



CINCINNATI BENGALS

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WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

SEPT. 19, 2017

CINCINNATI BENGALS (0-2) AT GREEN BAY PACKERS (1-1)

WEEK 3, GAME 3
SUNDAY, SEPT. 24
AT LAMBEAU FIELD

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 4, GAME 4
OCT. 1 AT CLEVELAND

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 4:25 p.m. Eastern

Television: CBS broadcast with Jim Nanz (play-by-play), Tony Romo (analyst) and Tracy Wolfson (sideline reporter). The game will air in the Bengals home market on WKRC-TV (Channel 12) in Cincinnati, WHIO-TV (Channel 7) in Dayton and on WKYT-TV (Channel 27) in Lexington, Ky.

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

The game also will be aired to a national audience on affiliates of Sports USA Radio. Broadcasters are Larry Kahn (play-by-play), Hank Bauer (analyst) and Troy West (sideline reporter).

Setting the scene: Home losses to Baltimore and Houston in their first two games have left the 0-2 Cincinnati Bengals with a bit of an upward climb ahead of them, and with their 13-9 loss to the Texans last Thursday behind them, the team has a little extra time to ready for an ascent. The team is using its 10-day break between games to regroup and re-establish its resolve.

"We've dug ourselves into a little bit of a hole against two AFC opponents, which you don't want to do," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "It's not a spot where we thought we would be, but we are. It's where we've put ourselves. We have to right our ship, and we have to do it one play and one game at a time."

The NFL rarely offers its teams breaks, and this week is no exception, as the Bengals travel to take on the Green Bay Packers at 4:25 p.m. Sunday at Lambeau Field. The Packers may be only 1-1, but they have been a perennial league power for many years. The defending NFC North Champions have made the playoffs in each of the last eight seasons — tied for the third-longest streak in NFL history — and they have won their division five times during that span.

"We have plenty of time to be better," Lewis said, "but we have our work cut out for us."

The Bengals surely plan to build on the positives, which for them is a solid showing on defense in both of the first two games. The Bengals' defense has given up an average of just 267.0 net yards, ranked No. 5 in the league, and an average of just 16.5 points, tied for No. 7.

Improving the team's execution on offense, however, is Cincinnati's top priority. Specifically, that means scoring more points. The Bengals, with just three field goals in their first two games, have yet to score a touchdown.

The team wasted little time in that effort, announcing on Sept. 15, the day after the loss to the Texans, that quarterbacks coach Bill Lazor would assume offensive coordinator responsibilities. Lazor is in his 12th season as an NFL coach and in his second year as an assistant coach with the Bengals. He previously has served as an NFL offensive coordinator and/or quarterbacks coach for Washington, Seattle, Philadelphia and Miami.

"I felt it was best for the football team to breathe new life into the offense, and that's why I made the change," Lewis said. "Bill has great experience in the league and as a coordinator, and I feel he can progress our offense the way we need. We have a lot of talent on offense, and we need to keep working to take full advantage of the personnel we have."

On paper, Lazor and the Bengals have a full stable of skill players at their disposal. Beyond QB Andy Dalton, the team expects to present problems for opposing defenses with the likes of WRs A.J. Green, Brandon LaFell, John Ross, Tyler Boyd and Alex Erickson, as well as TE Tyler Eifert and HBs Jeremy

Hill, Giovani Bernard and Joe Mixon.

"We've spent a lot of time building an offense geared toward the particular players we have," Lazor said. "What we need to do is score as many points as we can to beat the Packers. That's it. And then we will take it from there. When (a coordinator change) like this happens during the season, you can't go much further than that. It would be nice if you could, but we have a real tough task at hand. So, we're just going to tackle that and let the philosophy work its way out as we go."

In addition to scoring, the Bengals' offense figures to spend significant time this week working on third-down conversions (it's currently ranked tied for 28th in the league in third-down efficiency at 28.6 percent) and red-zone efficiency (ranked tied for 30th in TD percentage inside the 20 at 0.0). The team as a whole surely will concentrate on turnover differential (the Bengals rank 32nd at minus-five).

"We have to figure it out, and do things better," Lewis said. "(It's about) being consistent with our execution. We have an opportunity to look at it and get better. And we will get better."

The series: The Bengals lead 7-5, having won all three of the games during Marvin Lewis' head coaching tenure. All three of those wins contributed to division championship seasons for Cincinnati, in 2005, '09 and '13.

The Packers' last win in the series was a 13-6 decision at Riverfront Stadium in 1998.

As the road team, the Bengals are 3-4 against Green Bay. Two of those road wins, however, occurred at Milwaukee County Stadium, where the Packers played two to four games per season through 1994. The Bengals are 1-4 at Lambeau Field.

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

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 34 (three times), in wins of 34-14 at Cincinnati in 1983, 34-28 at Milwaukee in '86 and 34-30 at Cincinnati in 2013. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 21, in a 28-7 win at Cincinnati in 1976. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 7 (two times), in the 28-7 win in 1976 and a 17-7 win at Milwaukee in '77.

Packers — MOST POINTS: 30, in a 34-30 loss at Cincinnati in 2013. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 14, in 24-10 win at Green Bay in 1995. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 6, in a 13-6 win at Cincinnati in 1998.

The last meetings: Summaries of the last two Bengals-Packers meetings — in 2009 at Green Bay, and in '13 at Cincinnati — are on page 15 of this news release.

Turnover tables are turned: During the tenure of head coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), the Bengals rank seventh in the NFL in turnover differential, at plus-46. This week's game also features the No. 2-ranked team in in that same span — the Green Bay Packers are plus-60 since '03.

The Bengals are minus-five in differential thus far in 2017, with one takeaway (INT) and six giveaways (four INTs, two FL). The Packers this season are minus-two with one takeaway (FR) and three giveaways (one INT, two FL).

Last week vs. Houston, the Bengals were minus-one, with no takeaways and one giveaway (FL).

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 68.5 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	+62
Green Bay Packers	387	327	+60
Carolina Panthers	420	363	+57
Seattle Seahawks	384	329	+55
Atlanta Falcons	379	328	+51
Kansas City Chiefs	374	325	+49
Cincinnati Bengals	403	357	+46

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

Records vs. Packers: The Bengals have three individual records and two team records against the Green Bay Packers in the books:

- On Sept. 20, 2009 at Lambeau Field, Cincinnati DE Antwan Odom sacked Green Bay QB Aaron Rodgers five times, tying the Bengals record. The only other instance of five sacks in a game by a Bengal was five by DE Eddie Edwards on Dec. 21, 1980 vs. Cleveland.

