



## CINCINNATI BENGALS

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### WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

OCT. 17, 2017

# CINCINNATI BENGALS (2-3) AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS (4-2)

WEEK 7, GAME 6  
SUNDAY, OCT. 22  
AT HEINZ FIELD

NEXT WEEK:  
OCT. 29 VS. INDIANAPOLIS

## GAME NOTES

**Kickoff:** 4:25 p.m. Eastern.

**Television:** CBS broadcast with Jim Nantz (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 WLW-AM (700), WCKY-AM (ESPN 1530; all sports) and WEBN-FM (102.7). Broadcasters are Dan Hoard (play-by-play) and Dave Lapham (analyst).

**Setting the scene:** Still very much in the race for the AFC North Division, the Cincinnati Bengals this week come off a bye looking for a third straight win, taking on the division-leading Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday at Heinz Field. The Steelers, meanwhile, have their sights set on expanding and solidifying their lead over the rest of the division.

At 2-3, the Bengals still trail the 4-2 Steelers and the 3-3 Baltimore Ravens. But a win over the Steelers this Sunday would even Cincinnati's record at 3-3 and put the Bengals within striking distance of a division lead themselves. Considering that would be the case after the squad opened the season 0-3, such a win may be a little more meaningful than usual for them, and perhaps a little more rewarding.

Two weeks ago, Cincinnati bested a 3-1 Buffalo Bills squad 20-16 at Paul Brown Stadium for their second straight victory, continuing a streak of steady improvement that began in Week 3 at Green Bay.

After starting the season 0-2 with disappointing home losses to Baltimore and Houston, the Bengals seemingly began to turn a corner against the Packers, particularly on offense. Cincinnati failed to score a touchdown in either of its first two contests, but the offense came to life in Week 3 at Green Bay, jumping out to an early 21-7 lead and controlling that advantage for most of the game before eventually succumbing to a Packers comeback, losing 27-24 in overtime. In Game 4 at Cleveland, the Bengals' offense erupted for four TDs and a FG in a 31-7 win. And against the Bills, the Bengals won despite three turnovers (two interceptions and one lost fumble).

"We spotted everybody else a couple of games, and we weren't playing the way we wanted to," QB Andy Dalton said of Cincinnati's slow start to the season. "In the Green Bay game, we got back to playing the way we knew we could. Obviously we weren't able to finish that one. But we've won two in a row now, and we're going to try and find a way to win this next one with Pittsburgh."

Cincinnati's offense, which averaged just 258.0 yards and 4.5 points in the first two games, has averaged 346.3 yards and 25.0 points in the three games since. Dalton, particularly, has helped lead that turnaround. He had a 47.2 passer rating after the first two contests (completing 36 of 66 passes [54.5 percent] for 394 yards, zero TDs and four INTs), but he has had a 116.2 rating in the last three (68 of 93 passes [73.1 percent] for 826 yards, seven TDs and two INTs).

It's the Bengals' defense, however, which may deserve the most praise. That unit has been churning out solid performances all season thus far. In fact, it has given up a total of just 1314 net yards. That stands as the fewest total net yards given up through the first five games of a Bengals season since 1976, when that squad gave up just 1213.

The Bengals' defensive exploits thus far this season perhaps were most obvious against the Bills. Cincinnati, which allowed Buffalo to score just one

offensive touchdown, held Bills QB Tyrod Taylor to a passer rating of just 63.6 while sporting a relentless pass rush that sacked him six times, including three times in the fourth quarter alone. The Bills' offense managed only 221 total net yards, including just 36 in the second half.

"After looking at the tape of the Bills game, one of the areas I was probably most pleased about was that we continued to do a good job tackling on defense," said Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis. "That's been important all year. For the most part, our 11 guys on defense fit pretty well together. We've had a few plays break down — things that are very manageable and fixable — but overall, we are doing a good job defensively."

This week's Bengals-Steelers game features two of the NFL's top three defenses in net yards allowed. The Bengals rank No. 2 (giving up an average of just 262.8) and the Steelers rank No. 3 (272.0). Additionally, both the Bengals and Steelers rank in the league's top five in points allowed, with the Bengals standing at No. 2 (16.6 points per game) and the Steelers at No. 4 (17.0).

**The series:** The Steelers lead 60-35 overall and 31-16 as the home team. The series includes two postseason games, both Steelers wins in Wild Card round contests at Paul Brown Stadium, in the 2005 and '15 seasons.

The Bengals have played more games against the Steelers (95) than any other foe. Cleveland is second in that category at 88, and Tennessee (formerly Houston Oilers) is third at 74.

A complete recap of the Bengals-Steelers series appears on page 204 of the 2017 Bengals Media Guide.

### Team bests from the series:

**Bengals — MOST POINTS:** 42, in a 42-7 win at Riverfront Stadium in 1988. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 35, from the 1988 home win. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 3, in a 27-3 win at Riverfront in 1990.

**Steelers — MOST POINTS:** 49, in a 49-31 victory at Riverfront Stadium in 1995. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 28 (twice), most recently in a 35-7 win in 2011 at Pittsburgh. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 0 (twice), most recently in a 15-0 win at Three Rivers Stadium in 2000.

**The last meetings:** Summaries of the two Bengals-Steelers games in 2016 are on page 15 of this news release.

**Bengals vs. Big Ben:** Pittsburgh QB Ben Roethlisberger has an 87.4 passer rating in 28 career games against the Bengals (including postseason). His won-lost record is 21-7. Roethlisberger has totaled 882 passes against Cincinnati, with 557 completions (63.2 percent) for 6577 yards (234.9 yards per game), with 38 TDs and 27 INTs.

**Records vs. Steelers:** Former Bengals WR Carl Pickens caught 13 passes against the Steelers on Oct. 11, 1998 at Cinergy Field, a number no Bengal has reached before or since. There have been 11 instances of a Bengal finishing a game with 12 catches, including by WR A.J. Green in last year's season opener at the N.Y. Jets, but 13 catches remains in a class by itself.

Pickens had 204 receiving yards in the game, a 25-20 Bengals victory. QB Neil O'Donnell, a former Steeler, was the passer for all 13 catches.

Other Bengals records involving the Steelers include:

- On Oct. 28, 1973, Pittsburgh S Mike Wagner became the first opponent to intercept three passes in a game against the Bengals. Four players have tied that since.

- On Nov. 10, 1974 at Cincinnati, QB Ken Anderson set the Bengals' game record for completion percentage (90.91), hitting 20 of 22 against the Steelers.
- On Oct. 16 1994 at Cincinnati, the Bengals set a team record with eight sacks, all on Pittsburgh's Neil O'Donnell. That mark has since been tied once.
- On Oct. 19, 1995, the Bengals allowed the most yards in franchise history (468) without allowing a TD in a 27-9 win vs. Pittsburgh at Three Rivers Stadium.
- On Oct. 15, 2000, Pittsburgh's Josh Miller tied for the most punts ever against the Bengals with 12.
- On Dec. 30, 2001 at Cincinnati, Jon Kitna had a Bengals-record 68 pass attempts in an overtime win over the Steelers.

**Individually vs. Steelers:** Current Bengals' past offensive performances for Cincinnati against Pittsburgh include:

- WR A.J. Green: 12 games; 77 receptions for 1046 yards (6.4 catches and 87.2 yards per game), with seven TDs.
- QB Andy Dalton: 12 games; 235-for-403 passing (58.3 percent) for 2557 yards (213.1 yards per game), with 13 TDs and 11 INTs (76.5 rating).
- QB AJ McCarron: Two games; 45-for-73 passing (61.6 percent) for 492 yards, with three TDs and three INTs (78.1 rating).
- HB Giovani Bernard: Eight games; 48 rushes for 192 yards (4.0) with two TDs; 29 receptions for 258 yards (8.9).
- HB Jeremy Hill: Seven games; 96 rushes for 337 yards (3.5), with two TDs; 15 receptions for 119 yards (7.9)
- TE Tyler Eifert (Reserve/Injured): Six games; 15 receptions for 231 yards (15.4), with one TD.
- H-back Ryan Hewitt: Six games; Five receptions for 62 yards (12.4).
- TE Tyler Kroft: Five games; Five receptions for 66 yards (12.5).
- TE C.J. Uzomah: Three games; Three receptions for nine yards (3.0).
- WR Tyler Boyd: Two games; Eight receptions for 91 yards (11.4).
- WR Alex Erickson: Two games; One reception for 20 yards.
- WR Brandon LaFell: Two games; 10-for-130 receiving (13.0).
- WR Cody Core: One game; Two receptions for 13 yards (6.5).

**Bengals-Steelers connections:** Bengals Head Coach Marvin Lewis grew up in McDonald, Pa., near Pittsburgh. Lewis' first NFL coaching job was with the Steelers as LBs coach from 1992-95 under head coach Bill Cowher. He also coached at the University of Pittsburgh from 1990-91 ... Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin was defensive backs coach for the University of Cincinnati from 1999-2000 ... Steelers QB Ben Roethlisberger is from Findlay, Ohio (Findlay High School), and played at Miami (Ohio) University ... Steelers LB James Harrison played for the Bengals in 2013 ... Bengals WR Tyler Boyd is from Clairton, Pa., and played at the University of Pittsburgh ... Steelers S Mike Mitchell is from Fort Thomas, Ky. (Highlands High School), and played at Ohio University ... Steelers RB Le'Veon Bell is from Reynoldsburg, Ohio (Groveport Madison High School) ... Bengals linebackers coach Jim Haslett is from Pittsburgh, played at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and coached for the Steelers from 1997-99 ... Bengals tight ends coach Jonathan Hayes grew up in South Fayette, Pa. and played TE for the Steelers from 1994-96 ... Steelers DE Cameron Heyward and LB Ryan Shazier played at Ohio State University ... Steelers CB William Gay, WR Eli Rogers and LB Keith Kelsey (practice squad) played at the University of Louisville ... Steelers LBs Bud Dupree and Farrington Huguenin (practice squad) played at the University of Kentucky ... Steelers P Jordan Berry played at Eastern Kentucky University ... Steelers LB L.J. Fort spent time on the Bengals practice squad in 2014 ... Bengals LB Brandon Bell (practice squad) played at Penn State University ... Bengals assistant head coach/offensive line coach Paul Alexander coached at Penn State from 1983-84

... Bengals strength and conditioning coach Chip Morton coached at Penn State from 1987-91 ... Steelers inside linebackers coach Jerry Olsavsky was with the Bengals as a player during the 1998 preseason ... Steelers wide receivers coach Richard Mann coached at the University of Louisville from 1980-81 ... Bengals TE Scott Orndoff (practice squad) played at Pitt, and was originally a 2017 CFA with the Steelers and was with the team for part of training camp ... Bengals K Randy Bullock was with the Steelers briefly during the 2016 season.

**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 Colts game on Oct. 29 include Tommy Casanova, Anthony Munoz, Dan Ross and Joe Walter.

