



Height/Weight
6-1/225

Hometown
Atlanta, Ga.

High School
Roswell HS

MALIK WILLIS BIO

2021 (R-Jr.):

- Started all 13 games at quarterback
- 2021 Bobby Bowden Trophy Award winner
- 2021 CFPA National Performer of the Year Award watch list
- 2021 Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award (semifinalist)
- 2021 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award (top 10 candidate)
- 2021 Manning Award watch list
- 2021 Maxwell Award (semifinalist)
- 2022 Reese's Senior Bowl watch list
- 2021 Walter Camp Player of the Year Award watch list
- NFLPA Collegiate Bowl 2021-22 Preseason Big Board watch list
- Phil Steele Postseason All-Independent first team
- 2022 Reese's Senior Bowl participate
- 2022 NFL Combine invitee
- Pair of 300-yard passing games (307 yards against UMass; 305 yards against Army)
- Pair of 100-yard rushing games (144 yards against UAB; 157 yards against ULM)
- Accounted for 65.9 percent of the Flames' total offensive yards in 2021 (Team Yards: 5,671/Willis: 3,736 - Rush 878, Pass 2,857)
- Total offensive yards rank No. 2 in single-season program history
- Completed 207-of-339 passing attempts for 2,857 yards and 27 touchdowns
- Liberty's leading rusher, having carried the ball 197 times for 878 yards and 13 touchdowns
- Broke his own single-season school record with 40 total touchdowns (27 passing, 13 rushing)
- Ranked No. 8 in the country in points responsible for (242/18.6 per game)
- Ranked No. 18 in passing touchdowns (27)
- Ranked No. 20 total offense (287.7 yards per game)
- Ranked No. 20 in passing yards per competition (13.83).
- Named the Overall MVP of the LendingTree Bowl, finishing the game with five total touchdowns (three passing, two rushing) and 289 yards of total offense (231 passing, 58 rushing)

2020 (R-Jr.):

- CFPA National Performer of the Year Award Watch List
- Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award Watch List (Midseason)
- Maxwell Award Watch List
- Davey O'Brien Award Quarterback Class of 2020 member
- Phil Steele Postseason All-America honorable mention selection
- Phil Steele Postseason All-Independent second team
- Dudley Award winner (top player in Virginia as presented by the Richmond Times-Dispatch)
- Touchdown Club of Richmond Offensive Back of the Year award winner
- VaSID Offensive Player of the Year
- VaSID All-State first team honoree
- Three-time CFPA National Performer of the Week - Honorable Mention (Sept. 20, Oct. 25 and Nov. 15)
- Two-time Davey O'Brien Award "Star of the Week" (Sept. 21 and Oct. 26)
- Three-time Manning Award "Star of the Week" (Sept. 28, Oct. 26 and Nov. 9)
- No. 1 ranked rushing quarterback in the country (944 rushing yards, 14 TDs)
- Ranked No. 7 in the country in rushing touchdowns and No. 16 in rushing yards
- Other National Rankings: No. 8 in points responsible for (204) and points responsible for per game (20.4); No. 9 in total offense (320.4 yards per game); No. 11 in total touchdowns (14); No. 17 in passing efficiency (156.2); No. 16 in passing touchdowns; No. 22 in passing yards per attempt (8.53); No. 27 in passing yards; No. 33 in completion percentage (64.2 percent) and passing yards per completion (13.29)
- Led the Flames in total offense (3,204 yards), passing yards (2,260) and passing touchdowns (20)
- Missed the North Alabama game due to an injury
- Had a rushing touchdown in eight of the 10 games he played in
- Rushed for 168 yards and three touchdowns during his first collegiate start to open the season at Western Kentucky
- His 168 rushing yards against Western Kentucky were the most in program history in a single game by a Liberty quarterback
- Posted two 300 yard passing games (345 yards against Southern Miss and 306 yards against Western Carolina)
- Tied a program record with six passing touchdowns in a win against Southern Miss
- Led the Flames to their first-ever win over an ACC opponent, completing 16-of-20 pass attempts for 182 yards and a touchdown, while rushing for 58 yards and a touchdown at Syracuse
- Guided the Flames to their first-ever win over Virginia Tech, completing 20-of-30 passing attempts for three touchdowns, while rushing for 108 yards and a touchdown
- Named the FBC Mortgage Cure Bowl MVP after leading the Flames to the program's first-ever win over a national ranked FBS team (No. 9/11 Coastal Carolina)
- Finished the Cure Bowl game completing 19-of-29 passing attempts for 220 yards, while rushing for 137 yards and four touchdowns