- On Oct. 30, 2005 at Paul Brown Stadium, Green Bay QB Brett Favre suffered five interceptions, tied for most by an individual QB against the Bengals. Others picked five times by Cincinnati have been Chicago's Kyle Orton (2005), Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper (2005) and Oakland's Daryle Lamonica (1969). The Bengals' record for interceptions in a game against an opposing team is six, set twice and not involving any of the performances just listed.

- The longest punt return in Bengals history, 95 yards for a touchdown by rookie WR Carl Pickens, came on Sept. 20, 1992 at Green Bay.

- In a 28-7 home victory over Green Bay on Sept. 26, 1976, the Bengals defense set club marks for fewest total net yards allowed (36) and fewest net passing yards allowed (minus-35).

Other notable performances against the Packers include:

- WR Quan Cosby recorded the second-most punt return yards against a Bengals opponent when he had 114 vs. the Packers on Sept. 20, 2009 at Green Bay.

- P Pat McInally tied for the second most inside-20 kicks in a game when he had five on Oct. 5, 1980 at Green Bay.

Individually vs. Packers: The Bengals and Packers have met just twice since 2009.

Four current Bengals were with the team for its 31-24 win in '09 at Lambeau Field — P Kevin Huber, DE Michael Johnson, DT Pat Sims and OT Andre Smith. Of those four, only Huber, Johnson and Smith were with the team for both for its '09 win and its 34-30 victory in '13 at Paul Brown Stadium (Sims was with Oakland in '13):

- Huber (two games) has seven punts against the Packers for 316 yards (45.1 average; 42.3 net), three inside-20s and one touchback.

- Johnson (two games) has eight tackles (five solo), one pass defended and one forced fumble.

- Smith was inactive for the 2009 game and started at right offensive tackle in the '13 contest.

Only four current Bengals saw action on offense against the Packers in the 2013 game and recorded statistics:

- QB Andy Dalton: Completed 20 of 28 passes (71.4 percent) for 235 yards, two TDs and one INT (105.5 passer rating).

- HB Giovani Bernard: 10 rushes for 50 yards (5.0-yard average) and one TD; Four receptions for 49 yards (12.3).

- WR A.J. Green: Four receptions for 46 yards (11.5) and one TD.

- TE Tyler Eifert: One reception for seven yards.

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 Bills game on Oct. 8 include James Brooks, Eddie Brown, Eddie Edwards, Robert Geathers, Pete Johnson, Tim McGee, Pat McInally and Justin Smith. Bengals legends being honored at the Colts game on Oct. 29 include Tommy Casanova, Anthony Munoz, Dan Ross and Joe Walter.

Connections: Bengals WR Alex Erickson is from Darlington, Wis. (Darlington High School), and played at the University of Wisconsin ... Packers CB Quinten Rollins is from Wilmington, Ohio (Wilmington High School), and played at Miami (Ohio) University ... Packers LB Ahmad Brooks entered the NFL as a third-round pick of the Bengals in the 2006 supplemental draft, and was with Cincinnati through '07 ... Bengals LS Clark Harris entered the NFL as a seventh round draft pick (243rd overall) of the Packers in 2007 ... Packers G/T Adam Pankey is from Hamilton, Ohio (Hamilton High School) ... Packers special teams coordinator Ron Zook played at Miami (Ohio) University, and coached at the University of Cincinnati (1981-82) and Ohio State University ('88-90) ... Packers defensive coordinator Dom Capers is from Cambridge, Ohio, and coached at Ohio State University from 1982-83 ... Packers secondary-safeties coach Darren Perry was on the Bengals coaching staff in 2002 ... Bengals assistant strength and conditioning coach Jeff Friday is from Milwaukee, Wis., and attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee ... Packers C Corey Linsley played at Ohio State University ... Packers WR Randall Cobb played at the University of Kentucky ... Bengals WR Jake Kumerow (Reserve/Injured) played at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater ... Packers DT Izaah Lunsford (practice squad) is from Cincinnati (Shroder Paideia High School) and played at Bowling Green State University ... Bengals CB Sojourn Shelton (practice squad) played at the University of Wisconsin ... Packers secondary-cornerbacks coach Joe Whitt Jr. coached at Louisville from 2003-06.

BENGALS-PACKERS NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	PACKERS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored.....	32nd (4.5)	15th (20.0)
Points allowed.....	T-7th (16.5)	T-17th (21.5)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	27th (258.0)	7th (368.5)
Rushing	22nd (79.5)	27th (71.5)
Passing.....	22nd (178.5)	4th (297.0)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	5th (267.0)	8th (294.5)
Rushing	31st (162.5)	T-20th (115.5)
Passing.....	1st (104.5)	9th (179.0)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential	32nd (minus-5)	T-25th (minus-2)

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 6	Inside-20 possessions: 4
Total scores: 3 (50.0%)	Total scores: 4 (100.0%)
TDs: 0 (0.0%)	TDs: 1 (25.0%)
FGs: 3 (50.0%)	FGs: 3 (75.0%)
TD% rank: T-30th	TD% rank: T-3rd
No scores: 3 (50.0%)	No scores: 0 (0.0%)

PACKERS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 4	Inside-20 possessions: 5
Total scores: 4 (100.0%)	Total scores: 5 (100.0%)
TDs: 3 (75.0%)	TDs: 3 (60.0%)
FGs: 1 (25.0%)	FGs: 2 (40.0%)
TD% rank: T-5th	TD% rank: T-20th
No scores: 0 (0.0%)	No scores: 0 (0.0%)

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 118-105-3 in the regular season and 118-112-3 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-present) and Hue Jackson (Cleveland, '16-present), former defensive coordinators Leslie Frazier (Minnesota, '10-13) and Mike Zimmer (Minnesota, '14-present), 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.

Mike McCarthy was named the fourteenth head coach in Packers history on Jan. 12, 2006. He has guided the Packers to a team-record nine playoff appearances, including a franchise-best eight straight from 2009-16, tied for the third-longest streak in NFL history. He is one of only four coaches in NFL annals to lead a single franchise to eight-plus consecutive playoff berths. He has helped Green Bay advance to the divisional round of the postseason in six of the last seven seasons (2010-12, '14-16).

With a win over Pittsburgh in Super Bowl XLV, McCarthy joined Vince Lombardi and Mike Holmgren as the only coaches to guide the Packers to a Super Bowl title. McCarthy is one of only two coaches (the other is Pittsburgh's Bill Cowher, 2005) to lead their respective teams to three road wins as the No. 6 seed in the postseason en route to a world title. McCarthy has led the Packers to 114 regular-season wins since 2006, tied for the third most in league history by a coach in his first 11 seasons behind only Don Shula (117) and Joe Gibbs (115).

