

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Efficient Becker leads Hoosiers' WR corps

By Michael Marot
AP Sports Writer

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Indiana receiver Charlie Becker started last season by fighting three more experienced NFL prospects for playing time. He finished it as one of the most essential cogs in the Hoosiers' improbable 2025 national championship run.

Now he's back to do even more in his first full season as a starter.

The 6-foot-4, 208-pound Nashville native has emerged quickly as the new leader in Indiana's receivers room by becoming the model of efficiency for a coach and program where that is regarded as the highest honor.

"There's a lot of work that we put into it," Becker said after Saturday's 55-0 victory. "There's a lot more left out there we can improve upon. In my route running, I think I can improve on all that to get more receptions, get open, be a better receiver for (quarterback) Josh (Hoover)."

Hoover already seems to have a great connection with Beck after just two games together. And Beck has certainly delivered on his promise.



Indiana wide receiver Charlie Becker makes a catch before falling into the end zone for a touchdown against North Texas on Sept. 5 in Bloomington, Indiana.

Despite making early exits in two routs, Beck leads the team in receptions (seven) and yards (145) while being tied for the most touchdown catches (five) in the Football Bowl Subdivision. He'll be back on the field Saturday when the Hoosiers host Western Kentucky (0-2).

Improving on last week's performance won't be easy for No. 4 Indiana (2-0).

The Hoosiers scored TDs on seven of their first eight possessions, averaging 1.0 points per minute in a game the two coaches agreed to trim by five

minutes after the third quarter.

• They pitched their first shoutout of the season, preventing Howard (1-2) from crossing midfield until it recovered a muffed punt with two minutes left in the third quarter.

• Four of Hoover's six completions went for touchdowns and backup quarterback Grant Wilson's only two completions also went for TDs.

• Running backs Lee Beebe Jr. and Turbo Richard both produced their first 100-yard games of the season, needing just 16 and 11 carries to hit that mark. Richard has three

TDs this season.

Yet even in the midst of such an incredibly proficient all-around performance, albeit against a Football Championship Subdivision foe, Becker's remarkable stat line — three catches, 81 yards, three TDs — elicited rare praise from Becker's harshest critic, two-time Associated Press Coach of the Year Curt Cignetti.

"Hardest worker on the team, prepares as well as anybody, nobody prepares more," he said. "Goes hard every play, goes hard in practice. He's a really good special teams guy, too. It's really important to him

and he does everything he can to be the most explosive player. We've had quarterbacks here throw more touchdown passes than incompletions in games the last two years, right? He's got almost as many touchdown catches as receptions."

But it's not numbers that fuel Becker. It's the desire to be the best.

Becker's big body allows him to shield defenders, giving him a better chance to win contested balls. His strong hands have helped him haul in 41 passes for 824 yards and nine scores in 18 games — without a drop.

Not enough?

Becker made the 51-yard catch that set up Indiana's only TD against Ohio State in the 2025 Big Ten championship game and the 33-yard catch on third down to seal the win. Against Miami in January's national championship game, he added two crucial 19-yard catches — one set up a fourth-quarter field goal, the other was a fourth-down conversion preceding Heisman Trophy winner Fernando Mendoza's final TD run against Miami.

Soon Becker could find himself back in the same stomping grounds as Omar Cooper Jr., Elijah Sarratt

and E.J. Williams Jr., who were all in NFL training camps this summer.

Many draft analysts project Becker to be a first-round pick — if he joins a class that could feature two Heisman hopefuls at receiver Jeremiah Smith of Ohio State and Malachi Toney of Miami.

Nobody is putting Becker in their company just yet. But Mendoza wasn't the Heisman front-runner at this point last year, and if Becker continues operating this efficiently, the once little-known receiver could soon join a conversation Becker isn't paying attention to either.

"My blocking isn't great, and I think that's an area where we can all improve because a great O-line leads to first downs and great wide receiver blocking leads to touchdowns," said Becker, who is 11 TD catches away from the late James Hardy's single-season school record.

"I think being able to get out on the field, it definitely helps boost your confidence and going against great teams like last year like Ohio State, Miami, all the teams in the playoffs, going against great corners like that it really helped boost my confidence."

