

# Falcons' Penix pick justified by Rookie QB play

BY ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

The Atlanta Falcons drafting of Michael Penix Jr. just six weeks after signing Kirk Cousins to a \$180 million contract doesn't seem like that much of a head-scratcher anymore.

Penix, the eighth overall pick in this year's draft, was supposed to serve as Cousins' understudy for a year or two, a plan that was scuttled when Cousins quickly lost the zip and accuracy on his passes and his grip on the starting job.

It was hard to argue with making the change after Cousins had nine picks and one touchdown pass in his last five starts — but it was a daring move nonetheless with the Falcons trailing first-place Tampa Bay by a single game with three weeks left.

Penix made the move pay off with a solid first NFL start in the Falcons' 34-7 rout of the New York Giants on Sunday that bolstered Atlanta's play-off hopes, and the Falcons (8-7) moved back into first place in the NFC South with the Buccaneers' loss at Dallas on Sunday night.

The left-hander was not at all overwhelmed by the moment, completing 18 of 27 passes for 202 yards — numbers that would've been better if not for at least three dropped passes, one of which Kyle Pitts bobbled right into the hands of a New York defender for Penix's lone interception.

"He went out and played almost flawless football," coach Raheem Morris said.

Cousins will almost certainly be looking for his fourth team in 2025.

If the Falcons cut ties as expected, they'll have paid Cousins \$90 million for 14 games. Cousins' career earnings are

about \$321 million and his record is 84-77-2, including a 1-3 mark in the playoffs and 7-7 this season.

In the spirit of expedited judgments, let's take a gander at how other quarterbacks have fared with their new teams in 2024.

## RUSSELL WILSON

The Pittsburgh Steelers landed the biggest bargain of the season in Wilson, whom they signed for the veteran's minimum of \$1.21 million, leaving his former team, the Denver Broncos, on the hook for the remaining \$37.79 million of his 2024 salary.

Wilson's calf injury in camp forced the Steelers to start Justin Fields, who went 4-2 before Mike Tomlin made the risky switch to Wilson, who's gone 6-3 with 15 TD throws and four interceptions.

With the Steelers (10-5) playoff-bound, Wilson will make his first post-season appearance since 2020. The only question is whether it'll be at home as AFC North champ or on the road as a wild-card. They're tied with the Ravens atop the division but currently own the tie-breaker.

## SAM DARNOLD

This was expected to be a rebuilding year in Minnesota after the Vikings lost Cousins in free agency. They signed Darnold, the third overall pick in 2018, to a \$10 million, one-year contract and drafted national champion J.J. McCarthy with the 10th overall pick.

McCarthy tore the meniscus in his right knee during the pre-season opener and has undergone two surgeries, opening the way for Darnold's breakthrough season.

Darnold brought a 21-35 career record with him to Minneapolis and

all he's done is go 13-2 while setting career highs with 32 touchdown passes, 3,776 passing yards and a 67.2% completion percentage.

The Vikings are tied with the Lions atop the packed NFC North and the division crown could come down to Minnesota's season finale at

Detroit on Jan. 5.

## GARDNER MINSHEW

The Las Vegas Raiders signed Minshew to a two-year, \$25 million contract and he beat out incumbent Aidan O'Connell for the starting gig. But he only went 2-7 and sustained a season-ending broken collarbone in a

Week 12 loss to the Broncos, opening the door for O'Connell (1-4) to return.

The Raiders' 19-14 win over Jacksonville on Sunday snapped a 10-game skid but might have taken them out of the Shedeur Sanders sweep-

stakes. They are 3-12, a game behind the Giants (2-13), who jettisoned QB Daniel Jones less than two years after signing him to a four-year, \$160 million contract and have gone with Drew Lock and Tommy DeVito instead.