McCarthy earned his 100th career regular-season victory in just his 150th game, making him the seventh-fastest coach to reach that mark in NFL history and the fastest current coach to reach the 100-win total. His .642 career winning percentage (including playoffs) ranks No. 2 among active NFL coaches (min. 75 games) entering 2017. He has led the Packers to eight 10-win seasons, five seasons with 11-plus wins and three with 12-plus victories, all franchise records.

In 2011, McCarthy guided Green Bay to a team-record 15 wins, the NFC North title and the top seed in the conference for the first time since 1996. In 2007, he was named Motorola Coach of the Year, matched a then-franchise record with 13 victories, and won the NFC North Division title.

McCarthy returned to Green Bay after serving as the team's quarterbacks coach in 1999. He had went on to be a highly successful offensive coordinator for the New Orleans Saints (2000-04) and the San Francisco 49ers (2005). His career record is 124-69-1.

McCarthy graduated with a business administration degree from Baker University. He was an all-conference tight end (1985-86), helping the school to a NAIA Division II runner-up finish as a senior captain. He coached collegiately at Fort Hays State (1987-88) and Pittsburgh ('89-1992), before moving to the NFL with the Chiefs ('93-98), Packers ('99), Saints (2000-04) and 49ers ('05).

Born on Nov. 10, 1963 in Pittsburgh, McCarthy and wife, Jessica, have five children.

Lewis vs. Packers: Lewis leads, 3-0, with home wins in 2005 and '13 and a road win in '09.

Lewis vs. McCarthy: Lewis leads, 2-0.

McCarthy vs. Bengals: Bengals lead, 2-0.

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 22,608 career passing yards, 86 shy of QB Carson Palmer (22,694) 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 1956 career completions, 59 shy of Esiason (2015) for third place all-time. Anderson (2654) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Dalton also has 3126 career passing attempts, 91 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 491 career receptions, 16 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 27,944 career punting yards, 1363 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 1025 career punt return yards, 176 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 55 career sacks, two shy of DE Carlos Dunlap (57) for fourth place all-time and four shy of Browner (59) for third place. Edwards (83.5) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

Defense riding league-best sack streak: The Bengals last week recorded three sacks (two by DT Geno Atkins, one by DE Chris Smith), extending their streak of games with at least one sack to a league-leading 31 games (regular-season). The next-closest team is Washington, which has 26 consecutive games with a sack, followed closely by Green Bay (25) and Arizona (22).

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 reach 31 was Denver, whose streak ended at 31 last season in a Dec. 18 loss to New England (that streak had started on Dec. 28, 2014).

Over Cincinnati's 31-game streak, the Bengals have recorded 73 sacks for 472 yards. Seventeen different Bengals have at least a half sack over the span, and the defense has logged more than one sack in 21 of the 31 games. Atkins has totaled the most sacks during the current streak, with 21, and he has recorded at least a half sack in 18 of the games. Carlos Dunlap is a close second, with 19, and has logged at least a half sack in 15 different games.

Geno's sack streak at six: Bengals DT Geno Atkins is in the midst of the most productive sack streak of his stellar eight-year career. Atkins has recorded at least a half sack in each of the last six Bengals games, good for the longest active streak in the NFL and tied for the longest such streak in Bengals history.

The next-longest active streak of this kind currently in the NFL is four games, held by Michael Bennett (Seattle), Chandler Jones (Arizona) and Robert Quinn (L.A. Rams). Atkins' streak of six games also ties the longest in Bengals history, with DE Eddie Edwards (1983), LB Reggie Williams ('84) and current DE Carlos Dunlap (2010).

Over the span of the streak, Atkins has recorded 7.5 sacks for 51.5 yards. He has two multi-sack efforts during the streak — two sacks for 19 yards in Game 13 at Cleveland last season (the first game in the streak), and two sacks in Week 2 of 2017 vs. Houston.

Atkins now has 55 sacks for his career, good for fourth place all-time in team history and the most ever by a Bengals interior lineman.

Defense carries '16 momentum into '17: The Bengals defense last week held Houston to 13 points, marking the seventh time in the last nine games it has held opponents to fewer than 20 points. The stretch began in Week 10 of last season, when the defense held Buffalo to 16 points in a losing effort at Paul Brown Stadium.

Over the nine-week stretch, the Bengals have held opponents an average of 15.3 points per contest. Over the final seven games of 2016, the defense six times held opponents to under 20 points and allowed a seven-game scoring average of 15.0. The strong finish helped the unit finish the season ranked eighth in scoring defense (19.7). 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.

"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). Opponents have entered the red zone four times this season, and have come away with a TD only once.

- 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 has one INT so far this season, which came when LB Nick Vigil intercepted a Joe Flacco pass in the season opener vs. Baltimore.

Marvin's youth movement: According to information released by the NFL regarding opening-week rosters, considered the baseline for comparing year-to-year roster information, the Bengals began the 2017 season with the youngest roster (an average age of 25.45 years) in Marvin Lewis' 15 seasons as head coach. Lewis' next-youngest editions were 2004 (25.70) and '11 (25.74).

The Bengals' 2017 opening-week roster also ranked as the third-youngest in the NFL, behind Cleveland (24.17) and the L.A. Rams (25.11). The average age league-wide was 26.05.

The Bengals' 14 rookie or first-year players on the Week 1 roster were also the most ever for an opening week in the Marvin Lewis era, edging out 2004 (13). The total ranked as the third-highest in the NFL this year, behind Cleveland (16) and Detroit (15). League-wide, teams averaged 10.53 rookie or first-year players.

In terms of NFL experience on opening game rosters, the Bengals' average of 3.75 years was the fourth-lowest in the Marvin Lewis era, behind the 2004 (3.57), '06 (3.6) and '08 (3.67) seasons. The Bengals this year tied for the seventh least-experienced roster in the league, with Cleveland leading the way with an average of just 2.55 years of experience. The average level of experience across the league was 4.10 years.

The Bengals also totaled only seven players aged 30 or older on the Game 1 roster, which tied for the fourth-fewest in Lewis' tenure, behind 2011 (two), '04 (six) and '12 (six). The 2009 opening day roster also had seven players 30 or older. The Bengals' 2015 roster had the most players (11) aged 30 or older.

Eleven of the 44 players to see action in Week 1 (two were listed as DNP) were making their Bengals debut, and nine of those players were making their NFL debut. Bengals making their NFL debut combined to play 229 snaps in Week 1 (22 offense, 130 defense, 77 special teams).

