



CINCINNATI BENGALS

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

WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

SEPT. 8, 2015

CINCINNATI BENGALS (0-0) AT OAKLAND RAIDERS (0-0)

REGULAR-SEASON OPENER
SUNDAY, SEPT. 13
AT O.co COLISEUM

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 2, GAME 2
SEPT. 20 VS. SAN DIEGO

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 4:25 p.m. Eastern.

Television: CBS broadcast with Tom McCarthy (play-by-play) and Chris Simms (analyst). The game will be aired in the Bengals home market on WKRC-TV (Channel 12) in Cincinnati, WHIO-TV (Channel 7) in Dayton and on WKYT-TV (Channel 27) in Lexington, Ky.

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

Setting the scene: Work that began more than four months ago, when the Bengals assembled for offseason, is concluded. This week brings the first pass-or-fail test in pursuit of a fifth consecutive NFL playoff berth. Most if not all the pieces from a successful Bengals program under head coach Marvin Lewis seem to be in place.

But the challenge this week at Oakland is formidable, even though the Raiders were 3-13 last season and have not been to the playoffs since 2002. The Raiders have new talent, as well as direction from a new, but veteran, head coach (Jack Del Rio). And the Bengals franchise has never won a game in Oakland, having fallen to 0-10 there in 2009, when a Lewis team bound for the AFC North Division championship was tripped 20-17 by a Raiders club that would finish 5-11.

Call it a season-opening "trap game," if you will. Lewis calls it simply Day 146 of the journey that began April 20 and will end on Jan. 3, with the official crowning of the 2015 AFC North champion.

"The playoffs are not guaranteed to anyone," Lewis says, "and you get there by treating each moment as an opportunity to get better at everything you do. Last year was not good enough (the 10-5-1 Bengals lost at Indianapolis in their opening playoff game), and we've worked very hard this offseason to instill a sense of new direction. The goal has been to get better in every area, and it starts at the top. It's my responsibility."

Regarding the Raiders, Lewis said:

"They're a good, young team. They've got a fine young quarterback in (David) Carr, they've got more explosiveness with their top draft choice, the wideout (Amari) Cooper, and they're strong up front. Defensively, they've got an impact player in (LB Khalil) Mack. We've got our work cut out for us, so let's get out there and see what we can do."

Lewis and the Bengals administration have put together a 2015 roster that emerged from preseason in good health. It appears improved in several areas over the team that last year won in double digits for the third straight season:

- The defensive line has two new veteran additions in DE Michael Johnson and DT Pat Sims. And, DT Geno Atkins, a first-team All-Pro in 2012 and '13, appears fully recovered from a '13 knee injury that held him back last season.

- QB Andy Dalton should have considerably more proven receiving targets than last season. WR Marvin Jones and TE Tyler Eifert are back after injury-cancelled 2014 seasons, and four-time Pro Bowler A.J. Green seeks new heights after a 2014 campaign in which he was limited due to injuries.

- Talented HBs Jeremy Hill and Giovani Bernard, in only their second and third NFL seasons, respectively, figure to both advance from the form that produced 2368 scrimmage yards between them last season.

- The LB corps has added proven veteran A.J. Hawk as a free agent, and there's a promising rookie playmaker in P.J. Dawson. Vontaze Burfict, a Pro Bowler in 2013, is on reserve status, due to continuing knee rehab, but he also

was largely unavailable last season. He'll have an opportunity to rejoin the roster after Week 6.

- The offensive line returns veteran starters at both tackle and both guard positions, and powerful C Russell Bodine has his rookie year behind him.
- Reflecting overall roster depth which is rated among the NFL's best, the Bengals did not have a college free agent make the opening-week squad.

And the team went through the four-game preseason schedule without suffering a serious injury.

"Knock on wood," Lewis said. "We should be going out there at just about full strength."

The Bengals finished preseason with a 9-6 win at Indianapolis. Cincinnati's 3-1 preseason record was the best in the AFC North.

The series: The Raiders lead, 20-9, including 2-0 in postseason. Among teams that have not been division rivals of the Bengals, the Raiders hold the most victories against Cincinnati. But the Bengals have won two of the last three meetings, prevailing 34-10 at home in 2012 and 27-10 at home in 2006. The Raiders won 20-17 at Oakland in 2009.

This week's game presents a significant challenge to the Bengals regarding series history. Cincinnati has never won in 10 previous visits to Oakland. The Bengals were 1-4 on the road against the Raiders when the Raiders were based in Los Angeles (1982-94). The Bengals lead 8-6 as the home team.

In all games, home and road, the Bengals are 5-14 against the Oakland Raiders and were 4-6 against the L.A. Raiders.

The series includes two playoff games. The Raiders won 31-28 in a divisional game at Oakland in 1975, and won 20-10 in a divisional game at Los Angeles in '90.

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 45, in a 45-21 win at Los Angeles in 1988. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 24 (twice), including the most recent meeting, a 34-10 win at Cincinnati in 2012. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 10 (four times), most recently in the 2012 game at Cincinnati.

Raiders — MOST POINTS: 38, in a 38-14 victory at Cincinnati in 1991. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 34, in a 34-0 win at Cincinnati in 1968. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 0, in the 34-0 win in '68.

The last meetings: Summaries of the last two Bengals-Raiders meetings — in 2009 at Oakland and in 12' at Cincinnati — are on page 14 of this news release.

Fourth-and-one? Done: The Raiders and Bengals were the NFL's most successful teams last season in offensive conversions on fourth-down-and-one. Among teams with a minimum of four tries, the Raiders had the only perfect performance, converting all four of their chances. The Bengals had the second-best percentage in the group, making five of six tries for an 83.3 success rate.

Records vs. Raiders: The two longest rushing gains ever against the Bengals were both by Bo Jackson of the Raiders. Jackson had a 92-yarder for a TD at Los Angeles on Nov. 5, 1989, and he had an 88-yarder (no score) on Dec. 16, 1990 at Los Angeles. Also:

- Four times, the Bengals have posted five interceptions against an opposing quarterback. The first of those instances came against Oakland's Daryle Lamonica on Nov. 2, 1969 at Nippert Stadium.

Historically, it doesn't hurt: No one will be calling a season opener a "must-win" game. But in nine of their 13 seasons of qualifying for postseason play (69.2 percent), the Bengals did win the opener. In the franchise's first playoff season, 1970, the team opened with a home victory over the Raiders.

Here are the season opener results from Bengals playoff years:

YEAR	OPPONENT	RESULT	BENGALS' FINISH
1970	OAKLAND	W, 31-21	Won AFC Central at 8-6
1973	@Denver	L, 10-28	Won AFC Central at 10-4
1975	CLEVELAND	W, 24-17	11-3 for best-ever win pct. (.786)
1981	SEATTLE	W, 27-21	Went 12-4 and reached SB XVI
1982	HOUSTON	W, 27-6	7-2 in strike-shortened season
1988	PHOENIX	W, 21-14	Went 12-4 and reached SB XXIII
1990	NY JETS	W, 25-20	Central title at 9-7; went 1-1 in playoffs
2005	@Cleveland	W, 27-13	11-5 finish for AFC North crown
2009	DENVER	L, 7-12	Won AFC North (10-6); swept division
2011	@Cleveland	W, 27-17	Earned Wild Card berth at 9-7
2012	@Baltimore	L, 13-44	Earned Wild Card berth at 10-6
2013	@Chicago	L, 21-24	Won AFC North at 11-5
2014	@Baltimore	W, 23-16	Earned Wild Card berth at 10-5-1

For openers: Marvin Lewis is 5-7 in season openers as Bengals head coach, including 4-5 on the road.

The Bengals franchise has posted a 21-26 mark in season openers, including 8-15 on the road. The Bengals are opening on the road for the sixth straight season, the longest such stretch in franchise history.

The Bengals are 1-1 in past season openers against the Raiders, with a home win in 1970 and a home loss in 1983.

Cincinnati is opening the season with a game on the West Coast for only the third time. The Bengals lost 29-13 at San Diego in 1968 (franchise's first regular-season game) and won 21-3 at Seattle in 1992.

Bengals-Raiders connections: Bengals offensive coordinator Hue Jackson was on the Raiders coaching staff from 2010-11, including head coach in 2011, when his team tied for the best record in the AFC West at 8-8 (still tied for Raiders' best record since 2002); Jackson played collegiately at University of the Pacific from 1985-86, coached there from 1987-89, and also coached at University of California in 1996 ... Bengals DT Pat Sims played for the Raiders from 2013-14 ... Bengals H-B Ryan Hewitt played at Stanford ... Bengals LB Rey Mauluga is from Eureka, Calif. ... Raiders DB Chimdi Chekwa played at Ohio State ... Bengals WR Marvin Jones played at University of California ... Bengals S Derron Smith played at Fresno State and is from Banning, Calif. ... Bengals defensive line coach Jay Hayes coached at University of California from 1992-94 ... Raiders S Taylor Mays played for the Bengals from 2011-14 ... Raiders S TJ Carrie played at Ohio University ... Raiders DT Ricky

Lumpkin played at Kentucky ... Raiders RB Michael Dyer played at Louisville ... Raiders TE's coach Bobby Johnson played OT at Miami (Ohio) and coached there from 1999-2004 before coaching at Indiana from 2005-09 ... Raiders RBs coach Bernie Parmalee played RB at Ball State ... Raiders LBs coach Sal Sunseri coached at Louisville from 1995-97 ... Raiders asst. DBs coach Rod Woodson is from Fort Wayne, Ind.

BENGALS-RAIDERS FINAL 2014 NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	RAIDERS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored.....	15th (23.2)	31st (15.8)
Points allowed	12th (21.1)	32nd (28.3)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	15th (348.0)	32nd (282.2)
Rushing	6th (134.2)	32nd (77.5)
Passing.....	21st (213.8)	26th (204.7)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	22nd (359.3)	21st (357.6)
Rushing	20th (116.3)	22nd (119.4)
Passing.....	20th (243.0)	16th (238.1)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential	T-16th (even)	32nd (minus-15)

Red-zone reports: In 2014, Oakland had the NFL's fewest offensive possessions (29) with snaps inside the opponent 20-yard line. But the Raiders at least made the most of them, scoring 21 TDs for a league-best red-zone TD percentage of 72.4.

The Bengals did well in the red-zone in '14 on both sides of the ball, ranking 11th in offensive TD percentage (57.1) and 10th in defensive percentage (49.1).

BENGALS FINAL 2014 RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 49	Inside-20 possessions: 55
Total scores: 45 (91.8%)	Total scores: 44 (80.0%)
TDs: 28 (57.1%)	TDs: 27 (49.1%)
FGs: 17 (34.7%)	FGs: 17 (31.0%)
TD% rank: 11th	TD% rank: 10th
No scores: 4 (8.2%)	No scores: 11 (20.0%)

RAIDERS FINAL 2014 RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 29	Inside-20 possessions: 57
Total scores: 27 (93.1%)	Total scores: 51 (89.5%)
TDs: 21 (72.4%)	TDs: 30 (52.6%)
FGs: 6 (20.7%)	FGs: 21 (36.8%)
TD% rank: 1st	TD% rank: 15th
No scores: 2 (6.9%)	No scores: 6 (10.5%)

THE HEAD COACHES

Marvin Lewis has the most wins of any Bengals coach, and by a wide margin. He hit the 100 mark in 2014, good for a margin of 36 over Sam Wyche (64). Lewis' record is 100-90-2 in the regular season and 100-96-2 including postseason.

Lewis in 2015 extends his tenure to 13 seasons, also a Bengals record, and in April of '15, he signed a contract extension through '16. He has led the team to the postseason in five of the last six years, including four straight. The Bengals are one of only four NFL teams to be in the playoffs every year since 2011, and they are also one of only five clubs to qualify as many as five times in the last six years.

In total, Lewis has coached six Bengals playoff teams, another franchise record. Paul Brown is second in the category, with three. Lewis has coached three division champions, one more than Paul Brown and Sam Wyche.

The Bengals logged their third straight season of double-digit wins in 2014, finishing 10-5-1. Cincinnati closed a half-game behind Pittsburgh in the AFC North Division and went to the playoffs as the first Wild Card, falling 26-10 at AFC South champion Indianapolis.

In 2013, Lewis led an 11-5 season, winning the AFC North by three games over both Baltimore and Pittsburgh.

In a 2009 title season in which the Bengals swept all six division games and won the North title, Lewis was the consensus choice as NFL Coach of the Year. Lewis also led Cincinnati to an AFC North title in 2005.

Lewis ranks second in the NFL in longest current tenure with one team,

trailing only Bill Belichick, who is in his 16th straight season with New England. In the category of most seasons as an active NFL head coach with one or more teams, Lewis in 2014 ranks sixth.

Lewis was named the ninth head coach in Bengals history on Jan. 14, 2003. In '02, he directed the NFL's fifth-ranked defense with Washington, serving as assistant head coach in addition to his role as defensive coordinator. Prior to his year with the Redskins, he was a record-setting defensive coordinator for the Baltimore Ravens. His six seasons with the Ravens (1996-2001) included a Super Bowl victory following the '00 season. In the '00 season, Lewis' Baltimore defense set the NFL record for fewest points allowed in a 16-game campaign (165), and the '00 Ravens are always included in discussions of the best single-season NFL defenses of all time.

Lewis entered the NFL as linebackers coach with Pittsburgh from 1993-95, guiding the careers of Pro Bowl selections Kevin Greene, Chad Brown, Levon Kirkland and Greg Lloyd.

Born Sept. 23, 1958, in McDonald, Pa., near Pittsburgh, Lewis played linebacker at Idaho State and earned All-Big Sky Conference honors in each of his three seasons ('78-80). He began his coaching career as an assistant at Idaho State University in 1981.

Jack Del Rio is in his first season as Raiders head coach and in his 10th season as an NFL head coach. He bossed the Jacksonville Jaguars for nine seasons (2003-11), posting a 69-73 record, including 1-2 in postseason. He

led the Jaguars to Wild Card playoff berths in 2005 and '07.

From 2012 through last season, Del-Rio was defensive coordinator for Denver, helping lead the Broncos to three AFC West championships and an appearance in Super Bowl XLVII, following the 2013 season. He was interim Denver head coach for four games in 2013, while head coach John Fox underwent a heart procedure, but the team's 3-1 record in those games is not counted in Del Rio's head coaching record.

Del Rio was Carolina's defensive coordinator in 2002, and the team's defense ranked second in the league after ranking 31st in '01. From 1999-2001, Del Rio was LBs coach for the Baltimore Ravens, working under current Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis, who was Ravens defensive coordinator from '96-2001. Lewis and Del Rio helped the Ravens win Super Bowl XXV, after the 2000

season.

After playing LB in the NFL from 1985-95 for New Orleans, Kansas City, Dallas and Minnesota, Del Rio began his coaching career from '97-98 with the Saints.

He was a four-year starter at LB at the University of Southern California, where he earned consensus All-America honors and was runner-up for the Lombardi Award. His hometown is Castro Valley, Calif.

Lewis vs. Raiders: Tied, 2-2.

Lewis vs. Del Rio: Lewis leads, 2-1, from games during Del Rio's tenure at Jacksonville.

Del Rio vs. Bengals: Same as Del Rio vs. Lewis.

BENGALS NOTES

Dalton and Green make four-year history: WR A.J. Green and QB Andy Dalton were the Bengals' first two draft selections in 2011, and they've had quite a four-season ride.

As researched by Elias Sports Bureau, they stand as the most productive QB-WR duo in NFL history for players in their first four seasons. Their 324 completions and 4735 yards are the most by any duo for seasons 1-4, and their 33 TD connections are tied for the most with Dan Marino and Mark Clayton of Miami (1983-86)

Dalton — not new, but still improving: Put QB Andy Dalton at the top of the list for heeding head coach Marvin Lewis' call that despite the team's success of recent seasons, "last year was not good enough." Dalton devoted offseason time for the second straight year to working with noted QB instructor Tom House.

"I think that's the key to a pro's pro," said Lewis. "A guy who wants to be at the top of his game has to spend time on himself all year long, just like a professional golfer does. They go to different people all the time, they're always searching for answers and wondering, 'What is out there that can make me better?' You're not trying to re-invent the wheel, but thinking what you can do to enhance the things you currently do and make you a better player, and make you more efficient at your job? Turning over those stones is an important part in Andy's maturity and development moving forward."

Dalton wasn't taking a repeat course this year with House, he was moving to a new level.

"I started where I left off the year before," he said. "I was farther along with everything we were doing when I went back. That's where I want to be. I'm able to do a lot of the more advanced stuff they have because I have a good understanding for what we are doing. It's not stuff that is strange or different. Just working core, shoulders, and getting everything working for you so you get everything into the throw."

