



CINCINNATI BENGALS

One Paul Brown Stadium
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 621-3550 administrative offices
(513) 621-3570 administrative fax
(513) 621-TDTD (8383) ticket office
www.bengals.com

WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE **SEPT. 12, 2017**

HOUSTON TEXANS (0-1)
AT
CINCINNATI BENGALS (0-1)

WEEK 2, GAME 2
THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
SEPT. 14 AT PAUL BROWN STADIUM

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 3, GAME 3
SEPT. 24 AT GREEN BAY

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 8:25 p.m. Eastern.

Television: NFL Network national broadcast, produced by NBC, and Cincinnati viewers may also watch the game on WLWT-TV (Channel 5). The broadcast team is Mike Tirico (play-by-play), Cris Collinsworth (analyst) and Heather Cox (sideline reporter).

Radio: Coverage on the Bengals Radio Network, led by Cincinnati flagship stations WLW-AM (700), WCKY-AM (ESPN 1530; all sports) and WEBN-FM (102.7). Broadcasters are Dan Hoard (play-by-play) and Dave Lapham (analyst).

The game also will be aired to a national audience on affiliates of Westwood One Sports. Broadcasters are Ian Eagle (play-by-play) and Tony Boselli (analyst).

Setting the scene: The Cincinnati Bengals and the Houston Texans enter their matchup on Thursday Night Football this week under similar circumstances, as each of the two teams suffered a lopsided loss to a division rival at home this past Sunday.

But regardless of whether an NFL team loses — or wins — its opener, the prevailing response always is, “one game does not a season make.” Thus, both the Bengals and Texans consider the nationally televised contest at Paul Brown Stadium to be a prominent platform on which to rebound from their Week 1 setbacks.

“This is a 16-game football season,” said head coach Marvin Lewis. “That was just one ball game. We knew, whether we had won or lost that first game, this week was going to be the same week here. How the first game turned out didn’t matter — whatever happened last week was going to be erased very quickly. That’s been my message to the players. Regardless of what happened last week, this is a new week, and this week we are going to get better.”

One difference between Cincinnati and Houston this week, however, is that Cincinnati has the home field advantage, and the Bengals own a 4-1 all-time record for home games on Thursday Night Football, including a 3-1 mark under Lewis.

And, despite the obvious disappointments of the 20-0 loss to the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday, Lewis saw positives to build upon.

“It didn’t seem like it after the game, but when I watched the film, there were some good things that happened,” Lewis said. “Obviously, there were a lot of things we have to do better as far as execution goes ... there are things to improve upon and areas we need to get better. We have a quick turnaround (this week) and the opportunity to face a new opponent — one that feels much like we do.

“Defensively, for the most part, I thought we did a pretty good job throughout most of the football game. We had a couple plays (we didn’t like) and we have to do a better job of stopping them on third downs. On offense, we have some things to correct, (such as) working on the protection of our quarterback, and receivers and their routes, staying with our running game and doing a better job of blocking on the perimeter ... So there are things we have to get better at, but there were some good things there too, and we have to build on those.”

For players who are looking for positives after the Baltimore game, the short week leading up to the Thursday contest itself can offer its own advantages.

“The good thing is that we get to play on Thursday on a quick turnaround,” said tight end Tyler Eifert. “We don’t have to sit around thinking about it all week. We can get back on the field and try to get that bad taste out of our mouths,

against a different opponent. And if we want to make a run this year and do some big things, we really have no other option than to turn it around right now.”

This is the fourth consecutive year the Bengals and Texans have met in the regular season. Thursday’s game will be the 10th regular-season meeting between the two clubs, with the Texans holding on to a 5-4 advantage. In postseason, the Texans own a 2-0 lead, with wins over the Bengals after the 2011 and ’12 seasons (see “The series” information below).

Bengals on Thursday: This week’s game is the first Bengals-Texans meeting to air nationally on Thursday Night Football. The Bengals have played 12 times previously on Thursday, posting a 7-5 record, including 4-1 at home. The Bengals are 4-4 on Thursdays under head coach Marvin Lewis, including 3-1 at home.

Only one of the Thursday games, in 2010, was played on Thanksgiving.

Here’s a recap of the Bengals’ Thursday experience:

DATE, OPP.	RESULT	COMMENT
9-15-83, @Cle.	Browns, 17-7	Two Browns INTs off Ken Anderson
9-18-86, @Cle.	Bengals, 30-13	Larry Kinnebrew rushes for three TDs
10-19-95, @Pitt.	Bengals, 27-9	Bengals yield 468 yards but no TDs
12-4-97, TENN.	Bengals, 41-14	Dillon rushes for NFL rookie record 246
11-30-06, BALT.	Bengals, 13-7	Ravens scoreless until 1:01 remaining
11-20-08, @Pitt.	Steelers, 27-10	Steelers allow only 20-for-43 rushing
11-25-10, @NYJ	Jets, 26-10	Special teams help Jets erase 7-3 halftime deficit
12-13-12, @Phil.	Bengals, 34-13	Bengals rally with four 2nd-half takeaways
10-31-13, @Mia.	Dolphins, 22-20 (OT)	Dalton sacked for rare OT safety
11-6-14, CLE.	Browns, 24-3	Browns plus-three on turnovers, with three INTs
11-5-15, CLE.	Bengals, 31-10	Bengals dominate 17-0 in second half
9-29-16, MIA.	Bengals, 22-7	A.J. Green has 10 catches for 173 yards and TD

The series: The Texans lead 7-4, including 2-0 in postseason. The Texans also lead 3-2 in games played in Cincinnati.

Last season, in a Week 16 Saturday night matchup on Christmas Eve, the Texans downed the Bengals 12-10 in Houston. The contest included the longest completion of QB Andy Dalton’s career, an 86-yarder for a TD to fellow Houston-area native Brandon LaFell. The Bengals drove 60 yards in 12 plays as time wound down in the fourth quarter, but a 43-yard Randy Bullock field goal attempt on the final play sailed wide right, securing a victory and AFC South Division title for the home Texans.

The Texans won the teams’ last meeting in Cincinnati, 10-6, in a Monday Night Football matchup in 2015. It was the Bengals’ first loss of the season, after an 8-0 start.

The Texans defeated the Bengals in Wild Card round playoff games at Houston in the 2011 and ’12 seasons.

Complete series results are on page 203 of the Bengals’ 2017 media guide.

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 38, in a 38-3 win at Houston in 2002. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 35, in the ’02 win at Houston. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 3, in the ’02 win at Houston.

Texans — MOST POINTS: 35, in a 35-6 win at Houston in 2008. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 29, in the ’08 win at Houston. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 6 (twice, most recently in the 2015 game at Cincinnati).

The last meetings: Summaries of the last two Bengals-Texans meetings — in 2016 at Houston, and in '15 at Cincinnati — are on page 15 of this news release.

Hello again, Houston: Though the Bengals and Houston Texans have met only 11 times, Cincinnati's NFL rivalry against teams from Houston spans 68 games. The total includes 57 meetings between the Bengals and the Houston Oilers (now Tennessee Titans). Those 57 games were split evenly, 28-28-1, and the Bengals-Texans series is led 7-4 by Houston.

Thus, the Bengals' combined record against Houston teams is 32-35-1 (includes 2-1 edge for Houston in postseason).

Individually vs. Texans: Having met six times (regular season and postseason) since 2011, five current Bengals skill position players have seen action more than one time against Houston:

- QB Andy Dalton: Six games; 131-for-214 passing (61.2 percent) for 1271 yards (211.8 per game), with three TDs and seven INTs (68.9 rating).
- WR A.J. Green: Five games; 32 receptions for 374 yards (average of 6.4 receptions and 74.8 yards per game); No TDs.
- HB Jeremy Hill: Three games; 32-for-110 rushing (3.4), with one TD; Four-for-14 receiving (3.5).
- HB Giovani Bernard: Two games; 25-for-81 rushing (3.2); Seven-for-65 receiving (9.3).
- H-Back Ryan Hewitt: Two games; 2-for-15 receiving (7.5).
- WR Tyler Boyd: One game; 2-for-25 receiving (12.5).
- WR Cody Core: One game; 8-for-39 receiving (4.9).
- TE Tyler Eifert: One game; 3-for-36 receiving (8.7).
- WR Alex Erickson: One game; 1-for-5 receiving (5.0).
- WR Brandon LaFell: One game; 6-for-130 receiving (21.7), with one TD.
- TE C.J. Uzomah: One game; 5-for-28 receiving (5.6).

Records vs. Texans: HB Rudi Johnson's 43 rushing attempts against the Texans in 2003 is a Bengals record. It is tied for the second-most carries in NFL history and tied for the most carries in a non-overtime game. The only player with more carries in an NFL game was Washington's Jamie Morris, who rushed 45 times in an overtime game on Dec. 17, 1988. That game was against the Bengals, incidentally, at Riverfront Stadium.

Also:

In 2002 at Houston, Bengals CB Artrell Hawkins returned an INT 102 yards for a TD. That's the most recent of three plays tied for the longest play in Bengals history (Louis Breeden had a 102-yard INT return at San Diego in 1981, and Eric Bieniemy had a 102-yard kickoff return at the N.Y. Giants in '97).

Bengals celebrate 50th season: The Bengals are celebrating their 50th season in 2017. A commemorative logo is featured on patches the team will wear on home and road uniforms, on the field at Paul Brown Stadium and on the windows of the East Club Lounge facing downtown Cincinnati. Three-dimensional sculptures of the 50th season logo are located throughout the Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Dayton areas, including Paul Brown Stadium.

A key component of the Bengals 50th season celebration is the Bengals First 50, which recognizes the top 50 retired Bengals players as voted by fans and media. The Bengals First 50 and other Bengals legends will be recognized during halftime ceremonies at every regular-season home game, which will include video highlights and an on-field presentation.

Bengals legends being honored at the Texans game on Thursday include Chad Johnson, Cris Collinsworth, Max Montoya, Willie Anderson, Takeo Spikes, T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Bill Bergey and Rich Braham.

Bengals-Texans connections: Bengals QB Andy Dalton is from Greater Houston (Katy, Texas; Katy High School) and played at Texas

Christian University ... Texans DE Joel Heath is from Cincinnati (Mount Healthy High School) ... Texans C Greg Mancz is from Cincinnati (Anderson High School) and played at the University of Toledo ... Four Bengals list their hometown as Houston — S George Iloka (Kempner High School), WR Brandon LaFell (Lamar High School), CB William Jackson (Wheatley High School) and G Trey Hopkins (North Shore High School); Jackson played collegiately at the University of Houston, and Hopkins played at the University of Texas ... Texans WR Braxton Miller is from Springfield, Ohio (Wayne High School), and played at Ohio State University ... Bengals K Randy Bullock entered the NFL as a fifth-round draft pick (161st overall) of the Texans in 2012, and was with Houston through September '15; he also played collegiately at Texas A&M University ... Texans CB Johnathan Joseph entered the NFL as a first-round draft pick (24th overall) of the Bengals in 2006, and was with Cincinnati through the '10 season ... Texans ILB Brian Peters is from Pickerington, Ohio (Pickerington Central High School) ... Texans NT Brandon Dunn is from Louisville, Ky. (Pleasure Ridge Park High School), and played at the University of Louisville ... Texans T Breno Giacomini also played at the University of Louisville ... Bengals OT Cedric Ogbuehi played at Texas A&M University ... Bengals LS Clark Harris played for the Texans in 2008 and briefly in '09 ... Bengals offensive quality control/offensive line coach Robert Couch is from Plainview, Texas ... Bengals running backs coach Kyle Caskey is from Daingerfield, Texas, and played at Texas A&M University from 1997-98 ... Texans linebackers coach Mike Vrabel played (1993-96) and coached (2011-13) at Ohio State University ... Texans offensive line coach Mike Devlin coached at the University of Toledo from 2004-05 ... Texans linebackers coach Bobby King is from Louisville, Ky. ... Texans defensive assistant Shane Bowen is from Pickerington, Ohio, and coached at Ohio State University in 2012.

BENGALS-TEXANS NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	TEXANS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored.....	30th (0.0)	27th (7.0)
Points allowed	15th (20.0)	T-25th (29.0)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	27th (221.0)	30th (203.0)
Rushing	17th (77.0)	13th (93.0)
Passing.....	26th (144.0)	30th (110.0)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	11th (268.0)	12th (280.0)
Rushing	28th (157.0)	27th (155.0)
Passing.....	2nd (111.0)	3rd (125.0)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential	T-29th (minus-4)	T-29th (minus-4)

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 3	Inside-20 possessions: 3
Total scores: 0 (0.0%)	Total scores: 3 (100.0%)
TDs: 0 (0.0%)	TDs: 1 (33.3%)
FGs: 0 (0.0%)	FGs: 2 (66.7%)
TD% rank: T-26th	TD% rank: T-8th
No scores: 0 (0.0%)	No scores: 0 (0.0%)

TEXANS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 2	Inside-20 possessions: 4
Total scores: 1 (50.0%)	Total scores: 3 (75.0%)
TDs: 1 (50.0%)	TDs: 2 (50.0%)
FGs: 0 (0.0%)	FGs: 1 (25.0%)
TD% rank: T-14th	TD% rank: T-12th
No scores: 1 (50.0%)	No scores: 1 (25.0%)

THE HEAD COACHES

Marvin Lewis in 2017 extends his Bengals-record head coaching tenure to 15 seasons, nearly twice that of Paul Brown (1968-75) and Sam Wyche ('84-91), who are tied for second with eight seasons each.

Lewis has led his teams to the postseason seven times, including a five-year run from 2011-15. The total number of playoff trips and the five-year streak of consecutive appearances are Bengals records, and the Bengals were one of only four NFL teams to reach the playoffs every year from 2011-15.

The playoff run ended in 2016, however, as Cincinnati finished 6-9-1. The

Bengals' last five losses came by a total of 16 points. Injuries were a greater-than-usual factor, and crucial missed place kicks plagued the team to an extent not seen for many years.

The Bengals' 58-36-2 record over the last six full seasons (2011-16) under Lewis gave the team a .615 winning percentage for that span, ranked sixth in the NFL.

Lewis has 118 career victories, the most in Bengals history by a margin of 54 over Wyche (64). Lewis' record now is 118-104-3 in the regular season and

118-111-3 including postseason.

Lewis in 2017 ranks second among NFL head coaches in longest current tenure with one team, trailing only Bill Belichick, who is in his 18th straight season with New England. In the category of most seasons as head coach with one or more teams, Lewis ranks fourth among active coaches, behind Belichick (23rd season in '17), Andy Reid (19) and John Fox (16).

Lewis has developed an impressive "coaching tree" during his Bengals tenure. Five of his former assistants have become NFL head coaches, and four of those are leading teams in 2017. The list, including their teams and head coaching tenures, includes former Bengals offensive coordinators Jay Gruden (Washington, 2014-17) and Hue Jackson (Cleveland, '16-17), former defensive coordinators Leslie Frazier (Minnesota, '10-13) and Mike Zimmer (Minnesota, '14-17) and former defensive backs coach Vance Joseph (Denver, '17).

Lewis was the consensus choice for NFL Coach of the Year in 2009, when the Bengals won the AFC North Division while sweeping all six division games. The Bengals also were AFC North champions under Lewis in 2005, '13 and '15.

Named the ninth head coach in Bengals history on Jan. 14, 2003, Lewis started quickly. His '03 club finished 8-8, six games better than the '02 club, good for the biggest improvement in the NFL that year.

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 '00, 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.

In 2002, the season before he joined the Bengals, Lewis led the Washington Redskins to a No. 5 NFL defensive ranking, serving as assistant head coach as well as defensive coordinator.

He had his first NFL assignment from 1992-95, as linebackers coach for the Pittsburgh Steelers. He aided the development of four Pro Bowl players — Kevin Greene, Chad Brown, Levon Kirkland and Greg Lloyd.

Lewis began his coaching career as linebackers coach at his alma mater Idaho State from 1981-84. ISU's team (also nicknamed the Bengals) finished 12-1 in Lewis' first season there and won the NCAA Division 1-AA championship.

Lewis 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 joined the Bengals' coaching staff for 2014 and remains on the staff for '17.

Bill O'Brien was named the third head coach in Houston Texans franchise history on January 3, 2014.

O'Brien led the Texans to a second straight AFC South Division championship in 2016 and third straight winning season for the first time in franchise history, which made O'Brien just the 14th coach in the NFL since 1978 to begin his head coaching career with three consecutive winning seasons. In 2016, Houston also won its first postseason game since '12. The Texans finished the season with the NFL's top-ranked defense for the first time in franchise history, and won a franchise-best seven home games.

In 2015, Houston became the first NFL team since 1950 to earn a trip to the postseason with four different starting quarterbacks winning at least one regular-season game and the Texans defense set the franchise single-season record for sacks.

Under O'Brien in 2014, Houston's seven-win improvement led the NFL and made the Texans the sixth team since 1978 to post a winning season following a season in which it won two or less games.

Prior to Houston, O'Brien was head coach at Penn State from 2012-13, and in the latter year won multiple National Coach of the Year awards. From 2007-11, O'Brien helped lead the New England Patriots to a pair of Super Bowl berths, rising from offensive assistant his first season to wide receivers coach in '08 and then quarterbacks coach from '09-10 prior to his promotion to offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach in '11, when the Patriots advanced to Super Bowl XLVI. O'Brien's career record is 28-24.

O'Brien played LB and DE at Brown from 1990-92 and graduated with a double concentration in political science and organizational behavioral management. O'Brien previously coached collegiately at Brown (1993-94), Georgia Tech ('95-2002), Maryland ('03-04), and Duke ('05-06).

Born on October 23, 1969 in Dorchester, Mass., O'Brien and his wife, Colleen, have two sons — Jack, 15, and Michael, 12.

Lewis vs. Texans: Texans lead, 7-3, including 2-0 in postseason.

Lewis vs. O'Brien: O'Brien leads, 2-1.

O'Brien vs. Bengals: O'Brien leads, 2-1.

BENGALS NOTES

Bengals career records watch: Here is a look at potential upcoming movement in the Bengals' career records book (regular-season). Bengals records are listed in full detail beginning on page 170 of the team's 2017 media guide.