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 has been held out of the end zone so far this season, 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 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.....	57

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 .600 winning percentage (56-37-2) ranks eighth among active QBs with 50 or more starts behind Tom Brady (.776), Russell Wilson (.701), Ben Roethlisberger (.676), Aaron Rodgers (.664), Andrew Luck (.614), Joe Flacco (.607) and Matt Ryan (.604).
- Dalton's .600 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 (82 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 has started 2017 by picking up where he left off in 2016 — in the sack column. He has recorded three sacks over the Bengals' first two games, and his two-sack effort last week vs. Houston marked his sixth 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 55 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 'lightnings,' 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 saw his first action as a pro in Week 2 vs. Houston, however his only appearance in the stat column was a 12-yard run that ended in a fumble and Houston recovery. Ross did not play in Week 1, due to a left knee injury suffered in the Bengals' final preseason game.

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 recorded his first NFL start last week vs. Houston, filling in at RDE for injured starter Michael Johnson. And although he didn't get into the sack column, he was active all game and recorded five tackles, tying for second among Bengals defensive linemen.

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 adds LB to his repertoire: 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, in addition to duties as a nickel rusher, would maximize the return on his athleticism and pass-rushing ability.

And while the transition isn't a cinch for most rookies, Lawson has by all accounts done quite well. He saw action throughout preseason, at both SLB and edge rusher. And 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.

Through the first two regular-season games, all of Lawson's action on defense has come as an edge rusher with the No. 1 nickel defense. And while he has yet to record a tackle, he got into the stat column last week vs. Houston with a QB hit.

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 team or league statistics to offer in terms of "most PDs ever by a D-lineman" or "highest league ranking ever by a D-lineman in passes defended," because the statistic has been officially compiled league-wide only for a few years.

Dunlap the playmaker: Bengals DE Carlos Dunlap filled up the defensive stat sheet 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 last year were corralled by Bengals LBs for interceptions — Vincent Rey vs. Cleveland, Rey Mauluga at Baltimore and Vontaze Burfict 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 among NFL's best on KORs: Bengals WR Alex Erickson last week totaled 76 yards on his two kickoff returns — 41 and 35 yards — demonstrating again why he's now considered one of the NFL's most effective kickoff returners. Through Week 2, his 29.0 average (on three returns) leads the NFL, and his 41-yard return in Week 2 vs. Houston stands as the longest so far this year in the AFC.

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's totaled 71 yards on seven returns so far this year, and his 57 punt return yards (on four returns) last week vs. Houston stand through Week 2 as the NFL's single-game high for punt return yards.

Eifert returns to the field: After an injuries limited him to eight games in 2016, Bengals TE Tyler Eifert has played in the first two games of 2017, with four receptions for 46 yards. The star tight end's return to the field has been a welcome sight, as he reported to training camp healthy in July and was a full participant in practice from the first snap.

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 returned to the Bengals' lineup last week after serving a one-game NFL suspension, again flashed his ability as a return specialist with a 33-yard punt return in the first quarter that nearly broke for a TD.

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 the minimum number of returns (50) to qualify.

With a starting role on defense though, Jones has seen his return opportunities limited in recent years. WR Alex Erickson served as the Bengals' primary returner in 2016 and again leads the team in both punt (seven) and kickoff (three) return attempts early in the '17 campaign. Jones has two punt returns so far this season (for 41 yards) and no kickoff returns.

Jones' history as a dangerous returner dates back to 2005, his rookie season with Tennessee. But even though he turns 34 on Sept. 30, he's 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 return average (12.0).

Adding in three NFL seasons played elsewhere to his now eight years (2010-17) of Bengals play, Jones has NFL career averages of 26.0 yards per KOR and 10.3 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 itself 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 14 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's 839 rushing yards led the Bengals in 2016, 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 212. 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 (3.78-to-1, with 212 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.

And so far during the regular season, hasn't missed a beat. Bernard leads the team in rushing yards (50) and has a 37-yard reception and 23-yard rush to his credit.

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 190 receptions, Bernard stands 107 short of James Brooks' record of 297. And with 1727 receiving yards, Bernard is 1285 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."

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 16-66-2 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	878-403-4	.685
Plus 2	708-150	.825
Plus 3	395-38-1	.911
Plus 4	207-6	.972
Plus 5	97-3	.970

Plus teams so far this season have gone 17-2, for a .895 winning percentage.

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 white jerseys and black pants this week at Green Bay.

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
Orange*	White	15-6-1	.705
Black	Black	15-11-1	.574
Black	White	31-31-1	.500
White (CR)	White (CR)	1-1-0	.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: November (31-24-1, .563) is the month with the best winning percentage for Bengals teams in the 15 seasons of head coach Marvin Lewis' followed closely by September (27-22-0, .551) 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

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

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

"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 the disappointing performance of the offense in the first two games:

"We know we can play better. We haven't hit our stride yet. For us, we are disappointed and we have to find a way to fix it. That is all we can do right now."

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."

HB Giovanni 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) 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."

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 WR) 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."

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."

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."

player between K Randy Bullock and HB Giovanni 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.

Lewis, on H-B Cethan Carter and LB Hardy Nickerson joining a list of Bengals veterans to make the roster originally as CFAs (WR Alex Erickson, H-B Ryan Hewitt, G Trey Hopkins, G Alex Redmond and LB Vincent Rey):

"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 a step up (in competition) on Sundays, and they're ready for that."

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."

Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, on 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."

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."

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: Seventh-year pro **Andy Dalton** threw for 224 yards on 20 of 35 passing in Week 2 against the Texans, bringing his 2017 totals to 35 of 66 passing (54.5 percent) for 394 yards and four INTs. In 2016, 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 88.2. 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. 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 one of only three NFL QBs 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** has been an active-DNP for the first two regular-season games. 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.