Asked where he hoped to see the sessions pay the most dividends in 2015, Dalton said:

"Mechanically staying sound throughout the whole year. Sometimes you get into the mid-to-late season, and you've been so focused on defenses and the mental side of it, you may not take as much time thinking mechanically and making sure everything is in sync. That's where I'm really trying to use it; to make sure I have everything going for me toward the end of the season. I feel like I've done the stuff enough now where it's muscle memory. Talking back and forth with them, doing things, and doing them right. I've done it enough now that it's muscle memory."

Dalton's leadership grows: Not only did QB Andy Dalton work on his personal game away from Paul Brown Stadium this past offseason (see previous item), he worked to further bring the club together during the offseason program and in preseason.

"I think our quarterback did an outstanding job this offseason of taking the group and making them understand what we have to get done," said offensive coordinator Hue Jackson. "He is more vocal. He understands what his agenda is now more so than ever. We'll ride with him. I think he's going to lead this team where it has to go."

Dalton has the platform for leadership based on his accomplishments since joining the Bengals as a second-round draft choice in 2011:

- He is only the second starting QB in the Super Bowl era (along with Baltimore's Joe Flacco) to lead playoff teams his first four seasons.
- He has never missed a start in 68 career opportunities, including postseason.

• His 64 consecutive regular-season starts is a Bengals record, topping 61 by Boomer Esiason from 1985-89.

• His regular-season winning percentage of .633 (40-23-1 record) is the best of any Bengals QB with 10 or more starts.

• He holds club records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33), both set in 2013.

• His 22.7-to-1 ratio of TD passes to INTs (68-3) in the red zone ranks third among active NFL passers.

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

No agreement? No problem: One sign of QB Andy Dalton's growing command of the Cincinnati offense is the fact he'll occasionally reject a play call from coordinator Hue Jackson and make his own decision. And that's OK with Jackson.

"A lot of people say that's a negative," Jackson says, "but that's a positive to me. That's where you want your quarterback to be. That's the kind of relationship that you want to have with him, where he can feel comfortable and say, 'Not that one.' This is his offense. We create a lot of synergy among our players and our group by giving them trust and responsibility. Andy's showing us where he is. He's growing in a lot of different ways, which is really good."

The boss, on Andy: Head coach Marvin Lewis offered his thoughts on QB Andy Dalton:

"Andy has made tremendous strides for us as the leader of the team," Lewis said. "Hue (offensive coordinator Hue Jackson) has been very, very forward in asking Andy to do more to become more of a leader, and Andy has embraced that. I see it in the interaction with the players. I see it in the interaction with us as coaches.

"It's confidence in his abilities. It's his confidence in the things we do on offense," Lewis continued. "He gets better each and every time he goes out there. He's always been a very accurate passer, but his anticipation continues to grow and get better. As he goes, he spurs the rest of the team on. They have to play up to his standard and he has a very high standard that way. And that's very helpful to us."

Radar in the red zone: Bengals QB Andy Dalton ranks third among active NFL passers in ratio of red-zone TDs to INTs (minimum of 25 red-zone TDs). He has thrown for 68 TDs and just three INTs on snaps inside the opponent 20-yard line, a ratio of 22.7-to-1.

The leader in the category is Aaron Rodgers of Green Bay, and Russell Wilson of Seattle is second. Trailing Dalton in the top five are Tom Brady of New England and Alex Smith of Kansas City.

"Andy's performance in this area is the type of thing we've come to expect from him," said Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis. "He's not only a fine talent, but a smart player who is going to avoid the big mistake. We've got a lot of confidence in Andy when we get the ball into scoring range."

Here are the active NFL leaders in the category of TD-INT ratio on red-zone plays (minimum 25 TDs):

PLAYER, CURRENT TEAM	TD	INT	RATIO
Aaron Rodgers, Green Bay	144	5	28.8-to-1
Russell Wilson, Seattle	49	2	24.5-to-1
Andy Dalton, Cincinnati	68	3	22.7-to-1
Tom Brady, New England	276	16	17.3-to-1
Alex Smith, Kansas City	75	5	15.0-to-1

A parallel for Dalton? Andy Dalton hasn't yet won a playoff game, but he has led the team to four berths in four seasons, a far better start than most young quarterbacks. And that list includes Peyton Manning, Denver's Hall-of-Fame lock of a QB. Manning needed his first five seasons (1998-2002) to lead the Indianapolis Colts to three playoff berths, and the Colts were eliminated in the first round all three times ('99, '00, '02).

Manning led his first playoff wins (two) in 2003, his sixth season as a Colt.

High standards for A.J.: It isn't often that season totals of 69 receptions, 1041 yards and six touchdowns are considered less than outstanding. But it also isn't often that a wide receiver with A.J. Green's talent comes along. Those were Green's totals for 2014, and though he made it to the Pro Bowl for a fourth consecutive year, they weren't what he had in mind. Neither, of course, did he have in mind that he would encounter the first significant injury problems of his career, missing three games and being limited in four others. He also missed the Wild Card playoff.

So Green enters 2015 highly motivated to meet or exceed his averages for his first three Bengals seasons — 83 catches, 1219 yards and nine TDs.

"I'm itching to get back out there," said Green, who got the night off in the preseason finale after playing briefly (five receptions for 59 yards) in the first three preseason games. "I feel like the football world forgot about me last year. That's how I approached it this whole offseason, and I know I'm back to form."

Green eagerly anticipates not only his own return, but the return of WR Marvin Jones and TE Tyler Eifert. Jones missed all of 2014 with injuries, and Eifert went down for the year with an injury in the first quarter of the opener.

"It's going to help open a lot of stuff up for me," Green said. "You saw how it was (in 2013), when Marv and Tyler were healthy. Marv had 10 touchdowns, I had 11 touchdowns, and Tyler played well as a rookie. And Tyler's better than that now. I've still got tons I want to accomplish."

Green needs another 98: After missing parts of last season with injuries, Bengals WR A.J. Green is bent on having his best season ever in 2015. And if Green could just match his best-ever receptions figure — 98 from 2013 — he'll have the most receptions for a player's first five seasons in NFL history. The current leader in that category is Larry Fitzgerald, who caught 426 for his first five seasons with Arizona. Green, with four seasons under his belt, enters this year with 329 receptions. A total of 98 more would put him at 427.

Here's how the list for receptions in seasons 1-5 will look if Green bags 98 catches this season:

PLAYER	RECEPTIONS
A.J. Green.....	*427
Larry Fitzgerald.....	426
Torry Holt.....	423
Randy Moss.....	414
Anquan Boldin.....	413
Marvin Harrison.....	413
Brandon Marshall.....	413

* — Includes projected total of 98 catches this season.

Despite his injury-reduced totals of last season, Green finished the year as the only player to rank among the NFL's top four in both catches and receiving yards for seasons 1-4 of a career. Green's four-year totals are 329 catches for 4874 yards (and 35 TDs). Green had the third-most catches for a player in his first four years, trailing only Anquan Boldin (342) and Larry Fitzgerald (330). In yards for seasons 1-4, Green ranks fourth, trailing only Randy Moss (5396), Torry Holt (5088) and Jerry Rice (5881).

In the category of most receiving yards for seasons 1-5, leaders Holt (6784) and Moss (6743) are probably safe. Green would need 1871 yards this season just to pass Moss into second place. But Green has a chance to pass Jerry Rice (6364) into third place for seasons 1-5. Green would go to 6365 with 1491 yards. That would be a Bengals record, but only 51 more than Chad Johnson's mark of 1440, and Green had 1426 in 2013.

Over nine weeks, Hill was best of best: HB Jeremy Hill's 2014 rushing total — 1124 yards — was very good, but not spectacular. It ranks 13th in Bengals history for rushing yards in a season. But to get an idea why Bengals fans are expecting more than just "very good" from the Louisiana State product in 2015, consider these smaller numbers:

- **One:** That's Hill's number of NFL seasons played. He was just a rookie in 2014.

• **Two:** That's the number of times a Hill run had a dramatic effect on a Bengals victory last season. On Nov. 2, the Bengals were letting underdog Jacksonville harbor hopes of an upset, giving up 13 unanswered points to let the Jaguars close within 26-23 with 8:13 to play. But on the next Bengals scrimmage play, Hill turned momentum on its head, rushing 60 yards for a TD and a 33-23 final margin in the game. And on Dec. 22 vs. Denver, the Broncos quieted a big Monday night Bengals crowd with an interception for a TD less than five minutes into the game. But just 23 seconds later on the game clock, Hill burst for an 85-yard score that tied the team and set the wheels in motion for a 37-28 win that clinched a playoff berth.

• **Four:** That's the number of games in which Hill had 140-plus rushing yards last season. He was only the third NFL rookie to complete that feat. The first two, Eric Dickerson of the Rams in 1983 (five games) and Curtis Martin of the Patriots in '95 (four games), are both in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

• **Nine:** Over the last nine weeks (Weeks 9-17) of the 2014 season, Hill was the NFL's leading rusher. He posted 929 of his 1124 total during that span, and his 929 was best by over 100 yards. Seattle's Marshawn Lynch was second at 824. The remainder of the top five included Philadelphia's LeSean McCoy (814), Dallas' DeMarco Murray (791) and Denver's C.J. Anderson (785). The Bengals played nine games over the final nine weeks, and some teams played only eight in that span. But also in rushing average per team game, Hill came out on top for Weeks 9-17, with an average of 103.2. Murray ranked second at 98.8.

300-plus for Jeremy? HB Jeremy Hill's 2014 rushing exploits (see previous item) came on only 222 carries, as he did not begin filling a major role until the last nine games. But he averaged 19.1 carries over the final nine games, and should he hold such a pace through 16 games this season, he'd finish with 306 carries.

That's not an extraordinary number. The NFL record is 416, by Kansas City's Larry Johnson in 2006, and the Bengals record is 361, by Rudi Johnson in 2004. But last season, 306 carries would have ranked third in the NFL, behind only Dallas' DeMarco Murray (a runaway leader at 392) and Philadelphia's LeSean McCoy (312).

Hill, of course, proclaims himself ready for whatever comes his way:

"That (big rushing total) is what I come here every day to do, and I try to put myself in the best position possible to do that," he says. "But, whatever role my coaches have for me — 200 carries or 400 — I've got to do everything in my ability to make sure I can handle any role. I'm going to continue to do that and be a team guy and just do whatever I can to help this team win games. Just bring my energy and my enthusiasm day in and day out."

If Hill for 306 carries could maintain his 5.06 per-carry average from last season, he'd finish with a Bengals-record 1549 rushing yards. The club record is 1458, by Johnson in 2005.

Jones sees red (zone): Bengals fans are of course looking forward to the return to action in 2015 of WR Marvin Jones. A fourth-year pro for '15, Jones missed all of last season with foot and ankle injuries, and it was a big loss for the offense. In 2013, Jones caught 51 passes for 712 yards and 10 touchdowns, including a club-record four TDs in a win over the N.Y. Jets.

Jones was indeed back in action in the 2015 preseason, with three catches for 52 yards in limited action, including one of his signature difficult grabs for a 31-yard TD from AJ McCarron vs. Chicago.

"Great catch and a great play," said McCarron.

"Marv split the defense, just like he's so good at," said QB Andy Dalton, who threw all 10 of those TD passes to Jones in 2013.

In games to come, fans can justifiably get extra pumped when the Bengals cross the opponent 20-yard line with Jones in the lineup. Jones in 2013 became a go-to guy in the red-zone area, getting nine of his 10 TDs on plays in this compressed and crucial realm. Last season across the NFL, only one player — Green Bay Pro Bowler Randall Cobb — had more than nine red-zone TD catches, and by only one, at 10.

"My clock never stops in the red zone," Jones says. "Whenever we get in the red zone, every play can be a touchdown. That's how we have to think. Once we think like that, we're going to put ourselves in position to be successful. When we're in the red zone, its go time."

How much was Jones missed in the red zone last year? Well, somewhat it seems. As a team, the 2013 Bengals had 20 red-zone TD receptions, ranking second in the NFL. Last year, a year in which the offense also suffered from missed games by WR A.J. Green, the team total fell to 13, ranked 20th.

As for his 10-TD year in '13, Jones says:

"OK, I've had a year with 10. Now I want more. The injuries are behind me and I'm physically ready to go."

In the red zone, with limited room to run patterns, extending plays and ad-libbing are key.

"I keep my eyes on Andy (QB Andy Dalton)," Jones says. "If things start to break down for him in the pocket, I just, boom, take off. We've been playing together for a while, and that's what we do. Once the play breaks down, and you're in the red zone, you find a way."

Now it's Eifert Time: T.J. Houshmandzadeh has been around the football block a few times. He played 11 years in the NFL and caught 70 or more passes in six seasons, including a Bengals-record 112 in 2007. But while working with the Bengals as an intern assistant coach, he saw something that made his eyes bug out.

That would be 6-6, 250-pound Tyler Eifert, Cincinnati's third-year tight end, working in the passing game.

"Every time I see that guy run a route, I can't believe it," Houshmandzadeh said. "I can't believe that man. He's too big to be moving like that. That's crazy."

Eifert looked characteristically fast and smooth in brief action in the first three preseason games, catching five passes for 67 yards. He got the night off in the finale. Eifert came out of Notre Dame with a reputation for exceptional receiving skills for a big, physical tight end. It wasn't just for his speed and route-running, but also for his sticky hands and ability to out-adjust defenders for contested balls. The Bengals bought in and drafted him in the first round in 2013.

Eifert had a good rookie season, working with veteran TE Jermaine Gresham in a two-TE base offense. He caught 39 passes for 445 yards and two TDs. The Bengals expected those numbers to significantly increase last year, and that forecast looked dead-on in the first quarter of the season opener at Baltimore, when on his first eight snaps, Eifert had three catches for 37 yards. Those numbers project to a 12-for-148 day. But on the third of those three catches, Eifert suffered an elbow injury that would put him out for the remainder of the season.

But now that's behind him, and he's back for 2015. This time he's clearly in the No. 1 TE role, as Gresham has moved on via free agency, and well ... just watch out, NFL.

"I feel good," Eifert says. "I feel healthy, strong, in-shape, and ready to go. I'm just going to go out and play hard and not worry about any of the other stuff. You really don't realize how much you miss being out there until you can't be out there. It was hard last year, and I'm excited to contribute this year and help us win games."

QB Andy Dalton looks forward to seeing Eifert use his many tools against smaller defenders who aren't that much faster than no. 85.

"He's a big matchup mismatch for us," Dalton said. "The more that he can do, the better we'll be."

Jones vaults depth-chart wall: You won't find many NFL players who were listed first on a depth chart for a season, then were not listed first for eight years, and then became listed first again.

But such is the case for Adam Jones, running No. 1 at RCB for the Bengals. Jones, who'll turn 32 on Sept. 30, was last a No. 1 in 2006, when he started 15 games for Tennessee, which had made him a first-round draft choice (sixth overall) in 2005. Off-field issues and resulting suspensions sidetracked Jones' career from 2007-09, and though he has been a valuable Bengal since 2010, serving as a nickel CB and dangerous kick returner, the No. 1 CB slots from then through last year were locked up by Leon Hall on one side and by Johnathan Joseph, Nate Clements and then Terence Newman on the other. Jones did start 13 games for the 2013 division champion Bengals, but they came as an injury replacement for Hall.

But this year, after a 2014 season in which he played well at CB while bringing the Bengals their first-ever NFL kickoff return title (31.3 yards per return), Jones has moved ahead of Hall, whom the coaches now envision in more of hybrid nickel/safety role. The key seems to be that while Jones has retained much of the natural ability that made him a high draft pick 10 years ago, he has continued to learn the game a bit better every year.

"I would say the mental aspect of my game on defense has caught up with the physical part," Jones says. "I can still run pretty fast, and my hips are pretty good. All that is still there. But I've probably gone from a C-plus student to an A-minus as far as technique, knowing where to be, knowing when to press, what leverage to press on."

"When I was younger, I was playing more on talent, because I felt no one could out-run me, that I was way faster than people. I feel the same way now, but I have a guy in the back of my ear that's telling me, 'Yeah, you can do all that, but why not make your job easier?'"

Jones' reference is to DBs coach Vance Joseph, now in his second Bengals season after eight seasons coaching DBs with San Francisco and later Houston.

"I've had a lot of cornerbacks coaches, but it's the little things he teaches," Jones said. "For instance, in one call he already eliminated four routes for me when nobody else broke it down like that. I trust him. He's been straight up with me. Some coaches don't tell you honestly the truth, but V.J. is going to tell you uncut. He expects guys to do it his way ... or he'll find somebody else."

Jones of course is still in the Bengals kick return mix. Last year, he not only led the NFL with his Bengals-record 31.3 average, he finished second in punt returns (12.0).

D-line bolstered and ready: The Bengals' sack total dipped last season to only 20, the team's lowest since 2008, but don't call this a "rebuilding year" for the Cincinnati pass rush, or for the D-line overall.