- QB Andy Dalton has 22,384 career passing yards, 310 shy of QB Carson Palmer for third place all-time. QB Ken Anderson (32,838) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Dalton also has 21 career 300-yard passing games, two shy of the Bengals' all-time leader, QB Boomer Esiason (23).

- Dalton also has 1936 career completions, 79 shy of Esiason (2015) for third place all-time. Anderson (2654) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Dalton also has 3091 career passing attempts, 126 shy of Palmer (3217) for third place all-time. Anderson (4475) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Dalton also has 142 career TD passes, 12 shy of Palmer (154) for third place all-time. Anderson (197) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- WR A.J. Green has 49 career TDs, four shy of WR Isaac Curtis (53) for fifth place all-time. FB Pete Johnson (70) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Green also has 49 career receiving TDs, four shy of WR Isaac Curtis (53) for third place all-time. WR Chad Johnson (66) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Green also has 486 career receptions, 21 shy of WR T.J. Houshmandzadeh (507) for third place all-time. Johnson (751) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Green has 28 career 100-yard receiving games, three shy of the Bengals' all-time leader, WR Chad Johnson (31).

- HB Jeremy Hill has 29 career rushing TDs, eight shy of HB James Brooks and FB Larry Kinnebrew (37 each) for fourth place all-time. Bengals FB Pete Johnson (64) is the all-time leader.

- P Kevin Huber has 27,610 career punting yards, 1697 shy of P Pat McInally (29,307) for second place all-time. P Lee Johnson (32,196) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- CB Adam Jones has 984 career punt return yards, 217 shy of CB Lemar Parrish (1201) for third place all-time. WR Brandon Tate (1411) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Jones also has one career punt return for a TD. One more would tie him for second-most all-time with WR Peter Warrick, WR Craig Yeast and CB Mitchell Price (each with two). Parrish (four) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- DE Carlos Dunlap has 57 career sacks, two shy of DE Ross Browner (59) for third place all-time. DE Eddie Edwards (83.5) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- DT Geno Atkins has 53 career sacks, four shy of DE Carlos Dunlap (57) for fourth place all-time and six shy of Browner (59) for third place. Edwards (83.5) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

Defense riding league-best sack streak: The Bengals on Sunday recorded one sack (a 10-yarder by DT Geno Atkins), extending their streak of games with at least one sack to a league-leading 30 games (regular-season). The next-closest team is Washington, which has 25 consecutive games with a sack, followed closely by Green Bay (24) and Arizona (21).

The Bengals' streak began in Week 4 of 2015, in a 36-21 home win over Kansas City in which the defense tallied five sacks. The Bengals were last held without a sack the week before in a 28-24 Cincinnati win on Sept. 27, 2015 at Baltimore.

The longest streak of this type in Bengals history came in the early 1980s, when the team strung together 50 consecutive games with a sack over parts of five seasons (Nov. 8, 1981 to Sept. 15, 1985). The most recent NFL team to crack 30 was Denver, whose streak of 31 was snapped last season in a Dec. 18 loss to New England (that streak had started on Dec. 28, 2014).

Over Cincinnati's 30-game streak, the Bengals have recorded 70 sacks for 445 yards. Sixteen different Bengals have at least a shared sack over the span, and the defense has logged more than one sack in 20 of the 30 games. Carlos

Dunlap and Geno Atkins are tied for the most sacks during the streak, with 19 each. Dunlap has recorded at least a shared sack in 15 of the games, while Atkins has shared a sack in 17.

Defense closed '16 with momentum: Cincinnati's defense closed its 2016 campaign on a roll, holding opponents under 20 points in six of its final seven contests, while allowing a (seven-game) average of only 15.0.

The Bengals finished the season ranked eighth in scoring defense, at 19.7 points per game. That followed a 2015 campaign in which they ranked second in scoring defense (17.4). In 2014, Paul Guenther's first as defensive coordinator, Cincinnati ranked 12th in scoring defense.

In Sunday's season opener, the Cincinnati defense yielded 20 points to Baltimore.

"My job is to limit points, period," Guenther said. "That's what I get paid to do. It's not holding them to 200 yards but have three plays be touchdowns. Regardless of where they get the ball — if we turn it over (on offense) and it's the 10-yard line — let's go play defense. Hold them to three. I'm paid to keep them off the scoreboard."

Also of note regarding the defense:

- Cincinnati also finished 2016 ranked seventh in defensive red-zone TD percentage, allowing TDs on only 51 percent of opponent chances in the red zone (25 of 49). Last week vs. Baltimore, the defense allowed one TD on three Ravens trips to the red zone.

- Cincinnati finished with 17 interceptions last season, just one off the NFL lead shared by Baltimore, Kansas City and San Diego. The Bengals were among four teams with 17. The defense continued that momentum in last week's opener vs. Baltimore, with LB Nick Vigil grabbing the team's first INT of the season.

Dalton second to go six-for-3000: A season passing total of 3000 yards is not in itself a stupendous NFL feat. Twenty-five passers reached it in 2016. But hitting 3000 in the first six seasons of an NFL career, which Andy Dalton reached last year in Game 11, Nov. 27 at Baltimore, still is an event worth noting.

The only QB to do it before Dalton was Peyton Manning. The cinch Hall of Famer is beyond compare in this realm, as he reeled off 13 straight 3000-yarders before missing the 2011 season due to injury.

Carolina's Cam Newton ended up joining the same club a few weeks later last season, passing the 3000 mark on Dec. 19 at Washington, and he finished the season at 3509 yards. Newton was chosen first overall in the same 2011 draft in which the Bengals claimed Dalton at No. 35.

Dalton finished the 2016 season with 4206 yards.

Dalton chasing Kenny in TDs: Although he was held out of the end zone last week, QB Andy Dalton's 19 total TDs are just one TD short of the franchise record for touchdowns by a QB, held at 20 by Ken Anderson. Dalton is in his seventh season, while Anderson played 16 Bengals seasons (1971-86).

All of Anderson's 20 TDs were rushing scores. Dalton has 18 rushing TDs, and he has 19 total by virtue of being the only Bengals QB ever to catch a touchdown pass. He scored on an 18-yard gadget connection from WR Mohamed Sanu vs. Tennessee in 2014.

The next-most TDs by a Bengals QB is 10, by Jeff Blake.

Dalton and Jack Thompson share the Bengals season record for touchdowns by a QB, at five. Dalton had five in 2014, tying the record first set by Thompson in 1979.

'Crazy Legs' Andy: QB Andy Dalton's 18 career rushing TDs not only puts him in rare company in team history, he's also among the best when compared to his current NFL peers. In the category of rushing TDs by a QB, only Carolina's Cam Newton, whose 48 rushing TDs are beyond similarity, ranks higher than Dalton since 2011. Dalton and Newton both entered the league in '11.

Andrew Luck (14), Colin Kaepernick (13) and Russell Wilson (13) round out the top five.

Dalton piles up the wins: Of the many things QB Andy Dalton has proven in his NFL career thus far, perhaps none is more valued than his knack for earning victories. And he has done so at a rate which is on-par, or better, than some of the game's best passers.

Here is a look at the most wins by QBs through their first six seasons. Dalton, the Bengals' second-round draft pick out of Texas Christian in 2011,

currently is in his seventh season and his win total ranks tied for fifth.

PLAYER	TEAM	WINS
Joe Flacco	Baltimore	62
Ben Roethlisberger	Pittsburgh	60
Matt Ryan	Atlanta	60
Tom Brady	New England.....	58
Andy Dalton	Cincinnati	56
Donovan McNabb	Philadelphia.....	56
Russell Wilson	Seattle	56

When extending this list to a QB's first seven seasons, the required minimum number of wins to rank in the top five is 66. Thus, Dalton would have to lead the Bengals to 10 wins this season to remain ranked in the top five. After seven seasons, Flacco (72) again leads the way, followed by Brady (70), Roethlisberger (69), Manning (66) and Ryan (66).

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

- He is one of only three QBs in the Super Bowl era to lead a team to the postseason in each of his first five campaigns. Dalton did that from 2011-15, while Baltimore's Joe Flacco did it from '08-12 and Seattle's Russell Wilson has done it from '12-16.

- Dalton has posted 36 career games with a passer rating of 100 or more, and the Bengals are 31-5 (.861) in those contests.

- Dalton's .606 winning percentage as a starter (56-36-2 regular season) ranks sixth among active QBs with 50 or more starts. Ahead of Dalton are Tom Brady (.775), Russell Wilson (.698), Ben Roethlisberger (.674), Aaron Rodgers (.669), Andrew Luck (.614).

- Dalton's .606 winning percentage also is the best of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts.

- Dalton holds club season records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33), both set in 2013.

- He is the only Bengals passer to throw for 300-plus yards in four consecutive games (2013).

- He 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 tied for fourth in NFL history for the start of a career by a QB, trailing only Peyton Manning of Indianapolis (208), Joe Flacco of Baltimore (122) and Russell Wilson of Seattle (81 and counting). Dalton is tied with Miami QB Ryan Tannehill, whose streak of 77 ended last year due to an injury.

Geno does it again: DT Geno Atkins started 2017 by picking up where he left off in 2016 — in the sack column. He recorded one sack last week vs. Baltimore, his fifth game in a row in the sack column, dating back to Game 13 of last season.

In 2016, for the fourth time in his seven-year Bengals career, Atkins was at least a co-holder of the NFL season lead for sacks by an interior lineman. Atkins claimed the honor outright in '16, with nine sacks. DT Aaron Donald of the Los Angeles Rams was second with eight, and no other interior lineman had more than seven.

Atkins also was the outright winner in 2012, when he had a career-best 12.5 sacks. He tied for the league lead in 2011 (7.5 sacks) and 2015 (11).

Atkins has 53 career sacks, most by a Bengals interior lineman and fifth overall.

Now that's fast: To say that John Ross brings record-setting speed to the team is putting it rather mildly.

The rookie WR, the Bengals' first-round pick out of Washington (ninth overall), has speed that isn't just considered fast, it's considered exceptional. He clocked a 4.22-second 40-yard dash at the NFL Scouting Combine in February, which is considered to be an all-time combine record.

"His dynamic speed shows up on tape," said Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis. "When you watch the tape, you feel this guy playing. He gives us another option offensively and helps us balance the field (opposite WR A.J. Green).

"When you watch him, it's just play after play after play that he can turn into a big gain. Whether it's the inside slant, whether it's what we call 'lightings,' or anything else — when teams are playing against him, they feel (his speed) every time he touches the ball."

And Ross isn't just a burner — he's also a very good football player. He posted career totals of 114 catches, 1729 receiving yards and 22 receiving TDs over three seasons at Washington.

The NFL began measuring 40-yard dash times electronically at the 1991 scouting combine. However, complete records of those times were not kept until 2003. Here is list of the 10 fastest 40 times recorded electronically since '03:

YEAR	PLAYER	COLLEGE	40 TIME
2017	WR John Ross	Washington	4.22
2008	RB Chris Johnson	East Carolina.....	4.24
2005	WR Jerome Mathis	Hampton.....	4.26
2014	RB Dri Archer	Kent State	4.26
2003	WR Tyrone Calico	Middle Tennessee.....	4.27
2005	CB Stanford Routt	Houston.....	4.27
2013	WR Marquise Goodwin	Texas	4.27
2010	WR Jacoby Ford	Clemson	4.28
2015	WR J.J. Nelson	Alabama-Birmingham.....	4.28
2005	CB Fabian Washington	Nebraska.....	4.29

Ross suffered a with a left knee injury in the Bengals' final preseason game and did not play in Week 1. His status for this week's Texans game was uncertain at the time this news release was written.

Big-play John: Rookie WR John Ross has gained plenty of notoriety for his record-setting 4.22-second 40-yard dash at the 2017 NFL Combine, but his college numbers indicate that his speed translates to the football field as well.

Over Ross' four years at Washington (one of which was completely lost to injury), the speedster totaled five scoring plays of 90 yards or longer. And while NFL defenses are considered far superior to those at the college level, it's still worth noting that the Bengals as a team over the last 10 seasons (2007-16) have only two scoring plays of 90 yards or longer — a 100-yard kickoff return TD by Glenn Holt at Buffalo in '07, and a 96-yard kickoff return TD by Bernard Scott at Pittsburgh in '09. Current CB Adam Jones also had a 97-yard kickoff return vs. Carolina in 2014, but he was tackled just short of the end zone.

Joe's 2016 among the best: The University of Oklahoma's backfield has seen it's share of exemplary rushing seasons throughout history. Nine College Football Hall of Fame ball-carriers have cycled through Norman over the years, and over the last decade, players like Adrian Peterson and DeMarco Murray reached stardom there to add to the school's rich running back tradition.

That makes Joe Mixon's 2016 campaign all the more impressive. Only three times in school history has a back averaged better than Mixon's 6.8 yards per carry in 2016. College Football Hall of Famer Greg Pruitt, who also played 12 years in the NFL, was first to do it when he averaged 8.98 in 1971. Marcus Dupree was next, when in 1982, at the peak of his famously stellar but injury shortened football career, he averaged 7.84. The only other Oklahoma back to best Mixon's 2016 mark was Billy Sims, another College Football Hall of Famer and NFL standout, who averaged 7.41 during his Heisman Trophy-winning season of 1978.

Willis earns praise from a legend: Earning praise from a 77-year-old College Football Hall of Fame coach may not be easy, but that's precisely what Willis received from legendary Kansas State head coach Bill Snyder last year.

"Jordan is the epitome of what our program is all about," Snyder said in 2016, his 25th season as KSU head coach. "He comes to practice exactly the same way he goes to a ballgame. If you were unaware of the setting, you couldn't tell the difference between what he does on the practice field and what he does on the game field. Like I have said so many times, he is a young guy who gives you his very best of every second of every minute of every hour of every day of every week. He has learned the value of that and (realized) what it has meant to him. He has allowed that to carry over into every aspect of his life. He is going to be a highly successful young guy in a lot of ways, because he is that committed to doing the best that he can."

Willis invades the stat sheet: Rookie DE Jordan Willis turned heads this preseason with his pass rush and playmaking ability, tying for the NFL lead in sacks, with four, while also adding a forced fumble. But gaudy numbers are nothing new for the former Kansas State Wildcat.

Last year, while longtime KSU head coach Bill Snyder was heaping praise on Willis as one of the top people to ever pass through KSU's program, that stat sheet identified him as one of the school's best-ever defensive players.

Willis' 17.5 tackles for losses in 2016 set a school record, and he also led the conference and tied another school record with 11.5 sacks. He recorded at least

one sack in eight of KSU's 13 games last year, including four games where he logged multiple sacks. He also forced three fumbles and had one fumble recovery. Willis was named the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year (AP and coaches), first team All-Big 12 (AP and coaches) and Big 12 Lineman of the Year (coaches). And that was just his senior season.

Over his four-year career, Willis totaled 114 tackles, 40.5 of which were for losses and 26 for sacks. That sack total ranked third in KSU history and tied for seventh in Big 12 history. He closed his career at KSU with a sack in 11 of his last 17 games, and at least a shared TFL in 15 of his last 17. And on top of it all, he proved to be durable, starting every game his last three seasons (39 straight).

Lawson stands up, stands tall: Rookie Carl Lawson cut his teeth at Auburn as a defensive end, playing with his hand on the ground and developing a reputation as one of the Southeastern Conference's most feared pass rushers. But from the day he was drafted, Bengals coaches planned to add linebacker to his repertoire.

No doubt, Lawson possesses the strength of a defensive lineman — his 35 bench press reps of 225 pounds at the 2017 NFL Combine tied for the top mark overall. But the feeling inside Paul Brown Stadium was that using him at linebacker as well would maximize the return on his athleticism and pass-rushing ability. While that transition isn't a cinch for most rookies, Lawson has by all accounts done quite well. Throughout preseason, Lawson saw time at both SLB and edge rusher. In the third preseason game, at Washington, Lawson lined up as a rusher and beat All-Pro LT Trent Williams for a sack and forced Williams into a holding penalty, prompting FOX analyst Troy Aikman to note that Lawson had "given Williams fits" throughout the day. And when the Bengals opened the season on Sunday vs. Baltimore, Lawson was a regular as a rusher with the No. 1 nickel unit.

Lawson battled injuries while at Auburn — he lost 2014 to a torn ACL, and a hip injury cost him six games and limited him thereafter in '15 — but he still managed 14 career sacks among his 24 tackles for losses. Last year, while healthy, Lawson started 13 games for the Tigers and recorded nine sacks among his 13.5 tackles for losses, en route to earning All-SEC First Team honors.

Willie praises Lawson: Bengals rookie LB Carl Lawson, a noted leader and two-time team captain in college, earned high praise from former Bengals OT and fellow Auburn alum Willie Anderson earlier this year. Anderson, whose son attended Milton High School with Lawson in Alpharetta, Ga., offered this ringing endorsement of the rookie:

"He's a great kid. A leader. He worked his way up. (He had) no college offers before his senior year, and he and his dad worked hard to make him (one of the top recruits in the country). He dominated high school linemen and continued in college. He had the injuries, but now he knows how to train and take care of himself. He'll give you Takeo-like (former Bengals LB Takeo Spikes) effort and intensity. He's been a captain at both levels and has always been a positive guy that other young players like my son looked up to. Every coach he's ever played for absolutely loves him. No one says a bad word about Carl. He's a warrior."

Malone goes long: Bengals rookie WR Josh Malone wrapped up his three-year career at Tennessee last season with a record-setting campaign. The 6-3, 208-pound wideout totaled 50 receptions for 972 yards, setting a school record for yards per reception, at 19.4. That mark topped the previous best of 18.3, set by Robert Meachem in 2006.

Malone also displayed a nose for the end zone, scoring 11 TDs (all receiving) in the Vols' 13 games. Six of those 11 went for longer than 40 yards.

The former Mr. Football in Tennessee finished his career with 104 receptions, 1608 receiving yards (15.5 average) and 14 TDs. At the 2017 NFL Combine, his 4.40 40-yard dash ranked third among wide receivers and eighth overall.

"He's big and long and runs fast," said WRs coach James Urban. "He had a fine year (in 2016), and we think he can stretch the field at this level as well."

Dunlap's PD frenzy — unprecedented: In the first 40 seasons (1976-2015) in which Bengals defensive statistics were recorded, no defensive lineman ever led the team in passes defended for a season. None were even close, really. But it happened in 2016, and it wasn't close.