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. 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 has played in the first two games. 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. Prized rookie HB **Joe Mixon**, a second-round pick out of Oklahoma, has found himself leading the Cincinnati backfield in carries through the first two games (17). In 2016 at Oklahoma, 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: Leading the Bengals in receiving through two weeks is none other than **A.J. Green**, who is coming off his sixth Pro Bowl nod in as many seasons (though he did not play in the game). The seventh-year WR 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** returns opposite Green as the other starting WR, having grabbed seven receptions for 54 yards through the first two weeks. 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. 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, made his first appearance of the young season against the Texans, getting the start at WR. Ross 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, posted career-highs in receptions and receiving yards in Week 2 against the Texans, nabbing four receptions for 62 yards. Used primarily as a kick return specialist a season ago, Erickson averaged 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 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. Returning for his third Bengals season, TE **Tyler Kroft** got the starting nod in each of the first two regular-season games. 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: 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**, who missed Week 2 against Houston with an injury to his knee. 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. Fourth-year pro **T.J. Johnson** started in place of Hopkins against Houston in Week 2, his second career start, and will serve as the backup C and contribute on special teams. 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 has begun 2017 the way he ended '16 — in the sack column. Atkins has already recorded three sacks in 2017, including two against Houston. The two sacks in the Houston game mark the sixth-consecutive game in which Atkins has recorded at least a half sack. He has 7.5 sacks in that six-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. After leaving Week 1 early with a concussion, DE **Michael Johnson** was inactive for Week 2 against Houston. Entering his ninth NFL season, eight of which have been as a Bengal (spent 2014 with Tampa Bay), Johnson was second on the D-line in tackles (45) in '16 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 was a productive player all season in the line rotation last year, posting 37 tackles, with 1.5 sacks, despite coming off the bench. Adding to the Bengals' depth at DE is rookie **Jordan Willis**, who started in place of Johnson in Week 2. 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. He totaled 114 tackles, including 40.5 for losses, and 26 sacks (third in school history). Last year, Willis 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. In the rotation 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, recorded his first sack as a Bengal against Houston. In three years with the Jaguars, Smith played in 19 games, with 4.5 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,

with five sacks), two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery.

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 and currently stands fourth on the team in tackles. 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. Off to a hot start in 2017 is second-year pro **Nick Vigil**, who recorded his first career interception against Baltimore after earning the No. 1 SLB spot. The team's second leading tackler thus far, Vigil was a third-round 2016 draft choice out of Utah State and played in all 16 games a season ago, primarily 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. The leading tackler through the first two games, 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 CFA. Nickerson played three seasons at California before transferring to Illinois for his senior campaign. His father is former All-Pro LB Hardy Nickerson.

Defensive backs: Sixth-year pro **George Iloka**, Cincinnati's starting FS since 2013, has returned to the starting lineup 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**, 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** returned to the lineup at RCB against Houston, after serving a one-week suspension to begin the season. Jones came back ready to play, recording a team-leading three passes defended along with five solo tackles. 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). He is the Bengals' all-time leader in kickoff return average (26.4) and punt return average (10.7). Fifth-year pro **Shawn Williams** suffered an elbow injury in the second preseason game, causing him to miss Week 1. He returned against the Texans, however, and was second on the team in tackles for the contest. Williams in 2016 tied for the team lead in INTs (three) and ranked third in tackles (81). Second-year S **Clayton Fejedelem**, who started in place of Williams against Baltimore, was 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). Logging his first start of the season against Baltimore in place of the suspended Jones, 2014 first-round pick **Darqueze Dennard** adds to the depth at cornerback for the Bengals. Dennard played in 15 games last season, with three starts, and tallied 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. 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 with fifth-round draft pick Jake Elliott for the team's placekicking responsibilities. Bullock has drilled all three of his attempts so far this season, with the longest coming from 39 yards. 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. 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. 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 boasts the franchise's all-time best ratio of inside-20 kicks to touchbacks (3.78 to-1, with 205 inside-20s and 54 touchbacks). 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 Cordarelle 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 date, they are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2017.
- 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.	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.
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.	March 6	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, deadline for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.
Jan. 8	— NCAA National Championship Game, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Georgia.	March 12-14	— During the period beginning at noon Eastern time, on March 12 and ending at 3:59:59 p.m. Eastern time, on March 14, clubs are permitted to contact, and enter into contract negotiations with, the certified agents of players who will become Unrestricted Free Agents upon the expiration of their 2017 Player Contracts at 4 p.m. Eastern time, on March 14. However, a contract cannot be executed with a new club until 4 p.m. Eastern time, on March 14. During the above two-day negotiating period, no direct contact is permitted between a prospective Unrestricted Free Agent and any employee or representative of a club, other than the player's current club.
Jan. 13-14	— Divisional Playoff Games.		
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.	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. 20	— NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, TBD.		
Jan. 21	— AFC and NFC Championship Games.	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. 27	— Senior Bowl, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, Mobile, Alabama.		
Jan. 28	— NFL Pro Bowl, Camping World Stadium, Orlando, Florida.	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. 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	— Top 51 Rule is in effect. All clubs must be under the 2018 Salary Cap prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time.
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	— All 2017 player contracts will expire at 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	— 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. 4	— Super Bowl LII, U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, Minnesota.	March 14	— Trading period for 2018 begins at 4 p.m. Eastern time, after expiration of all 2017 contracts.
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	— 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. 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 15	— Deadline for all clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified Candidates for the 2018 Extended Injury Protection Benefit.
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 25-28	— Annual League Meeting, Ritz Carlton, Orlando, Florida.
Feb. 20	— First day for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.	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.
Feb. 27-Mar. 5	— Combine timing and testing, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Indiana.	April 2	— Clubs that hired a new head coach after the end of the 2017 regular season may begin offseason workout programs.
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 16	— Clubs with returning head coaches 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 18	— Deadline to bring draft-eligible players to their facilities for a physical examination.
		April 20	— Deadline for Restricted Free Agents to sign Offer Sheets.
		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.

(Important dates, continued)

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 11-14	— Club. — 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	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 respective clubs to attend. Such players are unavailable for offseason workouts, OTA days, and minicamps during this period.
		May 21-23	— Spring League Meeting, Ritz Carlton, Buckhead, Georgia.

MEDIA SCHEDULE

Tues., Sept. 19	— Players’ off day; No media access.	Tues., Sept. 26	— Players’ off day; No media access.
Wed., Sept. 20	— Locker room open from 11:15 a.m.-noon; Andy Dalton news conference at 11:15 a.m.; Marvin Lewis news conference at noon; Practice from 1-3 p.m. (practice open to media from 1-1:30 p.m., but no video after 1:20 p.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off the practice field; Player availability after practice is limited, and interviews must be arranged in advance; Conference call with Green Bay Packers head coach Mike McCarthy at 12:30 p.m.	Wed., Sept. 27	— Locker room open from 11:15 a.m.-noon; Andy Dalton news conference at 11:15 a.m.; Marvin Lewis news conference at noon; Practice from 1-3 p.m. (practice open to media from 1-1:30 p.m., but no video after 1:20 p.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off the practice field; Player availability after practice is limited, and interviews must be arranged in advance; Conference call with Cleveland Browns head coach Hue Jackson, TBD.
Thurs., Sept. 21	— Practice from 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (practice open to media from 11:15-11:45 a.m., but no video after 11:35 a.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off practice field; Locker room open from 1:15-2 p.m.	Thurs., Sept. 28	— Practice from 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (practice open to media from 11:15-11:45 a.m., but no video after 11:35 a.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off practice field; Locker room open from 1:15-2 p.m.
Fri., Sept. 22	— Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Practice from 10:45-11:50 a.m.; (practice open to media from 10:45-11:15 a.m., but no video or still cameras).	Fri., Sept. 29	— Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Practice from 10:45-11:50 a.m.; (practice open to media from 10:45-11:15 a.m., but no video or still cameras).
Sat., Sept. 23	— No media access; Team travels to Green Bay.	Sat., Sept. 30	— No media access; Team travels to Cleveland.
Sun., Sept. 24	— Game 3, Bengals at Green Bay Packers at Lambeau Field, 4:25 p.m. Eastern.	Sun., Oct. 1	— Game 4, Bengals at Cleveland Browns at FirstEnergy Stadium, 1 p.m. Eastern.
Mon., Sept. 25	— Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:15-4 p.m.	Mon., Oct. 2	— Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:15-4 p.m.