BENGALS-STEELERS NFL RANKINGS		
	BENGALS	STEELERS
<b>SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):</b>		
Points scored.....	30th (16.8)	22nd (19.7)
Points allowed.....	2nd (16.6)	4th (17.0)
<b>NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):</b>		
Total.....	24th (311.0)	13th (349.7)
Rushing.....	T-28th (84.0)	16th (107.3)
Passing.....	18th (227.0)	11th (242.3)
<b>NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):</b>		
Total.....	2nd (262.8)	3rd (272.0)
Rushing.....	14th (103.2)	23rd (118.5)
Passing.....	2nd (159.6)	1st (153.5)
<b>TURNOVERS:</b>		
Differential.....	30th (minus-7)	T-20th (minus-2)

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT	
OFFENSE	DEFENSE
<b>Inside-20 possessions:</b> 15	<b>Inside-20 possessions:</b> 14
<b>Total scores:</b> 11 (73.3%)	<b>Total scores:</b> 13 (92.9%)
TDs: 6 (40.0%)	TDs: 6 (42.9%)
FGs: 5 (33.3%)	FGs: 7 (50.0%)
TD% rank: 32nd	TD% rank: T-6th
<b>No scores:</b> 4 (26.7%)	<b>No scores:</b> 1 (7.1%)

STEELERS RED-ZONE REPORT	
OFFENSE	DEFENSE
<b>Inside-20 possessions:</b> 20	<b>Inside-20 possessions:</b> 14
<b>Total scores:</b> 19 (95.0%)	<b>Total scores:</b> 12 (85.7%)
TDs: 10 (50.0%)	TDs: 8 (57.1%)
FGs: 9 (45.0%)	FGs: 4 (28.6%)
TD% rank: T-16th	TD% rank: T-19th
<b>No scores:</b> 1 (5.0%)	<b>No scores:</b> 2 (14.3%)

## 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 120 career victories, the most in Bengals history by a margin of 56 over Wyche (64). Lewis' record now is 120-106-3 in the regular season and 120-113-3 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 Tomlin** was named the sixteenth head coach in Steelers history when he replaced Bill Cowher on Jan. 22, 2007. His career record is 115-65.

Tomlin became the youngest coach (36 years, 323 days) in NFL history to win a Super Bowl when the Steelers defeated the Arizona Cardinals, 27-23, in Super Bowl XLIII. Tomlin reached the playoffs four times in his first five seasons, and he is the only coach in Steelers' history to win division titles each of his first two seasons.

In 2016, Tomlin guided the Steelers to the AFC North division title for the fifth time in his 10-year reign, and reached the AFC Championship Game for the first time since '10. Pittsburgh has reached the postseason seven times under Tomlin's leadership, including each of the past three seasons.

In 2010, Tomlin's club won its third division title in a four-year span. In 2008, Tomlin directed the Steelers to a 12-4 record, winning his second-consecutive AFC North title. That season culminated with a Super Bowl triumph, making Tomlin one of only seven coaches in league history to win a Super Bowl within his first two seasons as an NFL head coach. In his first season, Tomlin guided the Steelers to a 10-6 record and their first AFC North title since 2004.

Tomlin was the Minnesota Vikings defensive coordinator in 2006 after spending the previous five seasons (2001-05) as defensive backs coach for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Tomlin coached one of the top defensive backfields in the NFL for the Buccaneers, culminating with its performance in Super Bowl XXXVII. The secondary recorded four interceptions, returning two for touchdowns to help Tampa Bay capture the franchise's first Super Bowl title.

Tomlin served two seasons as the defensive backs coach at the University of Cincinnati (1999-2000) before going to Tampa Bay. Prior to joining the Cincinnati staff, Tomlin had a short stint on the coaching staff at Tennessee-Martin and then spent two seasons at Arkansas State. He spent the 1996 season as a graduate assistant at Memphis. Tomlin began his coaching career in 1995 as wide receivers coach at Virginia Military Institute.

Tomlin was a three-year starter at wide receiver at William & Mary (1990-94) and finished his career with 101 receptions for 2,046 yards and a school-record 20 touchdown receptions. A first-team All-Yankee Conference selection in 1994, he established a school record with a 20.2 yards per catch average. He graduated in 1994 with a degree in sociology.

Tomlin was born in Hampton, Va., on March 15, 1972. He and his wife, Kiya, have two sons, Dino and Mason, and a daughter, Harlyn Quinn.

**Lewis vs. Steelers:** Steelers lead, 22-8.

**Lewis vs. Tomlin:** Tomlin leads, 16-5.

**Tomlin vs. Bengals:** Tomlin leads, 16-5.

## 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 2024 career completions, tied with QB Carson Palmer (2024) for second place all-time. QB Ken Anderson (2654) is the Bengals' all-time leader. Dalton passed QB Boomer Esiason (2015) for third place all-time in Game 5, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo.

- Dalton also has 149 career TD passes, five shy of Palmer (154) for third place all-time. Anderson (197) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Dalton also has 22 career 300-yard passing games, one shy of the Bengals' all-time leader, Esiason (23).

- Dalton also has 23,434 career passing yards, 3715 shy of Esiason (27,149) for second place all-time. Anderson (32,838) is the Bengals' all-time leader. Dalton passed Palmer (22,694) for third place all-time in Game 3, Sept. 24 at Green Bay.

- Dalton also has 3219 career passing attempts, 345 shy of Esiason (3564) for second place all-time. Anderson (4475) is the Bengals' all-time leader. Dalton passed Palmer (3217) for third place all-time in Game 5, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo.

- WR A.J. Green has 52 career TDs, one shy of WR Isaac Curtis (53) for fifth place all-time. FB Pete Johnson (70) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Green also has 52 career receiving TDs, one shy of WR Isaac Curtis (53) for third place all-time. WR Chad Johnson (66) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

- Green also has 513 career receptions, 17 shy of WR Carl Pickens (530) for second place all-time. Johnson (751) is the Bengals' all-time leader. Green passed WR T.J. Houshmandzadeh (507) for third place all-time in Game 5, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo.

- Green has 30 career 100-yard receiving games, one shy of the Bengals' all-time leader, 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 28,618 career punting yards, 689 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 1065 career punt return yards, 136 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 punt return for a TD as a Bengal. 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 58 career sacks, one 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 56 career sacks, two shy of DE Carlos Dunlap (58) for fourth place all-time and three shy of Browner (59) for third place. Edwards (83.5) is the Bengals' all-time leader.

**Defense riding league-best sack streak:** The Bengals recorded six sacks on Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo, extending their streak of games with at least one sack to a league-leading 34 games (regular-season only). The next-closest teams are Washington (29) and Arizona (26).

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 34 was Green Bay, whose streak of 42 spanned from 2012 to '15.

Over Cincinnati's 34-game streak, the Bengals have recorded 87 sacks for 545 yards. Twenty-one different Bengals have at least a half sack over the span, and the defense has logged more than one sack in 24 of the 34 games. DT

Geno Atkins has totaled the most sacks during the current streak, with 22, and he has recorded at least a half sack in 19 of the games. DE Carlos Dunlap is a close second, with 20, and has logged at least a half sack in 16 different games.

Through the first five games of 2017, eight different Bengals have recorded at least one sack. The Bengals have 18 sacks this season, ranked tied for fifth in the NFL, with the four teams ahead of Cincinnati having played six games to the Bengals' five.

**Bengals' D gets off the field:** The Bengals' defense this year has proven adept at forcing opposing offenses off the field in a hurry. The defense has held opponents without a first down on 25 drives (out of 59 total) this season, good for ninth-most in the NFL (the Bengals have played only five games, due to a Week 6 bye). That means opposing offenses this season have failed to make a first down on 42.4 percent their drives against the Bengals, a rate that ranks third in the NFL.

These instances are typically referred to as 'three-and-outs,' although they technically include all possessions in which the opposing offense is held without a first down.

In their last game, the Bengals held Buffalo without a first down on five drives.

**Geno's sack streak halted at six:** Bengals DT Geno Atkins' most productive sack streak of his stellar eight-year career ended in Game 2 at Green Bay, when he was held without a sack for the first time since Game 12 of last season. Atkins had recorded at least a half sack in six consecutive games. His streak of six tied for the longest streak in Bengals history with DE Eddie Edwards (1983), LB Reggie Williams ('84) and current DE Carlos Dunlap (2010), and it had also been the longest active streak in the NFL at the time.

Over the span of the streak, Atkins recorded 7.5 sacks for 51.5 yards. He had 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 Game 2 of 2017 vs. Houston.

Atkins has 56 sacks for his career, fourth place all-time in team history and the most ever by a Bengals interior lineman.

**Bengals D top five in seven categories:** The Bengals' defense has gotten off to a roaring start in 2017, with top-five rankings in seven defensive categories.

The Bengals are allowing 262.8 yards per contest, good for a No. 2 ranking league-wide in total defense. They're also allowing a league-best 4.2 yards per play. The defense has held opponents to fewer than 270 total yards in four of its five contests so far this season, including outings of 215 (at Cleveland) and 221 (vs. Buffalo) in the last two games.

The Bengals have led the league in total defense just once in team history — in 1983, when they allowed 270.4 yards per game.

Cincinnati also ranks second against the pass (159.6 yards per game) and first in yards per pass play (4.4). The Bengals' best league ranking against the pass for a full season is second, achieved in both 1993 (174.9) and '75 (123.5).

The Bengals also rank second in sacks per pass play (.10; 18 sacks in 188 pass plays), fourth in first downs allowed per game (17.2) and second in scoring defense (16.8 points per game).

**Bengals D keeps 'em off the board:** The Bengals defense has made its mark in scoring defense over the last few seasons, and that momentum has carried into 2017. The unit currently ranks second in the NFL in points per game, allowing only 16.6. Dating back to Week 10 of last season, when the defense held Buffalo to 16 points in a losing effort at Paul Brown Stadium, the Bengals have held opponents to fewer than 20 points in nine of the last 12 games. Over that 12-week stretch, they've held opponents to an average of 15.7 points per contest.

The Bengals last season finished eighth in scoring defense (19.7), thanks in large part to a seven-game stretch to close the year in which it held opponents under 20 points six times while allowing a scoring average of 15.0. 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 has a top-10 ranking this season (tied for sixth) in red-zone TD percentage, allowing TDs on only six of 14 opponent trips inside the 20 (42.9 percent). The defense finished 2016 ranked seventh in that category, allowing TDs on only 51 percent of opponent chances in the red zone (25 of 49).

**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 (average of 25.45 years old) in Marvin Lewis' 15 seasons as head coach. Lewis' next-youngest editions were in 2004 (25.7) and '11 (25.74). The Bengals' opening-week roster also ranked as the third-youngest in the NFL this year, 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 the 2004 season (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, 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 at 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, which tied for the fourth-fewest in Lewis' tenure, behind the 2011 (two), '04 (six) and '12 (six) seasons. The 2009 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.

**Add Jackson to the list:** Early in the second quarter of Game 3 at Green Bay, CB William Jackson jumped in front of Packers WR Jordy Nelson, snagged a pass thrown by QB Aaron Rodgers for an interception and returned it 75 yards for a touchdown.

It was a big play for the Bengals at the time, giving the Bengals a 21-7 lead, though Cincinnati eventually lost to the Packers in overtime. Despite the loss, that INT stood out from a historical perspective, not only because it was a TD, but because it also was the first INT of Jackson's career.

Jackson, a second-year player, became just the 14th Bengal to score on his first career INT and the first since DE Carlos Dunlap did it in 2012. Jackson was the first defensive back to do it since CB Johnathan Joseph scored on his first INT in 2007.