**Kentucky New Era.**  
**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**

PUBLICATION DATE	DEADLINE
TUESDAY	THURSDAY 3 PM
THURSDAY	MONDAY 3 PM
SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY 3 PM

Contact Customer Service at  
**(270) 886-4444, Option 1 or**  
**classifieds@kentuckynewera.com**  
**Monday-Friday 7AM-3PM**  
Holidays advance deadlines by 24 hours.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**ORDINANCE NO 2024-23**  
**CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY**  
**PUBLICATION SUMMARY**  
**ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-11 PROVIDING NEW ZONING REGULATIONS FOR CANNABIS BUSINESSES IN THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oak Grove enacted Ordinance 2021-11 to provide necessary updates to zoning regulations for the City of Oak Grove; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oak Grove City Council wishes to adopt the November 26, 2024 recommendations of the Community Development Services Board regarding zoning amendments for cannabis businesses;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I. AMENDMENT OF OAK GROVE ORDINANCE 2021-11**  
City of Oak Grove Ordinance 2021-11 is hereby amended as follows:

**ARTICLE 2**  
Amend Article 2, Section 2.1 to add the following definitions for the following: Cannabis Business, Cannabis Cultivator, Cannabis Dispensary, Cannabis Processor, Cannabis Producer, Cannabis Safety Compliance Facility.

**ARTICLE 5**  
Amend Article 5, Section 5.2, Table 5.2 Schedule of Uses to add use classifications for: Cannabis Dispensaries, Cannabis Cultivators, Cannabis Processors, Cannabis Producers and Cannabis Safety Compliance Facilities.

Amend Article 5, Section 5.27 Commercial, Retail, and Personal Services Uses, Subsection 5.27.2 to provide operational requirements for Cannabis related businesses.

**SECTION II. SEVERABILITY**  
It is the legislative body's intent that the provisions of this ordinance are to be severable and that if a part of this ordinance is to be invalid, the findings do not necessarily invalidate the entire ordinance.

**SECTION III. UNCONSTITUTIONALITY**  
Should any part of this ordinance be void or unconstitutional, the remaining ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**  
This ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication according to law.

The undersigned City Attorney certifies he is licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the foregoing summary of Ordinance 2024-23 was prepared in accordance with the provisions of KRS §83A.060(9).

*/s/ Lee F. Wilson*

A complete copy of this Ordinance is available at Oak Grove City Hall, (270) 439-4646, during normal business hours.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-19**  
**AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY, REPEALING ORDINANCES 1986-4, 1996-4, 2002-01, 2007-04, 2007-15, 2009-04, 2013-06 RELATING TO THE TRANSIENT ROOM TAX.**

**WHEREAS** the City of Oak Grove finds it beneficial to repeal these ordinances to improve the organization of ordinances and eliminate inconsistencies.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY, ORDINANCE 2024-19 IS HEREBY ADOPTED AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION ONE- REPEALING OF ORDINANCES**  
Ordinance No. 1986-4, enacted on the 13th day of July 1986, relating to the imposition and collection of a three percent transient room tax, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 1996-4, enacted on the 23rd day of April 1996, relating to the amendment of ordinance 1986-4, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 2002-01, enacted on the 18th day of January 2002, relating to the amendments of ordinances 1986-4 and 1996-4, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 2007-04, enacted on the 16th day of March 2007, relating to the amendment of ordinance 2002-01, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 2007-15, enacted on the 27th day of July 2007, relating to the amendment of ordinance 2007-04, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 2009-04, enacted on the 6th day of May 2009, relating to the amendment of ordinance 2007-15, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Ordinance No. 2013-06, enacted on the 11th day of September 2013, relating to the amendment of ordinance 2009-04, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

**SECTION TWO- SAVINGS CLAUSE**  
Allows prosecution for violations of ordinances 1986-4, 1996-4, 2002-01, 2007-04, 2007-15, 2009-04, 2013-06 as long as the violations occurred while the ordinances were in effect.

**SECTION THREE- SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**  
The legislative body intends that this ordinance's provisions are severable and that the findings do not necessarily invalidate the entire ordinance if a part of it is invalid.