2019 (Jr.):

- Sat out the season due to NCAA transfer rules

Previous School:

- Transferred to Liberty from Auburn
- Saw playing time in 15 games during the 2017 and 2018 seasons
- Finished his career at Auburn completing 11-of-14 passing attempts for 69 yards and a touchdown
- Also rushed 28 times for 309 yards and two touchdowns
- Averaged 31.6 rushing yards per game as a freshman (16 carries for 221 yards)
- Saw playing time during Liberty's game at Auburn on Nov. 17, 2018, completing 2-of-3 passing attempts and recording a 16-yard rushing touchdown for the Tigers Prep:
- Graduate of Roswell High School in Roswell, Ga.
- Four-year letter winner
- Led the Hornets to the Class 7A state title game as a senior
- Passed for 2,562 yards and rushed for 1,033 yards as a senior, accounting for 37 touchdowns
- Class 7A AJC offensive player of the year and first team all-state
- Played his sophomore and junior seasons at Westlake High School in Atlanta, Ga.
- Also a baseball letter winner
- Honor roll student

Personal:

- Son of Shastca Grier and Harold Willis
- His uncle, James Anderson, played for 11 seasons in the NFL and was a third round draft pick in 2006
- Completed his bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies in December 2020
- Birthday is on May 25



Height/Weight
6-1/225

Hometown
Atlanta, Ga.

High School
Roswell HS

WILLIS BY THE NUMBERS

17-6

Willis was 17-6 as a collegiate starting quarterback, with all of his starts coming as a Liberty Flame. His first collegiate start (Sept. 19, 2020 at Western Kentucky) did not come until his fourth year of college. Willis became the first Liberty quarterback ever to win his first seven starts.

6 Passing TDs

Willis passed for a career-high six touchdowns on Oct. 24, 2020 against Southern Miss, tying the program record set by Phil Basso against Mars Hill in 1984.

345 Passing Yards

Willis threw for a career-high 345 yards during the Flames' Oct. 24, 2020 victory over Southern Miss, becoming the first Liberty player not named Stephen Calvert with a 300-yard game since Josh Woodrum on Oct. 17, 2015 at Monmouth.

4 300-Yard Passing Games

Willis has thrown for 300 yards four times, doing so twice during the 2020 season and twice in 2021.

4 Rushing TDs

Willis rushed for four touchdowns during the Flames' Cure Bowl victory over Coastal Carolina on Dec. 26, 2020. That set a program record for most rushing TDs by a Flames QB. The previous mark of three touchdowns was co-held by Glenn Inverso (Sept. 1, 1979 vs. Hampton) and Willis in his Liberty debut (Sept. 19, 2020 at Western Kentucky).

168 Rushing Yards

Willis rushed for 168 yards during his Flames debut, Sept. 19, 2020 at Western Kentucky. It was the most in a single game by a quarterback in program history.

5 100-Yard Rushing Games

Willis rushed for a career-high 168 yards at Western Kentucky on Sept. 19, 2020. He also went over the century mark at Virginia Tech (Nov. 7, 2020), against Coastal Carolina in the Cure Bowl (Dec. 26, 2020), at UAB (Oct. 2, 2021) and at ULM (Oct. 16, 2021).