Jackson, from the University of Houston, was the Bengals' first-round pick in 2016 NFL Draft. He spent his entire rookie season on the Reserve/Injured list with a pectoral muscle tear, thus he recorded the INT for a TD in just his third career game.

Here is a complete list of the Bengals players who scored a TD on their first career INT:

DATE	OPP.	PLAYER	RET. YARDS	CIN. RESULT
9-22-68	Buff.	LB Al Beauchamp.....	17	W, 34-23
10-19-75	Oak.	S Marvin Cobb.....	52	W, 14-10
11-11-79	@S.D.	CB Ray Griffin .....	96	L, 24-26
10-10-83	Pitt.	S James Griffin.....	41	L, 14-24
10-16-83	@Den.	CB Ray Horton .....	55	L, 17-24
12-30-90	Cle.	LB James Francis.....	15	W, 21-14
9-17-95	@Sea	CB Roger Jones .....	17	L, 21-24
10-31-04	@Tenn.	S Madieu Williams.....	51	L, 20-27
1-02-05	@Phil.	DE Robert Geathers.....	36	W, 38-10
11-19-06	@N.O.	S Ethan Kilmer .....	52	W, 31-16
10-21-07	NYJ	CB Johnathan Joseph.....	42	W, 38-31
12-06-09	Det.	DT Jonathan Fanene.....	45	W, 23-13
12-30-12	Balt.	DE Carlos Dunlap.....	14	W, 23-17
9-24-17	@G.B.	CB William Jackson.....	75	L, 24-27 (OT)

**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 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. This season, Dalton has passed for 1220 yards through five games, which projects to 3904 yards for a full season.

**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 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 51 rushing TDs are beyond similarity, ranks higher than Dalton since 2011. Dalton and Newton both entered the league in '11.

Andrew Luck (14), Russell Wilson (14) and Colin Kaepernick (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's a look at the most wins by QBs through their first six seasons. Dalton had 56 wins through the end of the 2016 season, his sixth, which ties him for sixth place.

PLAYER	TEAM	WINS
Joe Flacco	Baltimore.....	62
Ben Roethlisberger	Pittsburgh.....	60
Matt Ryan	Atlanta.....	60
Russell Wilson	Seattle.....	59
Tom Brady	New England.....	58
Andy Dalton	Cincinnati.....	56
Donovan McNabb	Philadelphia.....	56

When extending this list to a QB's first seven seasons, the required minimum number of wins to rank in the top five is 66. Thus, Dalton would have to lead the Bengals to 10 wins this season (he currently has two) to rank 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 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 38 career games with a passer rating of 100 or more, and the Bengals are 32-6 (.842) in those contests.
- Dalton's .602 winning percentage (58-38-2) ranks sixth among active QBs with 50 or more starts behind Tom Brady (.776), Russell Wilson (.700), Ben Roethlisberger (.672), Aaron Rodgers (.667) and Andrew Luck (.614).
- Dalton's .602 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 (85 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 again found himself atop all NFL interior defensive linemen in sacks, with four so far this season. Washington's Mike Iannidis is next-closest, with 3.5.

It's a familiar position for Atkins, who has finished in at least a tie for the NFL lead in sacks by an interior lineman in four of his seven previous seasons. Last year, he claimed the honor outright with nine sacks, besting DT Aaron Donald of the Los Angeles Rams, who was second with eight. 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 56 career sacks, most by a Bengals interior lineman and fifth overall.

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

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

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

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

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

The NFL began measuring 40-yard dash times electronically at the 1991 scouting combine. However, records of those times were not kept regularly 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 has been inactive for Games 1 and 3-5, due to a knee injury.

**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 shorted 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 has played in all five games this year, with a start at RDE in Week 2 in place of injured starter Michael Johnson. He made his first dent in the sack column in Game 5 vs. Buffalo, when he took down Tyrod Taylor for a four-yard loss.

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 (see previous item), 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 leads rookies in sacks:** Through the first six weeks of the 2017 NFL season, Bengals LB Carl Lawson leads all rookies in sacks, with 3.5. Three rookies are close behind, with 3.0 each — Myles Garrett of Cleveland, T.J. Watt of Pittsburgh and Deatrich Wise of New England. Among all players, Lawson stands in a tie for 24th, with Dallas' DeMarcus Lawrence leading the NFL at 8.5.

Lawson recorded 2.5 sacks in Game 3 at Green Bay, and added another in Game 5 vs. Buffalo. He's also been credited with eight QB hurries.

**Lawson joins rare company:** In Week 2 vs Green Bay, rookie Carl Lawson wreaked havoc in the Packers' backfield, recording 2.5 sacks on the day. Another sack was wiped off the stat sheet by an unrelated penalty. With the outstanding performance, Lawson joined DE Justin Smith as the only Bengal rookies ever to reach the 2.5-sack plateau in a game (Smith had three on Dec. 9, 2001 vs. Jacksonville). He also became only the second NFL rookie since 2013 to reach 2.5 in a game, joining Washington's Preston Smith, who had three on Dec. 26, 2015 at Philadelphia.

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. Since being drafted this spring though, Bengals

coaches have added linebacker duties to his plate. Lawson is listed on the Bengals' depth chart as the No. 2 SLB.

But with great speed, quickness and strength — his 35 bench press reps of 225 pounds at the 2017 NFL Combine tied for the top mark overall — Bengals coaches have found a way him on the field in a fashion that suits his strength as a pass rusher. Thus far in the 2017 season, most of Lawson's time on defense has been logged with his hand on the ground, as an edge rusher with the No. 1 nickel defensive unit. He has five tackles on the year, including 3.5 sacks for 23.5 yards. He started Game 4 at Cleveland, when the defense opened the game in a nickel defensive package.

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 earned his second career trip to the Pro Bowl last season, after filling up the stat sheet with eight sacks (second on team behind fellow Pro Bowler Geno Atkins), and a team-leading 15 passes defended and three forced fumbles.

And so far this season, the eighth-year player out of the University of Florida

is again making a living in opponents' backfields, with a sack, five QB hurries, a pass defended and two tackles for losses. He's also forced a fumble.

Dunlap has 58 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 58 sacks, his career totals include 16 forced fumbles, eight fumble recoveries, 42 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."

**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).

And already in 2017, Green already has added a 10th game of 150-plus and a TD — he had 189, with a 77-yard TD, in Game 5, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo.

Here's a look at the list of players with 10 or more games of 150-plus receiving yards and a TD through their first seven seasons.

PLAYER	TEAM	NO. OF GAMES
Lance Alworth	San Diego Chargers	16
Jerry Rice	San Francisco 49ers	13
A.J. Green	Cincinnati Bengals	10
Torry Holt	St. Louis Rams	10
Calvin Johnson	Detroit Lions	10
Randy Moss	Minnesota Vikings	10

**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 through 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 so far this season is demonstrating again why he's now considered one of the NFL's most effective kickoff returners. Through Week 6, he boasts a 26.3 average, good for third in the AFC and fourth in the NFL.

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 was the third Bengal to ever lead the AFC, joining Jones and DB Tremain Mack (27.1 in 1999). He also became the only player in Bengals history with three returns of 65

or more yards in a season.

Erickson also serves as the Bengals' primary punt returner, with 139 yards on 20 returns so far this year.

**Jones wears two crowns:** Though the 2017 season is young, the oldest player on the Bengals' roster, veteran CB Adam Jones (turned 34 on Sept. 30), has again flashed his ability as a return specialist. For the season, Jones has totaled 81 yards on just three punt returns (27.0), including returns of 40 and 33 yards.

Jones is the Bengals' career leader in punt return average (11.21) 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).

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 (20) and kickoff (seven) return attempts early in the '17 campaign. Jones has three punt returns so far this season and no kickoff returns.

Jones' history as a dangerous returner dates back to the beginning of his career, when he returned three punts for TDs over his first two NFL seasons (2005 and '06) as a member of the Tennessee Titans. In 2014 with Cincinnati, 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 10.5 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 among 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, a total that stands second in the NFL over that span. His total matches that of Tennessee's DeMarco Murray and stands one short of Philadelphia's LeGarrette Blount (30).

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 has been held out of the end zone so far in 2017. He has rushed 29 times for 98 yards (3.4), and has four receptions for 16 yards.

**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. Since the start of the 2014 season (Hill's rookie season), only Philadelphia's LeGarrette Blount (22) has more rushing TDs from the five and closer.

**Some very good rushing numbers:** The Bengals' record under Marvin Lewis with a 100-yard rusher 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). Reaching 30 rushes as a team usually spells success under Lewis — they were 5-1-1 (.786) last season with 30 or more rushes as a team. They're 1-1 so far in 2017 when rushing 30 times as a team, with a win in Week 4 vs. Cleveland (30 rushes for 86 yards).

"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, P Kevin Huber in '16 passed Lee Johnson for most career inside-20 punts in Bengals history. Johnson, who punted for more than 11 Bengals seasons (1988-98), had 186 career inside-20 punts, while Huber, now in his ninth season, currently stands at 218. A Bengals fifth-round selection in the 2009 draft, Huber also owns the franchise's all-time best ratio of inside-20 kicks to touchbacks (3.89-to-1, with 218 inside-20s and 56 touchbacks).

Huber's other top accomplishments with the Bengals include:

- He is the franchise leader in career gross average (45.1) and net average (39.75).

- 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 third-fewest fumbled punts (23) in the NFL, trailing Atlanta (20) and New Orleans (22). They're also tied with Houston for the fewest lost fumbles on punts (five) over that 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, he hasn't missed a beat. Bernard leads the team in yards per carry, at 4.6 (minimum five carries), and also has 10 catches for 164 yards (16.4) and two TDs, including his 61-yarder in Cleveland.

Bernard's 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 197 receptions, Bernard stands 100 short of James Brooks' record of 297. And with 1835 receiving yards, Bernard is 1177 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.

**Turnover tables are turned:** During the tenure of head coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), the Bengals rank eighth in the NFL in turnover differential, at plus-44.

The Bengals are minus-seven in differential thus far in 2017, with four takeaways (all INTs) and 11 giveaways (six INTs, five FL).

In their last game, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo, the Bengals were minus-two, with one takeaway (an INT by S George Iloka) and three giveaways (two INTs and a lost fumble).

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 68.7 percent of those games. At plus-two, the percentage has been 82.4. Teams with any plus have won at a 79.2 percent clip.

Here are the top six teams in differential since 2003:

TEAM	TAKEAWAYS	GIVEAWAYS	DIFFERENTIAL
New England Patriots	430	266	+164
Green Bay Packers	397	332	+65
Seattle Seahawks	391	333	+58
Kansas City Chiefs	380	325	+55
Carolina Panthers	422	371	+51
Indianapolis Colts	368	322	+46
Atlanta Falcons	380	335	+45
Cincinnati Bengals	406	362	+44

Since 2003, the Bengals rank fifth in takeaways (406) and ninth in points off turnovers (1214).

**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 17-66-2 with a minus (.212).

"It makes a huge difference," Lewis says. "You see it game after game. You have to possess the football to win. If you possess the football, good things happen. If you turn the ball over to opponents, you have a much 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	894-407-4	.687
Plus 2	718-153	.824
Plus 3	403-39-1	.911
Plus 4	210-6	.972
Plus 5	97-3	.970

Plus teams so far this season have gone 54-10, for a .884 winning percentage.