Firstly, head coach Marvin Lewis disputes public and media concentration on sack totals.

"Sacks don't win games," Lewis says. "Turnovers and pressure on the quarterback win games, and pressure on the quarterback doesn't necessarily mean sacks. I don't base our defensive performance on sacks, whether it's last year, when we didn't have as many, or the years before, when we had a lot."

The Bengals averaged 46.3 sacks per season over 2011-13, including a club-record 51 in '12. But whether 51 sacks or 20, Cincinnati was in the playoffs both seasons. And regardless of one's view of sack totals, the defensive line looks primed for a fine overall year in 2015. Some of the reasons:

- Coaches look for DT Geno Atkins, who wasn't quite fully on his game last season (still adjusting after a serious 2013 knee injury), to return to the form that made him the NFL's best interior pass rusher over 2011-12. He had 20 sacks over those two seasons.

- DE Michael Johnson (11.5 sacks in 2012) has returned to the team after a free-agent stint with Tampa Bay, and DT Pat Sims has also returned after leaving as a free agent. Johnson suffered a knee injury in practice on Aug. 2 and missed the preseason schedule, but he could have a chance to play at Oakland. He had 11.5 sacks for the Bengals in 2013, Sims is known as a stout run defender.

- DE Carlos Dunlap figures to just keep getting better in his seventh NFL season. Dunlap was the team's only productive sacker last season, getting eight, and his overall play is of the disruptive variety prized by Lewis.

- Veteran DE Wallace Gilberry returns after starting last season, second-year DE Will Clarke has put on 20 pounds of new muscle (to 291), and at the heart of it all is the continued inside presence inside of veteran DT Domata Peko.

"Last year we didn't have the rotation (of in-game personnel) that we had the few years before that," said Dunlap. "We had some guys injured at times, and we didn't have Mike (Johnson) or Pat (Sims). And now we've got year two from young Will (Clarke), who maybe wasn't quite ready to get his feet wet last year, and last year we had Wallace (Gilberry) playing nose in some run situations, and that's not really what we want. Having this rotation back and keeping guys healthy is going to be huge for us."

"And," Dunlap continued, "there's Geno (Atkins). Geno's obviously got his confidence back. Coming from the first career devastating injury, it takes a little while to get that back. This year I feel like he's going to make the cuts and play on his knee like the injury never happened. Having Geno back to his normal ways, that should give us 10 sacks alone. Then hopefully I can top him. I want to lead the league. That's my goal every year. So whoever the leader is, I'm trying to have one more than him."

Gio gets special: The Bengals should not lack for folks to tote the ball, gain yardage and score on offense this season. Cincinnati has at least six proven performers — WRs A.J. Green, Mohamed Sanu and Marvin Jones, HBs Jeremy Hill and Giovani Bernard, and TE Tyler Eifert. And that's not to say there won't be others.

And given that old truth about there being "only one football," the coaching staff is looking for new ways to maximize talented performers' opportunities. One way being explored is using HB Bernard, a shifty and explosive third-year pro, as a punt returner. CB Adam Jones is of course No. 1 as punt returner — he finished second in the NFL last season with a 12.0-yard average — but he's also the starting right cornerback. His availability for special teams could be limited at times, and even with WR Brandon Tate also on board as a solid punt returner, there could be benefits all around to bringing Bernard's talents into the mix.

"We have to see how it evolves," says special teams coordinator Darrin Simmons. "But Gio's obviously is a big playmaker, and that's why we're looking at him."

A second-round Bengals draft choice in 2013, out of North Carolina, Bernard has two-year NFL totals of 1375 rushing yards and 863 receiving. He has had a

TD run of 89 yards, a spectacular reverse-field rushing score of 35 yards as a rookie at Miami, and he's had two receiving gains of more than 40 yards. He hasn't returned a punt as a pro, but in 2012 at North Carolina, he averaged 16.4 yards on punt returns, with two TDs.

"It's fun," Bernard said of returning punts. "Catch the ball and run. There's a little more hang time at this level, but that's about the only difference. The more opportunities I get, the better. I enjoy opportunities."

"He's elusive," Simmons said. "I think about that run against Miami on Thursday night when he makes half the team miss. Plus, he's a strong runner who's built well. But you've got to remember, he hadn't touched a punt since last preseason, so he needs to get the feel again. And he does need to be more decisive, but we also need to block better so he can be more decisive."

The true unveiling is yet to come. Bernard got the night off in the preseason finale, and in the first three games, punters did not give him much of a chance. He made two fair catches and twice was tackled immediately as he caught the ball. But he at least got some ball security work, and the Bengals remain convinced he's a potential special teams weapon.

Vinny's volume: Off the field, Bengals LB Vincent Rey is as humble and down-to-earth a pro football player as you'll find. Five seasons into his NFL career, he hasn't changed from the undrafted rookie he was when he signed with the Bengals in 2010. This despite the fact that last year, he led the Bengals in tackles (121).

But when the native New Yorker (Far Rockaway in Queens) is on the field, he's more than just aggressive. He's loud and impossible to ignore, filling his role as one of the defense's primary play-callers.

"He's great," says defensive coordinator Paul Guenther. "If a guy's making calls and checks, you don't want him whispering out there with 80,000 people in the stadium. He's got to be demonstrative and direct traffic."

Says Rey:

"I take my job seriously. This is important to me. I feel this is how I honor God. I'm not just working for (head coach) Marvin Lewis or Paul Guenther or (linebackers coach) Matt Burke, I'm working for God. So I want to make sure everything is done with excellence."

And though Rey has proven himself a better player than scads of those drafted into the NFL, he still carries the college free agent mindset of working at every minute detail of his job.

"I may not be the fastest, strongest, biggest guy, but one of my jobs is to make sure that everybody's on the same page," Rey said. "Before the snap, if everything's 100 percent, then I have a chance. I just want everybody to be on the same page. I don't want it to be my fault. I don't want to be the reason why we're not winning that snap, that we're not competing well. Everyone has a job, and everyone's counting on me to do my job. That's why I'm loud as heck out there."

McCarron shows much promise: QB AJ McCarron doesn't figure to get many snaps in the regular season if Andy Dalton stays healthy. But for a preseason, he may have been the most-watched fifth-round draft choice in Bengals history. And despite having no regular-season NFL experience, he shows potential to give the Bengals their strongest player at No. 2 QB in some time.

He finished preseason with a solid 92.7 passer rating, completing 38 of 60 passes (63.3 percent) for 465 yards, one TD and no INTs. He led three TD drives in a relief role over games two and three, and he started and played three quarters in Cincinnati's preseason finale victory at Indianapolis. Overall, he drew praise from coaches and teammates as an on-field leader with a winning persona.

The Bengals chose McCarron in the fifth round of the 2014 draft, but he's in a sense still a rookie, as he was unable to play in 2014 due to rehab from a college shoulder injury.

McCarron stands as one of the biggest QB winners in college football history. He directed the offense for two Alabama national championship teams, and along the way, he produced dazzling stats, including a school-record 77 TD passes and the lowest interception percentage in NCAA history. He has legions of fans across the South, and beyond.

But consensus NFL wisdom for the 2014 draft seemed to say that McCarron might have been less a star in his own right than just one cog in the Crimson Tide victory machine. And the Bengals, with no plans of their own to spend a high choice on a QB, were happy to find McCarron still available in round five, with the 164th overall selection.

"McCarron's got the 'it' factor," CB Adam Jones has said. "The kid's a winner. You can tell he's been working on his ball strength from last year and this year. You can never underestimate the 'it,' factor regardless of what anybody says. It's the difference between winning some games and being champion. That's my opinion."

The Bengals have relied in recent years on experienced backup QBs. Bruce Gradkowski, Josh Johnson and Jason Campbell have backed up Dalton. But head coach Marvin Lewis said McCarron's intangibles can make up for his lack of experience.

"We've got a guy who has a lot of moxie, and has a lot of experience on the biggest stage in college," Lewis said. "He's shown me a lot of poise, and I'm very pleased about that. In the preseason games, we were working on what AJ's strengths are, so that if anything would happen to Andy, we would be prepared offensively to shift and go to that mode. AJ has the personality somewhat of a linebacker. He can lead guys and he gets excited. That's part of what made him such a successful player."

Says McCarron:

"I've been that way ever since I started playing football. I play with a lot of passion, excitement. There's a different side to me when I step inside the white lines. I try to make everybody feed off that."

Streaks and service leaders: NT Domata Peko claims the current roster's longest streak for consecutive Bengals starts (84), and his 84 straight Bengals games played also tops the roster. He also tops the roster in consecutive NFL games and starts, also both at 84. He has played his entire career, now in season 10, with Cincinnati.

OT Andrew Whitworth has the most total Bengals games (141) and Bengals starts (137) on the roster. The player with the most total NFL games (155) and starts (147) is LB A.J. Hawk.

All streaks and totals noted above include regular-season and postseason.

A stat that matters: For the Bengals term of coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), a plus-differential in turnovers reflects a big plus in the win column. And the reverse has gone for a minus.

The Bengals are 61-14-1 in regular season under Lewis with a plus (.809 winning percentage). But they are 14-57-1 under Lewis with a minus differential.

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

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

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

DIFFERENTIAL	W-L-T	PCT.
Plus-1.....	744-332-3	.691
Plus-2.....	604-126-0	.827
Plus-3.....	333-33-1	.909
Plus-4.....	183-5-0	.973
Plus-5 or more	89-3-0	.967

Twice last season, plus teams had perfect records. They were 13-0 in Week 2 and 10-0 in Week 8. The worst weekly performance for plus teams last season was 4-4 in Week 12. For last season, plus teams were 151-49-1 (.754). Since 2003, teams with any plus have a combined record of 1949-499-4, which is a winning percentage of .796.

And when it's even? The Bengals are 25-19 in head coach Marvin Lewis' full tenure in games when the turnover differential has been even, for a winning percentage of .568. The Bengals have won eight of their last 11 with even differential, dating back to 2012.

Tough schedules: Based on the aggregate 2014 records of their opponents, the Bengals have the second-toughest schedule in the NFL this season. Cincinnati's 2015 foes posted a .563 winning percentage (144-112 record).

Part of the reason for that is the strength of the AFC Central Division. The Bengals will of course play two games each against Pittsburgh and Baltimore, which joined Cincinnati in the playoffs last season. Pittsburgh in fact is the team with the toughest schedule under this reckoning. Steelers 2015 foes played to a .578 winning percentage (147-107-2). Cleveland, with six total games against the three AFC North playoff qualifiers, has the ninth-toughest schedule (.543,

138-116-2), and Baltimore is tied for No. 11 (.539, 137-117-2).

The Bengals are tied for the most 2015 games (12) against teams with winning records in 2014. In games against 2014 playoff qualifiers, the Bengals rank tied for sixth, at seven.

Uniform watch: The Bengals are scheduled to wear white jerseys and white pants at Oakland.

Since 2004, year of the team's 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:

TEAM	TAKEAWAYS	GIVEAWAYS	DIFFERENTIAL
Orange*	Black	3-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White	13-5-1	.710
Black	Black	12-10-1	.543
Black	White	28-26-0	.519
White	Black	20-23-0	.465
White	White	16-23-0	.410

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

TV streak at 153: In each of the last 153 Cincinnati TV ratings weeks that have included a Bengals regular-season or postseason broadcast — dating back to 2004 season — the Bengals have ruled the local airwaves. They have been the top-rated show among all programming in the Cincinnati market each week, and usually by a wide margin.

The streak began on Dec. 5, 2004, when a wild Bengals win at Baltimore outpulled all other programs. It hit 153 with last year's Wild Card playoff at Indianapolis, when a 40.4 rating easily topped the charts for the week.

The high rating of Bengals games has occurred despite the fact most games are played in the afternoon, when overall TV viewership is not as high as it is during the evening. The highest local Bengals rating during the streak has been 45.5 for a home playoff game vs. Pittsburgh on Jan. 8, 2006. The rating number indicates the percentage of market households tuned to the game — including those not watching TV at the time.

Bengals help AFC best NFC: In 45 years of AFC vs. NFC play, since the 1970 NFL-AFL merger, AFC teams have posted 1248 regular-season wins against 1144 for the NFC. There have been 12 ties, and the AFC winning percentage is .522. And the Bengals have done more than their share to build the lead, going 88-74-2 (.543), including an outstanding 30-16-2 (.646) under head coach Marvin Lewis.

The AFC has won the annual series 26 times to the NFC's 11, and the conferences have tied in eight seasons. The AFC has outscored the NFC by 1086 points, 50,969 to 49,883.

In the Super Bowl, the only postseason interconference competition, the NFL/NFC leads 26-23. The Super Bowl began with the 1966 season. Since the merger, the NFC leads 24-21 in Super Bowls. And the Bengals of course are 0-2 in Super Bowls, with close losses to San Francisco in the 1981 and '88 seasons.

Racking up the miles: Due to Cincinnati's relatively central location in the U.S., the Bengals are normally near the bottom of the NFL in miles traveled each regular season to road games. But this year the Bengals rank 13th among the 32 clubs, scheduled for 16,020 miles in the air.

With games this season at Oakland, San Francisco, Denver and Phoenix, the Bengals are tying the franchise regular-season record for most games in the

Pacific and/or Mountain time zones. Cincinnati also played two Pacific and two Mountain games in 1994, and in '90, the Bengals played four games in the Pacific — at the L.A. Rams, L.A. Raiders, Seattle and San Diego. In that '90 campaign, the Bengals played a fifth Pacific game in postseason, again visiting the Raiders.

West Coast teams generally travel the most miles, and San Francisco will lead in 2015 at 27,912. Philadelphia will travel the fewest miles, 6890.

With fans, NFL rules: The NFL has been recognized as America's most popular sport for the past 50 years, rated No. 1 by fans in The Harris Poll since 1965. In the latest Harris poll, more people named pro football (32 percent) as their favorite sport than the combined total of the next three pro sports — baseball (16), auto racing (seven) and men's basketball (six).

Other ways to document the NFL's dominance include:

- In the 2014 ESPN Sports Poll, the NFL was the favorite sport of 35.4 percent of respondents, more than the next three sports combined. Baseball was at 13.2, basketball at 13.1 and soccer at 8.4.

- NFL games last season on CBS, FOX and NBC averaged 19.2 million viewers, 162 percent higher than the average primetime viewership among the four major over-the-air networks (average of 7.4 million).

- Last season's Super Bowl between New England and Seattle had an average over the broadcast of 114.4 million viewers, making it the most-watched program in U.S. television history.

- Madden NFL '15 was the top-selling sports video game in North America in 2014 and the No. 2 game overall, second only to Call of Duty.

- The 2014 ESPN Sports Poll showed the NFL topped even international soccer as the most popular spectator sport among avid Hispanic sports fans in the U.S.

- The 2014 Nielsen/ESPN Sports Poll showed the NFL as the most popular sport among African-Americans, with pro basketball second, college football third and college basketball fourth.

Bengal bites: Bengals QB Andy Dalton ranks tied for ninth among active NFL QBs in career winning percentage as a starter (.625, record 40-23-1). First on the list is New England's Tom Brady at .773 (160-47-0) ... Dalton has 19 career road victories as a starting QB, and with five more this season, he could move into first place (since the 1970 merger) for most road wins by a visiting QB in his first five NFL seasons. The record is currently shared at 23 by Dan Marino, Ben Roethlisberger and Matt Ryan ... The Sept. 13 date for this week's game ties 1987 and 2009 for Cincinnati's latest season opener in the era of 16-game schedules (1978-present) ... The Bengals' best month in regular season the last 10 years (2005-14) has been September (20-13-0, .606). They also have winning records in November (21-17-1, .551) and December/January (26-21-0, .553). Their only losing month has been October (17-23-1, .429) ... Has the AFC North been the NFL's toughest division in recent years? Though advocates of other divisions might argue, the AFC North is the only division with three teams with 54 or more wins since 2009. Baltimore has won 61, Pittsburgh has won 60, and the Bengals are at 54 ... The Bengals have a 19-13 regular-season road record over the past four seasons (2011-14), tied for fourth-best in the NFL. Ahead of Cincinnati are only Denver, New England and San Francisco, all at 21-11 ... Bengals WR Mohamed Sanu is the only player in NFL history with two or more TD passes, 150 or more passing yards and zero incompletions. His career passing totals are now five-for-five for 177 yards, two TDs, no INTs and a perfect passer rating of 158.3. He is the only Bengals WR ever to throw a TD pass ... Paul Sparling, Bengals head athletic trainer, has been named to the Athletics Hall of Fame at his alma mater, Wilmington (Ohio) College. Wilmington College was the Bengals' original training camp site from 1968-96. Sparling is in his 36th Bengals season and has been the team's head trainer since 1992.

