

Jaguars bring improved ground game into clash with Bengals

Field Level Media

A pair of AFC teams looking to remain atop their respective divisions meet Sunday in Cincinnati, when the Bengals host the Jacksonville Jaguars.

The Bengals (2-1) look to bounce back from their first setback of the season, a 30-27 road loss at Pittsburgh in Week 3. The Jaguars (2-1), in turn, rebounded from a Week 2 loss in Denver with a 35-6 domination of the New England Patriots last Sunday in Jacksonville.

The Bengals enter the game banged up in the secondary and with a new look on special teams.

Already with Ja'Sir Taylor on injured reserve, the Bengals lost another slot corner when Jalen Davis landed on IR with a hamstring injury. Additionally, three of their safeties – Jordan Battle (ankle), Bryan Cook (hamstring) and Kyle Dugger (quadri-

cep) – are dealing with injuries, with the latter two missing practice on Wednesday.

The injuries have forced the Bengals to shuffle their secondary, with starting outside corner Dax Hill moving inside to slot corner, likely drawing Jacksonville top receiver Parker Washington. DJ Turner II and DJ Ivey will start on the outside.

“That’s what makes guys valuable when you’re look for them, when they can cover you at two spots or have starting experience, inside-out flex as a corner,” Bengals coach Zac Taylor said of the secondary depth on the roster.

Offensively, rookie receiver Colbie Young suffered a knee injury and has been ruled out this week. Ke'Shawn Williams was cut after muffing a critical punt in the fourth quarter Sunday. The Bengals brought back receiver Mitchell Tinsley, who was signed off the Houston practice

squad and added to the active roster. Tinsley will serve primarily as a receiver with Young out, while Dohnte Meyers assumes punt return responsibilities.

Tinsley had a key touchdown in the Bengals’ 31-27 win over the Jaguars last season in Week 2, the same week Cincinnati lost Joe Burrow for nine weeks to a turf toe injury.

Prior to the late-game turnover in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati’s offense had put together perhaps its best performance of the young season. Burrow registered season highs in completions (28), completion percentage (75.7), passing yards (282), TD passes (three) and passer rating (123.9).

The Jaguars, who ranked 20th in the NFL in run offense in 2025, rank 10th in the category through three games this season at 119.3 yards per game with 4.2 yards per carry. This was an area of focus this past offseason after the



Jaguars running back Bhayshul Tuten (33) looks to elude New England Patriots cornerback Charles Woods (22) on Sept. 27 in Jacksonville, Florida.

Jaguars averaged just 91.2 yards rushing over their last six regular-season games of 2025.

Running back Bhayshul Tuten leads the Jaguars with 204 yards and two touchdowns rushing while fellow running back Chris Rodriguez Jr. has rushed for 73 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries.

The Jaguars have rushed for at least 95 yards in all three games this season, and they rushed for a sea-

son-high 137 yards and two touchdowns in the 35-6 win over the Patriots.

“You can really dictate more when you’re running the ball well,” Jaguars quarterback Trevor Lawrence said. “It feels like you’re going with your plan more and you’re calling what you want to call as opposed to sometimes when you get behind the chains, you feel like you’re on your heels a little bit and you’re having to make

up some ground.”

The Bengals have won the last four meetings dating back to 2020.

“It’s definitely something when you’re going into this game that you think about,” Lawrence said. “You’re not sitting there thinking about it every second of the day all week, but I’ve thought about it. It’s a team we haven’t beat and we lost a tough one there early in the season last year.”

FROM PAGE 1B

NOAH

bittersweet for those UK fans who believe the “experience” of Kentucky basketball is more rewarding when there are home-grown players on Wildcats’ rosters.

Since the 2023 recruiting class, UK has signed five in-state stars directly from high schools: North Laurel’s Reed Sheppard (2023); Lyon County’s Travis Perry (2024); Noah (2024); Great Crossing’s Malachi Moreno (2025); and ex-Woodford County star Jasper Johnson (2025).

Of the five, only Noah and Moreno, set for a second season as Kentuck-

y’s starting center in 2026-27, will have played multiple seasons for their home state’s flagship university.

Sheppard had such a stellar freshman season for UK in 2023-24, he became the third overall player taken in the 2024 NBA draft. The economic logic of Sheppard’s decision to turn pro was irrefutable, but his quick departure was emotionally vexing for the Big Blue Nation.