**And when it's even?** The Bengals are 28-23 in head coach Marvin Lewis' full tenure in games when the turnover differential has been even, for a winning percentage of .549. The Bengals have won 11 of their last 18 with an even differential (.611), dating back to 2012, but they have lost three of their last four, including a 1-1 record so far in '17.

**Uniform watch:** The Bengals are scheduled to wear white jerseys and black pants this week at Pittsburgh.

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	5-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White	15-6-1	.705
Black	Black	15-11-1	.574
Black	White	32-31-1	.508
White (CR)*	White (CR)*	1-1-0	.500
White	Black	25-28-0	.472
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. Color rush (CR) uniforms have been worn on Thursday night games only since 2016.

**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 by September (27-23-0, .540). Clubs are also above .500 for December/January (36-30-0, .545 [regular season]). Lewis' only losing month has been October (26-29-2, .474) ... The attendance of 91,653 on Oct. 9, 2016, at Dallas was the largest ever for a Bengals regular-season game, topping a house of 87,786 for a 2004 visit to FedEx Field in Washington. The largest crowd for any Bengals game remains 92,045, for a 1990 season playoff game against the Los Angeles Raiders at the L.A. Coliseum ... The Bengals' tallest player is



DE Michael Johnson, who is 6-7. There is a tie for the shortest player between K Randy Bullock and HB Giovani Bernard, both of whom are 5-9 ... There is a

three-way tie for heaviest player — OT Andre Smith, DT Pat Sims and G Alex Redmond are all 330 pounds ... CB Adam Jones is the lightest player, at 185 pounds ... Jones, who turned 34 on Sept. 30, is also the oldest player ... The youngest player is HB Joe Mixon, who turned 21 on July 24.

## BENGALS QUOTES

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

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

**Head coach Marvin Lewis**, on the Bengals 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 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 you don't, you have to bounce back. Same thing series to series — if you have a bad play or give up an INT, you have to bounce back. You have to be resilient to play this position."

**Lewis**, on Dalton:

"He's a fine, fine player. He's a tough man, and he shows it. He's got the inner drive to just keep going, to overcome mistakes, to move on to the next play. That's a great quality that he has."

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

"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."

**HB Jeremy Hill**, on the team's 0-3 start to the season:

"We just had to keep pushing. We have a lot of savvy veteran guys in this locker room. Not very many of us were in that situation before, but that didn't stop us from practicing hard and trying to execute at a high level. It's a long season."

**Baltimore Ravens coach John Harbaugh**, on Bengals 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've been working through that with him. Obviously, his run skills and his instincts are natural. He's got all the physical qualities you look for."

**Lewis**, on not giving the players Mondays off after victories ...

"We've got work to do. As I told the players — they've worked hard a long time from the beginning of the offseason until now. There's a lot more left, and it's worth it to put their heads down, go to work, and be as great as they can be. It's worth it. Sure, you'll get days off in March. But if you want to make it special, you don't want to waste time now."

**Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther**, on DT Geno Atkins mentoring the younger players:

"One thing about Geno this year is that he has done a great job of being a mentor, more so than any other year I've been around him. Everyone knows him as a quiet guy, and he is generally quiet. But I've seen him taking Billings, Glasgow, Lawson, Willis and all of the other young guys aside and talking to them about protections, opponents and everything else. Any time the young players can receive feedback like that from a guy that's been around here for years — a player they respect — is tremendous. They get tired of listening to me all the time."

**Lewis**, on all the young Bengals players on defense:

"They've done a really good job. There are times when we have three (rookies or second-year players) on the defensive line, one at linebacker and one in the secondary on the field together at the same time. That's huge when we're getting such positive plays out of those younger guys. And they aren't missing a beat. A coach's instinct is to throw vets like Michael (DE Michael Johnson) or Carlos (DE Carlos Dunlap) back in there. But then you see (rookie DE) Jordan Willis, or Glasgow (rookie DT Ryan Glasgow), or Carl (rookie LB Carl Lawson), or Nick (second-year LB Nick Vigil), or (second-year DT) Andrew Billings or William (second-year CB William Jackson) making the types of plays their making, time and time again. They're earning their opportunities. We have to make sure the level doesn't drop, and so far, it hasn't."

**Guenther**, on playing young players:

"In my first year in coaching, the AD told me that for every freshman you play, you're going to lose one ballgame. That always stuck in my mind. At this point in the NFL, the way contracts are constructed, you have to get young players out there and playing. If they can play, you've got to let them go. I felt good enough (about this group) in the preseason. We played a lot of them early in games against good players (on other teams) in the preseason, so we felt good about them. They get it."

**Lewis**, on Nick Vigil:

"He has been very special. He keeps getting better, and his understanding (of the game) is improving each week. He's very coachable, and he understands the finer points of things, both with coverage assignments we have at the line of scrimmage."

**CB Adam Jones**, on the team turning the corner after an 0-3 start:

"We're not used to losing. We got a lot of guys in here and a lot of talent on offense and defense. For whatever reason, we didn't end up on the right side of the win column in the first three games, but there are a lot of positives with the offense and defense. I think we are in a great position."

**DE Carlos Dunlap**, on knocking down opponents' 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."

**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 rookies 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 at getting to the quarterback.”

**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 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 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 328 yards and one TD on 22-of-36 passing in Week 5 against the Bills, bringing his 2017 totals to 104 of 159 passing (65.4 percent) for 1220 yards, seven TDs and six INTs. The 300-yard outing was the 22nd of his career, good for second in Bengals’ history and one behind Boomer Esiason’s all-time team record. His quarterback rating in Week 4 vs. Cleveland (146.0) was the second highest-rated game of his career, topped only by a 146.8 rating in Week 13 of the 2015 season. 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 89.0. 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 only the third NFL QB in the Super Bowl era to lead his team to the playoffs in each of his first five seasons, from ’11-15. Dalton’s 58-38-2 regular-season record as a starter works out to the best winning percentage (.598) of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts. Third-year pro **AJ McCarron** saw his first action of the regular season in the waning moments of a Week 4 win vs. the Browns, but had no statistics. 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:** Prized rookie HB **Joe Mixon**, a second-round pick out of Oklahoma, has found himself leading the Cincinnati backfield in carries through the first five games (67). In Week 3 against the Packers, Mixon topped 100 total yards for the first time in his career, carrying the ball 18 times for 62 yards (3.4) and catching three passes for 39 yards. Another career milestone was reached in Week 5 vs. Buffalo, as Mixon had a five-yard scamper that resulted in his first career TD. In 2016 at Oklahoma, Mixon posted a school-record 2331 all-purpose yards (194.3 per game). 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. 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 five games. In Week 4 vs. Cleveland, Bernard flashed some of his signature speed and agility, taking a screen pass 61 yards for the score. 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. 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 one behind 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. 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 Bengals history.

**Wide receivers:** Leading the Bengals in receiving through five 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). In Week 3 at Green Bay, Green caught his 500th career reception and his 50th career TD, his first of 2017, to go along with a season-high 111 receiving yards. Green hauled in 13 catches for 189 yards in Week 5 vs. Buffalo, which is the most receiving yards by an NFL player in a game this season. The seventh-year WR is continuing the torrid pace he was on in 2016 before a hamstring injury ended his season early in Game 10. Green is currently on pace for 1612 receiving yards this season, which would top the all-time Bengals mark set by Chad Johnson in 2007 (1440). 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. He finished the 2016 regular season with 964 receiving yards on 66 catches. Green’s 519 career receptions rank third in Bengals history, and his 7639 receiving yards rank second. Green’s 52 career receiving TDs rank fourth, and his 30 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** lines up opposite Green as the other starting WR, having grabbed 15 receptions for 108 yards through the first five 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 last season and has six receptions for 43 yards on the current campaign. Boyd did leave Week 5 vs. Buffalo with a knee injury, however, his status for this week’s contest is uncertain. 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 in Week 2 vs. 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. Though gaining a larger role in the offense this season, Erickson is known for his kick return prowess, as he currently ranks

fourth in the NFL in kick return average (26.3). Erickson averaged an AFC-best 27.9-yards on 29 kickoff returns in '16, an average that ranked second in the NFL. Erickson is also the team's leading punt returner, with 20 returns for 139 yards (7.0) in 2017 thus far. 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 last season, 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, was placed on the Reserved/Injured list on Oct. 12 with a back injury. 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 23 of 37 possible games in that stretch. Now in his third Bengals season, TE **Tyler Kroft** has gotten a starting nod in each of the first five regular-season games. Kroft had a memorable game in Week 4 vs. Cleveland, grabbing his first two TDs of the season as well as a career-high in receptions (six) and receiving yards (68). He appeared in 14 games in 2016 with 11 starts, recording 10 catches for 92 yards. Fellow third-year pro **C.J. Uzomah**, who played in 10 games with eight starts last season, has seen consistent action since Week 3 after being sidelined for the first two games 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. Despite missing Week 5 vs. Buffalo with a knee injury, Hewitt has played in 51 of 53 possible regular-season games since joining the team, with 36 starts. Joining Hewitt at H-back is **Cethan Carter**, who made a successful roster bid as a college free agent out of Nebraska. Carter was the lead H-back in Hewitt's Week 5 absence, and recorded his first two special teams tackles in the game as well. 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 53 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 returned to the field in Week 5 vs. Buffalo after missing the previous three games with a knee injury. 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. Part of the mix at OT this season is **Jake Fisher**, a second-round Bengals draft choice out of Oregon in 2015, who has started four games this season at ROT. 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. The starting LOT for four of the first five weeks of 2017, **Cedric Ogbuehi**, is 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, but has nabbed a start in each of the past two games, rotating in with Fisher and Ogbuehi at the tackle spots. Fourth-year pro **T.J. Johnson** started in place of Hopkins during his absence, 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 has been inactive for four of the first five weeks and an active-DNP in Week 2 vs. Houston. 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 and rotated in at the guard spot in Week 4 at Cleveland.

**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 four sacks in 2017, including two

against Houston. The two sacks in the Houston game marked the sixth-consecutive game in which Atkins had recorded at least one sack, a streak that came to an end against the Packers in Week 3. 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, recorded his first sack of 2017 in Week 3 against the Packers. He now has 58 sacks for his career, ranking fourth all-time in Bengals history. Dunlap earned a trip to the Pro Bowl last year, his second selection, after recording eight sacks (second on team) among his 49 tackles. He 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, 42 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, but has come back strong since his absence, recording three sacks in the last three games. His sack total includes two in Week 5 vs. Buffalo, marking his first two-sack game in a Bengals uniform since Week 17 of the 2012 season. Now in 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 and recorded his first sack in Week 5 vs. Buffalo. 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. Billings recorded his first career tackle in Week 1 vs. Baltimore. DE **Chris Smith**, a third-year pro who the Bengals acquired in an April 11 trade with Jacksonville, has 1.5 sacks through five games in 2017. 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, and five sacks, two forced fumbles and a fumble return.

