fewer
79-26-2 when leading at halftime
11-2-0 when tied at halftime
23-67-0 when trailing at halftime
90-16-1 when leading after three quarters
7-4-0 when tied after three quarters
16-75-1 when trailing after three quarters
78-34-1 when rushing for 100 net yards

70-25-1 when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards
70-15-1 with plus turnover differential
27-21-0 with even turnover differential
16-59-1 with minus turnover differential
38-32-1 when passing for 250 net yards
32-36-2 when opponent passes for 250 net yards
92-36-1 when scoring 20 points or more
39-84-1 when opponent scores 20 points or more
108-89-2 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
5-6-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
39-34-0 on natural grass
74-61-2 on synthetic surface
60-48-1 with fewer penalty yards

BEST PERFORMANCES

REGULAR SEASON

RUSHING YARDS

31 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 25 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 22 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

11 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 9 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 5 — (two times)

LONGEST RUSHES

12 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets (TD)
 11 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 10 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh

RECEPTIONS

12 — A.J. Green, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 9 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 6 — Tyler Boyd, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh

RECEIVING YARDS

180 — A.J. Green, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 100 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 91 — Brandon LaFell, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

PASSING YARDS

366 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 366 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh

PASS ATTEMPTS

54 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 30 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

PASS COMPLETIONS

31 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 23 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

LONGEST PASSES

54 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets (TD)
 54 — Andy Dalton to C.J. Uzomah, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 49 — Andy Dalton to Brandon LaFell, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

180 — A.J. Green, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 117 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 91 — Brandon LaFell, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

19 — Adam Jones, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 16 — Adam Jones, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 15 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

15 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 12 — Adam Jones, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 7 — Adam Jones, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh

TOTAL TACKLES*

11 — Karlos Dansby, Sept. 11 at N.Y. Jets
 10 — Karlos Dansby, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 9 — (two times)

SOLO TACKLES*

8 — Karlos Dansby, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 6 — Rey Mauluga, Sept. 18 at Pittsburgh
 5 — (four times)

*NOTE: The defensive statistics above are press box statistics produced at the games.

TEAM STATISTICS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 11	at N.Y. Jets	381	19-57	324	23-30	1/1	7-42	18	3-11	0-0	25:07
Sept. 18	at Pittsburgh	412	18-46	366	31-54	1/0	1-0	21	4-16	2-2	27:05
Sept. 25	DENVER										
Sept. 29	MIAMI										
Oct. 9	at Dallas										
Oct. 16	at New England										
Oct. 23	CLEVELAND										
Oct. 30	VS. WASHINGTON										
Nov. 6	— BYE —										
Nov. 14	at N.Y. Giants										
Nov. 20	BUFFALO										
Nov. 27	at Baltimore										
Dec. 4	PHILADELPHIA										
Dec. 11	at Cleveland										
Dec. 18	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 24	at Houston										
Jan. 1	BALTIMORE										
TOTALS		793	37-103	690	54-84	2/1	8-42	39	7-27	2-2	26:06

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 11	at N.Y. Jets	340	30-152	188	19-35	2/1	1-1	22	4-12	1-0	34:53
Sept. 18	at Pittsburgh	374	36-124	250	19-37	3/2	1-9	19	7-17	0-0	32:55
Sept. 25	DENVER										
Sept. 29	MIAMI										
Oct. 9	at Dallas										
Oct. 16	at New England										
Oct. 23	CLEVELAND										
Oct. 30	VS. WASHINGTON										
Nov. 6	— BYE —										
Nov. 14	at N.Y. Giants										
Nov. 20	BUFFALO										
Nov. 27	at Baltimore										
Dec. 4	PHILADELPHIA										
Dec. 11	at Cleveland										
Dec. 18	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 24	at Houston										
Jan. 1	BALTIMORE										
TOTALS		714	66-276	438	38-72	5/3	2-10	41	11-29	1-0	33:54

TRANSACTIONS

(TRANSACTIONS FROM 6-24-15 THROUGH 7-28-16 ARE IN BENGALS' 2016 MEDIA GUIDE)

