

LB 49

KEONTA JENKINS

BORN: January 26, 2002 | HT: 6-2 | WT: 215 | Rookie

COLLEGE: Virginia Tech

ACQUIRED: UDFA (2025)

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FIRST-AND-10

KEONTA JENKINS was signed by the Bills as an undrafted free agent in 2025. Jenkins was in Blacksburg for five seasons, totaling 184 tackles, three interceptions, 2.5 sacks, and nine pass deflections.

SHOUTOUTS

- Started 12 games in 2024 and tallied 65 tackles (38 solo), including 9.0 TFLs and a sack, recorded four pass breakups and three quarterback hurries.
- Played in 13 games, making 10 starts during the 2023 season. Tallied 50 total tackles (30 solo) including 10 TFLs and registered two forced fumbles and an interception along with three quarterback hurries.
- Made five tackles (three solo), including 0.5 TFLs against Syracuse (10/26/23). Led Virginia Tech in tackles (12, six solo), including 2.0 TFLs (8 yards) and 1.0 sacks (6 yards) against Wake Forest (10/14/23).
- In 2022, he played in 11 games, making nine starts and recorded 40 tackles (23 solo), 2.0 TFL (6 yards), one interception, four quarterback hurries and three pass breakups. Made his first career interception, finishing with three tackles (one solo), a pass breakup and a quarterback hurry at Pitt (10/8/22).
- Played in 12 games, making one start at safety in 2021. Totaled 17 tackles (12 solo) and two pass breakups. Started and made three tackles vs. North Carolina (9/3/21). Made a tackle and broke up a pass vs. Syracuse (10/23/21). Registered a tackle vs. Maryland (12/29).

PERSONAL

The son of Chedrick Jenkins and Cherise Kirtsey, Majoring in sociology. First name pronounced: KEY-ON-tay. Attended Jean Ribault High School in Jacksonville, Florida.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

SHINE FOR THEM

Jenkins' strong play comes at an ideal time for many of his family members to see him play in person for the first time. "It's going to be amazing. Like I said, the family is the biggest piece so just having my family watch me play in college for the first time, that'll be amazing," he said. "Just being close to home on a very big stage, it'll be a good opportunity for me."

"I just have a lot of uncles and nephews, nieces that were too young to come back then so now they're a little older, they can actually see me play," he said. "They've watched a couple games on TV, but it's a very different experience in person, so I'm looking to give them a show."

Jenkins said his dad, mom and brothers travel to Blacksburg to watch him play at home. Those close family members, and the extended family, will travel west on Interstate 10 for the 3:30 p.m. kickoff Saturday.

"The big family tree, they get to watch me play," Jenkins said.

Jenkins was asked if he grew up a Florida State fan. He actually was the odd one in the bunch, electing to wear the blue and orange of Florida and cheering for Percy Harvin and Tim Tebow. He visited the FSU campus "a little bit," but never had interest in attending the school because he "was truly like a Florida Gator fan."

"Those guys kind of attracted my eyes," he said. "That's kind of who I stuck with."

(roanoke.com, Damien Sordelett Oct. 4, 2023)

THE STAMPEDE

First car: 2017 Chevy Impala

Dream sporting event: NBA Finals Game 7

Favorite artist: No Cap Bucket list item: Skydive

Gas station snack: Pringles Hobbies: Fishina





Finals