DE Carlos Dunlap had five more PDs — 15 — than anyone else on the team last season. And he had seven more PDs than any other NFL defensive lineman. The players ahead of Dunlap in the NFL were all cornerbacks, led at 24 by Brent Grimes of Miami.

The next-highest total by an NFL D-lineman was eight, by DE Jason Pierre-Paul of the Giants. The next-highest total by a Bengal was 10, by CB Dre

Kirkpatrick.

"Carlos has those long, long arms," says defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, "and of course he gets good pressure. So I'm not surprised he's one of the best we've had in that area."

"Passes defended" include interceptions as well as passes broken up. When a player makes an INT, he also is credited with a PD. Dunlap had no INTs in '16, and in the category of passes broken up without counting INTs, only four players were ahead of Dunlap, led by Grimes at 20.

The NFL has no league statistics to offer in terms of "most passes defended ever by a D-lineman" or "highest league ranking ever by a D-lineman in passes defended," because PDs are not considered to be an official statistic and thus have not been compiled league-wide historically.

Dunlap the playmaker: Bengals DE Carlos Dunlap filled up the defensive stat sheets last season, and as a result, he earned his second career trip to the Pro Bowl. Dunlap piled up eight sacks on the year, which ranked second on the team behind fellow Pro Bowler Geno Atkins, and led the Bengals in passes defended (15) and forced fumbles (three). No other Bengal had more than one forced fumble. He also ranked second in QB hits (23) and third in tackles for losses (seven). In tackles, he led the D-line with 49.

Three of Dunlap's deflected passes were corralled by Bengals LBs for interceptions — Vincent Rey on Oct. 23 vs. Cleveland, Rey Mauuluga on Nov. 27 at Baltimore and Vontaze Burfict on Dec. 4 vs. Philadelphia.

Dunlap now has 57 sacks for his career, ranked fourth all-time on the Bengals and closing in on the third-place player, DE Ross Browner at 59.

With continued play at the level he's shown he can produce, Dunlap could wind up as the franchise's all-time sacks leader. He has averaged 8.1 sacks over his seven seasons. All-time Bengals sacks leader Eddie Edwards (83.5) averaged seven sacks over 12 seasons (1977-88), second-place Reggie Williams (62.5) averaged 4.5 sacks over 14 seasons (1976-89), and third-place Browner (59) averaged 6.6 over nine campaigns (1978-86).

In 2015, Dunlap had 13.5 sacks, second-most in Bengals history. Besides his 57 sacks, his career totals include 15 forced fumbles, eight fumble recoveries, 41 passes defended, four blocked FGs and two TDs scored.

"Carlos brings us a lot, and he needs to keep bringing it for us," said defensive coordinator Paul Guenther. "The key thing for Carlos is that he's an athlete, and a very big athlete. He's explosive and he just makes plays. He has also developed into a mature guy and a team leader."

Dunlap executed a sack-and-strip in consecutive games early in the 2016 campaign, with the Bengals recovering the loose ball each time. He did it in Game 4 vs. Miami (Ryan Tannehill) and Game 5 at Dallas (Dak Prescott).

Green and some gold jackets: Though a hamstring injury cost him all but two plays of 2016's final seven games, A.J. Green finished his sixth season with nine career games with at least 150 receiving yards and a touchdown catch. The only players to have more such games in their first six seasons were Hall of Famers Lance Alworth (13) and Jerry Rice (11), and prime HOF candidate Randy Moss (10).

Also, Green's nine games with at least 150 last year were tied with Steve Smith, Sr. of Baltimore, but Smith retired after the '16 season.

Dalton and Green make six-year history: WR A.J. Green and QB Andy Dalton were the Bengals' first two draft selections in 2011, and their first six seasons produced quite the ride.

Per Elias Sports Bureau, they stand as the most productive QB-WR duo in NFL history for players each in their first six seasons. Their 461 career completions and 6753 yards at the conclusion of 2016 were the most by any duo, and their 44 TD connections ranked second to Miami's duo of QB Dan Marino and WR Mark Clayton (53 TDs from 1983-88).

Only A.J.: Cincinnati's A.J. Green had his 2016 season cut short by a hamstring injury, which in turn halted his bid for a sixth-straight 1000-yard season to start his career (he finished with 964). Green did, however, still manage a sixth nomination to the Pro Bowl.

While 2016 marked the first time in his stellar career that Green did not accomplish both of those feats, he still stands as 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).

Erickson coming off KOR crown in AFC: Bengals WR Alex Erickson was afforded just one kickoff return opportunity last week vs. Baltimore (returned it 11 yards), but the second-year player proved last season that he can be one of the league's most dangerous returners. As a rookie in 2016, Erickson posted a 27.9-yard kickoff return average (on 29 attempts), which led the AFC and ranked second in the NFL. He trailed only Cordarrelle Patterson of Minnesota (31.7). The second-place AFC qualifier was former Bengal Brandon Tate of Buffalo, more than five yards per-attempt behind Erickson at 22.8.

Erickson's 27.9 goes down as the second-best average in Bengals history, behind only the 31.3 posted by CB Adam Jones in 2014. Jones' figure led the NFL, giving the Bengals their first-ever NFL KOR title. Erickson is the third Bengal to lead the AFC, joining Jones and DB Tremain Mack (27.1 in 1999).

After a strong 2016 preseason, Erickson's regular season began much less gaudily. After seven games, he was averaging just 20.6 yards on five kickoff returns and 5.7 yards on 10 punt returns. But after getting some advice from special teams coordinator Darrin Simmons to return more aggressively up the field, Erickson made his mark on kickoff returns in Games 8 and 9. He had a 65-yarder on Oct. 30 vs. Washington and an 84-yarder on Nov. 14 at the N.Y. Giants. He later had a 72-yarder in Game 14 vs. Pittsburgh. Erickson became the only player in Bengals history with three returns of 65 or more yards in a season, and he was the only rookie among the 10 NFL players with enough returns to qualify for the season-end rankings.

Erickson also serves as the Bengals' primary punt returner. He had totaled 14 yards on three returns last week, and in 2016 he averaged 7.0 yards on 28 returns.

Eifert returns to the field: After injuries limited him to eight games in 2016, Bengals TE Tyler Eifert reported to training camp healthy in July and was a full participant in practice from the first snap. The star TE's return to the field has been a welcome sight, as he played in two preseason games (sat out Game 3 as a precaution with tendonitis, and rested alongside the usual starters in Game 4), and took the field healthy in the opener vs. Baltimore.

"I'm trying to get back (into playing shape)," Eifert said in training camp. "I'm trying to get my legs back. That's all I'm really thinking about right now. I feel really good. I've gone 100 percent full-go every day, and I haven't taken a day off. I feel really good."

Eifert missed the first six games last season due to an ankle injury he suffered in the Pro Bowl following the 2015 campaign. And when he returned to practice in early October, hoping to return to game action a week or two after that, he was further delayed by a back strain. He made his debut in Game 7 vs. Cleveland, but did not play a full game until the next week. He played through Game 14, but he was inactive for Game 15 at Houston, after reporting back injury symptoms to the club medical staff. Due to the injury, he was placed on the Reserve/Injured list on Dec. 26 and missed the 2016 season finale vs. Baltimore.

Despite his missed time, Eifert had five touchdowns in his seven full games played (Games 8-14). Since the start of the 2015 season, Eifert's 18 TD catches lead all NFL tight ends (Washington Redskins TE Jordan Reed is second with 17).

Eifert finished 2016 ranked fifth on the team with 29 catches and fourth on the team with 394 yards receiving.

"Tyler can do things on a consistent basis that other tight ends can't do," says QB Andy Dalton. "And it's not just talent. He runs such great routes. He puts himself in position to make big plays."

Jones wears two crowns: Veteran CB Adam Jones, who returns to the Bengals' lineup in Week 2 after serving a one-game NFL suspension, will look to continue his decorated career as a return specialist in 2017. Jones is the Bengals' career leader in punt return average (10.70) and kickoff return average (26.35). The second-place Bengal in punt return average is WR Quan Cosby (9.99 from 2009-10), and the No. 2 man in kickoff return average is CB Lemar Parrish (24.66 from 1970-77).

Jones entered last season already in the punt return lead, and he added the kickoff return record to his resume in Game 4 vs. Miami, when he reached minimum number of returns (50) to qualify.

With a starting role on defense, Jones has seen his return opportunities limited in recent years. Rookie WR Alex Erickson, who served as the team's primary returner in 2016, averaged 27.9 on KORs and 7.0 on PRs. Jones in '16 had just a 19.8-yard average on four kickoff returns and a 5.1 average on 10 punt returns. But Jones, who turns 34 on Sept. 30, is still considered a big potential weapon in the return game. In 2014, he set a Bengals record and led the NFL with a 31.3 KOR average. That same season he finished second in the league in punt returns (12.0).

Jones has been a terror on kick returns ever since entering the NFL with Tennessee in 2005. Adding in three NFL seasons played elsewhere to his seven years (2010-16) of Bengals play, Jones has NFL career averages of 26.0 yards per KOR and 10.2 per PR.

Jones has five career PRs for touchdowns. That total is tied with Minnesota CB Marcus Sherels for second-most among active players, behind only Philadelphia RB Darren Sproles, who has seven. Jones has never had a kickoff return for a score. He had a 97-yard KOR for the Bengals in 2014 vs. Carolina, but he was downed at the Panthers' three-yard line. The return did set up a TD, and it stands as the longest play in Bengals history that did not result in a TD.

Hill handles pigskin with care: HB Jeremy Hill had a crucial lost fumble in the Bengals' 2015 season playoff loss to Pittsburgh. It was one of three lost fumbles by Hill on the season, and he was forthright before last season in saying it was something he had to correct.

And ever since, he has. No player in the NFL in 2016 had as many touches as Hill (243) without any fumbles at all (not just fumbles lost). The second-most touches without a fumble was posted by Minnesota RB Jerick McKinnon, at 202.

Hill's 243 fumble-free touches (222 rushes, 21 receptions) were also the most ever by a Bengal. The previous best effort was 238 by HB Rudi Johnson in 2003.

And Hill has carried that effort into 2017, with no fumbles on his seven touches so far.

Hill tied for tops in rush TDs since '14: Bengals HB Jeremy Hill, a bruising runner with open-field speed to burn, has always had a knack for getting into the end-zone. Hill now stands at 29 career rushing TDs since entering the league as a Bengals second-round draft selection in 2014, and that total is tied for the most rushing TDs in the NFL over that span. His total matches that of Philadelphia's LeGarrette Blount, and stands one ahead of Tennessee's DeMarco Murray (28).

Last season, Hill totaled nine rushing TDs. In 2015, he notched 11 rushing scores, and as a rookie in '14, he totaled nine. His 12 total TDs in '15 (one receiving, in addition to his 11 rushing) were the most by a Bengals RB since Rudi Johnson had 12 in 2006. For his Bengals career, Hill has 32 total TDs in 48 games, including two postseason games in which he scored one TD each.

Hill led the Bengals in rushing yards in 2016 with 839 total, with a 3.8-yard average on 222 carries. Hill had significantly more than twice as many rush yards as the second-place Bengal and had his third team rushing title in three seasons.

Hill in '16 also had 21 receptions for 174 yards, and 12 of those catches (for 112 yards) came in Games 11-14 as the offense adjusted to the injury loss of Giovani Bernard, the team's most accomplished receiver among the RB corps.

Jeremy excels inside the five: When the Bengals' offense gets inside the opposing team's five-yard line, the Bengals like to give the ball to HB Jeremy Hill. The 6-1, 230-pound halfback has proven to be among the NFL's most successful rushers at finding the end zone when entering that territory.

Of Hill's 29 career rushing TDs, 21 have come from the five-yard line or closer. He has 46 career rushing attempts from the five or closer, meaning he reaches the end zone on 45.7 percent of his carries inside that territory. Philadelphia's LeGarrette Blount also has 21 TDs from the five and in, and the two are tied for the league lead in that category since 2014 (Hill's rookie season).

Some very good rushing numbers: The Bengals' record under Marvin Lewis with a 100-yard rusher now stands at an impressive 44-7-1 (856). What's more, their record with a rusher who hits the 25-carry plateau is 39-2 (951). The Bengals were 5-1-1 (.786) last season with 30 or more rushes as a team.

"It's not always the rushing yardage total that's most important," Lewis has said. "When you're running the ball a lot, it's a sign that even though the yardage will vary, you're controlling the ball, controlling the clock, and keeping your defense off the field. As it shows for us, that is going to be a winning combo.

"We love seeing a guy get 100 yards, but sometimes he can break one big gain and then get to 100 even though you may not be running as consistently well and controlling the game like you do when you get high-carry numbers."

The Huber roundup: Already a considerable presence in the Bengals record book, Bengals P Kevin Huber in '16 passed Lee Johnson for most career inside-20 punts in Bengals history. Johnson, who punted over 11

Bengals seasons (1988-98), had 186 career inside-20 punts, while Huber, now in his ninth season, currently stands at 206. A Bengals fifth-round selection (142nd overall) in the 2009 draft, Huber also owns the franchise's all-time best ratio of inside-20 kicks to touchbacks (3.68-to-1, with 206 inside-20s and 56 touchbacks).

Huber's other top accomplishments with the Bengals include:

- He is the franchise leader in career gross average (45.0) and net average (39.7).

- He holds the top three Bengals season averages in gross and the top five Bengals season averages in net. His gross record is 46.84 in 2014, and his net record is 42.10, also in '14.

- He shares the team record for longest punt (75 yards) with Kyle Larson.

- His 33 inside-20 punts in 2012 is a franchise record.

Huber was an initial-ballot Pro Bowl selection in 2014 and also was named first-team All-Pro by The Sporting News that year.

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 14 seasons of Cincinnati special teams coordinator Darrin Simmons, the Bengals have the second-fewest fumbled punts (21) and the fewest lost fumbles on punts (four) in the NFL. Atlanta (20) is the only team with fewer lost fumbles over the span.

"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."

Recovered Gio sets sights on Brooks: HB Giovani Bernard missed the last six games in 2016, down with a major knee injury (ACL) suffered late in the fourth quarter of Game 10, Nov. 20 vs. Buffalo. But Bernard reported to training camp in July fully recovered from the injury and was a full participant in practice from the first snap (he played in one preseason game — Game 3 at Washington).

And when the Bengals took the field for the 2017 regular-season opener, Bernard not only played, he stood out, recording a 23-yard rush and 39-yard reception.

His return sets him up to re-start his long pursuit of the all-time Bengals leads in both receptions and receiving yards by a running back. With 188 receptions, Bernard stands 109 short of James Brooks' record of 297. And with 1711 receiving yards, Bernard is 1301 short of Brooks' record of 3012. Brooks played eight seasons with the Bengals (1984-91), while Bernard in 2017 is playing his fifth.

Bernard has made his mark as both a rusher and receiver throughout his career. He averaged 1147 yards from scrimmage over his first three seasons, and his injury-shortened 2016 campaign ended with 673 yards in 10 games. Bernard in '16 was 91-for-337 rushing (3.7), with two TDs, and 39-for-336 receiving, with one TD. He ended '16 fourth on the team in receptions and fifth in receiving yards.

Bernard last season caught a career-best nine passes for 100 yards in Game 2 at Pittsburgh. It marked the second time he has been in triple digits in receiving yards. His 128 yards at Arizona in 2015 is the franchise record for receiving yards by a RB in a game. His 56 receptions as a rookie in 2013 is the Bengals season record for catches by a running back.

Marvin's second generation of Nickersons: Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis first entered the NFL as LBs coach with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1992, where he coached a young star LB named Hardy Nickerson. The pairing lasted only a year, as Nickerson left the Steelers in free agency after that season. Nickerson would end up playing 16 NFL seasons with four teams, and making five Pro Bowl appearances. In 1992, though, neither Lewis nor Nickerson realized how things would come full circle 25 years later.

In 2017, Nickerson's son, also named Hardy Nickerson, signed with Lewis' Bengals as a college free agent and made a successful long-shot roster bid in preseason. The younger Nickerson played three seasons at Cal, before transferring to Illinois for his senior campaign to play under his father, who was Illinois' defensive coordinator. During that senior campaign, the 6-0, 235-pound Nickerson served as a team captain and recorded 107 tackles, including seven games (out of 12 total) of double-digit tackles. He closed his collegiate career with 353 tackles over four seasons of action, good for sixth among active FBS players at the end of 2016.

"I told young Hardy that I likely wouldn't be here without his father," Lewis

said in May after signing the younger Nickerson as a CFA. "His father tested me as a coach, to be right. He was an outstanding player — smart. And his son shows those same attributes here, even after just being around him for the first day and a half (at rookie minicamp). He (the elder Nickerson) was a great, great football player, and he's become a very fine coach. I was blessed to be with him, even if it was only one season, but he taught me a lot."

Turnover tables are turned: During the tenure of head coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), the Bengals rank tied for sixth in the NFL in turnover differential, at plus-47. The Bengals were plus-three in differential in 2016, with 20 takeaways (17 INTs, three FR) and 17 giveaways (eight INTs, nine FL).

Last week vs. Baltimore, the Bengals were minus-four, five giveaways (four INTs, one fumble) and one takeaway (an INT)

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 68.4 percent of those games. At plus two, the percentage has been 82.4. Teams with any plus have won at a 79.1 percent clip.

Here are the top six teams in differential since 2003:

TEAM	TAKEAWAYS	GIVEAWAYS	DIFFERENTIAL
New England Patriots	423	261	+162
Green Bay Packers	387	325	+62
Carolina Panthers	420	363	+57
Seattle Seahawks	383	329	+54
Atlanta Falcons	377	328	+49
Cincinnati Bengals	403	356	+47
Kansas City Chiefs	372	325	+47

Since 2003, the Bengals rank fourth in takeaways (403) and eighth in points off turnovers (1200).

A stat that matters: During the full term of head 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 75-17-1 in regular season under Lewis with a plus (.819 winning percentage), but they are only 16-65-2 with a minus.

"It makes a huge difference," Lewis says. "You see it game after game in the NFL. You have to possess the football to win. If you possess the football, good things can happen for your team. If you turn the ball over to opponents, you have 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	875-403-4	.684
Plus 2	703-150	.824
Plus 3	393-38-1	.911
Plus 4	207-6	.972
Plus 5	97-3	.970

And when it's even? The Bengals are 27-22 in head coach Marvin Lewis' full tenure in games when the turnover differential has been even, for a winning percentage of .551. The Bengals have won 10 of their last 16 with an even differential (.622), dating back to 2012, but they were 0-2 in '16, with losses at Pittsburgh and New England.