July 28, 2016 — Signed S **Jimmy Wilson** (FA).
 Aug. 2, 2016 — Signed H-B **Ryan Hewitt*** to a contract extension.
 Aug. 3, 2016 — Signed CB **Corey Tindal** (FA).
 Aug. 9, 2016 — Signed CB **Tony McRae** (FA).
 Aug. 29, 2016 — Waived the following 11 players: WR **Michael Bennett**; LB **Jayson DiManche**; DE **Jack Gangwish**; WR **Antwane Grant**; LB **Darien Harris**; K **Zach Hocker**; QB **Joe Licata**; FB **Jeff Luc**; TE **John Peters**; S **Floyd Raven**; CB **Corey Tindal**.
 Aug. 30, 2016 — Placed DT **Andrew Billings** on the Reserve/Injured list; Placed DT **Brandon Thompson** on the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list; Waived WR **Mario Alford** (injured); Waived K **Jonathan Brown** from the Reserve/Injured list; Terminated the contract of WR **Brandon Tate**.
 Aug. 31, 2016 — WR **Mario Alford** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.
 Sept. 2, 2016 — Terminated the contract of S **Jimmy Wilson**.
 Sept. 3, 2016 — Placed DT **Marcus Hardison** on the Reserve Injured list; Placed LB **Vontaze Burfict** on the Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list; Terminated the contract of CB **Chykie Brown**; Waived WR **Mario Alford** from the Reserve/Injured list (injury settlement); Waived the following 18 players: FB **Andrew Bonnet**, DE **Ryan Brown**, HB **Tra Carson**,

C **Alex Cooper**, DT **David Dean**, OT **Aaron Epps**, HB **Bronson Hill**, CB **Darius Hillary**, G **Trey Hopkins**, WR **Jake Kumerow**, TE **Matt Lengel**, CB **Tony McRae**, G **Alex Redmond**, WR **Alonzo Russell**, WR **Rashaun Simonise**, G **Trip Thurman**, OT **John Weidenaar** and QB **Keith Wenning**.
 Sept. 4, 2016 — Acquired QB **Jeff Driskel** on waivers from San Francisco; Waived LB **P.J. Dawson**; Placed CB **William Jackson** and HB **Cedric Peerman** on the Reserve/Injured list; Re-signed CB **Chykie Brown** and G **Trey Hopkins**; Signed the following nine players to the practice squad: DE **Ryan Brown**, HB **Tra Carson**, DT **David Dean**, CB **Darius Hillary**, WR **Jake Kumerow**, TE **Matt Lengel**, CB **Tony McRae**, G **Alex Redmond**, WR **Alonzo Russell**.
 Sept. 7, 2016 — Signed LB **P.J. Dawson** to the practice squad.
 Sept. 15, 2016 — Acquired CB **KeiVarae Russell** on waivers from Kansas City; Waived G **Trey Hopkins**.
 Sept. 16, 2016 — Signed G **Trey Hopkins** to the practice squad; Released CB **Tony McRae** from the practice squad.

* *NOTE: Signed a new contract before finishing the final season(s) of existing contract.*

PARTICIPATION CHART

LEGEND

(NOTE: Position designation indicates start.)

P — played as a substitute DNP — did not play IL — inactive list PS — practice squad	RI — reserve/injured list RPUP — reserve/physically unable to perform list RNFI — reserve/non-football injury list RNF-I — reserve/non-football illness list RSBC — reserve/suspended by commissioner list	RF — reserve/future list REX — roster exemption ^ — reserve/injured player designated for return * — eligible to practice while on a reserve list NWT — not with team
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NAME	Cin. G-S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		@NYJ	@Pitt.	DEN.	MIA.	@Dal.	@N.E.	CLE.	WASH.	@NYG	BUFF.	@Balt.	PHIL.	@Cle.	PITT.	@Hou.	BALT.
Atkins, Geno.....	2-2	DT	DT														
Bernard, Giovanni.....	2-0	P	P														
Billings, Andrew.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Bodine, Russell.....	2-2	C	C														
Boling, Clint.....	2-2	LG	LG														
Boyd, Tyler.....	2-0	P	P														
Brown, Chykie.....	1-0	P	IL														
Brown, Ryan.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Burfict, Vontaze.....	0-0	RSBC	RSBC														
Burkhead, Rex.....	2-0	P	P														
Carson, Tra.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Clarke, Will.....	2-0	P	P														
Core, Cody.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Dalton, Andy.....	2-2	QB	QB														
Dansby, Karlos.....	2-1	LB	P														
Dawson, P.J.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Dean, David.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Dennard, Darqueze.....	1-0	IL	P														
Driskel, Jeff.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Dunlap, Carlos.....	2-2	LDE	LDE														
Eifert, Tyler.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Erickson, Alex.....	2-0	P	P														
Fejedelem, Clayton.....	2-0	P	P														
Fisher, Jake.....	2-0	P	P														
Flowers, Marquis.....	2-0	P	P														
Green, A.J.....	2-2	WR	WR														
Hardison, Marcus.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Harris, Clark.....	2-0	P	P														
Hewitt, Ryan.....	2-2	H-B	H-B														
Hill, Jeremy.....	2-2	HB	HB														
Hillary, Darius.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Hopkins, Trey.....	0-0	IL	PS														
Huber, Kevin.....	2-0	P	P														
Hunt, Margus.....	2-0	P	P														
Iloka, George.....	2-2	FS	FS														
Jackson, William.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Johnson, Michael.....	2-2	RDE	RDE														
Johnson, T.J.....	2-0	P	P														
Jones, Adam.....	2-2	RCB	RCB														
Kirkpatrick, Dre.....	2-2	LCB	LCB														
Kroft, Tyler.....	2-0	P	P														
Kumerow, Jake.....	0-0	PS	PS														
LaFell, Brandon.....	2-2	WR	WR														
Lengel, Matt.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Lewis-Harris, Chris.....	2-0	P	P														
Maualuga, Rey.....	2-1	P	LB														
McCarron, AJ.....	0-0	DNP	DNP														
McRae, Tony.....	0-0	PS	NWT														
Nugent, Mike.....	2-0	P	P														
Ogbuehi, Cedric.....	2-2	ROT	ROT														
Peerman, Cedric.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Peko, Domata.....	2-2	NT	NT														
Redmond, Alex.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Rey, Vincent.....	2-2	LB	LB														
Roach, Trevor.....	2-0	P	P														
Russell, Alonzo.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Russell, KeiVarae.....	0-0	NWT	IL														
Shaw, Josh.....	2-2	nkIDB	nkIDB														
Sims, Pat.....	2-0	P	P														
Smith, Derron.....	2-0	P	P														
Thompson, Brandon.....	0-0	RPUP	RPUP														
Uzomah, C.J.....	2-2	TE	TE														
Vigil, Nick.....	2-0	P	P														
Westerman, Christian.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Whitworth, Andrew.....	2-2	LOT	LOT														
Williams, DeShawn.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Williams, Shawn.....	2-2	SS	SS														
Winston, Eric.....	2-0	P	P														
Wright, James.....	2-0	P	P														
Zeitler, Kevin.....	2-2	RG	RG														

STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	WR	LOT	LG	C	RG	ROT	TE	H-B	WR	QB	HB
Sept. 11	at N.Y. Jets	Green	Whitworth	Boling	Bodine	Zeitler	Ogbuehi	Uzomah	Hewitt	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
Sept. 18	at Pittsburgh	Green	Whitworth	Boling	Bodine	Zeitler	Ogbuehi	Uzomah	Hewitt	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
Sept. 25	DENVER											
Sept. 29	MIAMI											
Oct. 9	at Dallas											
Oct. 16	at New England											
Oct. 23	CLEVELAND											
Oct. 30	VS. WASHINGTON											
Nov. 6	— BYE —											
Nov. 14	at N.Y. Giants											
Nov. 20	BUFFALO											
Nov. 27	at Baltimore											
Dec. 4	PHILADELPHIA											
Dec. 11	at Cleveland											
Dec. 18	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 24	at Houston											
Jan. 1	BALTIMORE											

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	LDE	NT	DT	RDE	SLB	MLB	WLB	LCB	RCB	SS	FS
Sept. 11	at N.Y. Jets	Dunlap	Peko	Atkins	M.Johnson	Dansby(LB)	Shaw(nickel)	Rey(LB)	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
Sept. 18	at Pittsburgh	Dunlap	Peko	Atkins	M.Johnson	Shaw(nickel)	Mauualuga(LB)	Rey(LB)	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
Sept. 25	DENVER											
Sept. 29	MIAMI											
Oct. 9	at Dallas											
Oct. 16	at New England											
Oct. 23	CLEVELAND											
Oct. 30	VS. WASHINGTON											
Nov. 6	— BYE —											
Nov. 14	at N.Y. Giants											
Nov. 20	BUFFALO											
Nov. 27	at Baltimore											
Dec. 4	PHILADELPHIA											
Dec. 11	at Cleveland											
Dec. 18	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 24	at Houston											
Jan. 1	BALTIMORE											

DEPTH CHART

SEPT. 20, 2016

OFFENSE

WR	18	A.J. GREEN	86	James Wright		
LOT	77	ANDREW WHITWORTH	74	Jake Fisher		
LG	65	CLINT BOLING	<u>63</u>	<u>Christian Westerman</u>		
C	61	RUSSELL BODINE	60	T.J. Johnson		
RG	68	KEVIN ZEITLER	<u>63</u>	<u>Christian Westerman</u>		
ROT	70	CEDRIC OGBUEHI	73	Eric Winston		
TE	85	TYLER EIFERT	81	Tyler Kroft		
H-B/TE	89	RYAN HEWITT (H-back)	87	C.J. Uzomah (tight end)		
WR	11	BRANDON LaFELL	<u>83</u>	<u>Tyler Boyd</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Alex Erickson</u>
QB	14	ANDY DALTON	5	AJ McCarron	<u>3</u>	<u>Jeff Driskel</u>
HB	32	JEREMY HILL	25	Giovani Bernard	33	Rex Burkhead