**SECTION FOUR- EFFECTIVE DATE**  
According to law, this ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication.  
Date of First Reading of Ordinance: December 3, 2024  
Date of Second Reading of Ordinance: December 17, 2024  
Date of Publication of Ordinance: December 26th 2024  
Ordinance published in: The Kentucky New Era

*Jacqueline Oliver, Mayor*

ATTEST:  
Lorelynn Fisher, City Clerk  
The City of Oak Grove paid for this advertisement using taxpayers' dollars, which totaled \$148.23.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Public Hearing Notice**

To all interested citizens of Elkton, Kentucky:

The Kentucky Department for Local Government is accepting application material under the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City of Elkton intends to apply for assistance to rehabilitate owner occupied LMI housing units within the city limits. The city will hold a public hearing prior to the submission of the application. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, Elkton, Kentucky. The purpose of this hearing is to obtain views on housing and community development needs, review proposed activities, review the proposed application, and solicit public comments. Technical assistance is available to help groups representing low and moderate income persons in developing proposals.

The following information concerning the CDBG program is available for public inspection at the Pennyriple Area Development District office, 300 Hammond Drive, Hopkinsville, KY, during regular business hours or by calling 270-886-9484:

A. Amount of funds available and range of activities that may be undertaken.  
B. Estimated amounts of funds proposed to be used for activities benefiting persons of low and moderate income.  
C. Plans for minimizing displacement of persons as a result of activities associated with CDBG funds and plans for providing assistance to those persons to be actually displaced as a result of CDBG-funded activities.  
D. Records regarding the past use of CDBG funds.  
E. A summary of other important program requirements.

**Comments on Application**  
A copy of the CDBG application material will be on file at the Pennyriple Area Development District office for citizens' review and comment during regular business hours from January 2, 2025 through January 14, 2025. Comments on the proposed application may be submitted to the attention of Jessica Kaminski, Pennyriple ADD, 300 Hammond Drive, Hopkinsville, KY 42240 or by email at [jessica.meredith@ky.gov](mailto:jessica.meredith@ky.gov) until the time of the hearing on January 14, 2025. Comments may be submitted five days prior and five days after the public meeting is held.

**Discrimination Clause**  
The City does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation, including auxiliary aids and services, to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs and activities. Any persons requiring special needs assistance should contact Mayor Arthur Green at 270-265-9877 at least five days prior to the meeting. The TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-648-6057.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY ORDINANCE NO. 2024-18**  
**PUBLICATION SUMMARY**  
**TRANSIENT ROOM TAX**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF A TRANSIENT ROOM TAX IN THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oak Grove, in order to promote the general welfare of its inhabitants through the promotion of recreational, tourist and convention activities, has established, a recreational, tourist and convention commission, pursuant to Ordinance No. 1986-3; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 91A.390 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes provides that the local governing body or bodies shall provide funds for the operation of a commission by imposing a transient room tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oak Grove desires to consolidate its previous Ordinances addressing transient room taxes in the city.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, KENTUCKY:**

**SECTION I - DEFINITIONS**  
Section I provides definitions for the following terms: Tax, Taxpayer, Commission, and Short-Term Rental

**SECTION II - IMPOSITION OF TAX**  
There is hereby imposed on and after the first day of August, 2007 a transient room tax of four percent (4%) of the rent for every occupancy of suite, room or rooms, or short-term rental, charged by all persons, companies, corporations or other like or similar persons, groups or organizations doing business as motor Courts, motels, hotels, inns or like or similar accommodations businesses in the City of Oak Grove, Kentucky. At the option of the Taxpayer, said Tax may be added to such rent. Whether or not the Tax is added to such rent, it shall be the property of the City of Oak Grove, Kentucky, and the Commission from and after the time the rent is collected. The purpose for which this Tax is imposed and levied is to provide funds for the lawful operations of the Commission.