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.

WEEK 2, GAME 2

Houston Texans 13, Cincinnati Bengals 9 Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals' defense had a solid game, but for the second straight week, the offense's inability to score a TD crippled the team's chances for a win. The defense gave up just 13 points, 98 net passing yards and 266 yards overall, but story of the game was three Cincinnati drives inside the Texans' 20-yard line, and just three field goals to show for it. The Texans had huge play in the game, and it proved to be the difference. QB Deshaun Watson scrambled 49 yards on a broken pass play on third-and-15 for a 49-yard TD with 50 seconds left in the first half. With just under seven minutes left in the third quarter, Bengals QB Andy Dalton hit TE Tyler Eifert for an apparent TD, but the play was taken away because Eifert had stepped out of bounds and the officials ruled he had not re-established himself inbounds before becoming the first player to touch the ball. Bengals DT Geno Atkins had two sacks for the Bengals, extending to six the number of consecutive games in which he had recorded at least a half sack, which tied for the longest such streak in Bengals history. The Bengals fell to 0-2, while the Texans improved to 1-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Houston	3	7	0	3	—	13
Cincinnati	0	6	3	0	—	9

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Hou. K. Fairbairn 26 field goal	1-1:28
Cin. R. Bullock 39 field goal	2-13:44
Hou. D. Watson 49 run	2-0:50
Cin. R. Bullock 29 field goal	2-0:02
Cin. R. Bullock 30 field goal	3-6:26
Hou. K. Fairbairn 42 field goal	4-1:56

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 52,942. Time: 3:04.

TEAM STATISTICS	HOU.	CIN.
First downs	14	12
Third down conversions-attempts	4-15	4-15
Total net yards	266	295
Net yards rushing	168	82
Net yards passing	98	213
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions	24-15-0	35-20-0
Sacks against-yards lost	3-27	3-11
Punts-average	9-48.9	7-47.7
Punt returns-yards	3-15	6-98
Kickoff returns-yards	1-17	2-76
Penalties-yards	9-61	7-45
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-1
Time of possession	32:15	27:45

RUSHING

HOU.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
D. Watson	5	67	49t	1	J. Mixon	9	36	7	0
L. Miller	18	61	19	0	J. Hill	6	17	6	0
D. Foreman	12	40	9	0	J. Ross	1	12	12	0
					G. Bernard	5	10	6	0
					A. Dalton	2	5	3	0
					A. Erickson	1	2	2	0
TOTALS	35	168	49t	1	TOTALS	24	82	12	0

PASSING

HOU.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
D. Watson	24	15	125	0-0	A. Dalton	35	20	224	0-0
TOTALS	24	15	125	0-0	TOTALS	35	20	224	0-0

RECEIVING

HOU.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
D. Hopkins	7	73	25	0	A. Green	5	67	50	0
L. Miller	3	26	12	0	A. Erickson	4	62	37	0
T. Ervin	3	16	7	0	B. LaFell	4	30	12	0
B. Miller	2	10	8	0	T. Eifert	3	42	22	0
					G. Bernard	2	16	8	0
					J. Mixon	1	5	5	0
					J. Hill	1	2	2	0
TOTALS	15	125	25	0	TOTALS	20	224	50	0

DEFENSE

Houston (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: K. Jackson 5-2-7, J. Watt 5-1-6, B. McKinney 4-2-6, D. Reader 1-5-6, Z. Cunningham 4-0-4, J. Clowney 3-1-4, K. Johnson 3-1-4, E. Pleasant 3-0-3, J. Joseph 2-1-3, C. Covington 1-2-3, C. Moore 1-2-3, D. Cole 0-3-3, A. Hal 1-1-2, M. Gilchrist 1-0-1, J. Heath 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** B. McKinney 2-7, K. Jackson 1-4. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** J. Clowney 1, E. Pleasant 1, J. Watt 1. **FF:** K. Jackson 1. **FR.-YDS.:** J. Clowney 1-49.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: V. Rey 6-5-11, G. Iloka 4-2-6, S. Williams 4-2-6, C. Smith 3-3-6, A. Jones 5-0-5, N. Vigil 3-2-5, G. Atkins 2-3-5, J. Willis 1-4-5, C. Dunlap 2-2-4, D. Dennard 3-0-3, P. Sims 1-2-3, D. Kirkpatrick 2-0-2, K. Minter 1-1-2, R. Glasgow 0-2-2. **SKS.-YDS.:** G. Atkins 2-13, C. Smith 1-14. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** A. Jones 3, D. Dennard 1, N. Vigil 1. **FF:** None. **FR.-YDS.:** None.

IN 2017, THE BENGALS ARE:

REGULAR SEASON

0-2 at home
0-0 on the road
0-0 when scoring first
0-2 when opponent scored first
0-0 in games decided by three points or fewer
0-1 in games decided by seven points or fewer
0-0 when leading at halftime
0-0 when tied at halftime
0-2 when trailing at halftime
0-0 when leading after three quarters
0-0 when tied after three quarters
0-2 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
0-2 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
0-2 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
0-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
0-0 on natural grass
0-2 on synthetic surface
0-2 with fewer penalty yards

UNDER MARVIN LEWIS, THE BENGALS ARE:

2003-PRESENT (REGULAR SEASON)

67-44-3 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
37-71-2 when opponent scores first
21-22-3 in games decided by three points or fewer
53-50-3 in games decided by seven points or fewer
84-29-2 when leading at halftime
11-2-0 when tied at halftime
23-74-1 when trailing at halftime
95-18-2 when leading after three quarters
7-5-0 when tied after three quarters
16-82-1 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
16-66-2 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
113-97-3 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
78-70-2 on synthetic surface
64-54-2 with fewer penalty yards