DEFENSE

LDE	96	CARLOS DUNLAP	99	Margus Hunt		
NT	94	DOMATA PEKO	92	Pat Sims		
DT	97	GENO ATKINS	69	DeShawn Williams		
RDE	90	MICHAEL JOHNSON	93	Will Clarke		
SLB	56	KARLOS DANSBY	53	Marquis Flowers		
MLB	58	REY MAUALUGA	52	Trevor Roach		
WLB	57	VINCENT REY	<u>59</u>	<u>Nick Vigil</u>		
LCB	27	DRE KIRKPATRICK	37	Chris Lewis-Harris	26	Josh Shaw
RCB	24	ADAM JONES	21	Darqueze Dennard	23	Chykie Brown
					<u>20</u>	<u>KeiVarae Russell</u>
SS	36	SHAWN WILLIAMS	<u>42</u>	<u>Clayton Fejedelem</u>		
FS	43	GEORGE ILOKA	31	Derron Smith		

SPECIAL TEAMS

P	10	Kevin Huber				
K	2	Mike Nugent				
LS	46	Clark Harris				
H	10	Kevin Huber				
PR	24	Adam Jones	<u>12</u>	<u>Alex Erickson</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>Tyler Boyd</u>
KOR	24	Adam Jones	<u>12</u>	<u>Alex Erickson</u>	33	Rex Burkhead

NOTE: Players whose names are CAPITALIZED are projected starters in the team's base units. Rookies are underlined.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

<p>Geno Atkins..... JEE-no</p> <p>Giovani Bernard.....jee-o-VAHN-ee</p> <p>Russell Bodine.....BO-dine</p> <p>Chykie Brown.....CHAH-kee</p> <p>Vontaze Burfict (Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list).....VONN-tez BER-fict (rhymes with "perfect")</p> <p>Darqueze Dennard.....dar-KWEZ deh-NARD</p> <p>Tyler Eifert.....IE(rhymes with "tie")-fert</p> <p>Clayton Fejedelem.....FEDGE-uh-lemm (the "d" is silent)</p> <p>Marquis Flowers.....mar-KEECE(rhymes with "peace")</p> <p>Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator).....GUN-thur</p> <p>Jim Haslett (linebackers coach).....HAZ-lett</p> <p>Ryan Hewitt.....HUE-it</p> <p>Margus Hunt.....MAR-guss</p>	<p>George Iloka.....ie(rhymes with "tie")-LO-kuh</p> <p>Dre Kirkpatrick.....DRAY</p> <p>Jake Kumerow (Practice Squad).....KOO-mer-o</p> <p>Bill Lazor (quarterbacks coach).....(pronounced as "laser")</p> <p>Matt Lengel (Practice Squad).....LENG-guhl (hard "g" on second syllable)</p> <p>Rey Mauluga.....RAY mow(rhymes with "now")-uh-LOO-guh</p> <p>Cedric Ogbuehi.....o-BWAY-hee</p> <p>Domata Peko.....DOE-mah-tah PECK-o</p> <p>Vincent Rey.....RAY</p> <p>KeiVarae Russell.....kee-VAR-ay</p> <p>Derron Smith.....duh-RONN</p> <p>C.J. Uzomah.....yew-ZAH-mah</p> <p>Ken Zampese (offensive coordinator).....zam-PEE-zee</p> <p>Kevin Zeitler.....ZITE-ler</p>
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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 20, 2016