HAULING IN THE HARDWARE



Davey O'Brien Award Quarterback
Class of 2020 & 2021 member

2020 Phil Steele Postseason All-America
honorable mention selection

2020 Phil Steele Postseason All-Independent
second team

2020 Dudley Award winner (top player in Virginia as
presented by the Richmond Times-Dispatch)

2020 Touchdown Club of Richmond
Offensive Back of the Year award winner

2020 VaSID Offensive Player of the Year

2020 VaSID All-State first team honoree

Three-time CFPA National Performer of the Week –
Honorable Mention (Sept. 20, Oct. 25 & Nov. 15, 2020)

Two-time Davey O'Brien Award “Star of the Week”
(Sept. 21 and Oct. 26, 2020)

Three-time Manning Award “Star of the Week”
(Sept. 28, Oct. 26 & Nov. 9, 2020)

RECORD BREAKER

Willis has been breaking program records ever since his spectacular Liberty debut at Western Kentucky on Sept. 19, 2020.

Liberty Single-Game Rushing Yards by a QB
Willis's Program Record: 168 at Western Kentucky
(Sept. 19, 2020)

Liberty Single-Game Rushing TDs by a QB
Willis's Program Record: 4 vs. Coastal Carolina
(Dec. 26, 2020)

Liberty Single-Game Passing TDs
Willis's Shared Program Record: 6 vs. Southern Miss
(Oct. 24, 2020)

Liberty Single-Game TDs Responsible For
Willis's Program Record: 7 vs. Southern Miss
(Oct. 24, 2020)

Liberty Single-Season Rushing Yards by a QB
Willis's Program Record: 944 in 2020

Liberty Single-Season Rushing TDs by a QB
Willis's Program Record: 14 in 2020

Liberty Single-Season TDs Responsible For
Willis's Program Record: 35 in 2021

TIMELINE



2017 and 2018 Seasons: Appeared in 15 games as a backup to Jarrett Stidham at Auburn.

Nov. 17, 2018: Played for Auburn against Liberty in a 53-0 Tigers victory. He completed 2-of-3 passes and had a 16-yard rushing TD versus his future team.

July 2019: Transferred to Liberty and sat out the 2019 season.

Sept. 19, 2020: Started at QB during Liberty's 2020 season opener at Western Kentucky. It was Willis's first start at QB since Dec. 10, 2016, when Roswell lost to Grayson in the Georgia AAAAAAA state title game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. It was a span of 1,379 days between starts for Willis.

IN GOOD COMPANY

Willis ranks among the NCAA FBS national leaders in numerous categories this season.

- Points Responsible For (242):** No. 8
- Total Offense (287.7):** No. 20
- Passing TDs (27):** No. 18
- Yards/Completion (13.6):** No. 31
- Yards/Pass Attempt (8.44):** No. 29
- Rushing TDs (13):** No. 24
- Passing Efficiency (151.2):** No. 34
- Passing Yards (2,862):** No. 44



Willis ranked No. 3 among FBS QBs in rushing yards in 2021. He was one of five FBS QBs to rank among the nation's top 50 for both passing TDs & rushing TDs this season.

Willis' standout performance against Southern Miss on Oct. 24, 2020 made him the first FBS player with at least 300 passing yards, 75 rushing yards and seven TDs in a game since D'Eriq King in October 2018.

QUOTABLE

"Number seven, he's a little bit of a magician."
Southern Miss Interim Head Coach Tim Billings

"[Willis is a] very, very talented athlete. [He's got a] strong arm, very explosive legs ... He's a guy who can take off on scrambles and he can house-call it."
Syracuse Head Coach Dino Babers

Syracuse Head Coach Dino Babers

"He has the strongest arm of anybody I have ever seen."
QB Takeover Coach Quincy Avery

"Malik Willis has the best physical tools of any quarterback in this draft class."
PFF's Mike Renner

2021 AWARD WATCH LISTS

2021 CFPA National Performer of the Year Award

2021 Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award -
Semifinalist

2021 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award -
Top 10 Candidate

2021 Manning Award

2021 Maxwell Award - Semifinalist

2022 Reese's Senior Bowl

2021 Walter Camp Player of the Year Award

NFLPA Collegiate Bowl 2021-22 Preseason Big Board



**2021 Bobby Bowden Trophy
Award Winner**

In recognition of his stellar play on the field and outstanding character off the grid-iron, Liberty's Malik Willis has been named the 2021 Bobby Bowden Trophy winner.