BENGALS QUOTES

Head coach Marvin Lewis, on his relationship with Oakland head coach Jack Del Rio:

"We were together on the Baltimore staff (from 1999-2001) and we won a Super Bowl there (in 2000). We're really good friends, and our families are friends. We spend time together in the offseason. So, when the schedule came out, we quit talking (laughs). We will talk afterwards. But you know he does a fantastic job, and they've put together a really good football team, and it's evident on tape."

Lewis, with more on Jack Del Rio:

"When Jack was a player, he was a guy that I wanted Ray Lewis to emulate and learn from. I went to Ozzie (Newsome) in '97 and said, 'We should hire that guy as a player,' and he ended up retiring. I had the chance to be around him.

We were coaching the Pro Bowl one year when I was with the Steelers, and I had a chance to observe him, and knew he was the kind of guy you'd like to have your young players emulate. He did a fantastic job coaching the linebackers there in Baltimore, and of course moving on to Carolina and so forth, and then being the head coach at Jacksonville. He did a fabulous job in Denver for the last few years. Everywhere he's been, he's been successful, and they're going to be a well-coached team, we know that."

WR Marvin Jones, on taking some hits in preseason after missing 2014 due to injuries:

"For me to get that feel and to be in those types of situations where I'm getting hit and somebody's falling on me and stuff like that, I can't get enough of that. You can't replicate that in practice. I wanted as much of that as possible. It

took me back (to 2013). It was like, 'Ah, this is me.' It was really some happy moments."

WR Mohamed Sanu, on having teammate and next-door locker mate Marvin Jones back in the lineup:

"He's that extra energy, that spark. He's that plug that gets me and A.J. (Green) going. I'm the same way for him. Before the game we're like, 'Hey bro, let's get it rolling.' The energy we have around each other is just different. We rely on Marv to be that energy because that's what he is. He's just built differently. The energy he has, that fire, it's not normal."

QB Andy Dalton, on NFL QBs constantly facing intense public scrutiny and critique:

"As much as I want to say I don't look at it and I don't see it, with the world today, it's hard not to see stuff. And a lot of stuff that's said, you don't know if it's an eighth-grader or who it is. People can hide behind a computer screen. It could be the same person that's coming up wanting my autograph. So it is what it is, and I accept that. At the end of the day, the way I go about it is, 'Don't let somebody else's opinion of you define who you are.' Don't let other people's thoughts, or whatever it is, be true. I know who I am, and this team knows who I am."

TE Tyler Eifert, on goals for the season:

"I want to be someone Andy (Dalton) can trust. I want it to be where we're on the same page. Even if I'm not open, go on and put the ball up, and I'll go make the play. There are some really good tight ends in the league, and when it comes down to it, their quarterback trusts them. If it's third-and-8, the quarterback is locked on them and has trusted they're going to get open. My goal? To be the best tight end in the league. That's what you shoot for. Keep doing my job, stay healthy and everything will take care of itself."

Defensive backs coach Vance Joseph, on being tough with his players:

"That's just being honest. You can coach guys hard without beating them down. Secondary is a position where you have to play with a lot of confidence, so I don't beat them down. But right is right and wrong is wrong. That's why you never get into, 'I thought' or 'Maybe.' It's black and white with corners and safeties. If it's wrong it's wrong, if it's right it's right. It's not beating guys down or taking away their confidence. You can coach guys hard and still be their friend, have a good room, have fun with guys. You can coach them hard by right is right and wrong is wrong and that's OK. That's life, right? That's how you raise kids."

CB Dre Kirkpatrick, on job of gunner on the punt team:

"Man, it's two people on one out there. And you just have to think, 'Do I want to be embarrassed, or do I want to embarrass somebody else?' Ain't no in-between, because if they get their hands on you, you're either going in the water cooler or getting body slammed. If they don't get their hands on you, you're going to make the tackle or you're going to force a fair catch."

Special teams coordinator Darrin Simmons, on gunners on the punt team:

"It's more toughness than it is speed. Some of the better guys we've had — Tab Perry and Kevin Walter — certainly weren't the fastest guys. But they were the toughest guys and the most physical, and they had the most desire."

Lewis, on working for consistency from talented rookie LB P.J. Dawson:

"He's better than I expected him to be. We're tutoring him on consistency, eliminating the mistakes. He deserves all the attention he gets every day. At the end of the day, he's certainly going to be a worthwhile linebacker. He has instinctive things that we can't coach, things he's very natural with. Now we just have to keep coaching him and get him in the right spots and do things the way we want to do them, with discipline all the time. He can make plays. He's shown us that. To play linebacker in the NFL and be successful, it doesn't take many snaps to figure out that a guy is going to be pretty good at doing it. Then you can teach him how to cut down wasted steps and trim the fat off of things. We can teach him that. That part I have been really pleased with."

Simmons, on rookie kick return prospect Mario Alford:

"His biggest strength is his speed. That's the main reason we drafted him (seventh round), and he's got to use it. But he can't overreach. He can't try to

return a punt from our five-yard line. I get it. He wants to make a contribution. But part of that is making the right choices."

Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, on his unit:

"One thing about defense I tell my guys. For us to be good, our best players need to play their best all the time. Simple as that."

Guenther, on DT Geno Atkins:

"He looks great. He's down in weight just a little (to 300), and he looks stronger than last year. A lot quicker. When he plays well it opens up everything. He's been ruining a lot of practice for the offense. It's a major difference (from 2014). He's one of the best three-techniques in the league when he's right, and when he came back in the spring, he looked as good as he's been. When you have to double team the guy inside, it takes the pressure off the ends, or you get him matched up on a guy that's not so good on the run. You're going to win those battles. As soon as he stepped on the field the first day in the spring I was, 'Whoa.' I was blown away. It's been great to have him back rolling."

Dalton, on having not missed a start in his four-year Bengals career:

"I think it's knowing how to take a hit and when not to take a hit. That's part of it. I've been fortunate. I just haven't had anything happen."

OT Andrew Whitworth, on the running style of second-year HB Jeremy Hill:

"We've had some very good, powerful rushers here ... Rudi Johnson, Cedric Benson ... but Jeremy's as big and powerful and probably has a better overall skill set. He's a big back who can run like a little back."

OT Andre Smith, looking toward the 2015 season after missing the last six games of last season with a triceps injury:

"I do feel fresh. I got a year off to prepare my body, get better mentally, physically, get in great shape, stay in shape and be out there with my teammates now and do what I'm supposed to do. My motivation is to be the best right tackle in the NFL. I'm tired of being mediocre."

G Clint Boling, on OT Andre Smith:

"I've seen very few guys with as much natural talent as Andre. He's big, lean, he's got quick feet. And he's just so powerful. Look at how hard he's worked to come back from his (triceps) injury last season. When you come into this league, you get labeled, and it seems hard to get rid of that label no matter what. When Andre came (as a rookie), he got hurt and he was a little heavy, and that's a hard persona to shake. But I feel like he's done enough to shake that persona."

DE Michael Johnson, on re-joining the Bengals after one season with Tampa Bay:

"I feel refreshed after being away a little bit. I have seven years of experience with the excitement of a rookie, really. I'm just ready to get back in the fold, get back in the mix of things. And take it to a whole other level and be even better. On the D-line, we're going to have fun and feed off each other. It's just going to be good getting the band back together. Coming to work is fun. It doesn't feel like work. When you can get that type of environment, that's special and you want to keep it."

CB Darqueze Dennard, on looking for more defensive snaps in 2015 after being in a reserve role behind veterans as a rookie:

"Last year was a little frustrating at times, because you want to play, and I'm confident I can help this team. I continually tried to tell myself, 'Patience is a virtue. Patience is virtue.' I guess it's great I didn't get thrown in the fire too early, and that I had great veterans to learn from. But believe me, I want to play"

Lewis, on 2014 first-rounder Darqueze Dennard:

"We didn't have to throw Darqueze in the fire last year. We stayed fairly healthy at the spot and didn't have to do that. He got the chance to learn from some great pros, and we'll reap the benefits of that in the years to come."

Lewis, on rookie LB P.J. Dawson:

"His instincts, his football IQ, are what made him the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year last year, and that has been in evidence this camp. I've been pleased. Now that we've done some football and blocks and so forth, and it's not just skating around without pads. That part of the game he's going to be fine with. We've had to rein him in just a little about practice. We've had other young

linebackers in that situation, with a lot of ability, and in college, they've been the big man on campus, the guy who could throw people around, and they've got to come here and realize that we don't want Jeremy (Hill) or Gio (Bernard) or anybody else hitting the ground. I don't care who it is."

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: Fifth-year pro **Andy Dalton** was given the night off in the preseason finale at Indianapolis. He played in the first three preseason games and passed 15-for-22 for 129 yards with one TD and two INTs, with one of his INTs caused by a dropped ball. Dalton has started all 64 regular-season and four postseason games of his Cincinnati career. He has led the team to the playoffs in each of his four previous seasons, and in 2015 he'll bid to join Baltimore's Joe Flacco as the only starting QBs in the Super Bowl era to reach the postseason in each of their first five campaigns. He already is paired with just Flacco for having done it four straight years. Dalton has a .633 winning percentage as a starter in regular-season games (40-23-1 record), the best percentage in Bengals history for any QB with 10 or more starts. Dalton posted a career-best completion percentage (64.2) last season. In 2013, he set franchise season records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33). First-year pro **AJ McCarron** played in the last three preseason games, including a start last week at Indianapolis, when he played the first three quarters. His preseason totals were 38-of-60 passing (63.3 percent) for 465 yards, one TD and no INTs. He led a TD drive in his pro debut Aug. 24 at Tampa Bay and led two TD drives on Aug. 29 vs. Chicago. McCarron missed all of last season while rehabbing from a college shoulder injury. He was one of the biggest winners in college football history at Alabama and is out to prove his NFL worth after being drafted by the Bengals in the fifth round in 2014. First-year pro **Keith Wenning** of Ball State, who played in preseason games one and three, was waived on Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad.

Running backs: The Bengals appear rich in young talent, and also deep, in this area. Opening the season as the primary ball carriers are **Jeremy Hill** and **Giovani Bernard**, still in their career infancy but already established as explosive performers at the NFL level. Hill burst upon the scene as a rookie last year, leading the NFL in rushing yards over the last nine weeks of the season, and his total of 929 was best by more than 100 yards. His total for the year was 1124 yards, and he scored nine TDs, including game-altering scores of 60 yards vs. Jacksonville and 85 yards vs. Denver. Hill played in the first three preseason games and rushed 17-for-77 with a TD. Bernard, a third-year player for 2015, has averaged 1119 yards from scrimmage in his two previous Bengals campaigns. He missed three games due to injuries in 2014, but he totaled 1029 yards and scored seven TDs. He has demonstrated the ability to create highlight-reel plays in the open field, and his 56 receptions in 2013 are a record for Bengals RBs. Bernard played in the first three preseason games, rushing 10-for-19 and catching three-for-16. Veteran ball carriers returning this season are third-year player **Rex Burkhead** and sixth-year pro **Cedric Peerman**. Burkhead played in the first three preseason games and was rested at Indianapolis due to a hamstring strain. It's expected he'll be available to play at Oakland. For the preseason, Burkhead had 61 scrimmage yards on eight touches (7.6). Peerman played in all four preseason games, including a start at Indianapolis. For the preseason, he rushed 16-for-43 and had 10 receptions for 75 yards, leading the team in catches. Peerman is a special teams standout and has a 5.2-yard career rushing average as a Bengal. First-year pro **James Wilder Jr.** of Florida State and college free agent **Terrell Watson** of Azusa Pacific were waived on Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad. They were the team rushing leaders in preseason, Watson at 25-for-130 (5.2) and Wilder at 25-for-107 (4.3) with two TDs.

Wide receivers: The Bengals are banking on a healthier year from the WR corps in 2015, and all should be well in that case. Leading the pack again is **A.J. Green**, a Pro Bowler in each of his four Cincinnati seasons, but last year was a bit of an off year for Green, due to a variety of injuries. He missed four games, including the Wild Card playoff, and he was limited in four others. Green's totals for last year were a still very respectable 69 catches for 1041 yards and six TDs, but for his Bengals career he has averaged 83 catches, 1219 yards and nine TDs. Green played the first three preseason games, with five catches for 59 yards. Another returning veteran counted on for a big season is fourth-year pro **Mohamed Sanu**, who last year logged 56 catches for 790 yards with five TDs. Sanu played in the first three preseason games, with two catches for nine yards. He had a three-yard TD catch in the preseason opener. Sanu is a physical competitor who will win contested balls, and he also has more than adequate speed. He's also a threat to run or pass on gadget plays. He has a perfect (158.3) passer rating on five career attempts, all completions and two for

DT Pat Sims, on playing every game for Oakland the last two seasons after losing time to injuries during his previous stint with Cincinnati:

"I haven't been injured since I left. Hopefully we're going to keep it that way. I feel like the best is yet to come for me. I'm just going to go out there and showcase my talent. As a free agent, I felt this was the right place for me to come back to."

TDs. Fourth-year pro **Marvin Jones** could give the Bengals a huge boost with a return from a 2014 season missed due to foot and ankle. In 2013, Jones had 51 catches for 712 yards and 10 TDs. In '13, Jones and Green became the first Bengals duo each to log double figures in receiving scores. Jones played in the first three preseason games and had three catches for 52 yards, including a 31-yard TD. Two other veterans with credentials to be in the mix are **Brandon Tate** and **Greg Little**. Tate (seventh-year player) has contributed mainly as a kick returner during four previous Bengals seasons, but he has excellent straight-line speed and last year had 17 catches for 193 yards and a TD. Tate caught five-for-88 in preseason, including a team-long 48-yard reception to set up the first score of the preseason finale win at Indianapolis. He also had seven kick returns. Little led the team in receiving yards (145) in preseason, winning several contested balls, and his nine catches were second on the team and first among the WRs. Little played in six games with the Bengals last season. Also making the roster was seventh-round draft pick **Mario Alford** of West Virginia. He had three catches for 39 yards and three rushes for 29 yards in preseason, along with five punt returns for an 11.8 average and four kickoff returns for a 21.5-yard average. College free agent **Jake Kumerow**, who had six catches for 65 yards in preseason, was waived Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad. College free agent **Michael Bennett** of Georgia was waived on Sept. 5.

Tight ends/H-back: The No. 1 spot belongs to **Tyler Eifert**, a first-round Cincinnati choice in the 2013 draft. Counted on for a big contribution in 2015. Eifert played in the first three preseason games, with five receptions for 67 yards. Eifert had a productive 2013 rookie year in a starting tandem with Jermaine Gresham, and that tandem was slated to continue last season. But after catching three passes in the first quarter of the '14 season opener at Baltimore, Eifert suffered an elbow injury that ended his season. He had an opportunity to come back in late season, but the team elected to keep him inactive and also repair a shoulder issue, in preparation for a fully healthy 2015. Eifert brings top-level receiving skills to the tight end position and has plenty of size (6-6, 250) and strength to handle blocking duties. He's firmly in the No. 1 spot, as Gresham was not re-signed for this season. Another key performer in this position group is H-back **Ryan Hewitt**, a second-year pro from Stanford. Hewitt proved last year to be one of the Bengals' better college free agent signees in recent years. He played in every game, with 11 regular-season starts and also a start in the Wild Card playoff. He was a key blocker out of the backfield in the rushing game, and also aided pass protection while catching 10 passes himself. Hewitt played in the first three preseason games. Two 2015 draft picks are on the roster, third-round TE **Tyler Kroft** of Rutgers and fifth-round TE **C.J. Uzomah** of Auburn. Kroft had five catches for 46 yards in preseason and Uzomah caught two for 13 yards. College free agent TE **Matt Lengel** of Eastern Kentucky, who played in all four preseason games (no receptions) was waived on Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad.