**Linebackers:** Returning to the Bengals in Week 4 was sixth-year pro **Vontaze Burfict**, who missed Games 1-3 due to a league suspension. Though only playing in two games thus far, Burfict has already worked his way up to fifth on the team in tackles and grabbed his first sack of the season in Week 5 vs. Buffalo. 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. Off to a hot start in 2017 is second-year pro **Nick Vigil**, who recorded his first career interception in Game 1 vs. Baltimore and his first career sack in Week 4 vs. the Browns. The team's 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, filled in admirably during Burfict's suspension to start the season. The second-leading tackler through the first five 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, who posted 2.5 sacks in Week 3 against the Packers. Lawson's 2.5 sacks were the first few sacks of his career and the most sacks in a single game by a Bengals player since Carlos Dunlap had three sacks against the Broncos in Week 16 of the 2015 season. At 3.5 sacks on the season, Lawson leads all NFL rookies in that category. 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. 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 inactive in Week 4 vs. the Browns (hamstring), but returned in Week 5 vs. Buffalo. 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. LB **Hardy Nickerson** was signed off the practice squad on Oct. 16.

**Defensive backs:** Sixth-year pro **George Iloka**, Cincinnati's starting FS since 2013, has been a steady presence in the Bengals secondary through five weeks after missing the preseason due to an injury suffered early in training camp. Iloka recorded his first interception of the season in Week 5 vs. Buffalo, forcing a turnover with time expiring and the Bengals owning just a six-point lead. Iloka tied for the team lead in INTs (three) last season, while recording 73 tackles. Iloka has nine career INTs and 30 passes defended. Sixth-year CB **Dre Kirkpatrick** now is in 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 39 passes defended. Though he has proven to be a durable performer over the years, having played in 65 of the last 66 possible games (including postseason), Kirkpatrick exited the Week 5 game vs. Buffalo with a shoulder injury, and his status for this week's game is unknown. Eleventh-year CB **Adam Jones** returned to the lineup at RCB against Houston, after serving a one-week suspension to begin the season. Jones has come back strong, having recorded ten tackles with three passes defended. Like Kirkpatrick, Jones also left Week 5 vs. Buffalo with a back injury, and his status for the Pittsburgh game is not yet determined. 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 (11.2). Fifth-year pro **Shawn Williams** suffered an elbow injury in the second preseason game, causing him to miss Week 1. He

returned in Week 2 vs. Houston and has 16 tackles this season. 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 in Game 1 vs. Baltimore, was a seventh-round Bengals draft choice in 2016 out of Illinois. Fejedelem recorded his first career interception in Week 4 vs. the Browns, coming down with a tipped pass as Cleveland was entering the red zone. 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 a start in place of the suspended Jones in Week 1, 2014 first-round pick **Darqueze Dennard** adds to the depth at cornerback for the Bengals. After the first five games of the season, Dennard leads the secondary in tackles (24) and sacks (two), along with two passes defended. Dennard played in 15 games last season, with three starts, and tallied 41 tackles on defense. 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. Jackson was a headline-grabber in Week 3 after recording his first career INT on Packers QB Aaron Rodgers and returning it 75 yards for a TD. The last Bengal to score a TD on his first career INT was DE Carlos Dunlap on Dec. 30, 2012 against Baltimore. Through five games, Jackson leads the Bengals in passes defenses, with four. 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 for the team's placekicking. Bullock has drilled seven of his eight attempts so far this season, with the longest coming from 46 yards. Now in his sixth NFL season out of Texas A&M, Bullock owns a career 81.8 percent average (90 for 110) on FGs and 96.4 percent average (106 for 110) 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 1189 snaps in his Bengals career without an unplayable delivery. P **Kevin Huber**, the top Bengals punter in history in terms of gross average (45.1) and net average (39.75), 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 (3.89 to-1, with 218 inside-20s and 56 touchbacks). WR **Alex Erickson**, a college free agent out of Wisconsin in 2016, is picking up right where he left off last season in the kick return department, where he finished second in the NFL and first in the AFC in kickoff return average, at 27.9 yards on 29 returns. 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 serves as the team's primary punt returner, averaging 7.0 yards on 20 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	
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.

(Important dates, continued)

Oct. 31	— All trading ends for 2017 at 4 p.m., Eastern time.	Jan. 8	— NCAA National Championship Game, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Georgia.
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.	Jan. 13-14	— Divisional Playoff Games.
Nov. 14	— At 4 p.m. Eastern time, signing period ends for Franchise Players who are eligible to receive offer sheets.	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.
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.	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.
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.	Jan. 20	— East-West Shrine Game, Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Florida.
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.	Jan. 20	— NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, TBD.
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.	Jan. 21	— AFC and NFC Championship Games.
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.	Jan. 27	— Senior Bowl, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, Mobile, Alabama.
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.	Jan. 28	— NFL Pro Bowl, Camping World Stadium, Orlando, Florida.
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.	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.
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.	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.
Dec. 12	— NFLMC Labor Seminar, Four Seasons-Las Colinas, Irving, Texas.	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.
Dec. 13	— Special League Meeting, Four Seasons-Las Colinas, Irving, Texas.	Feb. 4	— Super Bowl LII, U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
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.	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.
<b>2018</b>			
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.	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.
Jan. 1	— Clubs may begin signing free agent players for the 2018 season.	Feb. 16	— Deadline for playoff clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified 2018 Basic Injury Protection Benefit Candidates to the Management Council.
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.	Feb. 20	— First day for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.
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.	Feb. 27-Mar. 5	— Combine timing and testing, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Indiana.
Jan. 6-7	— Wild Card Playoff Games.	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.
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 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.
		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.
		March 6	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time, deadline for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.

(Important dates, continued)

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.	March 25-28	— Annual League Meeting, Ritz Carlton, Orlando, 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.	April 2	— Deadline for clubs to meet 2018 funding requirements for guaranteed or deferred compensation in NFL Player Contracts and contracts for non-player Club employees.
March 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.	April 2	— Clubs that hired a new head coach after the end of the 2017 regular season may begin offseason workout programs.
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.	April 16	— Clubs with returning head coaches may begin offseason workout programs.
March 14	— Top 51 Rule is in effect. All clubs must be under the 2018 Salary Cap prior to 4 p.m. Eastern time.	April 18	— Deadline to bring draft-eligible players to their facilities for a physical examination.
March 14	— All 2017 player contracts will expire at 4 p.m. Eastern time.	April 20	— Deadline for Restricted Free Agents to sign Offer Sheets.
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.	April 25	— Deadline for Prior Club to exercise Right of First Refusal to Restricted Free Agents.
March 14	— Trading period for 2018 begins at 4 p.m. Eastern time, after expiration of all 2017 contracts.	April 25	— Deadline to time, test, and interview draft-eligible players.
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).	April 26-28	— NFL Draft (site TBD).
March 15	— Deadline for all clubs to submit their individual lists of	May 2	— Deadline for clubs to exercise Fifth-Year Option for players selected in the first round of the 2015 Draft.
		May 4-7	— Clubs may elect to hold their one three-day post-Draft rookie minicamp from Friday through Sunday or Saturday through Monday.
		May 8	— Deadline for Prior Club to send "May 8 Tender" to its unsigned Unrestricted Free Agents. If the player has not signed a Player Contract with a Club by July 22 or the first scheduled day of the first NFL training camp, whichever is later, he may negotiate or sign a Player Contract from that date until the Tuesday following the 10th weekend of the regular season, at 4 p.m. Eastern time, only with his Prior Club.
		May 11-14	— Clubs may elect to hold their one three-day post-Draft rookie minicamp from Friday through Sunday or Saturday through Monday.
		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., Oct. 17	— Players' off day; No media access.	Tues., Oct. 24	— Players' off day; No media access.
Wed., Oct. 18	— Locker room open from 11:15 a.m.-noon; Andy Dalton news conference at 11:15 a.m.; Marvin Lewis news conference at noon; Conference call with Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin at 12:55 p.m.; 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.	Wed., Oct. 25	— 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 Indianapolis Colts head coach Chuck Pagano, TBD.
Thurs., Oct. 19	— 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., Oct. 26	— 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., Oct. 20	— 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., Oct. 27	— Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Practice from 10:45-11:50 a.m.; (practice open to media from 10:45-11:15 a.m., but no video or still cameras).
Sat., Oct. 21	— No media access.	Sat., Oct. 28	— No media access.
Sun., Oct. 22	— Game 6, Bengals vs. Pittsburgh Steelers at Heinz Field, 4:25 p.m. Eastern.	Sun., Oct. 29	— Game 7, Bengals vs. Indianapolis Colts at Paul Brown Stadium, 1 p.m. Eastern.
Mon., Oct. 23	— Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:15-4 p.m.	Mon., Oct. 30	— Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:15-4 p.m.

# THE LAST BENGALS-STEELERS MEETINGS

## 2016 SEASON

### WEEK 2, GAME 2

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### RUSHING

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

#### PASSING

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

#### RECEIVING

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

#### DEFENSE

**Cincinnati** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** K.Dansby 8-2-10, R.Mauluga 6-1-7, V.Rey 3-3-6, S.Williams 5-0-5, C.Dunlap 3-2-5, D.Peko 3-2-5, G.Iloka 3-1-4, M.Johnson 3-1-4, A.Jones 3-1-4, D.Dennard 3-0-3, P.Sims 2-1-3, G.Atkins 1-2-3, D.Kirkpatrick 2-0-2, M.Hunt 1-1-2, W.Clarke 1-0-1, J.Shaw 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** W.Clarke 1-9. **INT.-YDS.:** A.Jones 1-2, D.Kirkpatrick 1-0. **PD:** A.Jones 2, D.Kirkpatrick 2, K.Dansby 1, G.Iloka 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

**Pittsburgh** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** R.Shazier 6-6-12, R.Golden 5-3-8, L.Timmons 6-1-7, W.Gay 4-0-4, M.Mitchell 3-1-4, S.Tuitt 3-1-4, R.Cockrell 2-1-3, A.Moats 1-2-3, C.Heyward 2-0-2, A.Burns 1-1-2, J.Jones 1-1-2, A.Chickillo 1-0-1, S.Davis 1-0-1, J.Hargrave 1-0-1, J.Harrison 1-0-1, D.McCullers 1-0-1, R.Mathews 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** A.Moats 1-0. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** R.Cockrell 2, W.Gay 2, C.Heyward 2. **FF:** J.Harrison 1. **FR-YDS.:** R.Golden 1-21, C.Heyward 1-1.