Uniform watch: The Bengals are scheduled to wear their color rush (CR) uniforms this week vs. Houston. Those uniforms debuted in 2016.

Since 2004, the 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	4-0-0	1.000
White (CR)	White (CR)	1-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White	15-6-1	.705
Black	Black	15-11-1	.574
Black	White	31-31-1	.500
White	Black	25-27-0	.481
White	White	19-27-0	.413

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

Bengal bites: September (27-21-0, .5625) and November (31-24-1, .5625) are tied for the month with the best winning percentage for Bengals teams in the 15 seasons of head coach Marvin Lewis. Lewis' clubs are also above .500 for December/January (36-30-0, .545 [regular season]). Lewis' only losing month has been October (24-29-2, .455) ... The attendance of 91,653 on Oct. 9, 2016, at Dallas was the largest ever for a Bengals regular-season game, topping a house of 87,786 for a 2004 visit to FedEx Field in Washington. The largest crowd for any Bengals game remains 92,045, for a 1990 season playoff game against the Los Angeles Raiders at the L.A. Coliseum ... The Bengals' tallest player is DE Michael Johnson, who is 6-7. There is a tie for the shortest player between K Randy Bullock and HB Giovani Bernard, both of whom are 5-9 ... There is a three-way tie for heaviest player — OT Andre Smith, DT Pat Sims and G Alex Redmond are all 330 pounds ... CB Adam Jones is the lightest player, at 185 pounds ... Jones, 33, is also the oldest player. He turns 34 on Sept. 30 ... The youngest player is HB Joe Mixon, who turned 21 on July 24.

BENGALS QUOTES

Bengals president Mike Brown, on the Bengals' 50th season:

"For me, it has been more than 50 years. I was working on things five years or so before we even were awarded the franchise. It has been a lifetime for me. It's what I do. It's what I like. I have been very lucky to be involved with it."

Head coach Marvin Lewis, on the Bengals' overall depth:

"I feel like we are a lot stronger in a lot of places. I'm just crossing my fingers that everybody stays healthy. I'm pleased with where we are — we are in a good spot."

Lewis, on the Bengals evolving from an older roster to a younger roster in 2017:

"Our approach has changed this year. We've had more competition since we started (offseason activities) back in April, because we knew we were going to be in this situation. This was what I envisioned, and I feel good about it — we wanted to put these young guys in situations where that they would be ready to go (once the regular season began). Now they've got to go prove they are. ... We said back in April that there had to be a changing of the guard. It's inevitable in the NFL. ... We've got some young, emerging guys, which is great to have."

QB Andy Dalton, on shaking off a bad game:

"That's how you have to play quarterback. You never know what's going to happen. You want to play well every week, but if it doesn't happen, you've got to bounce back. Same thing series to series — if you have a bad play or give up an

interception, you've got to bounce back. You have to be resilient to play this position."

Assistant head coach/OL coach Paul Alexander, on the importance of OTs Cedric Ogbuehi and Jake Fisher in 2017:

"It's the key to our season. They know that. I've told them that, but they didn't need to be told. It's a challenge for them, and great competitors answer the bell."

OT Jake Fisher, on changing his diet in the offseason:

"I feel much better and more healthy, mentally and physically. A lot of guys get soaked up in where a coach wants them to be at weight-wise that they sacrifice. I just didn't sacrifice; I changed things. Everyone has their own way of doing it and fine tuning it, and it takes effort. It's my third year, I have it down pretty well."

Lewis, on G Trey Hopkins:

"Trey is a smart player and he's taking full advantage of his opportunities. He has done a really good job. He is no rookie — he has been here for a while (since 2014). He understands the ins and outs (of our offense), and the mechanics of everything we do."

HB Giovani Bernard, on his rehab after tearing his ACL late in 2016:

"This is my second go-around (rehabbing an ACL injury), so I understood the process. I understood that you just stay the course and trust the training staff."

(Bengals director of rehabilitation/assistant certified athletic trainer) Nick Cosgray did an amazing job. Me and him, every single day going back and forth. We may have gotten sick and tired of each other at times, but he always had my best interests in mind and always did the extra things. He really helped me throughout this entire process."

TE Tyler Eifert, on his current health, after an injury-filled 2016 season:

"I feel really good. I've gone 100 percent full-go every day. I haven't taken a day off. I feel really good."

Baltimore Ravens coach John Harbaugh, on WR A.J. Green:

"I think I was the first coach to go on record saying he was the best in the league. That was maybe five or six years ago, and I stand by that today. I think he's a great player, and he has proven it."

Former Bengals WR Chad Johnson, on WR A.J. Green:

"To me he's the greatest (Bengals receiver) of all time because he can do things I wasn't able to do. He's a much more consistent pass-catcher than I was."

Director of Player Personnel Duke Tobin, on HB Joe Mixon adjusting to the pro level:

"He has really taken to it, and our coaches have done a great job getting him up to speed. There's a lot to learn at that position — running backs have to prove to be worthy in pass protection before they're going to be trusted long term — and we're working through that with him. Obviously, his run skills and his instincts are natural. He's got all the physical qualities you look for."

RBs coach Kyle Caskey, on HB Joe Mixon:

"His skills are top notch. They're the type of skills you can trust. He can catch the ball — he brings it in with his hands — and he (holds it tightly) when he's running the ball. He can make people miss in space, and he can run people over. He's 228 pounds, he ran a mid-4.4 (second 40-yard dash), and in space he has the agility of a much smaller back."

DE Carlos Dunlap, on knocking down passes at the line of scrimmage:

"The quarterback has a clock, too. If I can't get there before he throws it, then I jump and get the hand up — one hand off, one hand up."

Lewis, on H-B Cethan Carter and LB Hardy Nickerson joining a list of Bengals veteran CFAs on the roster:

"The good part is that we have a number of these guys who have come out of good programs and have been able to separate themselves right away. They came here and competed from the first day and didn't take a back seat to anyone. There's going to be a step up (in competition) on Sundays, and I think they're ready for that."

Lewis, on players needing to contribute on special teams:

"We need to have the best offensive and defensive players, and a part of it is that they have to be a part of special teams. From the day they walk in through

this door, they're beat over their heads with it. They're a part of 'teams' all the time, and that means everybody. They may not have done it at their college, but they all are a part of it now in some capacity."

Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, on the progress of DE Jordan Willis:

"He's still learning how we do some things here — our techniques, and how to use his legs and his back. We're asking him to do things a little bit different here than he did in college. But he's beginning to understand that, and he's getting better every day."

Lewis, on LB Carl Lawson:

"He's been the early-to-work guy, and the late-at-work guy. He wants to do everything correctly. He may not seem like someone who talks a lot, but he talks out there on the field, and he comes into my office and wants to sit down and watch film with me. I really like that about him."

LB Vontaze Burfict, on rookie pass rushers Jordan Willis and Carl Lawson:

"They come off the edge, and they don't even think about it — they just go after it. They're young, hungry and fast. Jordan (Willis) is going to be somebody to reckon with. He comes off the edge fast. And Carl — Carl's pretty good. We just have to get him to stop thinking, and just go get the quarterback. You know how it is as a rookie — you get wrapped up in the defense, trying to do everything right. Just go."

Guenther, on DT Andrew Billings:

"I'm counting on Billings (to play a big role on defense). He is coming on pretty well. The first time I saw him in pads in the first week of training camp, I was like, 'Man, this sucker is strong' — he was moving people backwards. I think he's got it."

Lewis, on CB William Jackson:

"He's done some things that have been stellar. There are other things that we're just trying to get him caught up on a little bit — get him up to speed. That's part of being a young player. We know he has the athletic tools and the intellect to play the position, now it's just (refining) the nuances of things that you do within the scheme. We're trying to make sure that he's good to go."

Lewis, on Jackson's ability to cover receivers:

"He's as good a guy at that as I've had an opportunity to be around. I said that last year. I've been around a lot of guys that are very good at that, and William, as a young player, has that ability."

Lewis, on LB Kevin Minter:

"He plays hard, with his pads at the right level. He understands the passing game and where he fits in on run defense, depending on the defense and coverage. I've been very pleased with him. It's been a good fit."

Lewis, on DT Geno Atkins:

"He's a man of few words, but he goes out and performs. He's productive against the pass and the run, week in and week out."

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: Seventh-year pro **Andy Dalton** didn't begin his 2017 season the way he would have liked, completing 16 of 31 passes for 170 yards and four INTs in the opener vs. Baltimore. In 2016 though, Dalton completed 364 of 563 passes (64.7 percent), with 18 TDs and eight INTs. His 91.8 passer rating last year exceeded his career rating of 89.1. That career rating ranks as the Bengals' record, topping Carson Palmer's mark of 86.9. His 4206 yards passing in 2016 were the second most in team history, surpassed only by his own mark of 4293, posted in '13. His 86-yard TD pass to WR Brandon LaFell in Game 15 at Houston was the longest pass of his career. Dalton also holds the club record for TD passes in a season (33, also in '13). Though the Bengals missed the playoffs in his sixth season in 2016, Dalton still 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, from '11-15. Dalton's 56-36-2 regular-season record as a starter works out to the best winning percentage (.606) of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts. Third-year pro **AJ McCarron** was an active-DNP vs. Baltimore. McCarron showed much promise while filling in for Dalton after Dalton's thumb injury in 2015, 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 FG. As a collegian, McCarron led Alabama to

a pair of national championships. Second-year pro **Jeff Driskel** was placed on Reserve/Injured on Sept. 4, after suffering a hand injury in the final preseason game at Indianapolis. He is eligible to return from Reserve/Injured later in the season, if the Bengals choose to exercise that option. He would be eligible to return to practice after six weeks and to games after eight weeks. A second-year player and 2016 sixth-round draft choice of San Francisco, Driskel was acquired on waivers from San Francisco last September. He was inactive for all but one game in '16 — Game 13 at Cleveland (DNP). Driskel played four years at the University of Florida (2011-14), before joining Louisiana Tech as a graduate transfer in '15, when he passed for 4026 yards and 27 TDs.

Running backs: Fourth-year HB **Jeremy Hill** has rushed for 29 TDs since entering the league as a Bengals second-round draft selection in 2014, and that total is tied with Philadelphia's LeGarrette Blount for the most rushing TDs in the NFL over that span. Hill led the Bengals in rushing (222 carries for 839 yards; 3.8-yard average) by a wide margin last season, despite seeing limited time in Game 15 and missing Game 16 due to a knee injury. Hill has led the Bengals in rushing every year since 2014, his rookie season. In addition, Hill had the most touches by any player in the NFL in 2016 without a fumble (243). That number also counts as the most touches in a season without a fumble in

team history. Hill has 30 total TDs in 46 career regular-season games (29 rushing and one receiving), plus two more rushing TDs in a pair of playoff games. After suffering a major knee injury (ACL tear) last year, in Game 10 vs. Buffalo, HB **Giovani Bernard** returned to the practice field for the first snap of training camp this year and was full-go in the first game vs. Baltimore. In his 10 games before the injury last season, Bernard racked up 673 yards from scrimmage, a total that stood fourth on the team at year's end. He had 91 carries for 337 yards (3.7) and two TDs rushing, along with 39 catches for another 336 yards and one TD receiving. Joining the Bengals in 2017 is prized rookie HB **Joe Mixon**, a second-round pick out of Oklahoma noted for his versatility and rare speed for his 228-pound frame. In 2016, Mixon posted a school-record 2331 all-purpose yards (194.3 per game). Only three RBs in school history have ever topped Mixon's 6.8 yards per carry in 2016 — College Football Hall of Famer Greg Pruitt (8.98 in 1971), Marcus Dupree (7.84 in '82) and CFB HoFer Billy Sims (7.41) in his Heisman Trophy-winning season of '78. Despite playing only two college seasons and splitting time in the Sooners' backfield, Mixon finished his collegiate career ranked third in school history in career receiving yards by a running back (894) and fourth in career receptions by a running back (65). For his career, he totaled 300 carries for 2027 yards (6.8) and 17 TDs, as well as 65 receptions for 894 yards (13.8) and nine TDs.

Wide receivers: Coming off his sixth Pro Bowl nod in as many seasons (though he did not play in the game), seventh-year WR **A.J. Green** looks to continue the torrid pace he was on in 2016 before a hamstring injury ended his season early in Game 10. Through the first nine games of 2016, Green was averaging 107.1 yards receiving per game. Projected over 16 games, that average would have given him 1714 yards receiving, which would have shattered the team record of 1440, set by Chad Johnson in 2007. He finished the 2016 regular season with 964 receiving yards on 66 catches. He had four TDs on the season, and he had four 100-yard receiving games. Green's 486 career receptions rank fourth in Bengals history, and his 7209 receiving yards rank second. Green's 49 career receiving TDs rank fourth as well, and his 28 games of 100 or more receiving yards rank second behind Johnson, whose total of 31 was recorded over a 10-year career. Veteran **Brandon LaFell**, who joined the Bengals as a free agent prior to the 2016 season and re-signed with the team this offseason, returns opposite Green as the other starting WR. In Game 15 last year at Houston, LaFell went for a career-high 130 yards, including an 86-yard catch and run in the fourth quarter that was the longest Bengals scoring play of the season, and the second longest reception of LaFell's career. For the season, LaFell logged 64 catches for 862 yards and six TDs (all receiving), ranking second on the team in all three categories. Second-year WR **Tyler Boyd** this year looks to build on a solid rookie season in which he posted 54 receptions for 603 yards and one TD, including 27 for 308 during the time that Green was out (Games 10-16). Boyd led all NFL rookies last season with 22 third-down receptions. And in third-down receptions that actually produced first downs, Boyd tied N.Y. Giants WR Sterling Shepard for the lead among all NFL rookies at 16. Joining the Bengals this season are rookies **John Ross** and **Josh Malone**, both of whom specialized in the vertical passing game in college. Ross, the Bengals' first-round selection (No. 9 overall) out of Washington in April's draft, gained notoriety during the pre-draft process when he ran a 4.22-second 40-yard dash at the NFL Combine, considered to be a combine record, breaking RB Chris Johnson's mark of 4.24 seconds from 2008. Ross piled up his share of impressive numbers at Washington as well, totaling 114 receptions for 1729 yards and 22 receiving TDs over three seasons of action. He also excelled as a kick returner, with four TDs in 85 career returns. Over his college career, Ross recorded five scoring plays 90 yards or longer. Malone, the second of two Bengals fourth-round selections (No. 128 overall) in this year's draft, was also known for stretching the field in college. Malone finished his three-year college career at Tennessee with 104 receptions, 1608 receiving yards (15.5-yard average) and 14 receiving TDs. In 2016, he averaged a school-record 19.4 yards per reception to go with 11 receiving TDs in 13 games. Malone's 4.40-second 40-yard dash at the NFL Combine in March was third best among participating wide receivers. Second-year pro **Alex Erickson**, a 2016 college free agent out of Wisconsin, returns for '17 after averaging an AFC-best 27.9-yards on 29 kickoff returns in '16. His average ranked second in the NFL, behind only Minnesota WR Cordarrelle Patterson (31.7). He played in every game in '16 and had six receptions for 71 yards. He also was the team's leading punt returner, with 28 returns for 195 yards (7.0). WR **Cody Core**, a sixth-round Bengals draft choice out of Mississippi in 2016, also returns for his second season. He caught 17 passes for 200 yards on the year, all of which came in the final five games, when Green was out hurt.

Tight ends/H-backs: Tyler Eifert, a 2015 Pro Bowl selection, returns healthy this year after battling injuries in '16. Eifert's 2016 season ended after he was inactive for Game 15 at Houston with a back injury and then was placed on the season-ending Reserve/Injured list on Dec. 26, prior to the season finale. Eifert was limited to only eight games in '16, but still managed 29 catches for 394 yards and five TDs. Slowed by an ankle injury he suffered in the Pro Bowl following the 2015 campaign, he missed the first six contests of the season and played only a little in Game 7. Since the start of the '15 season, Eifert's 18 TD catches lead all NFL tight ends (Washington Redskin Jordan Reed is second with 17), despite playing in 22 of 33 possible games in that stretch. **Tyler Kroft** returns for his third Bengals season and will again provide depth behind Eifert. He appeared in 14 games in 2016 with 11 starts, missing the final two contests with knee/ankle injuries. He recorded 10 catches for 92 yards, and he tied for fifth on the team in special teams tackles (seven). Fellow third-year pro **C.J. Uzomah**, who played in 10 games with eight starts last season, began the 2017 regular season sidelined with an ankle injury. Last year, Uzomah recorded 25 receptions for 234 yards and one TD, including eight catches in the last two games. Known for his blocking ability, fourth-year pro **Ryan Hewitt** has manned the H-back position since joining the Bengals in 2014 as a college free agent out of Stanford. Hewitt played in every game in 2016, with 11 starts, and had had two catches for 13 yards. He has played in 48 of 49 possible regular-season games since joining the team, with 35 starts. Joining Hewitt at H-back is **Cethan Carter**, who made a successful roster bid as a college free agent out of Nebraska. In his four years at Nebraska, Carter had 59 receptions for 744 yards and four TDs.