Offensive linemen: The Bengals return all their primary contributors from the 2014 line, and Cincinnati used its first two draft picks on offensive linemen. Returning to the starting tackle spots as preseason opens are LOT **Andrew Whitworth** and ROT **Andre Smith**. Whitworth, a key team leader, was named first-team All-Pro last season by Peter King's Monday Morning Quarterback, and he was second-team All-Pro by the Associated Press. He started the first three preseason games. Smith, a 2009 Bengals first-round draft choice, was held out of the first two preseason games with a foot strain, but he was back in the starting lineup for Chicago. He joined other front-line veterans on the offense in getting the night off in the preseason finale. Smith was limited to nine games last season by ankle and triceps injuries, but those injuries have not carried over into this season. **Eric Winston**, a ninth-year pro, seeks his first full season of Bengals action this year, having joined the team as a free agent last December. Winston has 121 career NFL starts, including starts at ROT in the last four games of last season and the Wild Card playoff. He started in place of Smith in the first two preseason games, played against Chicago, and started at LG in the preseason finale. The OT position will be further bolstered by **Cedric Ogbuehi** of Texas A&M and **Jake Fisher** of Oregon, Cincinnati's 1-2 selections in the 2015 draft. Ogbuehi's ability and potential earned him the Bengals' first pick even though he has begun preseason still in the rehab process from a knee injury (ACL tear) suffered in his final college game last December. Ogbuehi begins the season on the Reserve/Non-Football Injury list and will be eligible for

activation to the roster following Week 6. Fisher, also listed on the depth chart as a guard, was held out of the first two preseason games with a shoulder injury, but he made his NFL on-field debut against the Bears, playing OT and also working several plays as the extra TE in short-yardage situations. He started at LOT in the preseason finale. He started 13 games at LOT last season for a 13-2 Oregon team that reached the inaugural College Football Playoff National Championship game. He was named a first-team All-American by the Football Writers Association of America. Cincinnati's starting G spots are firmly held as preseason begins, by fifth-year pro **Clint Boling** on the left side and fourth-year player **Kevin Zeitler** on the right. They both started the first three preseason games. The versatile Boling had two starts as an injury replacement at ROT last season while starting all other games at LG. Zeitler, a strong player and a tireless worker, has been a starter since joining the Bengals as a first-round draft choice in 2012. At C, the Bengals had a rookie starter last season in **Russell Bodine**, fourth-round draft pick from North Carolina. Bodine was prized for his ability to physically take on NFL nose tackles, and he started every game. He also started all four preseason games. Second-year G **Trey Hopkins** of Texas and first-year G **Dan France** of Michigan State were waived on Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad. Third-year G **Tanner Hawkinson**, first-year OT **Matthew O'Donnell** of Queens (Canada) and rookie C **Jake Smith** of Louisville were waived on Sept. 5.

Defensive linemen: Three-time Pro Bowl DT **Geno Atkins**, looking in 2015 to fully regain the form he showed prior to a serious 2013 knee injury, and he started the first three preseason games. Atkins was named to his third Pro Bowl last season despite the fact he was still feeling his way back from the injury. Over 2011-12, Atkins was the premier inside pass rusher in the NFL (20 sacks over the two seasons). The other starting interior lineman is **Domata Peko**, a top team leader and a rock of consistency inside, having started every game the last five seasons. He has led the line in tackles four times and started the first three preseason games. The 2015 line has two particularly notable additions — DE **Michael Johnson** and DT **Pat Sims**. Both are former significant Bengals contributors who are back with the team after stints with other clubs as free agents. Johnson missed all four preseason games, due to a knee injury suffered in practice on Aug. 2. His status for Oakland is undermined. Sims played in the preseason opener, missed games two and three the last two games with an injury, and came back to start and play briefly in the preseason finale. Johnson played in 79 of 80 Bengals games over 2009-13 and also played in four postseason games. He has 26.5 Bengals sacks, including 11.5 in 2012, after which he was designated as Cincinnati's franchise player for 2013. Sims figures to be a regular in the line's interior rotation. He was on three playoff teams during his 2008-12 time with the Bengals and is prized for his ability against the rush. He played in every game for Oakland the past two seasons, with 18 starts. Sims led the line in tackles (four) in the preseason opener. Heading the list of returnees from last season at DE is sixth-year pro **Carlos Dunlap**. He led the team in sacks (eight) last season, and his 35.5 career sacks rank fifth on Cincinnati's all-time list. He has 10 career forced fumbles and seven fumble recoveries, tops on the current team in both categories. Dunlap played in the first three preseason games, with a five-yard tackle-for-loss and a 10-yard sack. Eighth-year DE **Wallace Gilberry** started every game last season and has 15.5 sacks for his three Bengals seasons. He started in Johnson's place in the first three preseason games. Younger players looking for increased time at DE are third-year pro **Margus Hunt** and second-year player **Will Clarke**. Hunt was a Bengals second-round draft choice in 2013 and has played in 22 games the past two seasons. Clarke, a third-round draftee in 2014, played in seven games last season and has been praised by coaches for strong 2015 offseason work. Hunt and Clarke both played in all four preseason games, with starts in the finale. Hunt had one preseason sack. The Bengals have another proven starting quality DT in fourth-year pro **Brandon Thompson**. He started seven games in place of Atkins in 2013 and was a regular in the rotation last season. He missed preseason games two and three due to an ankle strain but he started and played briefly in the finale. DT **Marcus Hardison**, a 2015 fourth-round draft pick, played in all four preseason games and had eight tackles, including a sack, and a pass defended. College free agent **DeShawn Williams** of Clemson, who had two sacks among his four preseason tackles, was waived Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad. Fourth-year DT **Devon Still** was waived Sept. 5.

Linebackers: Cincinnati's starting LB threesome returns for 2015, while a key former starter looks to return from injury, and a major free agent signing adds to the primary mix. Back at MLB is seventh-year pro **Ray Mauluga**, a key run-stopper. After Mauluga returned last season from four weeks out with a hamstring injury, the Bengals allowed only 82.0 rushing yards per game for the last seven contests, second in the NFL for that span. He started

the first three preseason games (four tackles) and had the night off for the finale. OLB **Vincent Rey**, a fifth-year pro for 2015, led last year's team in tackles (121) and added five passes defended. He started the first three preseason games and had a team-leading six tackles vs. Chicago. The big new name in the LB corps is **A.J. Hawk**, joining Cincinnati as a free agent after nine standout campaigns for Green Bay. He started all four preseason games at WLB and had five tackles. Hawk led the Packers in tackles in five seasons, and he has 19 career sacks and nine INTs. The fast and athletic **Emmanuel Lamur** played his first season as a starter last season, and his 90 tackles ranked third on the team. He also led the front seven with seven passes defended. He missed the last two preseason games with a hamstring strain but is forecast to be ready in Oakland. Out to rejoin the lineup when medically cleared is 2013 season Pro Bowl selection **Vontaze Burfict**. Originally a Bengals college free agent signee, Burfict led the team in tackles by wide margins both in '13 and as a rookie in '12. But he was limited to five games last season, by multiple injuries, and he did not play or practice in preseason, still in rehab from a knee injury that forced him to the Reserve/Injured list in early December of last season. He opens the regular season on the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list, with a chance to return to action at some point after Week 6. The Bengals have a promising 2015 draft prospect at LB in **P.J. Dawson** of Texas Christian, a third-round selection who was considered to be one of college football's most instinctive playmakers at TCU. Dawson led the Bengals in preseason tackles (18). His 136 tackles led the Big 12 last season, and he was named conference Defensive Player of the Year while earning multiple All-America honors. Fifth-year pro **Chris Carter** opens a season with Cincinnati for the first time. He earned a roster spot with strong play in preseason, including a team-high 3.5 sacks and a forced fumble. He had a sack-and-strip at Indianapolis in the preseason finale, setting up the winning field goal. The former Steeler and Colt played in three games and the Wild Card playoff for the Bengals last season after signing as a free agent. Third-year pro **Jayson DiManche** and second-year pro **Marquis Flowers** were released on Sept. 5 under the waived/injured category, and both players have reverted to Cincinnati's Reserve/Injured list for 2015, after clearing waivers. College free agent **Trevor Roach** of Nebraska, who ranked fifth on the team in tackles (12) in preseason, was waived Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad.

Cornerbacks: The Bengals cornerback picture shows veteran talent pushed by younger players as the season begins. All of the Bengals' top four CBs on the depth chart were NFL first-round draft choices. Tops on the depth chart are ninth-year pro **Adam Jones** at RCB and fourth-year player **Dre Kirkpatrick** at LCB. Jones was the No. 3 corner the last few seasons while also doing stellar work as a kick returner. Jones tied for second on the team in interceptions (three) last season, and he also had three picks in 2013. He led the NFL last season in kickoff returns (31.3 average). Jones started the first three preseason games and had five tackles, with a pass defended. Kirkpatrick has only five career starts, but he made rapid strides last season and seems ready to showcase the skills that made him a first-round draft choice in 2012. Kirkpatrick played in 16 games (two starts) last season and tied for second on the team with three INTs. He earned an AFC Defensive Player of the Week award for his two-INT, one-TD performance last year in Cincinnati's playoff-clinching win over Denver. Kirkpatrick started the first three preseason games, logging three tackles and two passes defended. Also sure to see plenty of playing time is ninth-year pro **Leon Hall**, who has 107 Bengals games played and 101 starts. Hall has 24 career INTs, fifth in Bengals history, and 119 career passes defended. Hall played in the first three preseason games. He was not in uniform for the finale at Indianapolis, due to a back strain, but it's hoped he can be ready for the Raiders. **Darqueze Dennard**, a Bengals 2014 first-rounder, played in the preseason opener but missed the next two games with a hamstring strain. He could have played in the preseason finale, however, but was rested as a precaution. Dennard was mostly in a reserve role on defense last year but is in the plans for increased work this season. His style of play and reliability has inspired favorable comparisons to Hall. **Chris Lewis-Harris**, a third-year pro for '15, has played in 12 Bengals games over the past three seasons and seeks increased time on defense. He played in all four preseason games and had 10 tackles, one INT and three total passes defended. Fourth-round 2015 draft pick **Josh Shaw** of Southern California tied for second on the team in preseason tackles (14) and had a pass defended. College free agent **Troy Hill** of Oregon, who had 10 tackles and two passes defended in preseason, was waived on Sept. 5 and signed Sept. 6 to the Bengals practice squad. The contract of sixth-year pro **Brandon Ghee** was terminated on Sept. 5, releasing him to free agency.

Safeties: Cincinnati's starting safety duo is the same for the third straight season, with ninth-year pro **Reggie Nelson** at FS and fourth-year man **George Iloka** at SS. Both started the first three preseason games and got the night off in the finale. Nelson, who had seven preseason tackles, has been in a starting job

for Cincinnati since late 2010. He's a hard hitter and an overall playmaker. He led the 2014 team in INTs (four), including a key pick in the playoff-clinching win vs. Denver, and his 92 tackles ranked second on the team. Iloka, who had four preseason tackles, had three INTs last season, tied for second on the team, and he ranked fourth in tackles (74) and fourth in passes defended (10). The leading safety reserve is **Shawn Williams**, third-round draft pick from 2013. Williams has played in every regular-season and postseason game in his first two campaigns. He has seen action mostly on special teams but is primed for a longer look on defense this year. He ranks tied for first on the team in preseason tackles (12), including a shared sack. Filling out the safety area is rookie **Derron Smith**, sixth-round draft choice from Fresno State. Smith had eight tackles in preseason. On Sept. 5, the Bengals terminated the contract of veteran **Shiloh Keo**, releasing him to free agency. Also on Sept. 5, the Bengals waived college free agent **Floyd Raven Sr.** of Texas A&M.

Special teams: The Bengals' excellent specialist trio returns for a sixth straight season working together. P **Kevin Huber** was a Pro Bowler last season and earned first-team All-Pro honors from Sporting News. He re-set his own Bengals marks last season for gross average (46.8) and net (42.1), and he holds the franchise career marks in both categories (44.6 and 39.6). He also holds the club record for best ratio of inside-20 punts to touchbacks (3.81-to-1). Huber has solid preseason numbers of 47.2 yards gross and 38.4 net, with four

inside-20s and three touchbacks. Huber is also the longtime holder for K **Mike Nugent**, an 11th-year NFL player in his sixth Bengals season. Nugent was held out of the first two preseason games with a hamstring strain but played in the last two, going two-for-two on field goals and three-for-three on PATs. Nugent holds club season records for points (132) and field goals (33), and last year he kicked a club-record 57-yard FG in the playoffs, second-longest in NFL postseason history. He also shares the club record for longest regular-season FG (55). Nugent also handles kickoffs. The final member of the veteran trio is LS **Clark Harris**, who has handled 882 snaps in his Bengals career, without an unplayable delivery. Harris is also a solid player on punt coverage, with 15 career tackles. He played in all four preseason games. **Adam Jones** is back with the team in 2015 after the best season by a kick returner in Bengals history. Jones claimed the franchise's first NFL kickoff return title, averaging a club-record 31.3 yards, and he finished second in the NFL in punt returns, at 12.0. Jones' duties on defense have sometimes limited his kick return availability, however. Last year he shared time with WR **Brandon Tate**, who averaged 22.1 yards on 18 KOR and 9.7 yards on 18 PR. Tate's work included a key 49-yard punt return in the playoff-clinching win over Denver. Speedy seventh-round draft pick **Mario Alford** is another kick return prospect, and HB Giovanni Bernard is also in the mix, in addition to his role with the offense. Alford had a 19-yard punt return late in the Tampa Bay game. The team returns its top four special teams tacklers from last season — **Cedric Peerman**, **Darqueze Dennard**, **Dre Kirkpatrick** and **Shawn Williams**. College free agent K **Tom Obarski** was waived on Sept. 5.

IMPORTANT DATES

<p>Sept. 8 — After 4 p.m. Eastern, a club is permitted to place a player on Reserve/Injured as "Designated for Return."</p> <p>Sept. 9 — All clubs are required to file a personnel (injury) report with their conference information manager by 4 p.m. Eastern. Reports are to be filed every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before a regular-season game by 4 p.m. Eastern (or as soon as possible after the completion of practice). An update must also be reported if there is any change in a player's condition after Friday.</p> <p>Sept. 10, 13-14 — Regular season opens.</p> <p>Sept. 11, 14-15 — Beginning on these dates vested veterans terminated from the Active List or Inactive List (and from Reserve/Injured if the player is placed on Reserve/Injured after the beginning of the regular season) are entitled to receive, after the end of the regular-season schedule, Termination Pay pursuant to the terms of the CBA.</p> <p>Sept. 29 — Priority on multiple waiver claims is now based on the current season's standing.</p> <p>Oct. 20 — Beginning the day after the conclusion of the sixth regular-season weekend and continuing through the day after the conclusion of the ninth regular-season weekend, clubs are permitted to begin practicing players on Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform and Reserve/Non-Football Injury or Illness for a period not to exceed 21 days. Players may be activated during the 21-day practice period or until 4 p.m. Eastern, on the day after the conclusion of the 21-day period.</p> <p>Nov. 3 — All trading ends at 4 p.m. Eastern.</p> <p>Nov. 4 — Players with at least four previous pension credited seasons are subject to the waiver system for the remainder of the regular season and postseason.</p> <p>Nov. 17 — Signing period ends at 4 p.m. Eastern for franchise players who are eligible to receive offer sheets.</p> <p>Nov. 17 — Deadline for clubs to sign by 4 p.m. Eastern, 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</p>	<p>from playing in NFL in 2015.</p> <p>Nov. 17 — Deadline for clubs to sign by 4 p.m. Eastern, their unrestricted free agents to whom June 1 tender was made. If still unsigned after this date, such players are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2015.</p> <p>Nov. 17 — Deadline for clubs to sign by 4 p.m. Eastern, their restricted free agents to whom June 1 tender was made. If such players remain unsigned, they are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2015.</p> <p>Nov. 17 — Deadline for clubs to sign drafted players by 4 p.m. Eastern. If such players remain unsigned, they are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2015.</p> <p>Dec. 4 — Deadline 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.</p>
2016	
<p>Jan. 1 — Deadline for waiver requests in 2015, except for "special waiver requests," which have a 10-day claiming period, with termination or assignment delayed until after the Super Bowl.</p> <p>Jan. 4 — Clubs may begin signing free-agent players for the 2016 season.</p> <p>Jan. 9-10 — Wild Card Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 16-17 — Divisional Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 24 — AFC and NFC Championship Games.</p> <p>Jan. 31 — Pro Bowl, Honolulu, Hawaii.</p> <p>Feb. 7 — Super Bowl 50, Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara.</p>	<p>Jan. 1 — Deadline for waiver requests in 2015, except for "special waiver requests," which have a 10-day claiming period, with termination or assignment delayed until after the Super Bowl.</p> <p>Jan. 4 — Clubs may begin signing free-agent players for the 2016 season.</p> <p>Jan. 9-10 — Wild Card Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 16-17 — Divisional Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 24 — AFC and NFC Championship Games.</p> <p>Jan. 31 — Pro Bowl, Honolulu, Hawaii.</p> <p>Feb. 7 — Super Bowl 50, Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara.</p>
2017	
<p>Feb. 5 — Super Bowl LI, NRG Stadium, Houston.</p>	<p>Feb. 5 — Super Bowl LI, NRG Stadium, Houston.</p>
2018	
<p>Feb. 4* — Super Bowl LII, New Vikings Stadium, Minnesota.</p>	<p>Feb. 4* — Super Bowl LII, New Vikings Stadium, Minnesota.</p>

* Tentative date.