## 2016 SEASON

### WEEK 15, GAME 14

#### Pittsburgh Steelers 24, Cincinnati Bengals 20 Sunday, Dec. 18, 2016 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals led the Steelers by 17-3 early in the second quarter and by 20-9 at halftime, but they fell victim to a season-long trend of reduced production in the second half. The Steelers won the second half by 15-0 and limited Cincinnati to 38 net yards after intermission. The loss eliminated the Bengals from playoff contention, ending a streak of five consecutive years qualifying for postseason play. Even had the Bengals won the game, results elsewhere in the league would have ended their playoff hopes. Steelers K Chris Boswell booted five FGs, second-most ever in a game by a Bengals opponent. The Bengals fell to 5-8-1, and the Steelers improved to 9-5.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Pittsburgh.....	3	6	6	9	—	24
Cincinnati.....	10	10	0	0	—	20

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — R.Bullock 23 field goal.....	1-7:39
Pitt. — C.Boswell 45 field goal.....	1-3:42
Cin. — A.Dalton 1 run (R.Bullock kick).....	1-0:00
Cin. — J.Hill 4 run (R.Bullock kick).....	2-9:02
Pitt. — C.Boswell 49 field goal.....	2-5:25
Cin. — R.Bullock 22 field goal.....	2-2:51
Pitt. — C.Boswell 49 field goal.....	2-0:06
Pitt. — C.Boswell 40 field goal.....	3-10:38
Pitt. — C.Boswell 49 field goal.....	3-2:05
Pitt. — C.Boswell 30 field goal.....	4-12:25
Pitt. — E.Rogers 24 pass from B.Roethlisberger (pass failed).....	4-7:29

**Missed FGs:** None. **Attendance:** 62,096. **Time:** 3:15.

TEAM STATISTICS	PITT.	CIN.
First downs.....	26	19
Third down conversions-attempts.....	5-13	6-12
Total net yards.....	382	222
Net yards rushing.....	97	76
Net yards passing.....	285	146
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	36-21-0	27-16-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	1-1	1-11
Punts-average.....	1-40.0	3-47.0
Punt returns-yards.....	1-5	0-0
Kickoff returns-yards.....	3-76	5-166
Penalties-yards.....	7-104	8-86
Fumbles-lost.....	1-0	0-0
Time of possession.....	32:32	27:28

#### RUSHING

PITT.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
L.Bell	23	93	12	0	J.Hill	20	43	12	1
S.Coates	2	9	15	0	R.Burkhead	7	32	10	0
B.Roethlisberger	4	-5	0	0	A.Dalton	1	1	1t	1
TOTALS	29	97	15	0	TOTALS	28	76	12	2

#### PASSING

PITT.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
B.Roethlisberger	36	21	286	1-0	A.Dalton	27	16	157	0-1
TOTALS	36	21	286	1-0	TOTALS	27	16	157	0-1

#### RECEIVING

PITT.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
E.Rogers	5	75	28	1	B.LaFell	7	91	25	0
L.Green	5	72	28	0	R.Burkhead	2	18	18	0
L.Bell	5	38	10	0	C.Core	2	13	10	0
A.Brown	3	58	32	0	T.Boyd	2	13	8	0
C.Hamilton	1	21	21	0	T.Eifert	1	9	9	0
D.Johnson	1	12	12	0	J.Hill	1	8	8	0
S.Coates	1	10	10	0	J.Wright	1	5	5	0
TOTALS	21	286	32	1	TOTALS	16	157	25	0

#### DEFENSE

**Pittsburgh** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** J.Harrison 4-5-9, L.Timmons 5-3-8, S.Davis 4-2-6, M.Mitchell 4-2-6, R.Shazier 3-2-5, A.Burns 2-1-3, B.Dupree 2-1-3, D.McCullers 2-1-3, R.Cockrell 1-2-3, W.Gay 1-1-2, R.Mathews 1-1-2, S.Tuitt 1-0-1, J.Hargrave 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** R.Shazier 1-11. **INT.-YDS.:** L.Timmons 1-16. **PD:** A.Burns 2, R.Cockrell 1, R.Shazier 1, L.Timmons 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

**Cincinnati** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** V.Burfict 2-7-9, S.Williams 5-3-8, C.Dunlap 3-4-7, J.Shaw 3-2-5, P.Sims 0-5-5, G.Iloka 2-2-4, D.Peko 2-2-4, K.Dansby 0-4-4, A.Jones 2-1-3, N.Vigil 2-1-3, G.Atkins 1-2-3, R.Mauluga 1-2-3, V.Rey 1-2-3, M.Hunt 0-3-3, D.Kirkpatrick 1-1-2, M.Johnson 1-0-1, D.Dennard 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** G.Atkins 1-1. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** A.Jones 2, V.Burfict 1, C.Dunlap 1, D.Kirkpatrick 1, J.Shaw 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

# 2017 GAME SUMMARIES

## WEEK 1, GAME 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### RUSHING

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

#### 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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>0-4</b>

#### 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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>

#### 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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>49t</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>

#### 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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>0-0</b>

#### 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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>

#### DEFENSE

**Houston** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** K. Jackson 5-3-8, J. Watt 5-1-6, B. McKinney 4-2-6, D. Reader 1-4-5, 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.



WEEK 3, GAME 3

Green Bay Packers 27, Cincinnati Bengals 24 Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017 at Lambeau Field

The Bengals' offense, which had not scored a TD in either of the first two games, scored TDs on two of its first three possessions. Behind those scores and an INT returned for a TD by CB William Jackson, the Bengals jumped out to a 21-7 lead on the defending NFC North Champions and controlled that advantage for most of the game. In the first half, Cincinnati outgained Green Bay in net yards, 192-78, while winning on third downs on both sides of the line of scrimmage, converting four of seven while holding the Packers to two of seven. In the second half, however, the Packers flipped the third downs, converting five of eight and holding the Bengals to zero of five. Behind the direction of QB Aaron Rodgers, Green Bay rallied late with a 12-play, 71-yard TD drive with 17 seconds left to send the game into OT. Then, after the Bengals' offense stalled with a three-and-out on the opening drive of OT, Rodgers connected with WR Geronimo Allison on third-and-10 for a 72-yard pass to the Bengals' seven-yard line, and two plays later, the Packers converted on a 27-yard FG. QB Andy Dalton completed 21 of 27 passes for 212 yards, two TDs and no INTs (124.1 rating), and WR A.J. Green caught 10 passes for 111 yards and a TD. Rookie LB Carl Lawson had 2.5 sacks. The Bengals fell to 0-3, while the Packers improved to 2-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Cincinnati: 7, 14, 0, 3, 0, 24. Green Bay: 7, 0, 7, 10, 3, 27.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR-LEFT, CIN., G.B. listing plays like A.Green 10 pass from A.Dalton (R.Bullock kick) 1-9:40.

Missed FGs: R.Bullock (48WR). Attendance: 78,323. Time: 3:18.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CIN., G.B. listing First downs, Third down conversions-attempts, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD, G.B., ATT, YDS, LG, TD listing J.Mixon, G.Bernard, J.Hill, A.Dalton.

PASSING table with columns CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I, G.B., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I listing A.Dalton.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, G.B., NO, YDS, LG, TD listing A.Green, J.Mixon, T.Kroft, G.Bernard, T.Boyd, J.Hill, B.LaFell.

DEFENSE table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, G.B., NO, YDS, LG, TD listing D.Dennard, N.Vigil, V.Burfict, M.Johnson, C.Smith, A.Jones, V.Rey.

Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: D.Dennard 7-3-10, N.Vigil 3-4-7, V.Rey 3-3-6, K.Minter 2-3-5, S.Williams 2-3-5, C.Lawson 3-1-4, G.Iloka 2-2-4, C.Dunlap 3-0-3, W.Jackson 3-0-3, M.Johnson 3-0-3, A.Jones 3-0-3, C.Smith 2-1-3, D.Kirkpatrick 2-0-2, G.Atkins 1-0-1, J.Shaw 1-0-1, J.Willis 1-0-1, P.Sims 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: C.Lawson 2-5-19.5, D.Dennard 1-0, C.Dunlap 1-0, C.Smith 0.5-6.5. INT.-YDS.: W.Jackson 1-75. PD: W.Jackson 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

Green Bay (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: J.Jones 11-1-12, B.Martinez 7-4-11, K.King 5-2-7, K.Clark 4-1-5, M.Burnett 3-2-5, M.Evans 4-0-4, D.Randall 3-1-4, H.Clinton-Dix 2-1-3, C.Matthews 1-2-3, A.Brooks 2-0-2, D.Lowery 2-0-2, Q.Dial 1-0-1, K.Fackrell 0-1-1, C.Odom 0-1-1, J.Thomas 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: J.Jones 2-14, A.Brooks 1-7. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: None. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 4, GAME 4

Cincinnati Bengals 31, Cleveland Browns 7 Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017 at FirstEnergy Stadium

Both Cincinnati and Cleveland entered the game with 0-3 records, but the Bengals' offense erupted for 31 points while their defense held the Browns scoreless until after the two-minute warning to give the team a much-needed first win. Bengals QB Andy Dalton completed 25 of 30 passes for 286 yards, four TDs and zero INTs (146.0 passer rating). It was his fourth career game with four or more TD passes, and his first since Game 15 of the 2013 season. At one point in the Browns game, Dalton had logged 16 consecutive completions. That was the second-longest streak of completions in a game in team history, behind only the team record of 20 straight completions by former QB Ken Anderson in the 1982 regular-season finale on Jan. 2, 1983 at Houston. TE Tyler Kroft had six receptions for 68 yards and two TDs (all three of those stat categories were career highs for Kroft). HB Giovanni Bernard added three catches for 67 receiving yards and TD. The game marked the return of LB Vontaze Burfict, who missed the team's first three games due to a league suspension. The defense held the Browns to only 21-15 net yards, including just 45 rushing. Cincinnati improved to 1-3, while Cleveland fell to 0-4.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Cincinnati: 0, 21, 10, 0, -, 31. Cleveland: 0, 0, 0, 7, -, 7.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR-LEFT, CIN., G.B. listing A.Green 7 pass from A.Dalton (R.Bullock kick) 2-14:56.

Missed FGs: Z.Gonzalez (48WL). Attendance: 67,431. Time: 2:56.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CIN., CLE. listing First downs, Third down conversions-attempts, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD, CLE., ATT, YDS, LG, TD listing J.Mixon, A.Dalton, J.Hill, G.Bernard.

PASSING table with columns CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I, CLE., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I listing A.Dalton.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, CLE., NO, YDS, LG, TD listing T.Kroft, A.Green, J.Mixon, G.Bernard, B.LaFell, T.Boyd, R.Hewitt, C.Uzomah, J.Hill.

DEFENSE table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, CLE., NO, YDS, LG, TD listing N.Vigil, V.Burfict, K.Russell, D.Dennard, C.Dunlap, D.Kirkpatrick, S.Williams, M.Johnson, G.Atkins, C.Smith, A.Jones, V.Rey.

Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: N.Vigil 7-4-11, V.Burfict 4-2-6, K.Russell 5-0-5, D.Dennard 3-1-4, C.Dunlap 2-1-3, D.Kirkpatrick 2-1-3, S.Williams 2-0-2, M.Johnson 1-1-2, J.Shaw 1-1-2, J.Willis 1-1-2, G.Atkins 1-0-1, G.Iloka 1-0-1, W.Jackson 1-0-1, C.Smith 1-0-1, A.Jones 0-1-1, V.Rey 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: N.Vigil 1-7, D.Dennard 1-6. INT.-YDS.: C.Fejedelem 1-5. PD: W.Jackson 2, C.Dunlap 1, C.Fejedelem 1, M.Johnson 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

Cleveland (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: J.Schobert 4-7-11, C.Kirksey 4-4-8, J.McCourty 7-0-7, E.Ogbah 4-2-6, J.Taylor 3-3-6, J.Burgess 2-3-5, T.Coley 2-2-4, J.Peppers 2-2-4, B.Boddy-Calhoun 2-1-3, N.Orchard 2-1-3, J.Meder 1-2-3, L.Ogunjobi 1-2-3, C.Brantley 2-0-2, C.Nassib 2-0-2, D.Kindred 1-1-2, M.Jordan 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: E.Ogbah 1-11, C.Brantley 1-7, T.Coley 1-4. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: J.McCourty 2, J.Taylor 1. FF: E.Ogbah 2. FR-YDS.: E.Ogbah 1-0.