Offensive linemen: The Bengals lost LOT Andrew Whitworth and G Kevin Zeitler, both starters, in free agency this offseason, yet still enter 2017 with familiar faces making up a revamped offensive line. G **Clint Boling** is in his sixth season as the Bengals' starting LG, and is the longest consecutively tenured lineman on the roster. Boling in 2016 battled a shoulder injury suffered in Game 4, but managed to play through it until the final two games, when he was placed on Reserve/Injured. C **Russell Bodine**, who has been the Bengals' starting C since his rookie year in 2014, started all 16 games last season. Bodine has not missed a start in his Bengals career, covering 49 regular-season games and two postseason games. To Bodine's right this year is a new addition to the starting unit, G **Trey Hopkins**, whose status is unknown following a knee injury suffered in the regular-season opener vs. Baltimore. Hopkins had earned the No. 1 RG spot with a strong preseason. The second-year pro out of Texas first joined Cincinnati as a CFA in 2014 and spent most of his time since between Reserve/Injured and the practice squad. Finally healthy and a full offseason participant, Hopkins drew praise from assistant head coach/offensive line coach Paul Alexander this year in training camp for his versatility and has the ability to play several different spots along the line. Beside Hopkins this season is ROT **Jake Fisher**, a second-round Bengals draft choice out of Oregon in 2015. Fisher played in 15 games last season, with three consecutive starts at ROT to end the season. He had served as the "big tight end" in extra-blocker situations most of the season, seeing increased snaps as the season progressed. Fisher's versatility includes having been moved to H-back late in '15 to help replace an injured Ryan Hewitt. Fisher even has two catches for 43 yards to his credit (one each in '15 and '16). Manning the other tackle spot is LOT **Cedric Ogbuehi**, a 2015 Bengals first-round draft selection out of Texas A&M. Ogbuehi started the first 11 games at ROT and one at LOT in 2016, before an injury ended his season before Game 16. Re-joining the Bengals' offensive line for 2017 is a familiar face — **Andre Smith**. A first-round Bengals draft pick in 2009, Smith was a mainstay at ROT until '16, when he signed with Minnesota as an unrestricted free agent. Smith's 2016 season, though, was cut short in the Vikings' fourth game when he suffered a season-ending triceps injury. An unrestricted free agent at season's end, Smith opted on March 16 to re-join the Bengals. Now in his second Bengals stint, Smith is listed as the backup at both LOT and ROT. **T.J. Johnson** returns for his fourth season and again will serve as the backup C and contribute on special teams. Johnson can also play G, and last year recorded his first career start in Game 16 vs. Baltimore, at LG. G **Christian Westerman**, a fifth-round Bengals draft selection out of Arizona State in 2016, will add depth to the interior of the Bengals' line and contribute on special teams. Westerman was inactive for 15 games in '16, and an active/DNP for one. First-year G **Alex Redmond**, a 2016 college free agent out of UCLA, made a successful preseason roster bid this year after spending all of his rookie season on the Bengals' practice squad. Redmond also figures to add depth to the interior of the line.

Defensive linemen: Pro Bowl DT **Geno Atkins** returns for his eighth Bengals season, and began 2017 the way he ended '16 — in the sack column. Atkins recorded one sack against Baltimore, marking the fifth

consecutive game he's logged at least a shared sack. He has 5.5 sacks in that five-game stretch. Atkins finished last season with a team-leading nine sacks, a total that also finished tops among NFL interior linemen (one ahead of Rams DT Aaron Donald). It's the fourth time Atkins has finished in at least a tie for that crown, and last season marked the second time for him to win the title outright (also in 2012). Atkins started every game last season and recorded 32 tackles. In addition to sacks, he led the team for the season in tackles for losses (13) and QB hits (26). DE **Carlos Dunlap**, in his eighth season, also earned a trip to the Pro Bowl last year, his second selection, after recording eight sacks (second on team) among his 49 tackles. He now has 57 sacks for his career, ranking fourth all-time in Bengals history. Dunlap also made headlines in 2016 after he led the team with a remarkable 15 passes defended. That total was seven more than any other NFL defensive lineman. It was the first time a Bengals defensive lineman has ever led the team in passes defended. The next closest Bengal was CB Dre Kirkpatrick, who had 10. Dunlap also led the team in forced fumbles (three). His 49 tackles led the D-line, and he also led the line in snaps played (840 of 1087). Dunlap had 13.5 sacks in 2015, the second-most in Bengals history. For his career, Dunlap has 15 career forced fumbles, eight fumble recoveries, 41 passes defended, four blocked field goals and two touchdowns scored. DE **Michael Johnson** returns in 2017 for his ninth NFL season, eight of which have been as a Bengal (spent 2014 with Tampa Bay). Johnson started every game in '16 and was second on the D-line in tackles (45) and fourth on the team in sacks (3.5). Listed as the No. 1 NT is veteran run-stuffer **Pat Sims**, who is in his eighth season as a Bengal and 10th overall in the NFL (he spent 2013-14 with Oakland). Sims had previously been a rotational NT behind longtime starter Domata Peko, who joined the Denver Broncos in free agency this offseason. Sims was a productive player all season in the line rotation last year, posting 37 tackles, with 1.5 sacks, despite his backup role. Adding to the Bengals' depth at DE is rookie **Jordan Willis**, the Bengals' third-round draft choice this year and 2016 Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year out of Kansas State. Willis finished his four-year college career widely considered one of the top defensive players in Kansas State history, totaling 114 tackles, including 40.5 for losses, and 26 sacks (third in school history). Last year, he led the Big 12 with 11.5 sacks. Willis tied for the preseason NFL lead in sacks, with four — one in each game — while also adding a forced fumble. Expected to compete for time at NT is second-year DT **Andrew Billings**, a 2016 fourth-round Bengals draft selection out of Baylor who spent all of his rookie season on the Reserve/Injured list due to a knee injury suffered in training camp. DE **Chris Smith**, a third-year pro who the Bengals acquired in an April 11 trade with Jacksonville, earned a roster spot with an impressive preseason in which he drew rave reviews as a pass-rusher. In three years with the Jaguars, Smith played in 19 games, with three sacks, a pass defended and a forced fumble. Adding to the depth of the Bengals' interior defensive line is rookie **Ryan Glasgow** of Michigan, a fourth-round Bengals draft choice (No. 138 overall). A former walk-on for the Wolverines, Glasgow developed into a key contributor on one of college football's top rush defenses over the last two years. He played in 45 games (33 starts) at Michigan over five seasons (one redshirt), recording 91 tackles, including 18.5 for losses, and five sacks, two forced fumbles and a fumble return. DT **Christian Ringo** was acquired on waivers from Green Bay on Sept. 6.

Linebackers: The Bengals' LB corps will be without starting WLB **Vontaze Burfict** until Game 4 this season, due to a league suspension. One of the NFL's most instinctive talents, Burfict is in his sixth season in stripes and is considered the leader of the defense. Burfict played in only 11 games in 2016, missing the first three due to a suspension and last two due to a concussion and knee injury suffered in Game 14 vs. Pittsburgh. Despite the missed time though, Burfict still managed to finish with 101 tackles (second on the team), two sacks, eight passes defended (third on team) and a forced fumble. Burfict led the team in tackles by wide margins in 2012 and '13, and was a Pro Bowl selection in '13. Unrestricted free agent signee **Kevin Minter**, who spent his first four seasons with Arizona, is the No. 1 MLB this year. Known for his speed, Minter played in 61 games, including 37 starts, in four years with the Cardinals, notching 254 tackles, five sacks, 11 passes defended and a forced fumble. His highest tackle total came in 2014, when he recorded 110 stops. Second-year pro **Nick Vigil** is this season's No. 1 SLB. Vigil, a third-round 2016 draft choice out of Utah State, played in all 16 games last season. He played primarily on special teams, though he did see extended snaps on defense in the latter portion of the season. Vigil finished the year with 14 tackles on defense and seven on special teams. Seventh-year pro **Vincent Rey**, a longtime special teams ace and key backup, will fill the No. 1 WLB spot during Burfict's suspension. Rey played in every game in 2016, with 12 starts, and ranked fourth on the team with 79 tackles. He

also had one INT, seven total passes defended and a fumble recovery. Rey can play all the LB positions, and led the Bengals in tackles in both 2014 and '15. A promising new addition to the Bengals' LB corps comes in the form of rookie fourth-round pick **Carl Lawson** of Auburn. A defensive end in college, Bengals coaches have added LB to his repertoire, in addition to duties as an edge rusher in the defense's No. 1 nickel package. Lawson battled injuries at times during his four seasons at Auburn (one redshirt), but when healthy, he was considered one of the top pass-rushers in college football. At 6-2, 260 pounds, Lawson combines power with speed. He played in 33 games in three years of action, with 20 starts, and notched 67 tackles, including 24 for losses and 14 sacks. Rookie LB **Jordan Evans** of Oklahoma, a sixth-round Bengals draft choice, impressed during preseason, finishing with 18 tackles (second on the team) and two passes defended. Evans was known for his speed and production in college and excelled in coverage. In 2016, he recorded four INTs and returned two for TDs. His 16 career breakups tied for second in school history among LBs. **Hardy Nickerson** of Illinois rounds out the LB corps, after making a successful roster bid as a college free agent. Nickerson, who played three seasons at California before transferring to Illinois for his senior campaign, is the son of former All-Pro LB Hardy Nickerson. The elder Nickerson played 16 NFL seasons with four teams, and in 1992 played in Pittsburgh under the tutelage of then-LBs coach Marvin Lewis in what was Lewis' first season as an NFL coach.

Defensive backs: Sixth-year pro **George Iloka**, Cincinnati's starting FS since 2013, returned to the starting lineup in Game 1 after missing the entire preseason due to an injury suffered early in training camp. Iloka tied for the team lead in INTs (three) last season, while recording 73 tackles. Iloka has eight career INTs and 29 passes defended. Sixth-year CB **Dre Kirkpatrick**, who resigned with the Bengals on March 10, enters his third season as the Bengals' full-time starter at the No. 1 LCB position. The 2012 Bengals first-round draft choice started 15 games last season, missing only Game 4 vs. Miami, due to a hamstring injury. He tied for the team lead in INTs (three) and had 46 tackles and 10 passes defended (second on team). For his career, Kirkpatrick has nine INTs, two of which he returned for TDs, and 38 passes defended. He's also proven to be a durable performer, having played in 63 of the last 64 possible games (including postseason). Eleventh-year CB **Adam Jones** is expected to return to the lineup at RCB this week, after serving a one-week suspension to begin the season. Jones, now in his eighth Bengals season, started all 16 games last year at RCB and led the defense in snaps (1057 of 1087). For the season, he had 66 tackles, one INT, seven passes defended and a forced fumble. Jones' time as a kick returner has been limited in recent seasons by his starting 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). Last season, he had ten punt returns (5.1 average) and four kickoff returns (19.8 average). He is the Bengals' all-time leader in kickoff return average (26.4) and punt return average (10.7). Fifth-year pro **Shawn Williams**, who took over last season as the starting SS, suffered an elbow injury in the second preseason game, and his status moving forward is uncertain. Williams in 2016 tied for the team lead in INTs (three) and ranked third in tackles (81). Slated to fill in for Williams during his absence is second-year S **Clayton Fejedelem**, a seventh-round Bengals draft choice in 2016 out of Illinois. Fejedelem played in every game last season, primarily on special teams, but recorded three tackles in brief defensive action. CB **Josh Shaw**, who can play both S and CB, returns for his third season as a versatile piece of the Bengals' secondary. Shaw played in every game last season, with 12 starts (11 as a nickel back, and one at SS). The CB room also includes 2014 first-round draft pick **Darqueze Dennard** of Michigan State, who played in 15 games last season, with three starts, and logged 41 tackles on defense. Over the offseason, the Bengals exercised the option to extend Dennard's rookie contract by one year through the 2018 season. Another Bengals first-round draft pick, CB **William Jackson**, has returned to action this season after losing his rookie campaign to a pectoral injury suffered in an early 2016 training camp practice. The Bengals took Jackson out of the University of Houston, where he led the nation in 2015 with a school-record 23 pass breakups and added a career-best five interceptions. He also led the nation in total passes defended (28). Adding depth to the CB room is second-year CB **KeiVarae Russell**, who closed out the Bengals' 2016 season with a late-game INT of Ryan Mallett in the season finale vs. Baltimore. The INT was the first of Russell's career. A third-round draft pick of the Chiefs in 2016, Russell was waived by Kansas City after opening weekend last year and joined the Bengals prior to Game 2. Third-year S **Derron Smith** of Fresno State will again add depth to the secondary in addition to experience on special teams. Smith played in 12 games last year and had seven tackles, one pass defended, and a special teams stop.

Special teams: The Bengals begin 2017 with a familiar face at kicker — sixth-year pro **Randy Bullock**. Acquired late last year on waivers from Pittsburgh, Bullock won a preseason competition for the team's placekicking

duties with rookie fifth-round draft pick **Jake Elliott** of Memphis. Elliott now is on the team's practice squad. Bullock made six of his seven FG attempts in preseason, including a 54-yarder which, had it come during the regular season, would have tied for the second-longest FG in Bengals history. Bullock was five for six on FGs for the Bengals last season, as well as six for six on PATs. Now in his sixth NFL season out of Texas A&M, Bullock owns a career 81.4 percent average (83 for 102) on FGs and 96.0 percent average (97 for 101) on PATs. Bullock last season replaced Mike Nugent, who was released Dec. 13 after kicking in the first 13 games. LS **Clark Harris**, who has been with the Bengals since Game 6 of the 2009 season, returns in '17 after a groin injury last season caused him to snap a streak of 123 straight Bengals games played (including postseason). Harris has handled all 1154 snaps in his Bengals career without an unplayable delivery. Harris is also a solid player on punt coverage, with 23 career tackles. P **Kevin Huber**, the top Bengals punter in history in terms of gross average (45.0) and net average (39.7), now owns the top three seasons in Bengals history for gross average and the top five for net average. Last season,

Huber finished with a 46.3-yard gross average and 39.5-yard net average. He also notched 23 inside-20s against eight touchbacks. Huber was an initial-ballot Pro Bowler in 2014. He boasts the franchise's all-time best ratio of inside-20 kicks to touchbacks (3.8 to-1, with 205 inside-20s and 54 touchbacks). Huber has also been a reliable holder on placekicks during his career. WR **Alex Erickson**, a college free agent out of Wisconsin in 2016, looks to continue his playmaking ways after a strong rookie season in which he finished second in the NFL and first in the AFC in kickoff return average, at 27.9 yards on 29 returns. He trailed only Cordarrelle Patterson of Minnesota (31.7). Erickson had returns of 65, 72, and 84 yards last season, and his 84-yarder in Game 9 at the N.Y. Giants stands as the longest Bengals kickoff return since CB **Adam Jones'** 97-yarder vs. Carolina in 2014. He is the only Bengal to ever post three KORs of 65-plus yards in a season. Erickson also served as the team's primary punt returner, averaging 7.0 yards on 28 punt returns. On coverage units, the Bengals this year return several key contributors from a year ago, including CB **Josh Shaw** (nine special teams tackles in 2016), S **Clayton Fejedelem** (seven), TE **Tyler Kroft** (seven), LB **Vincent Rey** (seven) and Harris (six). Fejedelem led the team in special teams snaps (318) last season.

IMPORTANT DATES

2017	
Sept. 26	— Beginning on the Tuesday following the third weekend of regular season games, the claiming priority is based on the inverse order of the standing of clubs in the current season's games.
Mid-October	— Beginning on the sixth calendar day prior to a club's seventh regular season game (including any bye week) clubs are permitted to begin practicing players on Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform and Reserve/Non-Football Injury or Illness who are 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 time, 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-October	— 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 two players for return from either list to the Club's 53-player Active/Inactive List. A player who is "Designated For Return" must have suffered a major football-related injury or non-football-related injury or illness after reporting to training camp and must have been placed on the applicable Reserve List after 4 p.m. Eastern time on the day after the final roster reduction. 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. 17-18	— Fall League Meeting, The Conrad, New York, NY.
Oct. 31	— All trading ends for 2017 at 4 p.m., Eastern time.
Nov. 1	— 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. 14	— At 4 p.m. Eastern time, signing period ends for Franchise Players who are eligible to receive offer sheets.
Nov. 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, 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 2017.
Nov. 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, deadline for clubs to sign their Unrestricted Free Agents to whom the "May 9 Tender" was made. If still unsigned after this date, such players are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2017.
Nov. 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, 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 2017.
Nov. 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, deadline for clubs to sign their drafted rookies. If such players remain unsigned after this

Dec. 1	— Beginning this date through Jan. 31, 2018, NFL clubs are permitted to conduct non-contact tryouts and negotiate with CFL players whose 2017 contracts are due to expire on Feb. 13, 2018. Prior to any tryout or negotiation, NFL clubs must first receive written permission from the player's CFL club.
Dec. 1	— Deadline for all clubs to submit their individual lists of players who received, or filed a grievance for, the Basic or Extended Injury Protection Benefit for the 2017 season.
Dec. 1	— Deadline at 4 p.m. Eastern time, for reinstatement of players in Reserve List categories of Retired, Did Not Report, and Exclusive Rights, and of players who were placed on Reserve/Left Squad in a previous season.
Dec. 2	— All salary paid to a practice squad player during the postseason will count as salary if the player's practice player contract was executed or renegotiated on or after this date for more than the minimum practice squad salary.
Dec. 12	— NFLMC Labor Seminar, Four Seasons-Las Colinas, Irving, Texas.
Dec. 13	— Special League Meeting, Four Seasons-Las Colinas, Irving, Texas.
Dec. 29	— Deadline at 4 p.m. Eastern time, for waiver requests in 2017, except for "special waiver requests" which have a 10-day claiming period, with termination or assignment delayed until after the Super Bowl.

2018	
Jan. 1	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, clubs must provide the Management Council with written notice, signed by the individual club's owner, indicating the amount, if any, of the club's 2017 League Year Salary Cap Room to be credited to the club's 2018 Team Salary.
Jan. 1	— Clubs may begin signing free agent players for the 2018 season.
Jan. 1	— Earliest permissible date for clubs to renegotiate or extend the Rookie Contract of a Drafted Rookie who was selected in any round of the 2015 College 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. 1	— Option exercise period begins for Fifth-Year Option for First-Round Selections from the 2015 College Draft. To exercise the option, the club must give written notice to the player on or after Jan. 1, 2018, but prior to May 3, 2018.
Jan. 6-7	— Wild Card Playoff Games.
Jan. 7	— 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. 8	— NCAA National Championship Game, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Georgia.
Jan. 13-14	— Divisional Playoff Games.