MEDIA SCHEDULE

<p>Mon., Sept. 7 — Locker room open from 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Marvin Lewis news conference at 12:30 p.m.; Practice from 2-3:30 p.m.; Practice open to media from 2-2:30 p.m., but no video after 2:20 p.m.; Coaches available briefly coming off the practice field; Player availability after practice is limited, and interview requests must be filed in advance.</p> <p>Tues., Sept. 8 — Players' off day; No media access.</p> <p>Wed., Sept. 9 — 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 1:15-3:10 p.m. (practice open to media from 1:15-1:45 p.m., but no video after 1:35 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 from Oakland Raiders head coach Jack Del Rio at 1:30 p.m.; Conference call from Raiders WR Amari Cooper at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Thurs., Sept. 10 — Practice from 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (practice open to media from 11:30 a.m.-noon, but no video after 11:50 a.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off practice field; Locker room open from 1:30-2:15 p.m.</p> <p>Fri., Sept. 11 — Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Team departs late afternoon for Oakland.</p>	<p>Sat., Sept. 12 — No media access.</p> <p>Sun., Sept. 13 — Game 1, Bengals at Oakland, 4:25 p.m. Eastern.</p> <p>Mon., Sept. 14 — Marvin Lewis news conference at 3 p.m.; Locker room open from 3:15-4 p.m.</p> <p>Tues., Sept. 15 — Players' off day; No media access.</p> <p>Wed., Sept. 16 — 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 1:15-3:10 p.m. (practice open to media from 1:15-1:45 p.m., but no video after 1:35 p.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off the practice field; Player availability after practice is limited, and interviews must be arranged in advance; Conference calls from San Diego Chargers TBD.</p> <p>Thurs., Sept. 17 — Practice from 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (practice open to media from 11:30 a.m.-noon, but no video after 11:50 a.m.); Coaches available briefly coming off practice field; Locker room open from 1:30-2:15 p.m.</p> <p>Fri., Sept. 18 — Locker room open from 10-10:45 a.m.; Team departs late afternoon for Oakland.</p> <p>Sat., Sept. 19 — No media access.</p> <p>Sun., Sept. 20 — Game 2, Bengals vs. San Diego at Paul Brown Stadium, 1 p.m. Eastern.</p>
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THE LAST BENGALS-RAIDERS MEETINGS

**2009 SEASON
WEEK 11, GAME 10**

**Oakland Raiders 20, Cincinnati Bengals 17
Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009 at Oakland Coliseum**

A heavily favored Bengals team jumped to a 14-0 second-quarter lead but was outplayed the rest of the way as Oakland rallied to win only its third game of the year. The Raiders drove 80 yards on 11 plays to tie the game at 17-17 with 0:33 left, and K Sebastian Janikowski kicked a game-winning FG at 0:15 following TE Brandon Myers' force and recovery of a fumble by Cincinnati KOR Andre Caldwell. The Bengals lost for only the eighth time in 51 games under head coach Marvin Lewis in which they held a lead entering the fourth quarter. QB Carson Palmer scored both Bengals TDs on one-yard runs, scoring twice in a game for the first time in his career. Rookie HB Bernard Scott, filling in for injured HB Cedric Benson, rushed for 119 yards for Cincinnati and had 151 yards from scrimmage. But the Bengals lost a season-high three fumbles and finished minus-one in turnover differential. The loss left the Cincinnati franchise with an 0-10 all-time record in games in Oakland. The Bengals fell to 7-3 on the season, losing for the first time in five road games, as Oakland improved to 3-7.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	7	7	3	0	—	17
Oakland.....	0	7	3	10	—	20

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR-LEFT
Cin. — C.Palmer 1 run (S.Graham kick).....	1-5:32
Cin. — C.Palmer 1 run (S.Graham kick).....	2-7:12
Oak. — Z.Miller 10 pass from B.Gradkowski (S.Janikowski kick).....	2-0:59
Oak. — S.Janikowski 52 field goal.....	3-9:59
Cin. — S.Graham 25 field goal.....	3-3:29
Oak. — L.Murphy 29 pass from B.Gradkowski (S.Janikowski kick).....	4-0:33
Oak. — S.Janikowski 33 field goal.....	4-0:15

Missed FGs: S.Janikowski (57WL), S.Graham (37WR).
Attendance: 34,112. **Time:** 3:09.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	OAK.
First downs.....	23	16
Third down conversions-attempts.....	6-13	4-11
Total net yards.....	348	275
Net yards rushing.....	177	92
Net yards passing.....	171	183
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	22-14-1	34-17-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	3-36	0-0
Punts-average.....	4-49.8	4-50.5
Punt returns-yards.....	2-18	3-17
Kickoff returns-yards.....	4-72	3-47
Penalties-yards.....	8-59	3-13
Fumbles-lost.....	5-3	3-2
Time of possession.....	38:24	21:36

RUSHING									
CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	OAK.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
B.Scott	21	119	61	0	J.Fargas	8	32	12	0
B.Leonard	13	36	11	0	M.Bush	4	27	10	0
A.Caldwell	2	11	15	0	D.McFadden	6	25	9	0
C.Palmer	4	7	5	2	B.Gradkowski	6	8	4	0
L.Johnson	2	5	8	0					
Je.Johnson	1	-1	-1	0					
TOTALS	43	177	61	2	TOTALS	24	92	12	0

PASSING									
CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	OAK.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
C.Palmer	22	14	207	0-1	B.Gradkowski	34	17	183	2-1
TOTALS	22	14	207	0-1	TOTALS	34	17	183	2-1

RECEIVING									
CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	OAK.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
C.Johnson	4	67	30	0	Z.Miller	5	65	19	1
A.Caldwell	3	35	17	0	L.Lawton	3	14	7	0
B.Scott	3	32	23	0	D.McFadden	3	10	6	0
L.Coles	2	61	40	0	C.Schilens	2	41	25	0
J.Foschi	2	12	8	0	J.Fargas	2	17	9	0
					L.Murphy	1	29	29t	1
					D.Heyward-Bey	1	7	7	0
TOTALS	14	207	40	0	TOTALS	17	183	29t	2

DEFENSE
Cincinnati (coaches' stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** Dh.Jones 6-1-7, R.Mauluga 4-3-7, C.Ndukwe 4-3-7, C.Crocker 3-3-6, B.Johnson 3-2-5, J.Joseph 4-0-4, J.Fanene 2-2-4, D.Peko 2-2-4, T.Johnson 2-0-2, F.Rucker 1-1-2, P.Sims 1-0-1, M.Trent 1-0-1, R.Geathers 0-1-1, L.Hall 0-1-1, M.Johnson 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** None. **INT.-YDS.:** J.Joseph 1-2. **PD:** L.Hall 3, F.Rucker 2, C.Crocker 1, J.Joseph 1. **FF:** C.Ndukwe 1. **FR-YDS.:** R.Geathers 1-38, Dh.Jones 1-0.

Oakland (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** T.Branch 11-1-12, M.Huff 6-2-8, J.Richardson 5-1-6, T.Howard 5-0-5, C.Johnson 5-0-5, S.Williams 4-1-5, K.Morrison 4-0-4, D.Bryant 3-0-3, G.Ellis 3-0-3, S.Routt 3-0-3, N.Asomugha 2-1-3, T.Kelly 2-0-2, G.Warren 2-0-2, H.Eugene 1-1-2, M.Mitchell 1-0-1. **SKS-YDS.:** S.Routt 1-18, T.Branch 1-12, G.Ellis 1-6. **INT.-YDS.:** N.Asomugha 1-0. **PD:** N.Asomugha 1, T.Branch 1, T.Howard 1, C.Johnson 1, S.Routt 1. **FF:** T.Branch 1, D.Bryant 1, T.Howard 1. **FR-YDS.:** K.Morrison 1-8, D.Bryant 1-0.

**2012 SEASON
WEEK 12, GAME 11**

**Cincinnati Bengals 34, Oakland Raiders 10
Sunday, Nov. 25, 2012 at Paul Brown Stadium**

Former Bengals Pro Bowl QB Carson Palmer made his return to Paul Brown Stadium as the leader of the Raiders offense, but the day belonged to Cincinnati, which posted its most lopsided victory all season. The win marked just the second time in team history the Bengals had won three straight games by 18 or more points, with the first such streak occurring in 1976. Bengals QB Andy Dalton posted a 109.0 passer rating, with three TDs and no INTs, while Palmer posted just a 64.1 rating. The Bengals led 24-3 before Palmer got Oakland's only TD on a pass late in the third quarter. Palmer passed for just 146 yards and had one INT. The Bengals posted a season-high 221 rushing yards, including 129 by HB BenJarvus Green-Ellis, and Cincinnati outgained Oakland in net yards 415-218. Rookie WR Mohamed Sanu had two TD catches for Cincinnati. The Bengals improved to 6-5, while the Raiders fell to 3-8.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Oakland.....	0	0	10	0	—	10
Cincinnati.....	14	10	0	10	—	34

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR-LEFT
Cin. — B.Green-Ellis 1 run (M.Nugent kick).....	1-9:12
Cin. — M.Sanu 2 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	1-2:59
Cin. — M.Sanu 5 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	2-7:28
Cin. — M.Nugent 55 field goal.....	2-0:00
Oak. — S.Janikowski 55 field goal.....	3-10:28
Oak. — D.Moore 20 pass from C.Palmer (S.Janikowski kick).....	3-2:21
Cin. — M.Nugent 20 field goal.....	4-12:29
Cin. — J.Gresham 7 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	4-3:39

Missed FGs: M.Nugent (48WR). **Attendance:** 56,503. **Time:** 3:11.

TEAM STATISTICS	OAK.	CIN.
First downs.....	14	18
Third down conversions-attempts.....	3-12	9-17
Total net yards.....	218	415
Net yards rushing.....	99	221
Net yards passing.....	119	194
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	34-19-1	30-16-0
Sacks against-yards lost.....	4-27	2-16
Punts-average.....	6-46.8	5-40.8
Punt returns-yards.....	2-17	5-29
Kickoff returns-yards.....	5-117	1-25
Penalties-yards.....	3-25	3-25
Fumbles-lost.....	1-1	0-0
Time of possession.....	29:14	30:46

RUSHING									
OAK.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
M.Reece	15	74	15	0	B.Green-Ellis	19	129	48	1
J.Stewart	7	26	8	0	C.Peerman	8	61	31	0
O.Schmitt	1	-1	-1	0	A.Green	2	21	20	0
					A.Dalton	4	5	8	0
					M.Sanu	1	5	5	0
TOTALS	23	99	15	0	TOTALS	34	221	48	1

PASSING									
OAK.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
C.Palmer	34	19	146	1-1	A.Dalton	30	16	210	3-0
TOTALS	34	19	146	1-1	TOTALS	30	16	210	3-0

RECEIVING									
OAK.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
J.Stewart	6	37	26	0	M.Sanu	5	29	11	2
B.Myers	5	37	12	0	J.Gresham	4	41	27	1
M.Reece	4	29	11	0	A.Green	3	111	48	0
J.Criner	3	23	11	0	O.Charles	2	14	10	0
D.Moore	1	20	20t	1	B.Green-Ellis	1	9	9	0
					B.Tate	1	6	6	0
TOTALS	19	146	26	1	TOTALS	16	210	48	3

DEFENSE
Oakland (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** M.Burris 7-6-13, M.Giordano 2-5-7, T.Branch 3-3-6, M.Huff 3-3-6, P.Wheeler 3-3-6, R.McClain 2-4-6, L.Houston 1-5-6, J.Hanson 3-0-3, R.Bartell 1-2-3, T.Kelly 2-0-2, A.Carter 1-0-1, M.Shaughnessy 1-0-1, C.Bilukidii 0-1-1, D.Bryant 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** M.Shaughnessy 1-8, P.Wheeler 1-8. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** R.Bartell 2, M.Giordano 1, J.Hanson 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Cincinnati (coaches' stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** V.Burfict 8-5-13, R.Mauluga 5-5-10, R.Geathers 3-4-7, R.Nelson 4-2-6, C.Crocker 3-3-6, G.Atkins 4-1-5, M.Johnson 1-3-4, T.Newman 1-3-4, C.Dunlap 2-1-3, A.Jones 2-1-3, P.Sims 2-1-3, W.Gilberry 1-2-3, M.Lawson 1-2-3, L.Hall 2-0-2, D.Peko 1-1-2, E.Lamur 0-2-2. **SKS-YDS.:** W.Gilberry 1-10, G.Atkins 1-7, M.Johnson 1-6, M.Lawson 1-4. **INT.-YDS.:** C.Crocker 1-29. **PD:** L.Hall 2, T.Newman 2, C.Crocker 1, A.Jones 1, R.Nelson 1. **FF:** M.Lawson 1. **FR-YDS.:** R.Mauluga 1-0.

TRANSACTIONS

(TRANSACTIONS FROM 6-18-14 THROUGH 6-24-15 ARE IN BENGALS' 2015 MEDIA GUIDE)

- June 24, 2015 — Signed QB **Keith Wenning** (FA).
- July 28, 2015 — Waived WR **James Wright** (injured).
- July 29, 2015 — WR **James Wright** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.
- July 30, 2015 — Signed WR **Greg Little** (FA) and WR **Desmond Lawrence** (FA); Waived WR **Cobi Hamilton**.
- Aug. 19, 2015 — Signed WR **Michael Bennett** (CFA-Georgia); Waived TE **Jake Murphy**.
- Aug. 25, 2015 — Terminated the contract of QB **Josh Johnson**; Waived S **Erick Dargan** and DT **Kalafitoni Pole**.
- Aug. 31, 2015 — Terminated the contract of WR **Denarius Moore**; Waived DT **Kwame Geathers**, C/G **Chris Jasperse**, LB **Nico Johnson**, WR **Desmond Lawrence**, DE **Sam Montgomery** and TE **John Peters**.
- Aug. 31, 2015 — Waived FB **Mark Weisman** (injured) and WR **Tevin Reese**.
- Sept. 1, 2015 — Placed OT **Cedric Ogbuehi** on the Reserve/Non-Football Injury list; Placed LB **Sean Porter** on the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list; Waived WR **Onterio McCalebb** (injured); FB **Mark Weisman** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.
- Sept. 2, 2015 — WR **Onterio McCalebb** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.
- Sept. 5, 2015 — Placed LB **Vontaze Burfict** on the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list; Terminated the contracts of CB **Brandon Ghee** and S **Shiloh Keo**. Waived the following 19 players: WR **Michael Bennett**, LB **Jayson DiManche** (injured), LB **Marquis Flowers** (injured), G **Dan France**, G **Tanner Hawkinson**, CB **Troy Hill**, G **Trey Hopkins**, WR **Jake Kumerow**, TE **Matt Lengel**, OT **Matthew O'Donnell**, K **Tom Obarski**, S **Floyd Raven Sr.**, LB **Trevor Roach**, C **Jake Smith**, DT **Devon Still**, HB **Terrell Watson**, QB **Keith Wenning**, HB **James Wilder Jr.** and DT **DeShawn Williams**.
- Sept. 6, 2015 — Signed 10 players to the practice squad: G **Dan France**, CB **Troy Hill**, G **Trey Hopkins**, WR **Jake Kumerow**, TE **Matt Lengel**, LB **Trevor Roach**, HB **Terrell Watson**, QB **Keith Wenning**, HB **James Wilder Jr.** and DT **DeShawn Williams**; LB **Jayson DiManche** and LB **Marquis Flowers** cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list; Waived WR **Onterio McCalebb** from the Reserve/Injured list (injury settlement).