**WEEK 5, GAME 5**

**Cincinnati Bengals 20, Buffalo Bills 16**

Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017 at Paul Brown Stadium

Cincinnati bested a 3-1 Buffalo Bills squad for their second straight win. The Bengals' defense was the story of the game. The Bengals allowed the Bills to score just one offensive touchdown and held Bills QB Tyrod Taylor to a passer rating of just 63.6 while sporting a relentless pass rush that sacked him six times, including three times in the fourth quarter alone. The Bills' offense managed only 221 total net yards, including just 36 in the second half. The Bengals earned the win despite three turnovers — two interceptions and one lost fumble. All three of the turnovers were off the hands of WR A.J. Green — two tipped passes, as well as the fumble. Green still contributed heavily to the win, with seven catches for 189 yards and a touchdown. QB Andy Dalton passed for 328 yards. The Bengals improved to 2-3, while the Bills fell to 3-2.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Buffalo .....	3	7	3	3	—	16
Cincinnati.....	7	3	0	10	—	20

**TEAM — SCORING PLAY** QTR.-LEFT

Cin. — A.Green 77 pass from A.Dalton (R.Bullock kick) .....	1-11:29
Buff. — S.Hauschka 31 field goal .....	1-0:10
Cin. — R.Bullock 30 field goal .....	2-9:01
Buff. — B.Tate 12 pass from T.Taylor (S.Hauschka kick).....	2-3:10
Buff. — S.Hauschka 38 field goal .....	3-1:54
Cin. — J.Mixon 5 run (R.Bullock kick) .....	4-14:55
Buff. — S.Hauschka 26 field goal .....	4-8:59
Cin. — R.Bullock 29 field goal .....	4-3:33

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 52,367. Time: 3:00.

**TEAM STATISTICS** BUFF. CIN.

First downs .....	17	18
Third down conversions-attempts .....	6-18	6-15
Total net yards .....	221	388
Net yards rushing .....	82	65
Net yards passing .....	139	323
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	37-20-1	36-22-2
Sacks against-yards lost .....	6-27	1-5
Punts-average .....	7-45.0	4-46.8
Punt returns-yards .....	2-41	4-4
Kickoff returns-yards .....	1-17	3-77
Penalties-yards .....	6-71	6-71
Fumbles-lost .....	1-0	2-1
Time of possession .....	29:59	30:01

**RUSHING**

BUFF.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
L.McCoy	19	63	14	0	J.Mixon	15	51	12	1
M.Tolbert	3	16	6	0	J.Hill	4	16	8	0
T.Taylor	1	3	3	0	A.Dalton	5	2	6	0
K.Clay	1	0	0	0	G.Bernard	2	2	1	0
					A.Erickson	1	-6	-6	0
TOTALS	24	82	14	0	TOTALS	27	65	12	1

**PASSING**

BUFF.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
T.Taylor	37	20	166	1-1	A.Dalton	36	22	328	1-2
TOTALS	37	20	166	1-1	TOTALS	36	22	328	1-2

**RECEIVING**

BUFF.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
L.McCoy	6	26	7	0	A.Green	7	189	77t	1
N.O'Leary	5	54	19	0	B.LaFell	5	32	16	0
M.Tolbert	3	18	8	0	T.Kroft	4	38	15	0
C.Clay	2	31	24	0	G.Bernard	2	30	18	0
B.Tate	2	25	13	1	T.Boyd	2	6	5	0
Z.Jones	1	9	9	0	C.Uzomah	1	21	21	0
L.Thomas	1	3	3	0	A.Erickson	1	12	12	0
TOTALS	20	166	24	1	TOTALS	22	328	77	1

**DEFENSE**

**Buffalo** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** S.Wright 8-3-11, P.Brown 4-4-8, L.Alexander 5-1-6, M.Hyde 2-4-6, J.Hughes 1-3-4, J.Poyer 3-0-3, C.Thornton 2-1-3, M.Milano 1-2-3, T.White 2-0-2, M.Dareus 1-1-2, L.Johnson 1-1-2, A.Washington 1-1-2, S.Lawson 0-2-2, K.Williams 0-2-2. **SKS.-YDS.:** M.Dareus 1-5. **INT.-YDS.:** M.Hyde 1-13, J.Poyer 1-13. **PD:** T.White 3, S.Wright 2, M.Hyde, L.Johnson 1, G.Mabin 1, J.Poyer 1. **FF:** L.Alexander 1. **FR-YDS.:** J.Poyer 1-32.

**Cincinnati** (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** V.Burfict 10-3-13, N.Vigil 4-5-9, K.Minter 4-1-5, G.Iloka 3-2-5, M.Johnson 4-0-4, G.Atkins 3-1-4, J.Willis 3-0-3, D.Dennard 2-1-3, S.Williams 2-1-3, C.Fejedelem 1-1-2, W.Jackson 1-1-2, R.Glasgow 1-0-1, D.Kirkpatrick 1-0-1, C.Lawson 1-0-1, J.Shaw 1-0-1, C.Dunlap 0-1-1, A.Jones 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** M.Johnson 2-8, V.Burfict 1-6, G.Atkins 1-5, J.Willis 1-4, C.Lawson 1-4. **INT.-YDS.:** G.Iloka 1-14. **PD:** V.Burfict 1, G.Iloka 1, N.Vigil 1. **FF:** C.Dunlap 1. **FR-YDS.:** None.

## IN 2017, THE BENGALS ARE:

### REGULAR SEASON

**1-2** at home  
**1-1** on the road  
**2-1** when scoring first  
**0-2** when opponent scored first  
**0-1** in games decided by three points or fewer  
**1-2** in games decided by seven points or fewer  
**1-1** when leading at halftime  
**1-0** when tied at halftime  
**0-2** when trailing at halftime  
**1-1** when leading after three quarters  
**0-0** when tied after three quarters  
**1-2** when trailing after three quarters  
**0-1** when rushing for 100 net yards

**2-1** when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards  
**0-0** with plus turnover differential  
**1-1** with even turnover differential  
**1-2** with minus turnover differential  
**2-0** when passing for 250 net yards  
**0-1** when opponent passes for 250 net yards  
**2-1** when scoring 20 points or more  
**0-2** when opponent scored 20 points or more  
**2-3** when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)  
**0-0** when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)  
**1-1** on natural grass  
**1-2** on synthetic surface  
**0-2** with fewer penalty yards

## UNDER MARVIN LEWIS, THE BENGALS ARE:

### 2003-PRESENT (REGULAR SEASON)

**68-44-3** at home (or as home team at neutral site)  
**52-62-0** on the road (or a visitor at neutral site)  
**83-35-1** when scoring first  
**37-71-2** when opponent scores first  
**21-23-3** in games decided by three points or fewer  
**54-51-3** in games decided by seven points or fewer  
**85-30-2** when leading at halftime  
**12-2-0** when tied at halftime  
**23-74-1** when trailing at halftime  
**96-19-2** when leading after three quarters  
**7-5-0** when tied after three quarters  
**17-82-1** when trailing after three quarters  
**81-37-2** when rushing for 100 net yards

**75-31-1** when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards  
**75-17-1** with plus turnover differential  
**28-23-0** with even turnover differential  
**17-66-2** with minus turnover differential  
**43-33-2** when passing for 250 net yards  
**34-40-3** when opponent passes for 250 net yards  
**99-39-2** when scoring 20 points or more  
**39-91-2** when opponent scores 20 points or more  
**115-98-3** when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)  
**5-8-0** when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)  
**41-36-1** on natural grass  
**79-70-2** on synthetic surface  
**64-54-2** with fewer penalty yards

# 2017 BEST PERFORMANCES

## REGULAR SEASON

### RUSHING YARDS

62 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
51 — Joe Mixon, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
40 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

### RUSHING ATTEMPTS

18 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
17 — Joe Mixon, Oct. 1 at Cleveland  
15 — Joe Mixon, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo

### LONGEST RUSHES

25 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
23 — Giovani Bernard, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore  
20 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 24 at Green Bay

### RECEPTIONS

10 — A.J. Green, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
7 — A.J. Green, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
6 — Tyler Kroft, Oct. 1 at Cleveland

### RECEIVING YARDS

189 — A.J. Green, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
111 — A.J. Green, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
74 — A.J. Green, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

### PASSING YARDS

328 — Andy Dalton, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
286 — Andy Dalton, Oct. 1 at Cleveland  
224 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

### PASS ATTEMPTS

36 — Andy Dalton, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
35 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Houston  
31 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 10 vs. Baltimore

### PASS COMPLETIONS

25 — Andy Dalton, Oct. 1 at Cleveland  
22 — Andy Dalton, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
21 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 24 at Green Bay

### LONGEST PASSES

77 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo (TD)  
61 — Andy Dalton to Giovani Bernard, Oct. 1 at Cleveland (TD)  
50 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

### YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

189 — A.J. Green, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
111 — A.J. Green, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
101 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 24 at Green Bay

### LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

41 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston  
35 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston  
27 — Alex Erickson, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo

### LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

40 — Adam Jones, Oct. 1 at Cleveland  
33 — Adam Jones, Sept. 14 vs. Houston  
26 — Alex Erickson, Sept. 14 vs. Houston

### TOTAL TACKLES\*

13 — Vontaze Burfict, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
11 — (three times)

### SOLO TACKLES\*

10 — Vontaze Burfict, Oct. 8 vs. Buffalo  
7 — Darqueze Dennard, Sept. 24 at Green Bay  
7 — Nick Vigil, Oct. 1 at Cleveland

\*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	301	30-110	191	21-27	2/0	3-21	21	4-12	1-1	34:17
Oct. 1	at Cleveland	350	30-86	264	25-30	4/0	3-22	25	6-11	3-1	35:02
Oct. 8	BUFFALO	388	27-65	323	22-36	1/2	1-5	18	6-15	2-1	30:01
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										
<b>TOTALS</b>		1555	133-420	1135	104-159	7/6	15-85	90	24-66	8-5	30:15

## 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	334	17-64	280	28-42	3/1	6-33	22	7-15	0-0	29:21
Oct. 1	at Cleveland	215	17-45	170	21-42	0/1	2-13	16	5-16	1-0	24:58
Oct. 8	BUFFALO	221	24-82	139	20-37	1/1	6-27	17	6-18	1-0	29:45
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										
<b>TOTALS</b>		1314	135-516	798	93-162	5/4	18-110	86	28-78	3-0	29:45