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
97	Atkins, Geno	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	7	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
25	Bernard, Giovanni	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	4	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
61	Bodine, Russell	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	3	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Boling, Clint	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	6	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
83	Boyd, Tyler	WR	6-2	197	11-15-94	R	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.	D2'16
23	Brown, Chykie	CB	5-11	191	12-26-86	5	Texas	Houston, Texas	FA'16
33	Burkhead, Rex	HB	5-10	210	7-2-90	4	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
93	Clarke, Will	DE	6-6	280	5-4-91	3	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
16	Core, Cody	WR	6-3	210	4-17-94	R	Mississippi	Auburn, Ala.	D6'16
14	Dalton, Andy	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	6	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
56	Dansby, Karlos	LB	6-3	251	11-3-81	13	Auburn	Birmingham, Ala.	FA'16
21	Dennard, Darqueze	CB	5-11	198	10-10-91	3	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
6	Driskel, Jeff	QB	6-4	231	4-23-93	R	Louisiana Tech	Oviedo, Fla.	W(S.F.)'16
96	Dunlap, Carlos	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	7	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
85	Eifert, Tyler	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	4	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
12	Erickson, Alex	WR	6-0	195	11-6-92	R	Wisconsin	Darlington, Wis.	CFA'16
42	Fejedelem, Clayton	S	6-0	205	6-2-93	R	Illinois	Lemont, Ill.	D7'16
74	Fisher, Jake	OT	6-6	305	4-23-93	2	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
53	Flowers, Marquis	LB	6-3	245	2-16-92	3	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
18	Green, A.J.	WR	6-4	210	7-31-88	6	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
46	Harris, Clark	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	8	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
89	Hewitt, Ryan	H-B	6-4	255	1-24-91	3	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
32	Hill, Jeremy	HB	6-1	235	10-20-92	3	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
10	Huber, Kevin	P	6-1	211	7-16-85	8	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
99	Hunt, Margus	DE	6-8	295	7-14-87	4	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13
43	Iloka, George	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	5	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
90	Johnson, Michael	DE	6-7	272	2-7-87	8	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
60	Johnson, T.J.	C	6-4	300	7-17-90	3	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
24	Jones, Adam	CB	5-10	180	9-30-83	10	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
27	Kirkpatrick, Dre	CB	6-2	185	10-26-89	5	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
81	Kroft, Tyler	TE	6-6	250	10-15-92	2	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
11	LaFell, Brandon	WR	6-3	210	11-4-86	7	Louisiana State	Houston, Texas	FA'16
37	Lewis-Harris, Chris	CB	5-10	185	2-11-89	4	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smyrna, Ga.	CFA'12
58	Mauluga, Rey	LB	6-2	258	1-20-87	8	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
5	McCarron, AJ	QB	6-3	220	9-13-90	2	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
2	Nugent, Mike	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	12	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
70	Ogbuehi, Cedric	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	2	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
94	Peko, Domata	DT	6-3	325	11-27-84	11	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
57	Rey, Vincent	LB	6-0	250	9-6-87	6	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
52	Roach, Trevor	LB	6-2	247	3-6-92	1	Nebraska	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'15
20	Russell, Kei'Varae	CB	5-11	196	10-19-93	R	Notre Dame	Everett, Wash.	W(K.C.)'16
26	Shaw, Josh	CB	6-1	200	3-27-92	2	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
92	Sims, Pat	DT	6-2	330	11-29-85	9	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
31	Smith, Derron	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	2	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
87	Uzomah, C.J.	TE	6-6	265	1-14-93	2	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
59	Vigil, Nick	LB	6-2	239	8-20-93	R	Utah State	Plain City, Utah	D3'16
63	Westerman, Christian	G	6-3	300	2-23-93	R	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	D5'16
77	Whitworth, Andrew	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	11	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
69	Williams, DeShawn	DT	6-1	295	12-29-92	1	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15
36	Williams, Shawn	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	4	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
73	Winston, Eric	OT	6-7	310	11-17-83	10	Miami (Fla.)	Midland, Texas	FA'14
86	Wright, James	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	3	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14
68	Zeitler, Kevin	G	6-4	320	3-8-90	5	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

76	Brown, Ryan (9-4-16)	DE	6-6	276	6-10-94	R	Mississippi State	New Orleans, La.	CFA'16
39	Carson, Tra (9-4-16)	HB	5-11	231	10-24-92	R	Texas A&M	Texarkana, Texas	CFA'16
47	Dawson, P.J. (9-7-16)	LB	6-0	245	1-13-93	2	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	D3b'15
66	Hopkins, Trey (9-16-16)	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
71	Dean, David (9-4-16)	DT	6-1	302	2-16-93	R	Virginia	Virginia Beach, Va.	CFA'16
28	Hillary, Darius (9-4-16)	CB	5-11	185	4-5-93	R	Wisconsin	Cincinnati, Ohio	CFA'16
84	Kumerow, Jake (9-4-16)	WR	6-4	206	2-17-92	1	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
88	Lengel, Matt (9-4-16)	TE	6-7	266	12-27-90	1	Eastern Kentucky	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	CFA'15
62	Redmond, Alex (9-4-16)	G	6-5	310	1-18-95	R	UCLA	Cerritos, Calif.	CFA'16
17	Russell, Alonzo (9-4-16)	WR	6-4	206	9-29-92	R	Toledo	Washington, D.C.	CFA'16

RESERVE/SUSPENDED BY COMMISSIONER (date assigned; length of suspension)

55	Burfict, Vontaze (9-3-16; Games 1-3)	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	5	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
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RESERVE/PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM (date assigned; injury)

98	Thompson, Brandon (8-30-16; knee)	DT	6-2	310	10-19-89	5	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

75	Billings, Andrew (8-30-16; knee)	DT	6-1	325	3-6-95	R	Baylor	Waco, Texas	D4'16
91	Hardison, Marcus (9-3-16; shoulder)	DT	6-3	310	2-14-92	2	Arizona State	Natchitoches, La.	D4b'15
22	Jackson, William (9-4-16; pectoral)	CB	6-0	187	10-27-92	R	Houston	Houston, Texas	D1'16
30	Peerman, Cedric (9-4-16; forearm)	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	7	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Jacob Burney (defensive line), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (assistant special teams/defensive quality control), Robert Couch (offensive quality control/offensive line), Kevin Coyle (secondary), Jeff Friday (assistant strength and conditioning), Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator), Jim Haslett (linebackers), Jonathan Hayes (tight ends), Bill Lazor (quarterbacks), Marcus Lewis (defensive quality control/defensive line), David Lippincott (assistant linebackers/quality control), Robert Livingston (secondary), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Dan Pitcher (offensive assistant/wide receivers), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (offensive coordinator).

NUMERICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 20, 2016

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
2	Mike Nugent.....	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	12	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
5	AJ McCarron.....	QB	6-3	220	9-13-90	2	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
6	Jeff Driskel.....	QB	6-4	231	4-23-93	R	Louisiana Tech	Oviedo, Fla.	W(S.F.)'16
10	Kevin Huber.....	P	6-1	211	7-16-85	8	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
11	Brandon LaFell.....	WR	6-3	210	11-4-86	7	Louisiana State	Houston, Texas	FA'16
12	Alex Erickson.....	WR	6-0	195	11-6-92	R	Wisconsin	Darlington, Wis.	CFA'16
14	Andy Dalton.....	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	6	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
16	Cody Core.....	WR	6-3	210	4-17-94	R	Mississippi	Auburn, Ala.	D6'16
18	A.J. Green.....	WR	6-4	210	7-31-88	6	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
20	KeiVarae Russell.....	CB	5-11	196	10-19-93	R	Notre Dame	Everett, Wash.	W(K.C.)'16
21	Darqueze Dennard.....	CB	5-11	198	10-10-91	3	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
23	Chykie Brown.....	CB	5-11	191	12-26-86	5	Texas	Houston, Texas	FA'16
24	Adam Jones.....	CB	5-10	180	9-30-83	10	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
25	Giovani Bernard.....	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	4	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
26	Josh Shaw.....	CB	6-1	200	3-27-92	2	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
27	Dre Kirkpatrick.....	CB	6-2	185	10-26-89	5	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
31	Derron Smith.....	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	2	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
32	Jeremy Hill.....	HB	6-1	235	10-20-92	3	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
33	Rex Burkhead.....	HB	5-10	210	7-2-90	4	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
36	Shawn Williams.....	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	4	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
37	Chris Lewis-Harris.....	CB	5-10	185	2-11-89	4	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smyrna, Ga.	CFA'12
42	Clayton Fejedelem.....	S	6-0	205	6-2-93	R	Illinois	Lemont, Ill.	D7'16
43	George Iloka.....	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	5	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
46	Clark Harris.....	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	8	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
52	Trevor Roach.....	LB	6-2	247	3-6-92	1	Nebraska	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'15
53	Marquis Flowers.....	LB	6-3	245	2-16-92	3	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
56	Karlos Dansby.....	LB	6-3	251	11-3-81	13	Auburn	Birmingham, Ala.	FA'16
57	Vincent Rey.....	LB	6-0	250	9-6-87	6	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
58	Rey Mauluga.....	LB	6-2	258	1-20-87	8	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
59	Nick Vigil.....	LB	6-2	239	8-20-93	R	Utah State	Plain City, Utah	D3'16
60	T.J. Johnson.....	C	6-4	300	7-17-90	3	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
61	Russell Bodine.....	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	3	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
63	Christian Westerman.....	G	6-3	300	2-23-93	R	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	D5'16
65	Clint Boling.....	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	6	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
68	Kevin Zeitler.....	G	6-4	320	3-8-90	5	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12
69	DeShawn Williams.....	DT	6-1	295	12-29-92	1	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15
70	Cedric Ogbuehi.....	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	2	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
73	Eric Winston.....	OT	6-7	310	11-17-83	10	Miami (Fla.)	Midland, Texas	FA'14
74	Jake Fisher.....	OT	6-6	305	4-23-93	2	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
77	Andrew Whitworth.....	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	11	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
81	Tyler Kroft.....	TE	6-6	250	10-15-92	2	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
83	Tyler Boyd.....	WR	6-2	197	11-15-94	R	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.	D2'16
85	Tyler Eifert.....	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	4	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
86	James Wright.....	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	3	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14
87	C.J. Uzomah.....	TE	6-6	265	1-14-93	2	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
89	Ryan Hewitt.....	H-B	6-4	255	1-24-91	3	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
90	Michael Johnson.....	DE	6-7	272	2-7-87	8	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
92	Pat Sims.....	DT	6-2	330	11-29-85	9	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
93	Will Clarke.....	DE	6-6	280	5-4-91	3	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
94	Domata Peko.....	DT	6-3	325	11-27-84	11	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
96	Carlos Dunlap.....	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	7	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
97	Geno Atkins.....	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	7	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
99	Margus Hunt.....	DE	6-8	295	7-14-87	4	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