The Bobby Bowden Trophy recognizes the college football playoff player who epitomizes a student-athlete of faith. The award winner must conduct himself as an exemplary model in the classroom, on the field, on campus and in the community.

Willis was one of three finalists for this year's honor. He was joined on the list by Georgia kicker/punter Jake Camarda and Michigan defensive end Aidan Hutchinson.



WILLIS'S 2020 GAME-BY-GAME STATS

Date	Opponent	Result	Cmp	Att	Int	Yds	TD	Lg	Rushes	Yards	Rush TD	Lg
9/19	Western Kentucky	W/30-24	13	21	0	133	0	32	21	168	3	51
9/26	FIU	W/36-34	24	30	0	285	2	36	13	85	0	67
10/3	North Alabama	<i>Did not play due to injury</i>										
10/10	ULM	W/40-7	11	29	1	177	0	53	13	87	1	17
10/17	Syracuse	W/38-21	16	20	0	182	1	36	12	58	1	17
10/24	Southern Miss	W/56-35	24	31	0	345	6	46	12	97	1	38
11/7	Virginia Tech	W/38-35	20	30	0	217	3	35	19	108	1	23
11/14	Western Carolina	W/58-14	14	19	0	306	3	83	8	97	2	43
11/21	NC State	L/14-15	13	32	3	172	2	28	15	44	0	21
11/27	UMass	W/45-0	16	24	0	223	3	41	7	63	1	54
12/26	Coastal Carolina	W/37-34	19	29	2	220	0	33	21	137	4	26

WILLIS'S 2021 GAME-BY-GAME STATS

Date	Opponent	Result	Cmp	Att	Int	Yds	TD	Lg	Rushes	Yards	Rush TD	Lg
9/4	Campbell	W/48-7	15	23	0	217	1	40	5	55	1	20
9/11	Troy	W/21-13	13	18	0	154	2	32	20	93	1	21
9/18	Old Dominion	W/45-17	21	28	0	242	4	38	9	77	2	56
9/24	Syracuse	L/21-24	14	19	0	205	3	35	17	49	0	26
10/2	UAB	W/36-12	13	19	0	287	1	70	15	144	2	25
10/9	Middle Tennessee	W/41-13	17	30	3	222	2	49	16	80	1	17
10/16	ULM	L/28-31	16	28	3	135	1	20	23	157	2	53
10/23	North Texas	W/35-26	12	18	0	217	3	40	13	-8	0	12
10/30	UMass	W/62-17	19	27	0	307	4	60	8	37	0	19
11/6	Ole Miss	L/14-27	16	25	3	173	0	25	27	71	1	17
11/20	Louisiana	L/14-42	14	34	2	162	2	30	20	28	0	23
11/27	Army	L/16-31	24	46	1	305	1	41	16	37	1	19
12/18	Eastern Michigan	W/	13	24	0	231	3	54	8	58	2	35

WILLIS'S CAREER STATS (2017 & 2018 - Auburn; 2020 & 2021 - Liberty)

YEAR	GP	GS	Cmp	Att	Int	Yds	TD	Lg	Pct	Rushes	Yards	Rush TD	Lg
2017	7	0	6	7	0	45	1	37	85.7	16	221	1	67
2018	8	0	5	7	0	24	0	7	71.4	12	88	1	30
2020	10	10	170	265	6	2260	20	83	64.2	141	944	14	67
2021	13	13	207	339	12	2857	27	70	61.1	197	878	13	56
TOTAL	38	23	388	618	18	5186	48	83	62.7	366	2131	29	67