(Important dates, continued)

Jan. 14	— 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. 15	— Deadline for college players who are underclassmen to apply for Special Eligibility. A list of underclassmen who have been approved for entry into the 2018 College Draft will be sent to clubs on Jan. 19.		
Jan. 20	— East-West Shrine Game, Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Florida.		
Jan. 20	— NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, TBD.	March 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, clubs must exercise options for 2018 on all players who have option clauses in their 2017 contracts.
Jan. 21	— AFC and NFC Championship Games.		
Jan. 27	— Senior Bowl, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, Mobile, Alabama.	March 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, clubs must submit Qualifying Offers to their Restricted Free Agents with expiring contracts to retain a Right of First Refusal/Compensation.
Jan. 28	— NFL Pro Bowl, Camping World Stadium, Orlando, Florida.		
Jan. 28	— 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.	March 14	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, clubs must submit a Minimum Salary Tender to retain exclusive negotiating rights to their players with expiring 2017 contracts who have fewer than three accrued seasons of free agency credit.
Jan. 31	— Deadline for NFL clubs to try out and negotiate with CFL players whose 2017 contracts are due to expire at noon Eastern time, on Feb. 13, 2018.	March 14	— Top 51 Rule is in effect. All clubs must be under the 2018 Salary Cap prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time.
Feb. 2	— Deadline for non-playoff clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified 2018 Basic Injury Protection Benefit Candidates to the Management Council.	March 14	— All 2017 player contracts will expire at 4 p.m. Eastern time.
Feb. 4	— Super Bowl LII, U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, Minnesota.	March 14	— The 2018 League Year and Free Agency period begin at 4 p.m. Eastern time. The first day of the 2018 League Year will end at 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern time, on March 14. Clubs will receive a Personnel Notice that will include all transactions submitted to the League office during the period between 4 p.m. Eastern time, and 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern time, on March 14.
Feb. 5	— Waiver system begins for 2018. A 24-hour claiming period will be in effect through the Friday prior to the last regular season game (waivers requests made on Friday and Saturday of each week will expire at 4 p.m. Eastern time, on the following Monday.) Players with at least four previous pension-credited seasons whom a club desires to terminate are not subject to the waiver system until after the trading deadline.	March 14	— Trading period for 2018 begins at 4 p.m. Eastern time, after expiration of all 2017 contracts.
Feb. 13	— Beginning at 12 noon Eastern time, NFL clubs may begin to sign players whose 2017 CFL contracts have expired. Players under contract to a CFL club for the 2018 season or who have an option for the 2018 season are not eligible to be signed.	March 14	— Commencing at 4 p.m. Eastern time, clubs may designate up to two Player Contracts that, if terminated on or prior to June 1, 2018, and if not renegotiated after Dec. 31, 2017, shall be treated as if terminated on June 2, subject to the further requirements of CBA Article 13, Section 6(b)(ii)(1).
Feb. 16	— Deadline for playoff clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified 2018 Basic Injury Protection Benefit Candidates to the Management Council.	March 15	— Deadline for all clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified Candidates for the 2018 Extended Injury Protection Benefit.
Feb. 20	— First day for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.	March 25-28	— Annual League Meeting, Ritz Carlton, Orlando, Florida.
Feb. 27-Mar. 5	— Combine timing and testing, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Indiana.	April 2	— Deadline for clubs to meet 2018 funding requirements for guaranteed or deferred compensation in NFL Player Contracts and contracts for non-player Club employees.
March 1	— Deadline for all clubs to conduct physical examinations pursuant to CBA Article 45, Section 4(a) for players claiming the Extended Injury Protection Benefit for the 2018 season.	April 2	— Clubs that hired a new head coach after the end of the 2017 regular season may begin offseason workout programs.
March 2	— Beginning this date, if a club seeks permission to discuss employment with an assistant coach, who is under contract for the succeeding season or seasons to another club, to offer him a position as its head coach, the employer club is under no obligation to grant the coach the opportunity to discuss the position with the interested club. At the discretion of the employer club, however, such permission may be voluntarily granted.	April 16	— Clubs with returning head coaches may begin offseason workout programs.
March 2	— Beginning this date through the conclusion of the annual Selection Meeting, if a club seeks permission to discuss employment with an individual, who is under contract for the succeeding season or seasons to another club, to offer him a position as a high-level club employee, the employer club is under no obligation to grant the individual the opportunity to discuss the position with the interested club if his current responsibilities include gathering information on and evaluating draft-eligible players or veteran free agent players. At the discretion of the employer club, however, such permission may be voluntarily granted.	April 18	— Deadline to bring draft-eligible players to their facilities for a physical examination.
March 6	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, deadline for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.	April 20	— Deadline for Restricted Free Agents to sign Offer Sheets.
March 12-14	— During the period beginning at noon Eastern time, on	April 25	— Deadline for Prior Club to exercise Right of First Refusal to Restricted Free Agents.
		April 25	— Deadline to time, test, and interview draft-eligible players.
		April 26-28	— NFL Draft (site TBD).
		May 2	— Deadline for clubs to exercise Fifth-Year Option for players selected in the first round of the 2015 Draft.
		May 4-7	— Clubs may elect to hold their one three-day post-Draft rookie minicamp from Friday through Sunday or Saturday through Monday.
		May 8	— Deadline for Prior Club to send "May 8 Tender" to its unsigned Unrestricted Free Agents. If the player has not signed a Player Contract with a Club by July 22 or the first scheduled day of the first NFL training camp, whichever is later, he may negotiate or sign a Player Contract from that date until the Tuesday following the 10th weekend of the regular season, at 4 p.m. Eastern time, only with his Prior Club.
		May 11-14	— Clubs may elect to hold their one three-day post-Draft rookie minicamp from Friday through Sunday or Saturday through Monday.

(Important dates, continued)

- May 14 — Rookie Football Development Programs begin.
- May 17-20 — NFLPA Rookie Premiere. Invited Rookies (typically, first and/or second-round selections) must be permitted by their

- May 21-23 — Spring League Meeting, Ritz Carlton, Buckhead, Georgia. respective clubs to attend. Such players are unavailable for offseason workouts, OTA days, and minicamps during this period.

THE LAST BENGALS-TEXANS MEETINGS

2015 SEASON

WEEK 10, GAME 9

Houston Texans 10, Cincinnati Bengals 6
Monday night, Nov. 16, 2015 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals tasted defeat for the first time of the season, managing only 256 yards and two FGs against a Houston team that came in much in the thick of the AFC South race despite a 3-5 record. The Bengals held leads of 3-0 and 6-3, but Houston got the game-deciding score on a 22-yard TD pass from backup QB T.J. Yates to WR DeAndre Hopkins early in the fourth quarter. Yates was a third-quarter injury replacement for starting Houston QB Brian Hoyer, who was sidelined by a concussion. The Bengals mounted a threat to re-take the lead as time was running out, but after QB Andy Dalton completed a 10-yard pass to A.J. Green to the Houston 23-yard line, Green was stripped of the ball and the Texans recovered with 0:40 left to play. The Bengals' defense allowed only 256 yards, its lowest total of the season at the time. The Bengals fell to 8-1 and saw their AFC North lead to Pittsburgh slip by one game to two-and-a-half games, with a leg up on the head-to-head tiebreaker by virtue of a Game 7 victory over the Steelers. The Texans improved to 4-5.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Houston.....	0	3	0	7	—	10
Cincinnati.....	3	3	0	0	—	6

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — M.Nugent 42 field goal.....	1-1:28
Hou. — N.Novak 22 field goal.....	2-12:16
Cin. — M.Nugent 39 field goal.....	2-5:26
Hou. — D.Hopkins 22 pass from T.Yates (N.Novak kick).....	4-14:20

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 61,381. **Time:** 2:57.

TEAM STATISTICS	HOU.	CIN.
First downs.....	16	16
Third down conversions-attempts.....	5-15	4-14
Total net yards.....	256	256
Net yards rushing.....	82	74
Net yards passing.....	174	182
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	33-17-1	38-22-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	3-18	4-15
Punts-average.....	8-46.8	7-41.1
Punt returns-yards.....	1-10	5-43
Kickoff returns-yards.....	3-64	3-51
Penalties-yards.....	5-54	9-70
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	2-1
Time of possession.....	28:34	31:26

RUSHING

HOU.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
J.Grimes	6	33	14	0	G.Bernard	8	36	9	0
A.Blue	12	22	5	0	A.Dalton	4	31	11	0
B.Hoyer	1	15	15	0	J.Hill	7	15	6	0
C.Polk	4	14	13	0	M.Jones	1	-8	-8	0
T.Yates	2	-2	-1	0					
TOTALS	25	82	15	0	TOTALS	20	74	11	0

PASSING

HOU.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
B.Hoyer	22	12	123	0-1	A.Dalton	38	22	197	0-1
T.Yates	11	5	69	1-0					
TOTALS	33	17	192	1-1	TOTALS	38	22	197	0-1

RECEIVING

HOU.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
D.Hopkins	5	57	22t	1	A.Green	5	67	26	0
R.Griffin	3	36	15	0	G.Bernard	5	43	15	0
C.Shorts	3	16	13	0	M.Jones	4	44	16	0
N.Washington	2	32	19	0	T.Eifert	3	26	14	0
C.Fiedorowicz	2	30	25	0	J.Hill	3	5	5	0
J.Grimes	1	12	12	0	R.Hewitt	1	7	7	0
A.Blue	1	9	9	0	M.Sanu	1	5	5	0
TOTALS	17	192	25	1	TOTALS	22	197	26	0

DEFENSE

Houston (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** B.McKinney 6-3-9, B.Cushing 5-2-7, C.James 4-2-6, Q.Demps 2-4-6, W.Mercilus 4-1-5, J.Joseph 4-0-4, J.Simon 3-0-3, K.Johnson 2-1-3, E.Pleasant 1-2-3, C.Covington 2-0-2, J.Watt 2-0-2, J.Crick 0-2-2, B.Dunn 1-0-1, A.Hal 1-0-1, V.Wilfork 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** J.Watt 1-8, C.Covington 1-6, W.Mercilus 1-1, J.Simon 1-0. **INT.-YDS.:** J.Joseph 1-2. **PD:** J.Joseph 2, K.Johnson 2, A.Hal 1, E.Pleasant 1. **FF:** Q.Demps 1. **FR-YDS.:** Q.Demps 1-0.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** G.Iloka 3-5-8, V.Burfict 2-5-7, R.Nelson 2-4-6, P.Sims 1-5-6, A.Jones 4-1-5, V.Rey 2-2-4, D.Kirkpatrick 2-1-3, G.Atkins 1-2-3, E.Lamur 1-2-3, D.Peko 1-2-3, M.Johnson 0-3-3, L.Hall 1-1-2, A.Hawk 1-1-2, R.Mauluga 1-1-2, W.Clarke 1-0-1, W.Gilberry 1-0-1, D.Dennard 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** V.Rey 1-8, A.Hawk 1-8, D.Peko 1-2. **INT.-YDS.:** R.Nelson 1-0. **PD:** D.Kirkpatrick 3, R.Nelson 2, L.Hall 1, M.Johnson 1, E.Lamur 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

2016 SEASON

WEEK 16, GAME 15

Houston Texans 12, Cincinnati Bengals 10
Saturday night, Dec. 24, 2016 at NRG Stadium

The Bengals drove 60 yards in 12 plays as the clock wound down in the fourth quarter at Houston, setting up a 43-yard FG attempt that could have won the game for them on the final play. But K Randy Bullock's try sailed wide right, and Houston escaped with a two-point win that clinched the AFC South Division title for the Texans. Ironically, Bullock had made a 43-yard FG on the last play of the first half, the first score of the game. The Bengals took a 10-6 lead early in the fourth quarter when WR Brandon LaFell took a short pass from QB Andy Dalton and turned it into an 86-yard sprint for a TD. It was the longest completion of Dalton's career and the longest by a Bengal since 1995. But after the LaFell score, the Texans struck back on their next possession for a 75-yard, four-play TD drive. Bengals DE Margus Hunt blocked Houston's PAT try, keeping the Bengals within a FG of re-taking the lead, but the opportunity proved moot when Bullock's kick at the gun was wide. The Bengals fell to 5-9-1 on the season, and Houston improved to 9-6.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	0	3	0	7	—	10
Houston.....	0	0	3	9	—	12

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — R.Bullock 43 field goal.....	2-0:00
Hou. — N.Novak 25 field goal.....	3-9:05
Hou. — N.Novak 22 field goal.....	4-13:31
Cin. — B.LaFell 86 pass from A.Dalton (R.Bullock kick).....	4-10:45
Hou. — A.Blue 24 run (kick blocked).....	4-8:41

Missed FGs: R.Bullock (43WR). **Attendance:** 71,836. **Time:** 2:43.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	HOU.
First downs.....	15	17
Third down conversions-attempts.....	7-16	4-14
Total net yards.....	294	250
Net yards rushing.....	50	95
Net yards passing.....	244	155
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	41-28-1	29-18-0
Sacks against-yards lost.....	3-24	4-21
Punts-average.....	8-45.8	8-46.4
Punt returns-yards.....	7-15	4-32
Kickoff returns-yards.....	4-107	0-0
Penalties-yards.....	6-60	3-25
Fumbles-lost.....	1-0	1-0
Time of possession.....	28:54	31:06

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	HOU.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
R.Burkhead	12	42	9	0	A.Blue	21	73	24t	1
J.Hill	7	8	4	0	T.Savage	1	11	11	0
					A.Hunt	1	6	6	0
					J.Prosch	1	5	5	0
TOTALS	19	50	9	0	TOTALS	24	95	24t	1

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	HOU.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.Dalton	41	28	268	1-1	T.Savage	29	18	176	0-0
TOTALS	41	28	268	1-1	TOTALS	29	18	176	0-0

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	HOU.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
C.Core	8	39	9	0	C.Fiedorowicz	4	42	14	0
B.LaFell	6	130	86t	1	A.Blue	4	17	5	0
C.Uzomah	5	28	8	0	D.Hopkins	3	43	21	0
R.Burkhead	4	25	11	0	W.Fuller	3	39	19	0
T.Boyd	2	25	21	0	A.Hunt	2	28	24	0
R.Hewitt	1	8	8	0	K.Mumphery	2	7	5	0
J.Wright	1	8	8	0					
A.Erickson	1	5	5	0					
TOTALS	28	268	86t	1	TOTALS	18	176	24	0

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** K.Dansby 5-5-10, V.Rey 3-4-7, G.Iloka 3-3-6, M.Johnson 2-2-4, D.Peko 1-3-4, G.Atkins 3-0-3, S.Williams 3-0-3, W.Gilberry 2-1-3, P.Sims 2-1-3, W.Clarke 2-0-2, A.Jones 2-0-2, R.Mauluga 2-0-2, N.Vigil 2-0-2, D.Dennard 1-0-1, C.Dunlap 1-0-1, D.Kirkpatrick 1-0-1, J.Shaw 1-0-1, M.Hunt 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** W.Gilberry 1.5-8.5, G.Atkins 1-7, W.Clarke 1-3, M.Johnson 0.5-2.5. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** V.Rey 2, K.Dansby 1, D.Kirkpatrick 1. **FF:** C.Dunlap 1. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Houston (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** A.Bouye 9-0-9, B.McKinney 5-2-7, A.Hal 4-3-7, Q.Demps 3-4-7, B.Cushing 3-2-5, W.Mercilus 3-0-3, C.Moore 3-0-3, K.Jackson 2-1-3, E.Pleasant 2-1-3, J.Clowney 1-2-3, J.Joseph 2-0-2, C.Covington 0-2-2, D.Reader 0-2-2, A.Smith 1-0-1, V.Wilfork 1-0-1, J.Simon 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** W.Mercilus 2-14, J.Clowney 1-10. **INT.-YDS.:** Q.Demps 1-0. **PD:** A.Bouye 3, Q.Demps 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

2017 GAME SUMMARIES

WEEK 1, GAME 1

Baltimore Ravens 20, Cincinnati Bengals 0 Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals had looked forward to their first regular-season opener at home in eight seasons (the last opener at home had been in 2009), but the Ravens made sure that Cincinnati's three-game winning streak in openers ended in front of the team's home crowd at Paul Brown Stadium. Turnover differential and drives inside the opponent's 20-yard line proved to be the major differences in this game. The Bengals were minus-four in turnover differential (four INTs and one fumble to the Ravens' one INT) and failed to score on any of their three drives inside the Ravens' 20-yard line (those drives ended on an INT, a fumble, and on downs). Meanwhile, on three drives inside the Bengals' 20-yard line, the Ravens came away with three scores (one TD and two FGs). QB Andy Dalton recorded his lowest passer rating since November of 2014, though two of his four interceptions occurred on deflected passes. The shutout was just the second in a regular-season opener in Bengals history, and the first since 1979.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Baltimore.....	3	14	3	0	—	20
Cincinnati.....	0	0	0	0	—	0

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Balt. J.Tucker 25 field goal.....	1-4:44
Balt. J.Maclin 48 pass from J.Flacco (J.Tucker kick).....	2-1:52
Balt. T.West 2 run (J.Tucker kick).....	2-1:28
Balt. J.Tucker 25 field goal.....	3-1:06

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 55,254. **Time:** 2:57.