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

2015 PRESEASON PARTICIPATION CHART

LEGEND

P (NOTE: Position designation indicates start.)
 — played as a substitute
DNP — did not play

RI — reserve/injured list
RPUP — reserve/physically unable to perform list
RNFI — reserve/non-football injury list

NWT — not with team
REX — roster exemption
— unsigned

NAME	Cin. G-S	1 NYG	2 @T.B.	3 CHI.	4 @Ind.
Alford, Mario	4-0	P	P	P	P
Atkins, Geno	3-3	DT	DT	DT	DNP
Bennett, Michael	3-0	NWT	P	P	P
Bernard, Giovanni	3-0	P	P	P	DNP
Bodine, Russell	4-4	C	C	C	C
Boling, Clint	3-3	LG	LG	LG	DNP
Burfict, Vontaze	0-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Burkhead, Rex	3-1	2ndHB	P	P	DNP
Carter, Chris	4-0	P	P	P	P
Clarke, Will	4-1	P	P	P	RDE
Dalton, Andy	3-3	QB	QB	QB	DNP
Dargan, Erick	2-0	P	P	NWT	NWT
Dawson, P.J.	4-1	P	P	P	WLB
Dennard, Darqueze	1-0	P	DNP	DNP	DNP
DiManche, Jayson	4-0	P	P	P	P
Dunlap, Carlos	3-3	LDE	LDE	LDE	DNP
Eifert, Tyler	3-3	TE	TE	TE	DNP
Fisher, Jake	2-1	DNP	DNP	P	LOT
Flowers, Marquis	4-0	P	P	P	P
France, Dan	4-1	P	P	P	RG
Geathers, Kwame	3-0	P	P	P	NWT
Ghee, Brandon	0-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Gilberry, Wallace	3-3	RDE	RDE	RDE	DNP
Green, A.J.	3-3	WR	WR	WR	DNP
Hall, Leon	3-0	P	P	P	DNP
Hardison, Marcus	4-0	P	P	P	P
Harris, Clark	4-0	P	P	P	P
Hawk, A.J.	4-4	WLB	WLB	SLB	SLB
Hawkinson, Tanner	4-0	P	P	P	P
Hewitt, Ryan	3-2	P	H-B	H-B	DNP
Hill, Jeremy	3-3	HB	HB	HB	DNP
Hill, Troy	4-0	P	P	P	P
Hopkins, Trey	2-0	DNP	DNP	P	P
Huber, Kevin	4-0	P	P	P	P
Hunt, Margus	3-1	DNP	P	P	LDE
Iloka, George	3-3	SS	SS	SS	DNP
Jasperse, Chris	3-0	P	P	P	NWT
Johnson, Josh	1-0	P	DNP	NWT	NWT
Johnson, Michael	0-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP
Johnson, Nico	3-0	P	P	P	NWT
Johnson, T.J.	4-0	P	P	P	P
Jones, Adam	3-3	RCB	RCB	RCB	DNP
Jones, Marvin	3-0	P	P	P	DNP
Keo, Shiloh	4-1	P	P	P	SS
Kirkpatrick, Dre	3-3	LCB	LCB	LCB	DNP
Kroft, Tyler	4-2	P	P	2ndTE	TE
Kumerow, Jake	4-0	P	P	P	P
Lamur, Emmanuel	2-0	P	P	DNP	DNP
Lawrence, Desmond	2-0	P	DNP	P	NWT
Lengel, Matt	4-0	P	P	P	P
Lewis-Harris, Chris	4-1	P	P	P	RCB
Little, Greg	4-1	P	P	P	WR
Mauluga, Rey	3-3	MLB	MLB	MLB	DNP
McCalebb, Onterio	1-0	P	DNP	DNP	RI
McCarron, AJ	3-1	DNP	P	P	QB
Montgomery, Sam	3-0	P	P	P	NWT
Moore, Denarius	3-0	P	P	P	NWT
Murphy, Jake	1-0	P	NWT	NWT	NWT
Nelson, Reggie	3-3	FS	FS	FS	DNP
Nugent, Mike	2-0	DNP	DNP	P	P
Obarski, Tom	4-0	P	P	P	P
O'Donnell, Matthew	4-1	P	P	P	ROT
Ogbuehi, Cedric	0-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	RNFI
Peerman, Cedric	4-1	P	P	P	HB
Peko, Domata	3-3	NT	NT	NT	DNP
Peters, John	2-0	P	DNP	P	NWT
Pole, Kalafitoni	1-0	DNP	P	NWT	NWT
Porter, Sean	0-0	DNP	DNP	DNP	RPUP
Raven, Floyd Sr.	4-0	P	P	P	P
Reese, Tevin	1-0	P	DNP	DNP	NWT
Rey, Vincent	3-3	SLB	SLB	WLB	DNP
Roach, Trevor	4-1	P	P	P	MLB
Sanu, Mohamed	3-2	WR	WR	P	DNP
Shaw, Josh	4-1	P	P	P	LCB
Sims, Pat	2-1	P	DNP	DNP	NT
Smith, Andre	1-1	DNP	DNP	ROT	DNP
Smith, Derron	4-0	P	P	P	P
Smith, Jake	4-0	P	P	P	P
Still, Devon	4-0	P	P	P	P
Tate, Brandon	4-1	P	P	P	WR
Thompson, Brandon	2-1	P	DNP	DNP	DT
Uzomah, C.J.	4-1	P	P	P	2ndTE
Watson, Terrell	3-0	P	DNP	P	P
Weisman, Mark	3-0	P	P	P	RI
Wenning, Keith	3-0	P	DNP	P	P
Whitworth, Andrew	3-3	LOT	LOT	LOT	DNP
Wilder, James Jr.	4-0	P	P	P	P
Williams, DeShawn	4-0	P	P	P	P
Williams, Shawn	4-1	P	P	P	FS
Winston, Eric	4-3	ROT	ROT	P	LG
Wright, James	0-0	RI	RI	RI	RI
Zeitler, Kevin	3-3	RG	RG	RG	DNP

DEPTH CHART

SEPT. 8, 2015

OFFENSE

WR	18	A.J. GREEN	19	Brandon Tate	15	<u>Mario Alford</u>
LOT	77	ANDREW WHITWORTH	74	<u>Jake Fisher</u>		
LG	65	CLINT BOLING	74	<u>Jake Fisher</u>		
C	61	RUSSELL BODINE	60	T.J. Johnson		
RG	68	KEVIN ZEITLER	73	Eric Winston		
ROT	71	ANDRE SMITH	73	Eric Winston		
TE	85	TYLER EIFERT	81	<u>Tyler Kroft</u> (TE)		
H-B/TE	89	RYAN HEWITT (H-back)	87	<u>C.J. Uzomah</u>		
WR	12	MOHAMED SANU	82	Marvin Jones	11	Greg Little
QB	14	ANDY DALTON	5	AJ McCarron		
HB	32	JEREMY HILL (HB)	25	Giovani Bernard (HB)	30	Cedric Peerman (HB)
					33	Rex Burkhead (HB)

DEFENSE

LDE	96	CARLOS DUNLAP	99	Margus Hunt		
NT	94	DOMATA PEKO	92	Pat Sims		
DT	97	GENO ATKINS	98	Brandon Thompson	91	<u>Marcus Hardison</u>
RDE	90	MICHAEL JOHNSON	95	Wallace Gilberry	93	Will Clarke
SLB	50	A.J. HAWK	59	Emmanuel Lamur	51	Chris Carter
MLB	58	REY MAUALUGA	57	Vincent Rey		
WLB	57	VINCENT REY	47	<u>P.J. Dawson</u>		
LCB	27	DRE KIRKPATRICK	21	Darqueze Dennard	26	<u>Josh Shaw</u>
RCB	24	ADAM JONES	29	Leon Hall	37	Chris Lewis-Harris
SS	43	GEORGE ILOKA	36	Shawn Williams		
FS	20	REGGIE NELSON	40	<u>Derron Smith</u>		

SPECIAL TEAMS

P	10	Kevin Huber				
K	2	Mike Nugent				
LS	46	Clark Harris				
H	10	Kevin Huber				
PR	24	Adam Jones	19	Brandon Tate	25	Giovani Bernard
					15	<u>Mario Alford</u>
KOR	19	Brandon Tate	24	Adam Jones	15	<u>Mario Alford</u>

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

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

<p>Geno Atkins..... JEE-no</p> <p>Giovani Bernard.....jee-o-VAHN-ee</p> <p>Russell Bodine.....BO-dine</p> <p>Vontaze Burfict (Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform list).....VONN-tez BER-fict(rhymes with "perfect")</p> <p>Darqueze Dennard.....dar-KWEZ deh-NARD</p> <p>Jayson DiManche (Reserve/Injured list).....dih-MAHNCH</p> <p>Tyler Eifert.....IE(rhymes with "tie")-fert</p> <p>Marquis Flowers (Reserve/Injured list).....mar-KEECE(rhymes with "peace")</p> <p>Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator).....GUN-thur</p> <p>Ryan Hewitt.....HUE-it</p> <p>Margus Hunt.....MAR-guss</p> <p>George Iloka.....ie(rhymes with "tie")-LO-kuh</p> <p>Dre Kirkpatrick.....DRAY</p> <p>Jake Kumerow (Practice Squad).....KOO-mer-o</p>	<p>Emmanuel Lamur.....luh-MER</p> <p>Matt Lengel (Practice Squad).....LENG-guhl (hard "g" on second syllable)</p> <p>Rey Maualuga.....RAY mow(rhymes with "now")-uh-LOO-guh</p> <p>Onterio McCalebb (Reserve/Injured list).....mc-KAY-lebb</p> <p>Cedric Ogbuehi (Reserve/Non-Football Injury list).....o-BWAY-hee</p> <p>Domata Peko.....DOE-mah-tah PECK-o</p> <p>Vincent Rey.....RAY</p> <p>Mohamed Sanu.....suh-NOO</p> <p>Derron Smith.....duh-RONN</p> <p>C.J. Uzomah.....yew-ZAH-mah</p> <p>Terrell Watson (Practice Squad).....ter-ELL</p> <p>Mark Weisman (Reserve/Injured).....WICE(rhymes with "nice")-man</p> <p>Ken Zampese (quarterbacks coach).....zam-PEE-zee</p> <p>Kevin Zeitler.....ZITE-ler</p>
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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 8, 2015

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
15	Alford, Mario	WR	5-9	180	2-25-92	R	West Virginia	Greenville, Ga.	D7'15
97	Atkins, Geno	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	6	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
25	Bernard, Giovanni	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	3	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
61	Bodine, Russell	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	2	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Boling, Clint	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	5	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
33	Burkhead, Rex	HB	5-10	210	7-2-90	3	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
51	Carter, Chris	LB	6-1	240	4-6-89	5	Fresno State	Fontana, Calif.	FA'14
93	Clarke, Will	DE	6-6	291	5-4-91	2	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
14	Dalton, Andy	QB	6-2	216	10-29-87	5	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
47	Dawson, P.J.	LB	6-0	240	1-13-93	R	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	D3b'15
21	Dennard, Darqueze	CB	5-11	197	10-10-91	2	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
96	Dunlap, Carlos	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	6	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
85	Eifert, Tyler	TE	6-6	250	9-8-90	3	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
74	Fisher, Jake	OT/G	6-6	306	4-23-93	R	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
95	Gilberry, Wallace	DE	6-2	270	12-5-84	8	Alabama	Bay Minette, Ala.	FA'12
18	Green, A.J.	WR	6-4	207	7-31-88	5	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
29	Hall, Leon	CB	5-11	195	12-9-84	9	Michigan	Vista, Calif.	D1'07
91	Hardison, Marcus	DT	6-3	315	2-14-92	R	Arizona State	Punta Gorda, Fla.	D4b'15
46	Harris, Clark	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	7	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
50	Hawk, A.J.	LB	6-1	240	1-6-84	10	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'15
89	Hewitt, Ryan	H-B	6-4	254	1-24-91	2	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
32	Hill, Jeremy	HB	6-1	235	10-20-92	2	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
10	Huber, Kevin	P	6-1	214	7-16-85	7	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
99	Hunt, Margus	DE	6-8	290	7-14-87	3	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13
43	Iloka, George	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	4	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
90	Johnson, Michael	DE	6-7	280	2-7-87	7	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
60	Johnson, T.J.	C	6-4	300	7-17-90	2	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
24	Jones, Adam	CB	5-10	180	9-30-83	9	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
82	Jones, Marvin	WR	6-2	198	3-12-90	4	California	Fontana, Calif.	D5b'12
27	Kirkpatrick, Dre	CB	6-2	190	10-26-89	4	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
81	Kroft, Tyler	TE	6-6	246	10-15-92	R	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
59	Lamur, Emmanuel	LB	6-4	245	6-8-89	4	Kansas State	West Palm Beach, Fla.	CFA'12
37	Lewis-Harris, Chris	CB	5-10	186	2-11-89	3	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smyrna, Ga.	CFA'12
11	Little, Greg	WR	6-2	220	5-30-89	5	North Carolina	Durham, N.C.	FA'15
58	Mauluga, Rey	LB	6-2	255	1-20-87	7	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
5	McCarron, A.J.	QB	6-3	210	9-13-90	1	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
20	Nelson, Reggie	S	5-11	210	9-21-83	9	Florida	Melbourne, Fla.	T(Jax.)'10
2	Nugent, Mike	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	11	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
30	Peerman, Cedric	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	6	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
94	Peko, Domata	DT	6-3	325	11-27-84	10	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
57	Rey, Vincent	LB	6-0	255	9-6-87	5	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
12	Sanu, Mohamed	WR	6-2	210	8-22-89	4	Rutgers	South Brunswick, N.J.	D3a'12
26	Shaw, Josh	CB	6-1	201	3-27-92	R	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
92	Sims, Pat	DT	6-2	340	11-29-85	8	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
71	Smith, Andre	OT	6-4	325	1-25-87	7	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	D1'09
40	Smith, Derron	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	R	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
19	Tate, Brandon	WR	6-1	195	10-5-87	7	North Carolina	Burlington, N.C.	W(N.E.)'11
98	Thompson, Brandon	DT	6-2	305	10-19-89	4	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
87	Uzomah, C.J.	TE	6-6	271	1-14-93	R	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
77	Whitworth, Andrew	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	10	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
36	Williams, Shawn	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	3	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
73	Winston, Eric	OT/G	6-7	302	11-17-83	9	Miami (Fla.)	Midland, Texas	FA'14
68	Zeitler, Kevin	G	6-4	315	3-8-90	4	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12

PRACTICE SQUAD (date signed)

64	France, Dan (9-6-15)	G	6-5	305	4-1-91	1	Michigan State	North Royalton, Ohio	CFA'14
28	Hill, Troy (9-6-15)	CB	5-11	180	8-29-91	R	Oregon	Youngstown, Ohio	CFA'15
66	Hopkins, Trey (9-6-15)	G	6-3	300	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
84	Kumerow, Jake (9-6-15)	WR	6-4	206	2-17-92	R	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
88	Lengel, Matt (9-6-15)	TE	6-7	266	12-27-90	R	Eastern Kentucky	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	CFA'15
45	Roach, Trevor (9-6-15)	LB	6-2	237	3-6-92	R	Nebraska	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'15
31	Watson, Terrell (9-6-15)	HB	6-1	242	8-22-93	R	Azusa Pacific	Oxnard, Calif.	CFA'15
3	Wenning, Keith (9-6-15)	QB	6-3	225	2-14-91	1	Ball State	Coldwater, Ohio	FA'15
34	Wilder, James Jr. (9-6-15)	HB	6-3	232	4-14-92	1	Florida State	Tampa, Fla.	CFA'14
69	Williams, DeShawn (9-6-15)	DT	6-1	295	12-29-92	R	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15

RESERVE/NON-FOOTBALL INJURY (date assigned; injury)

70	Ogbuehi, Cedric (9-1-15; knee)	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	R	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
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RESERVE/PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM (date assigned; injury)

55	Burfict, Vontaze (9-5-15; knee)	LB	6-1	250	9-24-90	4	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
56	Porter, Sean (9-1-15; knee)	LB	6-1	235	1-12-91	3	Texas A&M	Schertz, Texas	D4'13

RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

51	DiManche, Jayson (9-6-15; knee)	LB	6-1	244	9-22-90	3	Southern Illinois	Hamilton, N.J.	CFA'13
53	Flowers, Marquis (9-6-15; shoulder)	LB	6-3	250	2-16-92	2	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
35	Weisman, Mark (9-1-15; concussion)	FB	5-11	242	10-28-91	R	Iowa	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	CFA'15
86	Wright, James (7-29-15; knee)	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	2	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Brian Braswell (offensive quality control/assistant offensive line), Matt Burke (linebackers), Mark Carrier (defensive backs), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (offensive quality control/special teams assistant), Jeff Friday (assistant strength and conditioning), Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator), Jay Hayes (defensive line), Jonathan Hayes (tight ends), Hue Jackson (offensive coordinator), Vance Joseph (defensive backs), Marcus Lewis (defensive assistant/quality control), David Lippincott (assistant linebackers/quality control), Robert Livingston (defensive quality control/special teams assistant), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (quarterbacks).

NUMERICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 8, 2015

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
2	Mike Nugent.....	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	11	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
5	AJ McCarron.....	QB	6-3	210	9-13-90	1	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
10	Kevin Huber.....	P	6-1	214	7-16-85	7	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
11	Greg Little.....	WR	6-2	220	5-30-89	5	North Carolina	Durham, N.C.	FA'15
12	Mohamed Sanu.....	WR	6-2	210	8-22-89	4	Rutgers	South Brunswick, N.J.	D3a'12
14	Andy Dalton.....	QB	6-2	216	10-29-87	5	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
15	Mario Alford.....	WR	5-9	180	2-25-92	R	West Virginia	Greenville, Ga.	D7'15
18	A.J. Green.....	WR	6-4	207	7-31-88	5	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
19	Brandon Tate.....	WR	6-1	195	10-5-87	7	North Carolina	Burlington, N.C.	W(N.E.)'11
20	Reggie Nelson.....	S	5-11	210	9-21-83	9	Florida	Melbourne, Fla.	T(Jax.)'10
21	Darqueze Dennard.....	CB	5-11	197	10-10-91	2	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
24	Adam Jones.....	CB	5-10	180	9-30-83	9	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
25	Giovani Bernard.....	HB	5-9	205	11-22-91	3	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
26	Josh Shaw.....	CB	6-1	201	3-27-92	R	Southern California	Palmdale, Calif.	D4a'15
27	Dre Kirkpatrick.....	CB	6-2	190	10-26-89	4	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
29	Leon Hall.....	CB	5-11	195	12-9-84	9	Michigan	Vista, Calif.	D1'07
30	Cedric Peerman.....	HB	5-10	212	10-10-86	6	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
32	Jeremy Hill.....	HB	6-1	235	10-20-92	2	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
33	Rex Burkhead.....	HB	5-10	210	7-2-90	3	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
36	Shawn Williams.....	S	6-0	210	5-13-91	3	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
37	Chris Lewis-Harris.....	CB	5-10	186	2-11-89	3	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smyrna, Ga.	CFA'12
40	Derron Smith.....	S	5-10	200	2-4-92	R	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.	D6'15
43	George Iloka.....	S	6-4	225	3-31-90	4	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
46	Clark Harris.....	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	7	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
47	P.J. Dawson.....	LB	6-0	240	1-13-93	R	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	D3b'15
50	A.J. Hawk.....	LB	6-1	240	1-6-84	10	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'15
51	Chris Carter.....	LB	6-1	240	4-6-89	5	Fresno State	Fontana, Calif.	FA'14
57	Vincent Rey.....	LB	6-0	255	9-6-87	5	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
58	Rey Mauluga.....	LB	6-2	255	1-20-87	7	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
59	Emmanuel Lamur.....	LB	6-4	245	6-8-89	4	Kansas State	West Palm Beach, Fla.	CFA'12
60	T.J. Johnson.....	C	6-4	300	7-17-90	2	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
61	Russell Bodine.....	C	6-3	308	6-30-92	2	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Clint Boling.....	G	6-5	305	5-9-89	5	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
68	Kevin Zeitler.....	G	6-4	315	3-8-90	4	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12
71	Andre Smith.....	OT	6-4	325	1-25-87	7	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	D1'09
73	Eric Winston.....	OT	6-7	302	11-17-83	9	Miami (Fla.)	Midland, Texas	FA'14
74	Jake Fisher.....	OT	6-6	306	4-23-93	R	Oregon	Traverse City, Mich.	D2'15
77	Andrew Whitworth.....	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	10	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
81	Tyler Kroft.....	TE	6-6	246	10-15-92	R	Rutgers	Downingtown, Pa.	D3a'15
82	Marvin Jones.....	WR	6-2	198	3-12-90	4	California	Fontana, Calif.	D5b'12
85	Tyler Eifert.....	TE	6-6	250	9-8-90	3	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13
87	C.J. Uzomah.....	TE	6-6	271	1-14-93	R	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
89	Ryan Hewitt.....	H-B	6-4	254	1-24-91	2	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
90	Michael Johnson.....	DE	6-7	280	2-7-87	7	Georgia Tech	Selma, Ala.	FA'15
91	Marcus Hardison.....	DT	6-3	315	2-14-92	R	Arizona State	Punta Gorda, Fla.	D4b'15
92	Pat Sims.....	DT	6-2	340	11-29-85	8	Auburn	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	UFA(Oak.)'15
93	Will Clarke.....	DE	6-6	291	5-4-91	2	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
94	Domata Peko.....	DT	6-3	325	11-27-84	10	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
95	Wallace Gilberry.....	DE	6-2	270	12-5-84	8	Alabama	Bay Minette, Ala.	FA'12
96	Carlos Dunlap.....	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	6	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
97	Geno Atkins.....	DT	6-1	300	3-28-88	6	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
98	Brandon Thompson.....	DT	6-2	305	10-19-89	4	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
99	Margus Hunt.....	DE	6-8	290	7-14-87	3	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13

PRACTICE SQUAD (date signed)

3	Keith Wenning (9-6-15).....	QB	6-3	225	2-14-91	1	Ball State	Coldwater, Ohio	FA'15
28	Troy Hill (9-6-15).....	CB	5-11	180	8-29-91	R	Oregon	Youngstown, Ohio	CFA'15
31	Terrell Watson (9-6-15).....	HB	6-1	242	8-22-93	R	Azusa Pacific	Oxnard, Calif.	CFA'15
34	James Wilder Jr. (9-6-15).....	HB	6-3	232	4-14-92	1	Florida State	Tampa, Fla.	CFA'14
45	Trevor Roach (9-6-15).....	LB	6-2	237	3-6-92	R	Nebraska	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'15
64	Dan France (9-6-15).....	G	6-5	305	4-1-91	1	Michigan State	North Royalton, Ohio	CFA'14
66	Trey Hopkins (9-6-15).....	G	6-3	300	7-6-92	2	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
69	DeShawn Williams (9-6-15).....	DT	6-1	295	12-29-92	R	Clemson	Central, S.C.	CFA'15
84	Jake Kumerow (9-6-15).....	WR	6-4	206	2-17-92	R	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Bartlett, Ill.	CFA'15
88	Matt Lengel (9-6-15).....	TE	6-7	266	12-27-90	R	Eastern Kentucky	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	CFA'15

RESERVE/NON-FOOTBALL INJURY (date assigned; injury)

70	Cedric Ogbuehi (9-1-15; knee).....	OT	6-5	310	4-25-92	R	Texas A&M	Allen, Texas	D1'15
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RESERVE/PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM (date assigned; injury)

55	Vontaze Burfict (9-5-15; knee).....	LB	6-1	250	9-24-90	4	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
56	Sean Porter (9-1-15; knee).....	LB	6-1	235	1-12-91	3	Texas A&M	Schertz, Texas	D4'13

RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

35	Mark Weisman (9-1-15; concussion).....	FB	5-11	242	10-28-91	R	Iowa	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	CFA'15
51	Jayson DiManche (9-6-15; knee).....	LB	6-1	244	9-22-90	3	Southern Illinois	Hamilton, N.J.	CFA'13
53	Marquis Flowers (9-6-15; shoulder).....	LB	6-3	250	2-16-92	2	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
86	James Wright (7-29-15; knee).....	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	2	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Brian Braswell (offensive quality control/assistant offensive line), Matt Burke (linebackers), Mark Carrier (defensive backs), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (offensive quality control/special teams assistant), Jeff Friday (assistant strength and conditioning), Paul Guenther (defensive coordinator), Jay Hayes (defensive line), Jonathan Hayes (tight ends), Hue Jackson (offensive coordinator), Vance Joseph (defensive backs), Marcus Lewis (defensive assistant/quality control), David Lippincott (assistant linebackers/quality control), Robert Livingston (defensive quality control/special teams assistant), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (quarterbacks).

2015 PRESEASON STATISTICS

RECORD: 3-1

DATE	W-L	SCORE	OPPONENT	ATTENDANCE
8-14	W	23-10	N.Y. GIANTS	39,914
8-24	L	11-25	at Tampa Bay	47,728
8-29	W	21-10	CHICAGO	47,790
9-3	W	9-6	at Indianapolis	65,188

TEAM STATISTICS		BENGALS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	.....	79	60
Rushing	.....	28	20
Passing	.....	43	32
Penalty	.....	8	8
3rd Down: Made-Att	.....	17-50	15-53
3rd Down Pct.	.....	34.0	28.3
4th Down: Made-Att	.....	1-3	0-3
4th Down Pct.	.....	33.3	0.0
POSSESSION AVG.	.....	30:52	29:08
TOTAL NET YARDS	.....	1247	1017
Avg. Per Game	.....	311.8	254.3
Total Plays	.....	251	233
Avg. Per Play	.....	5.0	4.4
NET YARDS RUSHING	.....	504	401
Gross Yards	.....	126.0	100.3
Total Rushes	.....	123	102
NET YARDS PASSING	.....	743	616
Avg. Per Game	.....	185.8	154.0
Sacked-Yards Lost	.....	12-70	12-91
Gross Yards	.....	813	707
Att.-Completions	.....	116-70	119-73
Completion Pct.	.....	60.3	61.3
Had Intercepted	.....	3	3
PUNTS-AVG.	.....	19-44.7	28-44.4
Net Punting Avg.	.....	19-38.4	28-39.4
PENALTIES-YARDS	.....	24-218	39-404
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST	.....	7-4	4-1
TOUCHDOWNS	.....	6	5
Rushing	.....	4	2
Passing	.....	2	1
Returns	.....	0	2

SCORE BY PERIODS		1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
BENGALS	.....	17	30	3	14	0	64
OPPONENTS	.....	7	29	3	12	0	51

SCORING		TD	TD-R	TD-P	TD-Rt	K-PAT	FG	S	PTS
Tom Obarski	.....	0	0	0	2-2	5-7	0	17	
James Wilder Jr.	.....	2	2	0	0	—	0	14	
Mike Nugent	.....	0	0	0	3-3	2-2	0	9	
Andy Dalton	.....	1	1	0	0	—	0	6	
Jeremy Hill	.....	1	1	0	0	—	0	6	
Marvin Jones	.....	1	0	1	0	—	0	6	
Mohamed Sanu	.....	1	0	1	0	—	0	6	
BENGALS	.....	6	4	2	0	5-5	7-9	0	64
OPPONENTS	.....	5	2	1	2	4-5	5-7	1	51

Two-point conversions: James Wilder Jr. 1 (1R). BENGALS 1-1 (1-1 R, 0-0 P), OPPONENTS 0-0 (0-0 R, 0-0 P).

Sacks-yards: Chris Carter 3.5-34, DeShawn Williams 2-10, P.J. Dawson 2-9, Carlos Dunlap 1-10, Marcus Hardison 1-8, Margus Hunt 1-6, Geno Atkins 0.5-5, Wallace Gilberry 0.5-5, Shawn Williams 0.5-4. BENGALS 12-91, OPPONENTS 12-70.

Fumbles-lost: AJ McCarron 3-0, Jeremy Hill 1-1, Tyler Kroft 1-1, Cedric Peerman 1-1, Terrell Watson 1-1. BENGALS 7-4, OPPONENTS 4-1.

RUSHING		ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Terrell Watson	.....	25	130	5.2	26	0
James Wilder Jr.	.....	25	107	4.3	20	2
Jeremy Hill	.....	17	77	4.5	26	1
Cedric Peerman	.....	16	43	2.7	10	0
Josh Johnson	.....	6	37	6.2	13	0
Mario Alford	.....	3	29	9.7	23	0
Rex Burkhead	.....	5	24	4.8	15	0
Andy Dalton	.....	6	22	3.7	8	1
Giovani Bernard	.....	10	19	1.9	5	0
AJ McCarron	.....	6	18	3.0	9	0
Ryan Hewitt	.....	1	1	1.0	1	0
Keith Wenning	.....	3	-3	-1.0	-1	0
BENGALS	.....	123	504	4.1	26	4
OPPONENTS	.....	102	401	3.9	30	2

RECEIVING		REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Cedric Peerman	.....	10	95	9.5	18	0
Greg Little	.....	9	145	16.1	42	0
Jake Kumerow	.....	6	65	10.8	16	0
Brandon Tate	.....	5	88	17.6	48	0
Tyler Eifert	.....	5	67	13.4	25	0
A.J. Green	.....	5	59	11.8	16	0
Tyler Kroft	.....	5	46	9.2	18	0
Marvin Jones	.....	3	52	17.3	31t	1
Mario Alford	.....	3	39	13.0	17	0
Rex Burkhead	.....	3	37	12.3	25	0
Michael Bennett	.....	3	24	8.0	10	0
Giovani Bernard	.....	3	16	5.3	7	0
James Wilder Jr.	.....	2	15	7.5	18	0
C.J. Uzomah	.....	2	13	6.5	7	0
Ryan Hewitt	.....	2	11	5.5	7	0
Mohamed Sanu	.....	2	9	4.5	6	1
Denarius Moore	.....	1	30	30.0	30	0
Jeremy Hill	.....	1	2	2.0	2	0
BENGALS	.....	70	813	11.6	48	2
OPPONENTS	.....	73	707	9.7	42	1

INTERCEPTIONS		NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Floyd Raven Sr.	.....	1	9	9.0	9	0
Chris Lewis-Harris	.....	1	5	5.0	5	0
Shiloh Keo	.....	1	0	0.0	0	0
BENGALS	.....	3	14	4.7	9	0
OPPONENTS	.....	3	123	41.0	61	1

PUNTING		NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	IN-20	LG	BLK.
Kevin Huber	.....	18	849	47.2	38.4	3	4	62	1
BENGALS	.....	19	849	44.7	38.4	3	4	62	1
OPPONENTS	.....	28	1243	44.4	39.4	3	8	62	0

PUNT RETURNS		NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Mario Alford	.....	5	1	59	11.8	19	0
Brandon Tate	.....	5	4	23	4.6	12	0
Giovani Bernard	.....	2	2	0	0.0	0	0
Adam Jones	.....	1	0	-5	-5.0	-5	0
Denarius Moore	.....	1	1	4	4.0	4	0
BENGALS	.....	14	8	81	5.8	19	0
OPPONENTS	.....	13	1	60	4.6	16	0

KICKOFF RETURNS		NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Mario Alford	.....	4	86	21.5	24	0
Brandon Tate	.....	2	52	26.0	28	0
Cedric Peerman	.....	1	11	11.0	11	0
BENGALS	.....	7	149	21.3	28	0
OPPONENTS	.....	13	362	27.8	70	0

FIELD GOALS		1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Tom Obarski	.....	0-0	3-4	1-2	1-1	0-0
Mike Nugent	.....	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0
BENGALS	.....	0-0	3-4	2-3	2-2	0-0
OPPONENTS	.....	0-0	2-2	1-1	1-1	1-3

Tom Obarski: (46G, 27RU, 25G, 21G), (37G), (—), (30WL, 28).
Mike Nugent: (—), (—), (—), (41G, 35G).
Bengals: (46G, 27RU, 25G, 21G), (37G), (—), (41G, 35G, 30WL, 28G).
Opponents: (53WR, 41G), (53G, 50WL), (34G), (26G, 26G).

DEFENSE*		ST	AT	TT	SKS-YDS	INT-YDS	PD	FF	FR-YDS
P.J. Dawson	.....	14	4	18	2-9	0-0	0	0	0-0
Josh Shaw	.....	10	4	14	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Shawn Williams	.....	7	7	14	0.5-4	0-0	0	0	0-0
Nico Johnson	.....	6	8	14	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Trevor Roach	.....	8	4	12	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Vincent Rey	.....	8	3	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Shiloh Keo	.....	7	4	11	0-0	1-0	1	0	0-0
Troy Hill	.....	8	2	10	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
Chris Lewis-Harris	.....	8	2	10	0-0	1-5	3	0	0-0
Marquis Flowers	.....	5	5	10	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Derron Smith	.....	7	1	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Marcus Hardison	.....	5	3	8	1-8	0-0	1	0	1-0
Margus Hunt	.....	5	3	8	1-6	0-0	1	0	0-0
Reggie Nelson	.....	4	3	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Will Clarke	.....	5	1	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Chris Carter	.....	4	2	6	3.5-34	0-0	0	1	0-0
Pat Sims	.....	1	5	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
A.J. Hawk	.....	3	2	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Adam Jones	.....	3	2	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Dre Kirkpatrick	.....	2	3	5	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
Carlos Dunlap	.....	4	0	4	1-10	0-0	0	0	0-0
DeShawn Williams	.....	4	0	4	2-10	0-0	0	0	0-0
Floyd Raven Sr.	.....	3	1	4	0-0	1-9	1	0	0-0
George Iloka	.....	2	2	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Rey Mauluga	.....	2	2	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Devon Still	.....	2	2	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Geno Atkins	.....	2	1	3	0.5-5	0-0	0	0	0-0
Erick Dargan	.....	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0
Jayson DiManche	.....	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Leon Hall	.....	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Domata Peko	.....	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Brandon Thompson	.....	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Sam Montgomery	.....	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Wallace Gilbery	.....	0	1	1	0.5-5	0-0	0	0	0-0
Emmanuel Lamur	.....	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0

SPECIAL TEAMS*		ST	AT	TT	FF	FR-YDS	BP	BFG	BXP
Jayson DiManche	.....	0	5	5	0	0-0	0	0	0
Shiloh Keo	.....	2	2	4	0	0-0	0	0	0
James Wilder Jr.	.....	3	0	3	0	0-0	0	0	0
Clark Harris	.....	1	2	3	0	0-0	0	0	0
Josh Shaw	.....	1	2	3	0	0-0	0	0	0
Cedric Peerman	.....	2	0	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Troy Hill	.....	1	1	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Derron Smith	.....	1	1	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Shawn Williams	.....	1	1	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Trevor Roach	.....	0	2	2	0	0-0	0	0	0
Rex Burkhead	.....	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Darqueze Dennard	.....	1	0	1	0	0-0	0	0	0
Marquis Flowers	.....	1	0	1	0	0-0			