# 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.  
 Sept. 22, 2017 — Waived WR **Jake Kumerow** from the Reserve/Injured list.  
 Sept. 25, 2017 — Announced that the NFL granted LB **Vontaze Burfict** (Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list) a three-day roster exemption to participate in team activities.  
 Sept. 28, 2017 — Activated LB **Vontaze Burfict** from exemption status to the 53-player roster; Waived LB **Hardy Nickerson**.  
 Sept. 29, 2017 — Signed LB **Hardy Nickerson** to the practice squad; Released G **Cole Toner** from the practice squad.  
 Oct. 12, 2017 — Placed TE **Tyler Eifert** on the Reserve/Injured list.  
 Oct. 16, 2017 — Signed LS **Clark Harris**\* to a contract extension; Signed LB **Hardy Nickerson** from the practice squad; Signed TE **Scott Orndoff** (FA) 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><b>P</b> — played as a substitute</p> <p><b>DNP</b> — did not play</p> <p><b>IL</b> — inactive list</p> <p><b>PS</b> — practice squad</p>	<p><b>RI</b> — reserve/injured list</p> <p><b>RPUP</b> — reserve/physically unable to perform list</p> <p><b>RNFI</b> — reserve/non-football injury list</p> <p><b>RNF-I</b> — reserve/non-football illness list</p> <p><b>RSBC</b> — reserve/suspended by commissioner list</p>	<p><b>RF</b> — reserve/future list</p> <p><b>REX</b> — roster exemption</p> <p><b>^</b> — reserve/injured player designated for return</p> <p><b>*</b> — eligible to practice while on a reserve list</p> <p><b>NWT</b> — not with team</p>	
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NAME	Cin. G-S	1 BALT.	2 HOU.	3 @G.B.	4 @Cle.	5 BUFF.	6 @Pitt.	7 IND.	8 @Jax	9 @Tenn.	10 @Den.	11 CLE.	12 PITT.	13 CHI.	14 @Minn.	15 DET.	16 @Balt.
Atkins, Geno.....	5-5	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT											
Bell, Brandon.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Bernard, Giovanni.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Billings, Andrew.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Bodine, Russell.....	5-5	C	C	C	C	C											
Boling, Clint.....	5-5	LG	LG	LG	LG	LG											
Boyd, Tyler.....	4-1	P	IL	3rdWR	P	P											
Bullock, Randy.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Burfict, Vontaze.....	2-2	RSBC	RSBC	RSBC	LB	LB											
Carson, Tra.....	0-0	RI	RI	RI	RI	RI											
Carter, Cethan.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Core, Cody.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Dalton, Andy.....	5-5	QB	QB	QB	QB	QB											
Dennard, Darqueze.....	5-3	RCB	P	P	nkIDB	nkIDB											
Dielman, J.J.....	0-0	NWT	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Driskel, Jeff.....	0-0	RI	RI	RI	RI	RI											
Dunlap, Carlos.....	5-5	LDE	LDE	LDE	LDE	LDE											
Eifert, Tyler.....	2-1	P	TE	IL	IL	IL											
Elliott, Jake.....	0-0	PS	NWT	NWT	NWT	NWT											
Erickson, Alex.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Evans, Jordan.....	4-0	P	P	P	IL	P											
Fejedelem, Clayton.....	5-1	SS	P	P	P	P											
Fisher, Jake.....	5-4	ROT	ROT	ROT	ROT	P											
Glasgow, Ryan.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Green, A.J.....	5-5	WR	WR	WR	WR	WR											
Harris, Clark.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Hewitt, Ryan.....	4-2	H-B	P	P	H-B	IL											
Hill, Jeremy.....	5-5	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB											
Hopkins, Trey.....	2-1	RG	IL	IL	IL	P											
Huber, Kevin.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Iloka, George.....	5-5	FS	FS	FS	FS	FS											
Jackson, William.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Johnson, Michael.....	4-4	RDE	IL	RDE	DT	RDE											
Johnson, T.J.....	5-4	P	RG	RG	RG	RG											
Jones, Adam.....	4-4	RSBC	RCB	RCB	RCB	RCB											
Kirkpatrick, Dre.....	5-5	LCB	LCB	LCB	LCB	LCB											
Kroft, Tyler.....	5-5	TE	2ndTE	TE	TE	TE											
Kumerow, Jake.....	0-0	RI	RI	NWT	NWT	NWT											
LaFell, Brandon.....	5-4	WR	P	WR	WR	WR											
Lawson, Carl.....	5-1	P	P	P	RDE	P											
Malone, Josh.....	0-0	IL	IL	IL	IL	IL											
McCarron, AJ.....	1-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	P	DNP											
Minter, Kevin.....	5-3	MLB	MLB	MLB	P	P											
Mixon, Joe.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Nickerson, Hardy.....	3-0	P	P	P	PS	PS											
Ogbuehi, Cedric.....	5-4	LOT	LOT	LOT	P	LOT											
Orndoff, Scott.....	0-0	NWT	NWT	NWT	NWT	NWT											
Peerman, Cedric.....	0-0	RI	RI	RI	RI	RI											
Perkins, Kent.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Redmond, Alex.....	1-0	IL	IL	DNP	P	IL											
Rey, Vincent.....	5-3	WLB	WLB	WLB	P	P											
Ringo, Christian.....	0-0	IL	NWT	NWT	NWT	NWT											
Ross, John.....	1-1	IL	WR	IL	IL	IL											
Russell, KeiVarae.....	3-0	P	IL	IL	P	P											
Schreck, Mason.....	0-0	RI	RI	RI	RI	RI											
Shaw, Josh.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Shelton, Sojour.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Sims, Pat.....	5-4	NT	NT	NT	P	NT											
Smith, Andre.....	4-2	DNP	P	P	LOT	ROT											
Smith, Chris.....	5-0	P	P	P	P	P											
Smith, Derron.....	2-0	P	P	IL	IL	IL											
Toner, Cole.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	NWT	NWT											
Tupou, Josh.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Uzomah, C.J.....	3-1	IL	IL	P	P	2ndTE											
Vigil, Nick.....	5-5	SLB	SLB	SLB	LB	LB											
Westerman, Christian.....	0-0	IL	DNP	IL	IL	IL											
Whitfield, Kermit.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Williams, DeShawn.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Williams, Jarveon.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS											
Williams, Shawn.....	4-4	IL	SS	SS	SS	SS											
Willis, Jordan.....	5-1	P	RDE	P	P	P											
Wilson, Brandon.....	0-0	PS	PS	PS	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	Eifert	Kroft(2ndTE)	Ross	Dalton	Hill
Sept. 24	at Green Bay	Green	Ogbuehi	Boling	Bodine	T.Johnson	Fisher	Kroft	Boyd(3rdWR)	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
Oct. 1	at Cleveland	Green	A.Smith	Boling	Bodine	T.Johnson	Fisher	Kroft	Hewitt	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
Oct. 8	BUFFALO	Green	Ogbuehi	Boling	Bodine	T.Johnson	A.Smith	Kroft	Uzomah(2ndTE)	LaFell	Dalton	Hill
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	Dunlap	Sims	Atkins	M.Johnson	Vigil	Minter	Rey	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
Oct. 1	at Cleveland	Dunlap	M.Johnson(DT)	Atkins	Lawson	Vigil(LB)	Burfict(LB)	Dennard(nickel)	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
Oct. 8	BUFFALO	Dunlap	Sims	Atkins	M.Johnson	Vigil	Burfict(LB)	Dennard(nickel)	Kirkpatrick	Jones	S.Williams	Iloka
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

OCT. 17, 2017

## OFFENSE

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

## DEFENSE

<b>LDE</b>	96	Carlos Dunlap	94	Chris Smith		
<b>NT</b>	92	Pat Sims	99	Andrew Billings		
<b>DT</b>	97	Geno Atkins	98	<u>Ryan Glasgow</u>		
<b>RDE</b>	90	Michael Johnson	75	<u>Jordan Willis</u>		
<b>SLB</b>	59	Nick Vigil	58	<u>Carl Lawson</u>		
<b>MLB</b>	51	Kevin Minter	57	Vincent Rey	56	<u>Hardy Nickerson</u>
<b>WLB</b>	55	Vontaze Burfict	50	<u>Jordan Evans</u>		
<b>LCB</b>	27	Dre Kirkpatrick	26	Josh Shaw	20	KeiVarae Russell
<b>RCB</b>	24	Adam Jones	21	Darqueze Dennard	22	William Jackson
<b>SS</b>	36	Shawn Williams	31	Derron Smith		
<b>FS</b>	43	George Iloka	42	Clayton Fejedelem		

## SPECIAL TEAMS

<b>P</b>	10	Kevin Huber				
<b>K</b>	4	Randy Bullock				
<b>LS</b>	46	Clark Harris				
<b>H</b>	10	Kevin Huber				
<b>PR</b>	12	Alex Erickson	24	Adam Jones	83	Tyler Boyd
<b>KOR</b>	12	Alex Erickson	28	<u>Joe Mixon</u>		

NOTE: Rookies are underlined.

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

<p><b>Geno Atkins</b> ..... JEE-no</p> <p><b>Giovani Bernard</b> ..... jee-o-VAHN-ee</p> <p><b>Russell Bodine</b> ..... BO-dine</p> <p><b>Randy Bullock</b> ..... BULL-luck</p> <p><b>Vontaze Burfict</b> ..... VONN-tez BER-fict (rhymes with "perfect")</p> <p><b>Tra Carson (Reserve/Injured)</b> ..... (pronounced as "tray")</p> <p><b>Cethan Carter</b> ..... SEE-thin</p> <p><b>Darqueze Dennard</b> ..... dar-KWEZ deh-NARD</p> <p><b>J.J. Dielman (Practice Squad)</b> ..... DEAL-man</p> <p><b>Tyler Eifert (Reserve/Injured)</b> ..... IE(rhymes with "tie")-fert</p> <p><b>Clayton Fejedelem</b> ..... FEDGE-uh-lemm (the "d" is silent)</p> <p><b>Ryan Glasgow</b> ..... GLASS-go</p> <p><b>Paul Guenther (Defensive Coordinator)</b> ..... GUN-thur</p>	<p><b>Jim Haslett (Linebackers Coach)</b> ..... HAZ-lett</p> <p><b>Ryan Hewitt</b> ..... HUE-it</p> <p><b>George Iloka</b> ..... ie(rhymes with "tie")-LO-kuh</p> <p><b>Dre Kirkpatrick</b> ..... DRAY</p> <p><b>Bill Lazor (Offensive Coordinator)</b> ..... (pronounced as "laser")</p> <p><b>Cedric Ogbuehi</b> ..... o-BWAY-hee</p> <p><b>Vincent Rey</b> ..... RAY</p> <p><b>KeiVarae Russell</b> ..... kee-VAR-ay</p> <p><b>Derron Smith</b> ..... duh-RONN</p> <p><b>Josh Tupou (Practice Squad)</b> ..... TEW-po</p> <p><b>C.J. Uzomah</b> ..... yew-ZAH-mah</p> <p><b>Jarveon Williams (Practice Squad)</b> ..... JAR-vee-ahn</p>
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# ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

**OCT. 17, 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
55	Burfict, Vontaze	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12
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
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, Kei'Varae	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
84	Omdoff, Scott (10-16-17)	TE	6-5	255	12-16-93	R	Pittsburgh	Waynesburg, Pa.	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
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
85	Eifert, Tyler (10-12-17; back)	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	5	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
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

**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

**OCT. 17, 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
55	Vontaze Burfict	LB	6-1	255	9-24-90	6	Arizona State	Inglewood, Calif.	CFA'12
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
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
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
84	Scott Orndoff (10-16-17)	TE	6-5	255	12-16-93	R	Pittsburgh	Waynesburg, Pa.	FA'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
85	Tyler Eifert (10-12-17; back)	TE	6-6	255	9-8-90	5	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
86	Mason Schreck (9-2-17; knee)	TE	6-5	252	11-4-93	R	Buffalo	Medina, Ohio	D7'17

**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).