TEAM STATISTICS	BALT.	CIN.
First downs.....	17	14
Third down conversions-attempts.....	6-14	4-13
Total net yards.....	268	221
Net yards rushing.....	157	77
Net yards passing.....	111	144
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	17-9-1	31-16-4
Sacks against-yards lost.....	1-10	5-26
Punts-average.....	6-41.7	5-42.4
Punt returns-yards.....	3-23	3-14
Kickoff returns-yards.....	0-0	1-11
Penalties-yards.....	11-85	9-66
Fumbles-lost.....	1-0	1-1
Time of possession.....	34:00	26:00

RUSHING

BALT.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
T.West	19	80	11	1	G.Bernard	7	40	23	0
J.Allen	21	71	17	0	J.Hill	6	26	12	0
D.Woodhead	1	4	4	0	J.Mixon	8	9	8	0
M.Campanaro	1	2	2	0	A.Dalton	1	2	2	0
TOTALS	42	157	17	1	TOTALS	22	77	23	0

PASSING

BALT.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
J.Flacco	17	9	121	1-1	A.Dalton	31	16	170	0-4
TOTALS	17	9	121	1-1	TOTALS	31	16	170	0-4

RECEIVING

BALT.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
D.Woodhead	3	33	13	0	A.Green	5	74	27	0
J.Maclin	2	56	48	1	B.LaFell	3	24	13	0
N.Boyle	1	14	14	0	J.Mixon	3	15	9	0
M.Wallace	1	8	8	0	G.Bernard	1	39	39	0
B.Perriman	1	5	5	0	T.Boyd	1	11	11	0
M.Williams	1	5	5	0	T.Kroft	1	5	5	0
					T.Eifert	1	4	4	0
					J.Hill	1	-2	-2	0
TOTALS	9	121	48	1	TOTALS	16	170	39	0

DEFENSE

Baltimore (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** T.Jefferson 5-4-9, C.Mosley 5-3-8, T.Suggs 5-1-6, M.Pierce 3-1-4, K.Correa 3-0-3, J.Smith 3-0-3, L.Webb 3-0-3, Z.Smith 2-1-3, B.Carr 2-0-2, E.Weddle 1-1-2, T.Bowser 1-0-1, M.Judon 1-0-1, A.Levine 1-0-1, P.Ricard 1-0-1, B.Urban 1-0-1, B.Williams 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** T.Suggs 2-11, Z.Smith 1-9, M.Pierce 1-5, T.Jefferson 1-1. **INT.-YDS.:** C.Mosley 1-31, B.Carr 1-20, L.Webb 1-10, J.Smith 1-8, **PD:** B.Carr 2, M.Judon 1, C.Mosley 1, M.Judon 1, J.Smith 1, T.Suggs 1, L.Webb 1. **FF:** T.Suggs 1. **FR.-YDS.:** M.Pierce 1-0.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** V.Rey 6-5-11, K.Minter 4-6-10, N.Vigil 5-4-9, G.Atkins 4-3-7, D.Kirkpatrick 3-2-5, D.Dennard 2-2-4, P.Sims 1-3-4, C.Fejedelem 2-1-3, G.Iloka 1-2-3, W.Jackson 2-0-2, A.Billings 1-0-1, R.Glasgow 1-0-1, M.Johnson 1-0-1, J.Shaw 1-0-1, C.Smith 1-0-1, C.Dunlap 0-1-1, J.Willis 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** G.Atkins 1-10. **INT.-YDS.:** N.Vigil 1-0. **PD:** D.Dennard 1, W.Jackson 1, D.Kirkpatrick 1, N.Vigil 1. **FF:** None. **FR.-YDS.:** None.

IN 2017, THE BENGALS ARE:

REGULAR SEASON

0-1 at home
0-0 on the road
0-0 when scoring first
0-1 when opponent scored first
0-0 in games decided by three points or fewer
0-0 in games decided by seven points or fewer
0-0 when leading at halftime
0-0 when tied at halftime
0-1 when trailing at halftime
0-0 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
0-0 with even turnover differential
0-1 with minus turnover differential
0-0 when passing for 250 net yards
0-0 when opponent passes for 250 net yards
0-0 when scoring 20 points or more
0-1 when opponent scored 20 points or more
0-1 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
0-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
0-0 on natural grass
0-1 on synthetic surface
0-1 with fewer penalty yards

UNDER MARVIN LEWIS, THE BENGALS ARE:

2003-PRESENT (REGULAR SEASON)

67-43-3 at home (or as home team at neutral site)
51-61-0 on the road (or a visitor at neutral site)
81-34-1 when scoring first
37-70-2 when opponent scores first
21-22-3 in games decided by three points or fewer
53-49-3 in games decided by seven points or fewer
84-29-2 when leading at halftime
11-2-0 when tied at halftime
23-73-1 when trailing at halftime
95-18-2 when leading after three quarters
7-5-0 when tied after three quarters
16-81-1 when trailing after three quarters
81-36-2 when rushing for 100 net yards

73-30-1 when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards
75-17-1 with plus turnover differential
27-22-0 with even turnover differential
16-65-2 with minus turnover differential
41-33-2 when passing for 250 net yards
34-39-3 when opponent passes for 250 net yards
97-38-2 when scoring 20 points or more
39-90-2 when opponent scores 20 points or more
113-96-3 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
5-8-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
40-35-1 on natural grass
78-69-2 on synthetic surface
64-53-2 with fewer penalty yards

2017 BEST PERFORMANCES

REGULAR SEASON

RUSHING YARDS

40 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
26 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
9 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

8 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
7 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
6 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST RUSHES

23 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
12 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
8 — (two times)

RECEPTIONS

5 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
3 — Brandon LaFell, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
3 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

RECEIVING YARDS

74 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
39 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
24 — Brandon LaFell, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

PASSING YARDS

170 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

PASS ATTEMPTS

31 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

PASS COMPLETIONS

16 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST PASSES

39 — Andy Dalton to Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
27 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
14 — (two times)

YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

79 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
74 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
24 — (two times)

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

11 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

12 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
1 — (two times)

TOTAL TACKLES*

11 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
10 — Kevin Minter, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
9 — Nick Vigil, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

SOLO TACKLES*

6 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
5 — Nick Vigil, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
4 — (two 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. 10	BALTIMORE	221	22-77	144	16-31	0/4	5-26	14	4-13	1-1	26:00
Sept. 14	HOUSTON										
Sept. 24	at Green Bay										
Oct. 1	at Cleveland										
Oct. 8	BUFFALO										
Oct. 15	— BYE —										
Oct. 22	at Pittsburgh										
Oct. 29	INDIANAPOLIS										
Nov. 5	at Jacksonville										
Nov. 12	at Tennessee										
Nov. 19	at Denver										
Nov. 26	CLEVELAND										
Dec. 4	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 10	CHICAGO										
Dec. 17	at Minnesota										
Dec. 24	DETROIT										
Dec. 31	at Baltimore										
TOTALS		221	22-77	144	16-31	0/4	5-26	14	4-13	1-1	26:00

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 10	BALTIMORE	268	42-157	111	9-17	1/1	1-10	17	6-14	1-0	34:00
Sept. 14	HOUSTON										
Sept. 24	at Green Bay										
Oct. 1	at Cleveland										
Oct. 8	BUFFALO										
Oct. 15	— BYE —										
Oct. 22	at Pittsburgh										
Oct. 29	INDIANAPOLIS										
Nov. 5	at Jacksonville										
Nov. 12	at Tennessee										
Nov. 19	at Denver										
Nov. 26	CLEVELAND										
Dec. 4	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 10	CHICAGO										
Dec. 17	at Minnesota										
Dec. 24	DETROIT										
Dec. 31	at Baltimore										
TOTALS		268	42-157	111	9-17	1/1	1-10	17	6-14	1-0	34:00

TRANSACTIONS

(TRANSACTIONS FROM 7-28-16 THROUGH 6-8-17 ARE IN BENGALS' 2017 MEDIA GUIDE)

June 8, 2017 — Signed DE **Jordan Willis** (D3).
 June 27, 2017 — Signed G **Cameron Lee** (FA).
 July 29, 2017 — Signed WR **Kermit Whitfield** (FA); Waived WR **Monty Madaris** (failed physical).
 July 30, 2017 — WR **Monty Madaris** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list.
 July 31, 2017 — Signed S **Cedric Thompson** (FA); Waived K **Jonathan Brown**.
 Aug. 1, 2017 — Waived WR **Monty Madaris** from the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list (injury settlement).
 Aug. 9, 2017 — Signed P **Will Monday** (FA); Waived WR **Jake Kumerow** (injured).
 Aug. 10, 2017 — WR **Jake Kumerow** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.
 Aug. 19, 2017 — Waived S **Cedric Thompson** (injury settlement).
 Aug. 20, 2017 — Terminated the contract of DT **Brandon Thompson**; Waived WR **Karel Hamilton** and HB **Stanley Williams**.
 Aug. 28, 2017 — Waived P **Will Monday**.
 Aug. 29, 2017 — Acquired a seventh-round pick in the 2018 NFL Draft in a trade with New England for LB **Marquis Flowers**; Placed HB **Cedric Peerman** on the Reserve/Injured list.
 Sept. 2, 2017 — Acquired a conditional sixth-round draft pick in the 2019 NFL Draft in a trade with the Dallas Cowboys for CB **Bene Benwikere**; Placed the following two players on the Reserve/Injured list: HB **Tra Carson** and TE **Mason**

Schreck; Terminated the contract of the following two players: DE **Wallace Gilberry** and OT **Eric Winston**; Waived the following 23 players: LB **Bryson Albright**, LB **Brandon Bell**, WR **Chris Brown**, DE **Ryan Brown**, DE **Will Clarke**, S **Demetrious Cox**, LB **P.J. Dawson**, DT **David Dean**, G **J.J. Dielman**, K **Jake Elliott**, DE **Marcus Hardison**, FB **Darrin Laufasa**, OT **Landon Lechler**, G **Cameron Lee**, CB **Tony McRae**, OT **Kent Perkins**, WR **Alonzo Russell**, G **Dustin Stanton**, DT **Josh Tupou**, WR **Kermit Whitfield**, DT **DeShawn Williams**, HB **Jarveon Williams**, S **Brandon Wilson**; Placed the following two players on the Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list: LB **Vontaze Burfict** and CB **Adam Jones**.
 Sept. 3, 2017 — Signed the following eight players to the practice squad: LB **Brandon Bell**, K **Jake Elliott**, OT **Kent Perkins**, DT **Josh Tupou**, WR **Kermit Whitfield**, DT **DeShawn Williams**, HB **Jarveon Williams** and S **Brandon Wilson**.
 Sept. 4, 2017 — Placed QB **Jeff Driskel** on the Reserve/Injured list; Signed CB **Sojourn Shelton** (FA) and G **Cole Toner** (FA) to the practice squad.
 Sept. 6, 2017 — Acquired DT **Christian Ringo** on waivers from Green Bay.

* *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

NAME	Cin.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	G-S	BALT.	HOU.	@G.B.	@Cle.	BUFF.	@Pitt.	IND.	@Jax	@Tenn.	@Den.	CLE.	PITT.	CHI.	@Minn.	DET.	@Balt.
Atkins, Geno.....	1-1	DT															
Bell, Brandon.....	0-0	PS															
Bernard, Giovanni.....	1-0	P															
Billings, Andrew.....	1-0	P															
Bodine, Russell.....	1-1	C															
Boling, Clint.....	1-1	LG															
Boyd, Tyler.....	1-0	P															
Bullock, Randy.....	1-0	P															
Burfict, Vontaze.....	0-0	RSBC															
Carson, Tra.....	0-0	RI															
Carter, Cethan.....	1-0	P															
Core, Cody.....	1-0	P															
Dalton, Andy.....	1-1	QB															
Dennard, Darqueze.....	1-1	RCB															
Driskel, Jeff.....	0-0	RI															
Dunlap, Carlos.....	1-1	LDE															
Eifert, Tyler.....	1-0	P															
Elliott, Jake.....	0-0	PS															
Erickson, Alex.....	1-0	P															
Evans, Jordan.....	1-0	P															
Fejedelem, Clayton.....	1-1	SS															
Fisher, Jake.....	1-1	ROT															
Glasgow, Ryan.....	1-0	P															
Green, A.J.....	1-1	WR															
Harris, Clark.....	1-0	P															
Hewitt, Ryan.....	1-1	H-B															
Hill, Jeremy.....	1-1	HB															
Hopkins, Trey.....	1-1	RG															
Huber, Kevin.....	1-0	P															
Iloka, George.....	1-1	FS															
Jackson, William.....	1-0	P															
Johnson, Michael.....	1-1	RDE															
Johnson, T.J.....	1-0	P															
Jones, Adam.....	0-0	RSBC															
Kirkpatrick, Dre.....	1-1	LCB															
Kroft, Tyler.....	1-1	TE															
Kumerow, Jake.....	0-0	RI															
LaFell, Brandon.....	1-1	WR															
Lawson, Carl.....	1-0	P															
Malone, Josh.....	0-0	IL															
McCarron, AJ.....	0-0	DNP															
Minter, Kevin.....	1-1	MLB															
Mixon, Joe.....	1-0	P															
Nickerson, Hardy.....	1-0	P															
Ogbuehi, Cedric.....	1-1	LOT															
Peerman, Cedric.....	0-0	RI															
Perkins, Kent.....	0-0	PS															
Redmond, Alex.....	0-0	IL															
Rey, Vincent.....	1-1	WLB															
Ringo, Christian.....	0-0	IL															
Ross, John.....	0-0	IL															
Russell, KeiVarae.....	1-0	P															
Schreck, Mason.....	0-0	RI															
Shaw, Josh.....	1-0	P															
Shelton, Sojour.....	0-0	PS															
Sims, Pat.....	1-1	NT															
Smith, Andre.....	0-0	DNP															
Smith, Chris.....	1-0	P															
Smith, Derron.....	1-0	P															
Toner, Cole.....	0-0	PS															
Tupou, Josh.....	0-0	PS															
Uzomah, C.J.....	0-0	IL															
Vigil, Nick.....	1-1	SLB															
Westerman, Christian.....	0-0	IL															
Whitfield, Kermit.....	0-0	PS															
Williams, DeShawn.....	0-0	PS															
Williams, Jarveon.....	0-0	PS															
Williams, Shawn.....	0-0	IL															
Willis, Jordan.....	1-0	P															
Wilson, Brandon.....	0-0	PS															

STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	WR	LOT	LG	C	RG	ROT	TE	H-B	WR	QB	HB
Sept. 10	BALTIMORE	Green	Ogbuehi	Boling	Bodine	Hopkins	Fisher	Kroft	Hewitt	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
Sept. 14	HOUSTON											
Sept. 24	at Green Bay											
Oct. 1	at Cleveland											
Oct. 8	BUFFALO											
Oct. 15	— BYE —											
Oct. 22	at Pittsburgh											
Oct. 29	INDIANAPOLIS											
Nov. 5	at Jacksonville											
Nov. 12	at Tennessee											
Nov. 19	at Denver											
Nov. 26	CLEVELAND											
Dec. 4	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 10	CHICAGO											
Dec. 17	at Minnesota											
Dec. 24	DETROIT											
Dec. 31	at Baltimore											

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	LDE	NT	DT	RDE	SLB	MLB	WLB	LCB	RCB	SS	FS
Sept. 10	BALTIMORE	Dunlap	Sims	Atkins	M.Johnson	Vigil	Minter	Rey	Kirkpatrick	Dennard	Fejedelem	Iloka
Sept. 14	HOUSTON											
Sept. 24	at Green Bay											
Oct. 1	at Cleveland											
Oct. 8	BUFFALO											
Oct. 15	— BYE —											
Oct. 22	at Pittsburgh											
Oct. 29	INDIANAPOLIS											
Nov. 5	at Jacksonville											
Nov. 12	at Tennessee											
Nov. 19	at Denver											
Nov. 26	CLEVELAND											
Dec. 4	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 10	CHICAGO											
Dec. 17	at Minnesota											
Dec. 24	DETROIT											
Dec. 31	at Baltimore											

DEPTH CHART

SEPT. 12, 2017

OFFENSE

WR	18	A.J. Green	16	Cody Core	80	<u>Josh Malone</u>
LOT	70	Cedric Ogbuehi	71	Andre Smith		
LG	65	Clint Boling	63	Christian Westerman		
C	61	Russell Bodine	60	T.J. Johnson		
RG	66	Trey Hopkins	62	Alex Redmond		
ROT	74	Jake Fisher	71	Andre Smith		
TE	85	Tyler Eifert	81	Tyler Kroft	87	C.J. Uzomah
H-B	89	Ryan Hewitt	<u>82</u>	<u>Cethan Carter</u>		
WR	11	Brandon LaFell	83	Tyler Boyd	15	<u>John Ross</u>
					12	Alex Erickson
QB	14	Andy Dalton	5	AJ McCarron		
HB	32	Jeremy Hill	25	Giovani Bernard	28	<u>Joe Mixon</u>

DEFENSE

LDE	96	Carlos Dunlap	94	Chris Smith		
NT	92	Pat Sims	99	Andrew Billings		
DT	97	Geno Atkins	<u>98</u>	<u>Ryan Glasgow</u>	93	Christian Ringo
RDE	90	Michael Johnson	<u>75</u>	<u>Jordan Willis</u>		
SLB	59	Nick Vigil	<u>58</u>	<u>Carl Lawson</u>		
MLB	51	Kevin Minter	<u>56</u>	<u>Hardy Nickerson</u>		
WLB	57	Vincent Rey	<u>50</u>	<u>Jordan Evans</u>		
LCB	27	Dre Kirkpatrick	26	Josh Shaw		
RCB	21	Darqueze Dennard	22	William Jackson	20	KeiVarae Russell
SS	36	Shawn Williams	31	Derron Smith		
FS	43	George Iloka	42	Clayton Fejedelem		

SPECIAL TEAMS

P	10	Kevin Huber				
K	4	Randy Bullock				
LS	46	Clark Harris				
H	10	Kevin Huber				
PR	12	Alex Erickson	83	Tyler Boyd		
KOR	12	Alex Erickson	<u>28</u>	<u>Joe Mixon</u>		

NOTE: 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>Randy Bullock BULL-luck</p> <p>Vontaze Burfict (Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner) VONN-tez BER-fict (rhymes with "perfect")</p> <p>Tra Carson (Reserve/Injured) (pronounced as "tray")</p> <p>Cethan Carter SEE-thin</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>Ryan Glasgow GLASS-go</p> <p>Paul Guenther (Defensive Coordinator) GUN-thur</p> <p>Jim Haslett (Linebackers Coach) HAZ-lett</p>	<p>Ryan Hewitt HUE-it</p> <p>George Iloka ie(rhymes with "tie")-LO-kuh</p> <p>Dre Kirkpatrick DRAY</p> <p>Jake Kumerow (Reserve/Injured) KOO-mer-o</p> <p>Bill Lazor (Quarterbacks Coach) (pronounced as "laser")</p> <p>Cedric Ogbuehi o-BWAY-hee</p> <p>Vincent Rey RAY</p> <p>KeiVarae Russell kee-VAR-ay</p> <p>Derron Smith duh-RONN</p> <p>Josh Tupou (Practice Squad) TEW-po</p> <p>C.J. Uzomah yew-ZAH-mah</p> <p>Jarveon Williams (Practice Squad) JAR-vee-ahn</p> <p>Ken Zampese (Offensive Coordinator) zam-PEE-zee</p>
---	---