17	Alonzo Russell (9-4-16).....	WR	6-4	206	9-29-92	R	Toledo	Washington, D.C.	CFA'16
28	Darius Hillary (9-4-16).....	CB	5-11	185	4-5-93	R	Wisconsin	Cincinnati, Ohio	CFA'16
39	Tra Carson (9-4-16).....	HB	5-11	231	10-24-92	R	Texas A&M	Texarkana, Texas	CFA'16
47	P.J. Dawson (9-7-16).....	LB	6-0	245	1-13-93	2	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	D3b'15
62	Alex Redmond (9-4-16).....	G	6-5	310	1-18-95	R	UCLA	Cerritos, Calif.	CFA'16
66	Trey Hopkins (9-16-16).....	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
71	David Dean (9-4-16).....	DT	6-1	302	2-16-93	R	Virginia	Virginia Beach, Va.	CFA'16
76	Ryan Brown (9-4-16).....	DE	6-6	276	6-10-94	R	Mississippi State	New Orleans, La.	CFA'16
84	Jake Kumerow (9-4-16).....	WR	6-4	206	2-17-92	1	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
88	Matt Lengel (9-4-16).....	TE	6-7	266	12-27-90	1	Eastern Kentucky	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	CFA'15

RESERVE/SUSPENDED BY COMMISSIONER (date assigned; length of suspension)

55	Vontaze Burfict (9-3-16; Games 1-3).....	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	5	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
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RESERVE/PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM (date assigned; injury)

98	Brandon Thompson (8-30-16; knee).....	DT	6-2	310	10-19-89	5	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

22	William Jackson (9-4-16; pectoral).....	CB	6-0	187	10-27-92	R	Houston	Houston, Texas	D1'16
30	Cedric Peerman (9-4-16; forearm).....	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	7	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
75	Andrew Billings (8-30-16; knee).....	DT	6-1	325	3-6-95	R	Baylor	Waco, Texas	D4'16
91	Marcus Hardison (9-3-16; shoulder).....	DT	6-3	310	2-14-92	2	Arizona State	Natchitoches, La.	D4b'15

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Jacob Burney (defensive line), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (assistant special teams/defensive quality control), Robert Couch (offensive quality control/offensive line), Kevin Coyle (secondary), Jeff Friday (assistant strength and conditioning), Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator), Jim Haslett (linebackers), Jonathan Hayes (tight ends), Bill Lazor (quarterbacks), Marcus Lewis (defensive quality control/defensive line), David Lippincott (assistant linebackers/quality control), Robert Livingston (secondary), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Dan Pitcher (offensive assistant/wide receivers), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (offensive coordinator).

STATISTICS

RECORD: 1-1

DATE	W-L	SCORE	OPPONENT	ATTENDANCE
9-11	W	23-22	at N.Y. Jets	78,160
9-18	L	16-24	at Pittsburgh	65,072
9-25			DENVER	
9-29			MIAMI	
10-9			at Dallas	
10-16			at New England	
10-23			CLEVELAND	
10-30			VS. WASHINGTON	
11-6			— BYE —	
11-14			at N.Y. Giants	
11-20			BUFFALO	
11-27			at Baltimore	
12-4			PHILADELPHIA	
12-11			at Cleveland	
12-18			PITTSBURGH	
12-24			at Houston	
1-1			BALTIMORE	

TEAM STATISTICS	BENGALS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	39	41
Rushing	6	14
Passing	28	23
Penalty	5	4
3rd Down: Made-Att	7-27	11-29
3rd Down Pct.	25.9	37.9
4th Down: Made-Att	1-1	0-1
4th Down Pct.	100.0	0.0
POSSESSION AVG.	26:06	33:54
TOTAL NET YARDS	793	714
Avg. Per Game	396.5	357.0
Total Plays	129	140
Avg. Per Play	6.1	5.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	103	276
Avg. Per Game	51.5	138.0
Total Rushes	37	66
NET YARDS PASSING	690	438
Avg. Per Game	345.0	219.0
Sacked-Yards Lost	8-42	2-10
Gross Yards	732	448
Att.-Completions	84-54	72-38
Completion Pct.	64.3	52.8
Had Intercepted	1	3
PUNTS-AVG.	12-45.9	11-48.3
Net Punting Avg.	12-41.3	11-42.8
PENALTIES-YARDS	10-75	12-149
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST	2-2	1-0
TOUCHDOWNS	3	5
Rushing	1	0
Passing	2	5
Returns	0	0

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
BENGALS	6	13	10	10	0	39
OPPONENTS	14	12	7	13	0	46

SCORING	TD	TD-R	TD-P	TD-Rt	K-PAT	FG	S	PTS
Mike Nugent	0	0	0	0	3-3	6-7	0	21
Giovani Bernard	1	0	1	0	—	—	0	6
A.J. Green	1	0	1	0	—	—	0	6
Jeremy Hill	1	1	0	0	—	—	0	6
BENGALS	3	1	2	0	3-3	6-7	0	39
OPPONENTS	5	0	5	0	4-5	4-5	0	46

Two-point conversions: None. BENGALS 0-0 (0-0 R, 0-0 P), OPPONENTS 0-0 (0-0 R, 0-0 P).