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CUSTOMER NOTICE

Warren County Water District - Sewer Division

Notice is hereby given that Warren County Water District, 5844 Southwest Parkway, Bowling Green, Ky 42102, has received notice from Bowling Green Municipal Utilities of a wholesale treated sewage rate increase. Therefore, Warren County Water District has filed an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission for the purpose of adjusting sewer service rates effective September 1, 2026 as follows:

5/8 X 3/4-Inch Meter	Present Rate	New Rate	Change (\$)	Change (%)
First 2,000 Gallons	\$13.21 Minimum Bill	\$14.01 Minimum Bill	\$0.80	6.1%
Next 8,000 Gallons	\$0.00567 Per Gallon	\$0.00607 Per Gallon	\$0.00040	7.1%
Next 90,000 Gallons	\$0.00442 Per Gallon	\$0.00482 Per Gallon	\$0.00040	9.0%
Next 900,000 Gallons	\$0.00410 Per Gallon	\$0.00450 Per Gallon	\$0.00040	9.8%
Over 1,000,000 Gallons	\$0.00375 Per Gallon	\$0.00415 Per Gallon	\$0.00040	10.7%

The Minimum amount shown in the Table above only applies to the 5/8 X 3/4-Inch meters. The volumetric rates shown in the Table above apply to all sewer service in excess of the Minimum amount regardless of meter size. The Minimum amounts for larger meter sizes are shown in the Table below.

Meter Size	Present Rate		New Rate		Change (\$)	Change (%)
	Minimum Bill	Usage Gallons	Minimum Bill	Usage Gallons		
1-Inch	\$30.22	5,000	\$32.22	5,000	\$2.00	6.6%
1-1/2 Inch	\$58.87	10,000	\$62.87	10,000	\$4.00	6.8%
2-Inch	\$102.77	20,000	\$110.77	20,000	\$8.00	7.8%
3-Inch	\$146.97	30,000	\$158.97	30,000	\$12.00	8.2%
4-Inch	\$235.37	50,000	\$255.37	50,000	\$20.00	8.5%
6-Inch	\$456.37	100,000	\$496.37	100,000	\$40.00	8.8%
8-Inch	\$661.37	150,000	\$721.37	150,000	\$60.00	9.1%
10-Inch	\$1,071.37	250,000	\$1,171.37	250,000	\$100.00	9.3%

These rates apply to all customer classifications and are subject to 10 percent penalty if paid after the due date.

The monthly bill for an average residential customer using 4,700 gallons of water each month will increase \$1.88 (or 6.59%) from \$28.52 to \$30.40. The monthly bill for an average commercial customer using 36,000 gallons of water each month will increase \$14.40 (or 8.30%) from \$173.49 to \$187.89.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission approved the new rates in Case No. 2026-00199. Any person may examine the application at the District's office located at 5844 Southwest Parkway, Bowling Green, KY or at the Kentucky Public Service Commission's office located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, KY, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 p.m. EST, or through the Kentucky Public Service Commission's website at <https://psc.ky.gov/Case/ViewCaseFilings/2026-00199>.

Classified Hours

Monday through Friday 8 to 5

Auctions & Sales

Auctions

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Clothing Bin- Brand new clothing, great variety!

Gift Shop offers great deals on toys, clothing, jewelry, gift items, baby items and much more!!!

Watch for signs to find the Clothing Bin and the Gift Shop at the center of campus.

Saturday, September 19th
9:30 - 2:00

2350 Nashville Rd.
Bowling Green

Due to large crowds, strollers will not be permitted inside the buildings

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Auctions

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Live Auction

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Bowling Green

Large selection of items containing ... Furniture, Blackstone Grill, Diamond Stud Earrings, Toys and Entertainment Tickets and So Much More!

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE!!

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<http://www.aboveandbeyondestatesales.com> & click on badge.

Sept. 24,25,26, starts 8 am. 352 Three Springs Rd, BG. Where BG Visitor's Center used to be.

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Sept. 17, 18., & 19. 1307 Euclid Ave., BG. Open 8 am.

Becky Erven
Above and Beyond Estate Sales
Bowling Green, Ky.
270-779-1735 or 270-790-1715

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