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 12, 2017

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
97	Atkins, Geno	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	8	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
25	Bernard, Giovanni	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	5	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
99	Billings, Andrew	DT	6-1	325	3-6-95	2	Baylor	Waco, Texas	D4'16
61	Bodine, Russell	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	4	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Boling, Clint	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	7	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
83	Boyd, Tyler	WR	6-2	197	11-15-94	2	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.	D2'16
4	Bullock, Randy	K	5-9	214	12-16-89	6	Texas A&M	Klein, Texas	W(Pitt.)'16
82	Carter, Cethan	H-B	6-3	245	9-5-95	R	Nebraska	New Orleans, La.	CFA'17
16	Core, Cody	WR	6-3	214	4-17-94	2	Mississippi	Auburn, Ala.	D6'16
14	Dalton, Andy	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	7	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
21	Dennard, Darqueze	CB	5-11	205	10-10-91	4	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
96	Dunlap, Carlos	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	8	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
85	Eifert, Tyler	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	5	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
12	Erickson, Alex	WR	6-0	195	11-6-92	2	Wisconsin	Darlington, Wis.	CFA'16
50	Evans, Jordan	LB	6-3	240	1-27-95	R	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.	D6a'17
42	Fejedelem, Clayton	S	6-0	205	6-2-93	2	Illinois	Lemont, Ill.	D7'16
74	Fisher, Jake	OT	6-6	310	4-23-93	3	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
98	Glasgow, Ryan	DT	6-3	302	9-30-93	R	Michigan	Aurora, Ill.	D4c'17
18	Green, A.J.	WR	6-4	210	7-31-88	7	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
46	Harris, Clark	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	9	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
89	Hewitt, Ryan	H-B	6-4	255	1-24-91	4	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
32	Hill, Jeremy	HB	6-1	230	10-20-92	4	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
66	Hopkins, Trey	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
10	Huber, Kevin	P	6-1	210	7-16-85	9	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
43	Iloka, George	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	6	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
22	Jackson, William	CB	6-0	190	10-27-92	2	Houston	Houston, Texas	D1'16
90	Johnson, Michael	DE	6-7	280	2-7-87	9	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
60	Johnson, T.J.	C	6-4	295	7-17-90	4	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
27	Kirkpatrick, Dre	CB	6-2	185	10-26-89	6	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
81	Kroft, Tyler	TE	6-6	260	10-15-92	3	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
11	LaFell, Brandon	WR	6-3	210	11-4-86	8	Louisiana State	Houston, Texas	FA'16
58	Lawson, Carl	LB	6-2	260	6-29-95	R	Auburn	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4a'17
80	Malone, Josh	WR	6-3	208	3-21-96	R	Tennessee	Gallatin, Tenn.	D4b'17
5	McCarron, A.J.	QB	6-3	215	9-13-90	3	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
51	Minter, Kevin	LB	6-0	246	12-3-90	5	Louisiana State	Suwanee, Ga.	UFA(Ariz.)'17
28	Mixon, Joe	HB	6-1	228	7-24-96	R	Oklahoma	Oakley, Calif.	D2'17
56	Nickerson, Hardy	LB	6-0	235	1-5-94	R	Illinois	Oakland, Calif.	CFA'17
70	Ogbuehi, Cedric	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	3	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
62	Redmond, Alex	G	6-5	330	1-18-95	1	UCLA	Cerritos, Calif.	CFA'16
57	Rey, Vincent	LB	6-0	245	9-6-87	7	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
93	Ringo, Christian	DT	6-1	298	3-10-92	2	Louisiana-Lafayette	Jackson, Miss.	W(G.B.)'17
15	Ross, John	WR	5-11	190	11-27-95	R	Washington	Long Beach, Calif.	D1'17
20	Russell, KeiVarae	CB	5-11	196	10-19-93	2	Notre Dame	Everett, Wash.	W(K.C.)'16
26	Shaw, Josh	CB	6-1	190	3-27-92	3	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
92	Sims, Pat	DT	6-2	330	11-29-85	10	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
71	Smith, Andre	OT	6-4	330	1-25-87	9	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	UFA(Minn.)'17
94	Smith, Chris	DE	6-1	266	2-11-92	4	Arkansas	Mount Ulla, N.C.	T(Jax.)'17
31	Smith, Derron	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	3	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
87	Uzomah, C.J.	TE	6-6	265	1-14-93	3	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
59	Vigil, Nick	LB	6-2	240	8-20-93	2	Utah State	Plain City, Utah	D3'16
63	Westerman, Christian	G	6-3	305	2-23-93	2	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	D5'16
36	Williams, Shawn	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	5	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
75	Willis, Jordan	DE	6-4	260	5-2-95	R	Kansas State	Kansas City, Mo.	D3'17

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

52	Bell, Brandon (9-3-17)	LB	6-1	230	1-9-95	R	Penn State	Mays Landing, N.J.	CFA'17
3	Elliott, Jake (9-3-17)	K	5-9	170	1-21-95	R	Memphis	Western Springs, Ill.	D5a'17
76	Perkins, Kent (9-3-17)	OT	6-5	320	11-19-94	R	Texas	Dallas, Texas	CFA'17
23	Shelton, Sojour (9-4-17)	CB	5-9	168	12-25-94	R	Wisconsin	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	FA'17
64	Toner, Cole (9-4-17)	G	6-7	300	3-13-94	2	Harvard	Greenwood, Ind.	FA'17
68	Tupou, Josh (9-3-17)	DT	6-3	350	5-2-94	R	Colorado	Long Beach, Calif.	CFA'17
17	Whitfield, Kermit (9-3-17)	WR	5-8	184	10-8-93	R	Florida State	Orlando, Fla.	FA'17
69	Williams, DeShawn (9-3-17)	DT	6-1	292	12-29-92	2	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15
39	Williams, Jarveon (9-3-17)	HB	5-9	205	1-3-95	R	Texas-San Antonio	Converse, Texas	CFA'17
40	Wilson, Brandon (9-3-17)	S	5-10	199	7-27-94	R	Houston	Shreveport, La.	D6b'17

RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

33	Carson, Tra (9-2-17; groin)	HB	5-11	228	10-24-92	1	Texas A&M	Texarkana, Texas	CFA'16
6	Driskel, Jeff (9-4-17; hand)	QB	6-4	238	4-23-93	2	Louisiana Tech	Oviedo, Fla.	W(S.F.)'16
84	Kumerow, Jake (8-10-17; ankle)	WR	6-4	210	2-17-92	1	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
30	Peerman, Cedric (8-29-17; shoulder)	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	8	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
86	Schreck, Mason (9-2-17; knee)	TE	6-5	252	11-4-93	R	Buffalo	Medina, Ohio	D7'17

RESERVE/SUSPENDED BY COMMISSIONER (date assigned; number of games)

55	Burfict, Vontaze (9-2-17; three games)	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12
24 +	Jones, Adam (9-2-17; one game)	CB	5-10	185	9-30-83	11	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'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).

NOTE: A plus sign (+) indicates a player who was eligible to practice on a roster exemption on the print date of this news release.

NUMERICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 12, 2017

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
4	Randy Bullock	K	5-9	214	12-16-89	6	Texas A&M	Klein, Texas	W(Pitt.)'16
5	AJ McCarron	QB	6-3	215	9-13-90	3	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
10	Kevin Huber	P	6-1	210	7-16-85	9	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
11	Brandon LaFell	WR	6-3	210	11-4-86	8	Louisiana State	Houston, Texas	FA'16
12	Alex Erickson	WR	6-0	195	11-6-92	2	Wisconsin	Darlington, Wis.	CFA'16
14	Andy Dalton	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	7	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
15	John Ross	WR	5-11	190	11-27-95	R	Washington	Long Beach, Calif.	D1'17
16	Cody Core	WR	6-3	214	4-17-94	2	Mississippi	Auburn, Ala.	D6'16
18	A.J. Green	WR	6-4	210	7-31-88	7	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
20	KeiVarae Russell	CB	5-11	196	10-19-93	2	Notre Dame	Everett, Wash.	W(K.C.)'16
21	Darqueze Dennard	CB	5-11	205	10-10-91	4	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
22	William Jackson	CB	6-0	190	10-27-92	2	Houston	Houston, Texas	D1'16
25	Giovani Bernard	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	5	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
26	Josh Shaw	CB	6-1	190	3-27-92	3	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
27	Dre Kirkpatrick	CB	6-2	185	10-26-89	6	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
28	Joe Mixon	HB	6-1	228	7-24-96	R	Oklahoma	Oakley, Calif.	D2'17
31	Derron Smith	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	3	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
32	Jeremy Hill	HB	6-1	230	10-20-92	4	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
36	Shawn Williams	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	5	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
42	Clayton Fejedelem	S	6-0	205	6-2-93	2	Illinois	Lemont, Ill.	D7'16
43	George Iloka	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	6	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
46	Clark Harris	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	9	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
50	Jordan Evans	LB	6-3	240	1-27-95	R	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.	D6a'17
51	Kevin Minter	LB	6-0	246	12-3-90	5	Louisiana State	Suwanee, Ga.	UFA(Ariz.)'17
56	Hardy Nickerson	LB	6-0	235	1-5-94	R	Illinois	Oakland, Calif.	CFA'17
57	Vincent Rey	LB	6-0	245	9-6-87	7	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
58	Carl Lawson	LB	6-2	260	6-29-95	R	Auburn	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4a'17
59	Nick Vigil	LB	6-2	240	8-20-93	2	Utah State	Plain City, Utah	D3'16
60	T.J. Johnson	C	6-4	295	7-17-90	4	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
61	Russell Bodine	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	4	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
62	Alex Redmond	G	6-5	330	1-18-95	1	UCLA	Cerritos, Calif.	CFA'16
63	Christian Westerman	G	6-3	305	2-23-93	2	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	D5'16
65	Clint Boling	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	7	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
66	Trey Hopkins	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
70	Cedric Ogbuehi	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	3	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
71	Andre Smith	OT	6-4	330	1-25-87	9	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	UFA(Minn.)'17
74	Jake Fisher	OT	6-6	310	4-23-93	3	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
75	Jordan Willis	DE	6-4	260	5-2-95	R	Kansas State	Kansas City, Mo.	D3'17
80	Josh Malone	WR	6-3	208	3-21-96	R	Tennessee	Gallatin, Tenn.	D4b'17
81	Tyler Kroft	TE	6-6	260	10-15-92	3	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
82	Cethan Carter	H-B	6-3	245	9-5-95	R	Nebraska	New Orleans, La.	CFA'17
83	Tyler Boyd	WR	6-2	197	11-15-94	2	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.	D2'16
85	Tyler Eifert	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	5	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
87	C.J. Uzomah	TE	6-6	265	1-14-93	3	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
89	Ryan Hewitt	H-B	6-4	255	1-24-91	4	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
90	Michael Johnson	DE	6-7	280	2-7-87	9	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
92	Pat Sims	DT	6-2	330	11-29-85	10	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
93	Christian Ringo	DT	6-1	298	3-10-92	2	Louisiana-Lafayette	Jackson, Miss.	W(G.B.)'17
94	Chris Smith	DE	6-1	266	2-11-92	4	Arkansas	Mount Ulla, N.C.	T(Jax.)'17
96	Carlos Dunlap	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	8	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
97	Geno Atkins	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	8	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
98	Ryan Glasgow	DT	6-3	302	9-30-93	R	Michigan	Aurora, Ill.	D4c'17
99	Andrew Billings	DT	6-1	325	3-6-95	2	Baylor	Waco, Texas	D4'16

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

3	Jake Elliott (9-3-17)	K	5-9	170	1-21-95	R	Memphis	Western Springs, Ill.	D5a'17
17	Kermit Whitfield (9-3-17)	WR	5-8	184	10-8-93	R	Florida State	Orlando, Fla.	FA'17
23	Sojourn Shelton (9-4-17)	CB	5-9	168	12-25-94	R	Wisconsin	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	FA'17
39	Jarveon Williams (9-3-17)	HB	5-9	205	1-3-95	R	Texas-San Antonio	Converse, Texas	CFA'17
40	Brandon Wilson (9-3-17)	S	5-10	199	7-27-94	R	Houston	Shreveport, La.	D6b'17
52	Brandon Bell (9-3-17)	LB	6-1	230	1-9-95	R	Penn State	Mays Landing, N.J.	CFA'17
64	Cole Toner (9-4-17)	G	6-7	300	3-13-94	2	Harvard	Greenwood, Ind.	FA'17
68	Josh Tupou (9-3-17)	DT	6-3	350	5-2-94	R	Colorado	Long Beach, Calif.	CFA'17
69	DeShawn Williams (9-3-17)	DT	6-1	292	12-29-92	2	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15
76	Kent Perkins (9-3-17)	OT	6-5	320	11-19-94	R	Texas	Dallas, Texas	CFA'17

RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

6	Jeff Driskel (9-4-17; hand)	QB	6-4	238	4-23-93	2	Louisiana Tech	Oviedo, Fla.	W(S.F.)'16
30	Cedric Peerman (8-29-17; shoulder)	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	8	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
33	Tra Carson (9-2-17; groin)	HB	5-11	228	10-24-92	1	Texas A&M	Texarkana, Texas	CFA'16
84	Jake Kumerow (8-10-17; ankle)	WR	6-4	210	2-17-92	1	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
86	Mason Schreck (9-2-17; knee)	TE	6-5	252	11-4-93	R	Buffalo	Medina, Ohio	D7'17

RESERVE/SUSPENDED BY COMMISSIONER (date assigned; number of games)

24	+ Adam Jones (9-2-17; one game)	CB	5-10	185	9-30-83	11	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
55	Vontaze Burfict (9-2-17; three games)	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12

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).

NOTE: A plus sign (+) indicates a player who was eligible to practice on a roster exemption on the print date of this news release.

STATISTICS

RECORD: 0-1

DATE	W-L	SCORE	OPPONENT	ATTENDANCE
09-10	L	0-20	BALTIMORE	55,254
09-14			HOUSTON	
09-24			at Green Bay	
10-01			at Cleveland	
10-08			BUFFALO	
10-15			— BYE —	
10-22			at Pittsburgh	
10-29			INDIANAPOLIS	
11-05			at Jacksonville	
11-12			at Tennessee	
11-19			at Denver	
11-26			CLEVELAND	
12-04			PITTSBURGH	
12-10			CHICAGO	
12-17			at Minnesota	
12-24			DETROIT	
12-31			at Baltimore	

TEAM STATISTICS	BENGALS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	14	17
Rushing	3	8
Passing	8	5
Penalty	3	4
3rd Down: Made-Att	4-13	6-14
3rd Down Pct.	30.8	42.9
4th Down: Made-Att	0-1	0-0
4th Down Pct.	0.0	0.0
POSSESSION AVG.	26:00	34:00
TOTAL NET YARDS	221	268
Avg. Per Game	221.0	268.0
Total Plays	58	60
Avg. Per Play	3.8	4.5
NET YARDS RUSHING	77	157
Avg. Per Game	77.0	157.0
Total Rushes	22	42
NET YARDS PASSING	144	111
Avg. Per Game	144.0	111.0
Sacked-Yards Lost	5-26	1-10
Gross Yards	170	121
Att.-Completions	31-16	17-9
Completion Pct.	51.6	52.9
Had Intercepted	4	1
PUNTS-AVG.	5-42.4	6-41.7
Net Punting Avg.	5-37.8	6-39.3
PENALTIES-YARDS	9-66	11-85
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST	1-1	1-0
TOUCHDOWNS	0	2
Rushing	0	1
Passing	0	1
Returns	0	0

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
BENGALS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OPPONENTS	3	14	3	0	0	20

SCORING	TD	TD-R	TD-P	TD-Rt	K-PAT	FG	S	PTS
BENGALS	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
OPPONENTS	2	1	1	0	2-2	2-2	0	20

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

Sacks-yards: Geno Atkins 1-10. BENGALS 1-10, OPPONENTS 5-26.

Fumbles-lost: Andy Dalton 1-1. BENGALS 1-1, OPPONENTS 1-0.

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	CMP%	YDS/ATT	TD	TD%	INT	INT%	LG	SKD-YDS	RAT
Andy Dalton	31	16	170	51.6	5.48	0	0.0	4	12.9	39	5-26	28.4
BENGALS	31	16	170	51.6	5.48	0	0.0	4	12.9	39	5-26	28.4
OPPONENTS	17	9	121	52.9	7.12	1	5.9	1	5.9	48t	1-10	71.0

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Giovani Bernard	7	40	5.7	23	0
Jeremy Hill	6	26	4.3	12	0
Joe Mixon	8	9	1.1	8	0
Andy Dalton	1	2	2.0	2	0
BENGALS	22	77	3.5	23	0
OPPONENTS	42	157	3.7	17	1

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
A.J. Green	5	74	14.8	27	0
Brandon LaFell	3	24	8.0	13	0
Joe Mixon	3	15	5.0	9	0
Giovani Bernard	1	39	39.0	39	0
Tyler Boyd	1	11	11.0	11	0
Tyler Kroft	1	5	5.0	5	0
Tyler Eifert	1	4	4.0	4	0
Jeremy Hill	1	-2	-2.0	-2	0
BENGALS	16	170	10.6	39	0
OPPONENTS	9	121	13.4	48t	1

INTERCEPTIONS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Nick Vigil	1	0	0.0	0	0
BENGALS	1	0	0.0	0	0
OPPONENTS	4	69	17.3	31	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	IN-20	LG	BLK.
Kevin Huber	5	212	42.4	37.8	0	1	53	0
BENGALS	5	212	42.4	37.8	0	1	53	0
OPPONENTS	6	250	41.7	39.3	0	2	52	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Alex Erickson	3	2	14	4.7	12	0
BENGALS	3	2	14	4.7	12	0
OPPONENTS	3	1	23	7.7	15	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Alex Erickson	1	11	11.0	11	0
BENGALS	1	11	11.0	11	0

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

Randy Bullock: (—).
Opponents: (25G, 25G).

DEFENSE*	ST	AT	TT	SKS-YDS	INT-YDS	PD	FF	FR-YDS
Vincent Rey	6	5	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Kevin Minter	4	6	10	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Nick Vigil	5	4	9	0-0	1-0	1	0	0-0
Geno Atkins	4	3	7	1-10	0-0	0	0	0-0
Dre Kirkpatrick	3	2	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Darqueze Dennard	2	2	4	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Pat Sims	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Clayton Fejedelem	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
George Iloka	1	2	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
William Jackson	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Andrew Billings	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Ryan Glasgow	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Michael Johnson	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Josh Shaw	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Chris Smith	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Carlos Dunlap	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Jordan Willis	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0

SPECIAL TEAMS*	ST	AT	TT	FF	FR-YDS	BP	BFG	BXP
Jordan Evans	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Tyler Kroft	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Nick Vigil	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0

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