**SECTION III- PAYMENT OF TAX**  
(a) The tax shall be paid monthly by the Taxpayers to the City of Oak Grove Recreational, Tourist and Convention Commission aka "Tourism Commission" on or before the 30th day of each month or, if such date is Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Each monthly payment shall be the total of Taxes due from the Taxpayer based on rentals for the immediately preceding month. The remittance of the Tax shall be accompanied by a report. The report shall contain such information as the Commission determines is necessary to ensure proper enforcement of the Tax, shall be in such form as prescribed by the Commissions and shall be signed and certified as correct by or on behalf of the Taxpayer.  
(b) The information contained in the report shall be confidential. However, the information contained in all reports received by the Commission may be set down separately in statistical form, which statistical compilation shall not be confidential so long as it contains no information by means of which it would be possible to determine the gross receipts or other business information for an individual Taxpayer. Such statistical report may list the names of all Taxpayers as a group, if there are more than three (3) such Taxpayers in the group.

**SECTION V - PENALTY AND INTEREST ON DELINQUENT TAXES**  
Any Taxes which are not paid by the date they are due shall be subject to a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the amount then due; and the total of such Taxes and penalty shall bear interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum from the first day of the month in which such Taxes were due until paid (or, in the case of the Taxpayer required to make weekly Tax remittances, from the first day of the week in which such Taxes were due until paid.

**SECTION VIII - SEVERABILITY**  
The legislative body intends that the provisions of this ordinance are to be severable and that if a part of this ordinance is invalid, the findings do not necessarily invalidate the entire ordinance.

**SECTION X - EFFECTIVE DATE**  
According to law, this ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication.  
The undersigned City Attorney certifies he is licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the foregoing summary of Ordinance 2024-18 was prepared in accordance with the provisions of KRS §83A.060(9).

*/s/ Lee F. Wilson*

A complete copy of this Ordinance is available at Oak Grove City Hall, (270) 439-4646, during normal business hours

## LADY

FROM PAGE B1

However, Butler (5-2) got key contributions from Keziah Renee, who hit two crucial three-pointers and went 5-of-7 from the free-throw line in the final period to help seal the victory. Renee finished with 18 points.

Bagwell led Christian County with 14 points. Na'Vaeh Day added nine points and was named to the All-Tournament Team. Lazarie Daniel contributed eight points and grabbed seven rebounds.

The Lady Colonels will return to action on Friday against Portland in the Lady of the South Invitational at Allen County-Scottsville.

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

Louisville Butler 10 17 10 17 — 54  
Christian County 8 9 18 14 — 49

## INDIVIDUAL SCORING

LBHS (5-2): Civils 4, Barrett 1, Alexander 13, Russell 14, Renee 18, Mosley 4  
CCHS (6-6): Anderson 5, Bagwell 14, Day 9, Carliah Hobson 6, McGee 7, Daniel 8

To contact Torrence Bates, email [tbates@kentuckynewera.com](mailto:tbates@kentuckynewera.com).

## KENTUCKY

FROM PAGE B1

Dazia Lawrence had 15 points for the Wildcats (10-1), who trailed 39-33 at halftime. Clara Strack and Teonni Key both had 12. Amooore, who surpassed 2,000 career points in her last game, had seven 3-pointers, six in the second half. It's the first game Kentucky won by less than double figures.

Jailyn Banks scored 23 to lead Belmont (5-6), who have lost six games to Power 4

teams, including ranked Kansas State, Ohio State and Duke and Michigan, which is now ranked. Holmes added 18 points, Emi La Chapell had 12, Jones 11 and Kendal

Cheesman 10. Banks had 11 points and Cheesman 10 as the Bruins took a 39-33 half-time lead.

Amooore had back-to-back 3-points to give Kentucky a 53-50 lead with three minutes left in the third quarter. She had four 3s and 14 points in the third quarter and the Wildcats took a 57-54 lead into the fourth quarter.

Amooore sandwiched 3-pointers around a layup from Clara Silva to give Kentucky a 73-61 lead with five minutes remaining.

Kentucky shot 62.5% in the second half with eight 3s.

Kentucky plays Western Kentucky at home on Dec. 28 before beginning Southeastern Conference play in January.