2017 BEST PERFORMANCES

REGULAR SEASON

RUSHING YARDS

40 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
36 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
26 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

9 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
8 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
7 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST RUSHES

23 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
12 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
12 — John Ross, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

RECEPTIONS

5 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
5 — A.J. Green, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
4 — (two times)

RECEIVING YARDS

74 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
67 — A.J. Green, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
62 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

PASSING YARDS

224 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
170 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

PASS ATTEMPTS

35 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
31 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

PASS COMPLETIONS

20 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
16 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST PASSES

50 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
39 — Andy Dalton to Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
37 — Andy Dalton to Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

79 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
74 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
67 — A.J. Green, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

41 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
35 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
11 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

33 — Adam Jones, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
26 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
14 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

TOTAL TACKLES*

11 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
11 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
10 — Kevin Minter, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

SOLO TACKLES*

6 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 14 vs. Houston
6 — Vincent Rey, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore
5 — Nick Vigil, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

***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	295	24-82	213	20-35	0/0	3-11	12	4-15	1-1	27:45
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		516	46-159	357	36-66	0/4	8-37	26	8-28	2-2	26:53

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	266	35-168	98	15-24	0/0	3-27	14	4-15	0-0	32:15
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		534	77-325	209	24-41	1/1	4-37	31	10-29	1-0	33:08

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.
 Sept. 11, 2017 — Announced that the NFL granted CB **Adam Jones** (Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list) a one-day roster exemption to participate in team activities.
 Sept. 12, 2017 — Activated CB **Adam Jones** from exemption status to the 53-player roster; Waived DT **Christian Ringo**; K **Jake Elliott** signed off practice squad by Philadelphia.
 Sept. 13, 2017 — Signed G **J.J. Dielman** to the practice squad.

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

PARTICIPATION CHART

LEGEND

(NOTE: Position designation indicates start.)

P — played as a substitute DNP — did not play IL — inactive list PS — practice squad	RI — reserve/injured list RPUP — reserve/physically unable to perform list RNFI — reserve/non-football injury list RNF-I — reserve/non-football illness list RSBC — reserve/suspended by commissioner list	RF — reserve/future list REX — roster exemption ^ — reserve/injured player designated for return * — eligible to practice while on a reserve list NWT — not with team
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NAME	Cin. G-S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		BALT.	HOU.	@G.B.	@Cle.	BUFF.	@Pitt.	IND.	@Jax	@Tenn.	@Den.	CLE.	PITT.	CHI.	@Minn.	DET.	@Balt.
Atkins, Geno.....	2-2	DT	DT														
Bell, Brandon.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Bernard, Giovanni.....	2-0	P	P														
Billings, Andrew.....	2-0	P	P														
Bodine, Russell.....	2-2	C	C														
Boling, Clint.....	2-2	LG	LG														
Boyd, Tyler.....	1-0	P	IL														
Bullock, Randy.....	2-0	P	P														
Burfict, Vontaze.....	0-0	RSBC	RSBC														
Carson, Tra.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Carter, Cethan.....	2-0	P	P														
Core, Cody.....	2-0	P	P														
Dalton, Andy.....	2-2	QB	QB														
Dennard, Darqueze.....	2-1	RCB	P														
Dielman, J.J.....	0-0	NWT	PS														
Driskel, Jeff.....	0-0	RI^	RI^														
Dunlap, Carlos.....	2-2	LDE	LDE														
Eifert, Tyler.....	2-0	P	P														
Elliott, Jake.....	0-0	PS	NWT														
Erickson, Alex.....	2-0	P	P														
Evans, Jordan.....	2-0	P	P														
Fejedelem, Clayton.....	2-1	SS	P														
Fisher, Jake.....	2-2	ROT	ROT														
Glasgow, Ryan.....	2-0	P	P														
Green, A.J.....	2-2	WR	WR														
Harris, Clark.....	2-0	P	P														
Hewitt, Ryan.....	2-2	H-B	H-B														
Hill, Jeremy.....	2-2	HB	HB														
Hopkins, Trey.....	1-1	RG	IL														
Huber, Kevin.....	2-0	P	P														
Iloka, George.....	2-2	FS	FS														
Jackson, William.....	2-0	P	P														
Johnson, Michael.....	1-1	RDE	IL														
Johnson, T.J.....	2-1	P	RG														
Jones, Adam.....	1-1	RSBC	RCB														
Kirkpatrick, Dre.....	2-2	LCB	LCB														
Kroft, Tyler.....	2-2	TE	TE														
Kumerow, Jake.....	0-0	RI	RI														
LaFell, Brandon.....	2-1	WR	P														
Lawson, Carl.....	2-0	P	P														
Malone, Josh.....	0-0	IL	IL														
McCarron, AJ.....	0-0	DNP	DNP														
Minter, Kevin.....	2-2	MLB	MLB														
Mixon, Joe.....	2-0	P	P														
Nickerson, Hardy.....	2-0	P	P														
Ogbuehi, Cedric.....	2-2	LOT	LOT														
Peerman, Cedric.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Perkins, Kent.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Redmond, Alex.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Rey, Vincent.....	2-2	WLB	WLB														
Ringo, Christian.....	0-0	IL	NWT														
Ross, John.....	1-1	IL	WR														
Russell, KeiVarae.....	1-0	P	IL														
Schreck, Mason.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Shaw, Josh.....	2-0	P	P														
Shelton, Sojourn.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Sims, Pat.....	2-2	NT	NT														
Smith, Andre.....	1-0	DNP	P														
Smith, Chris.....	2-0	P	P														
Smith, Derron.....	2-0	P	P														
Toner, Cole.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Tupou, Josh.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Uzomah, C.J.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Vigil, Nick.....	2-2	SLB	SLB														
Westerman, Christian.....	0-0	IL	DNP														
Whitfield, Kermit.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Williams, DeShawn.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Williams, Jarveon.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Williams, Shawn.....	1-1	IL	SS														
Willis, Jordan.....	2-1	P	RDE														
Wilson, Brandon.....	0-0	PS	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	Green	Ogbuehi	Boling	Bodine	T.Johnson	Fisher	Kroft	Hewitt	Ross	Dalton	Hill
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	Dunlap	Sims	Atkins	Willis	Vigil	Minter	Rey	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
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. 19, 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>		
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	20	KeiVarae Russell
RCB	24	Adam Jones	21	Darqueze Dennard	22	William Jackson
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>J.J. Dielman (Practice Squad) DEAL-man</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 (Offensive Coordinator) (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>
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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 19, 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
24	Jones, Adam	CB	5-10	185	9-30-83	11	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
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, AJ	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
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
67	Dielman, J.J. (9-14-17)	G	6-5	309	12-16-93	R	Utah	Phoenix, Ariz.	FA'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	Burfit, Vontaze (9-2-17; three games)	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12
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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 (offensive coordinator), 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).

NUMERICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 19, 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
24	Adam Jones	CB	5-10	185	9-30-83	11	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
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
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)

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
67	J.J. Dielman (9-14-17)	G	6-5	309	12-16-93	R	Utah	Phoenix, Ariz.	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)

55	Vontaze Burfict (9-2-17; three games)	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12
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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 (offensive coordinator), 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).

STATISTICS

RECORD: 0-2

DATE	W-L	SCORE	OPPONENT	ATTENDANCE
9-10-17	L	0-20	BALTIMORE	55,254
9-14-17	L	9-13	HOUSTON	52,942
9-24-17			at Green Bay	
10-01-17			at Cleveland	
10-08-17			BUFFALO	
10-15-17			— BYE —	
10-22-17			at Pittsburgh	
10-29-17			INDIANAPOLIS	
11-05-17			at Jacksonville	
11-12-17			at Tennessee	
11-19-17			at Denver	
11-26-17			CLEVELAND	
12-04-17			PITTSBURGH	
12-10-17			CHICAGO	
12-17-17			at Minnesota	
12-24-17			DETROIT	
12-31-17			at Baltimore	

TEAM STATISTICS		BENGALS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	.....26	31	
Rushing	.....7	14	
Passing	.....16	11	
Penalty	.....3	6	
3rd Down: Made-Att	.....8-28	10-29	
3rd Down Pct.	.....28.6	34.5	
4th Down: Made-Att	.....1-3	0-0	
4th Down Pct.	.....33.3	0.0	
POSSESSION AVG.	.....26:53	33:08	
TOTAL NET YARDS	.....516	534	
Avg. Per Game	.....258.0	267.0	
Total Plays	.....120	122	
Avg. Per Play	.....4.3	4.4	
NET YARDS RUSHING	.....159	325	
Avg. Per Game	.....79.5	162.5	
Total Rushes	.....46	77	
NET YARDS PASSING	.....357	209	
Avg. Per Game	.....178.5	104.5	
Sacked-Yards Lost	.....8-37	4-37	
Gross Yards	.....394	246	
Att.-Completions	.....66-36	41-24	
Completion Pct.	.....54.5	58.5	
Had Intercepted	.....4	1	
PUNTS-AVG.	.....12-45.5	15-46.0	
Net Punting Avg.	.....12-42.3	15-38.5	
PENALTIES-YARDS	.....16-111	20-146	
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST	.....2-2	1-0	
TOUCHDOWNS	.....0	3	
Rushing	.....0	2	
Passing	.....0	1	
Returns	.....0	0	

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
BENGALS	0	6	3	0	0	9
OPPONENTS	6	21	3	3	0	33

SCORING	TD	TD-R	TD-P	TD-Rt	K-PAT	FG	S	PTS
Randy Bullock	0	0	0	0	0-0	3-3	0	9
BENGALS	0	0	0	0	0-0	3-3	0	9
OPPONENTS	3	2	1	0	3-3	4-4	0	33

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 3-23, Chris Smith 1-14. BENGALS 4-37, OPPONENTS 8-37.

Fumbles-lost: Andy Dalton 1-1, John Ross 1-1. BENGALS 2-2, OPPONENTS 1-0.

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	CMP%	YDS/ATT	TD	TD%	INT	INT%	LG	SKD-YDS	RAT
Andy Dalton	66	36	394	54.5	5.97	0	0.0	4	6.1	50	8-37	47.2
BENGALS	66	36	394	54.5	5.97	0	0.0	4	6.1	50	8-37	47.2
OPPONENTS	41	24	246	58.5	6.00	1	2.4	1	2.4	48t	4-37	73.8

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Giovani Bernard	12	50	4.2	23	0
Joe Mixon	17	45	2.6	8	0
Jeremy Hill	12	43	3.6	12	0
John Ross	1	12	12.0	12	0
Andy Dalton	3	7	2.3	3	0
Alex Erickson	1	2	2.0	2	0
BENGALS	46	159	3.5	23	0
OPPONENTS	77	325	4.2	49t	2

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
A.J. Green	10	141	14.1	50	0
Brandon LaFell	7	54	7.7	13	0
Alex Erickson	4	62	15.5	37	0
Tyler Eifert	4	46	11.5	22	0
Joe Mixon	4	20	5.0	9	0
Giovani Bernard	3	55	18.3	39	0
Jeremy Hill	2	0	0.0	2	0
Tyler Boyd	1	11	11.0	11	0
Tyler Kroft	1	5	5.0	5	0
BENGALS	36	394	10.9	50	0
OPPONENTS	24	246	10.3	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	12	546	45.5	42.3	0	7	61	0
BENGALS	12	546	45.5	42.3	0	7	61	0
OPPONENTS	15	690	46.0	38.5	0	4	59	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Alex Erickson	7	5	71	10.1	26	0
Adam Jones	2	0	41	20.5	33	0
BENGALS	9	5	112	12.4	33	0
OPPONENTS	6	3	38	6.3	15	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Alex Erickson	3	87	29.0	41	0
BENGALS	3	87	29.0	41	0
OPPONENTS	1	17	17.0	17	0

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

Randy Bullock: (—), (39G, 29G, 30G).
Opponents: (25G, 25G), (26G, 42G).

DEFENSE*	ST	AT	TT	SKS-YDS	INT-YDS	PD	FF	FR-YDS
Vincent Rey	12	10	22	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Nick Vigil	8	6	14	0-0	1-0	2	0	0-0
Geno Atkins	6	6	12	3-23	0-0	0	0	0-0
Kevin Minter	5	7	12	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
George Iloka	5	4	9	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Darqueze Dennard	5	2	7	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
Dre Kirkpatrick	5	2	7	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Chris Smith	4	3	7	1-14	0-0	0	0	0-0
Pat Sims	2	5	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Shawn Williams	4	2	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Jordan Willis	1	5	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Adam Jones	5	0	5	0-0	0-0	3	0	0-0
Carlos Dunlap	2	3	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Clayton Fejedelem	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Ryan Glasgow	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
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

SPECIAL TEAMS*	ST	AT	TT	FF	FR-YDS	BP	BFG	BXP
Jordan Evans	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
William Jackson	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Tyler Kroft	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Josh Shaw	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Derron Smith	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Nick Vigil	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Clark Harris	0	1	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Ryan Hewitt	0	1	1	0	0-0	0	0	0

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