Sacks-yards: Will Clarke 1-9, Geno Atkins 1-1. BENGALS 2-10, OPPONENTS 8-42.

Fumbles-lost: Giovani Bernard 1-1, Tyler Boyd 1-1. BENGALS 2-2, OPPONENTS 1-0.

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	CMP%	YDS/ATT	TD	TD%	INT	INT%	LG	SKD-YDS	RAT
Andy Dalton	84	54	732	64.3	8.71	2	2.4	1	1.2	54t	8-42	94.9
BENGALS	84	54	732	64.3	8.71	2	2.4	1	1.2	54t	8-42	94.9
OPPONENTS	72	38	448	52.8	6.22	5	6.9	3	4.2	53	2-10	77.8

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Jeremy Hill	20	53	2.7	12t	1
Giovani Bernard	10	42	4.2	11	0
Andy Dalton	5	14	2.8	5	0
James Wright	2	-6	-3.0	2	0
BENGALS	37	103	2.8	12t	1
OPPONENTS	66	276	4.2	16	0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
A.J. Green	14	218	15.6	54t	1
Giovani Bernard	11	105	9.5	25t	1
Tyler Boyd	8	102	12.8	29	0
Brandon LaFell	7	130	18.6	49	0
C.J. Uzomah	5	68	13.6	54	0
Jeremy Hill	3	37	12.3	25	0
Tyler Kroft	3	35	11.7	21	0
James Wright	2	17	8.5	10	0
Alex Erickson	1	20	20.0	20	0
BENGALS	54	732	13.6	54t	2
OPPONENTS	38	448	11.8	53	5

INTERCEPTIONS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Adam Jones	1	2	2.0	2	0
Dre Kirkpatrick	1	0	0.0	0	0
Josh Shaw	1	0	0.0	0	0
BENGALS	3	2	0.7	2	0
OPPONENTS	1	14	14.0	14	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	IN-20	LG	BLK.
Kevin Huber	12	551	45.9	41.3	0	4	58	0
BENGALS	12	551	45.9	41.3	0	4	58	0
OPPONENTS	11	531	48.3	42.8	1	6	58	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Adam Jones	3	0	25	8.3	12	0
Alex Erickson	2	4	15	7.5	15	0
BENGALS	5	4	40	8.0	15	0
OPPONENTS	7	2	56	8.0	15	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Adam Jones	2	35	17.5	19	0
Alex Erickson	1	15	15.0	15	0
BENGALS	3	50	16.7	19	0
OPPONENTS	4	132	33.0	65	0

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Mike Nugent	0-0	3-3	2-2	1-1	0-1
BENGALS	0-0	3-3	2-2	1-1	0-1
OPPONENTS	0-0	2-3	0-0	2-2	0-0

Mike Nugent: (33G, 21G, 52WR, 47G), (25G, 33G, 21G).

Opponents: (22B, 45G, 20G, 23G), (49G).

DEFENSE*	ST	AT	TT	SKS-YDS	INT-YDS	PD	FF	FR-YDS
Karlos Dansby	13	8	21	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Vincent Rey	8	7	15	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Shawn Williams	9	5	14	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Adam Jones	8	2	10	0-0	1-2	2	0	0-0
Carlos Dunlap	7	3	10	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
George Iloka	5	3	8	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Rey Mualuga	6	1	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Geno Atkins	4	3	7	1-1	0-0	0	0	0-0
Domata Peko	3	4	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Michael Johnson	3	3	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Pat Sims	2	3	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Josh Shaw	3	1	4	0-0	1-0	1	0	0-0
Darqueze Dennard	3	0	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Chris Lewis-Harris	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Margus Hunt	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
Dre Kirkpatrick	2	1	3	0-0	1-0	3	0	0-0
Will Clarke	1	0	1	1-9	0-0	0	0	0-0

SPECIAL TEAMS*	ST	AT	TT	FF	FR-YDS	BP	BFG	BXP
Josh Shaw	2	1	3	0	0-0	0	0	0
James Wright	1	2	3	0	0-0	0	0	0
Marquis Flowers	2	0	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Rex Burkhead	1	1	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Tyler Kroft	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Derron Smith	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Nick Vigil	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Clark Harris	0	1	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Margus Hunt	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	1	0

* NOTE: All defensive statistics above are press box statistics produced at the games.