Meanwhile, after challenging freshmen seasons at Kentucky, Perry and Johnson each transferred after one year.

“Everybody has their own stuff going on, and everybody’s situation is different,” Noah said of the recent in-state players at UK. “So I’m not saying that everything is the same way (for every in-state player), and it’s obviously a hard decision. But I trust Coach Pope’s vision, and I trust what he tells me. I also think playing here is like playing nowhere else.”

Having scored 3,707 career points at Harlan County, Noah acknowledges that the stretch run of last season, when his 3-point shot stopped going in the basket, was disorienting.

Noah believes Kentucky’s roster construction for 2026-27, with the additions of creators Zoom

Diallo (Washington) and Alex Wilkins (Furman) plus wing shooter Milan Momcilovic (Iowa State) from the transfer portal, will create the conditions that will allow him to “re-find” his shot.

“We’re full of shooting on this team, so spacing is not going to be an issue,” Noah said. “I think playing with a veteran point guard in Zoom, he really knows how to operate the game and control the game. ... He finds his shooters. Then Alex is super crafty with the ball. That’ll draw a lot of attention.”

Noah’s drive to earn a meaningful role in Pope’s playing rotation this winter has been slowed this offseason by hamstring maladies.

“I’ve had two separate hamstring issues, so it was not like I’m re-aggravating the same thing — which is good,” Noah said. “It’s better to have two different things going on than the same hamstring thing. It’s just an unfortunate event, but I’ve spent so much time with (UK athletic trainer) Brandon Wells, it’s unreal. He’s definitely seen me more than he’s seen his kids. But I should be back in a couple (of) weeks with no limitations, and we should move past this and never have to worry about it again.”

Noah reports that the rehabilitation work for hamstring injuries does allow for getting up shots.

“I’m shooting it well,” he said. “I’m limited right

now. I’m obviously not running around a bunch, shooting a bunch, running corner-to-corner or anything in live play. But I can still get the reps in. I can still form shoot, catch and shoot, stuff like that.”

As Noah contemplates his third season at Kentucky, he is optimistic he can create more moments like the one he had at John Calipari’s expense last season at Arkansas.

“I think that there’s so much stuff that hasn’t been put out on the floor (by) myself and us as a team,” Noah said. “I’m super excited to finally break through as a team and keep advancing farther and farther, and then, individually, to do what I know I’m capable of.”

Classified

FIND. BUY. SELL.

classifieds.kentucky.com

SELL YOUR STUFF FAST!

859.231.3100

VISA, Mastercard, Discover, American Express

Legals

Legals & Public Notices

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

BATHROOM REMODEL
BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-866-981-1569
Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-302-4539
Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.) Call 1-866-837-5986

BUSINESS SPACE FOR RENT
Frankfort Office Space for rent: Second floor with four large office areas, restroom. Office desks furnished. Located mile from I-64 Lawrenceburg exit 53A. Electric, water, gas, utilities and internet included. \$2,200 per month. Call Bonnie Howard, Kentucky Press Association, 502-223-8821.

BUYING HOUSES
We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-287-5615

CABLE/UTILITIES
DIRECTV OVER INTERNET - Get your favorite live TV, sports and local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max and Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/ CHOICE Package or higher.) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-888-340-6138
DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-866-292-5435

CELLULAR
Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 855-841-2894
Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-353-2982

DEBT HELP
Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF and find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! FREE quote: Call 1-844-262-5602
Struggling with debt? If you have over \$15,000 in debt we help you be debt free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call Now: 1-877-857-0268

DONATIONS (VEHICLES)
Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-833-984-2146 today!
GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-877-846-0382

FOUNDATION REPAIR
Acculevel. Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to \$600 off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-866-558-7730

HEALTH
Audien Hearing. The worlds first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-888-513-0453

HOME IMPROVEMENT
No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-866-329-2415 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.
Safe Step Stairlifts. Enjoy greater independence and stay in the home you love. Feel safe on every level. \$750 off plus FREE installation. Made in the U.S.A. Call today for a free quote. 1-855-820-2844
Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-888-306-0302

HOME SERVICES
Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-688-8576 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

HOME WARRANTY
Repairing or replacing appliances and home systems like heating and cooling can be costly. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 1-866-384-8998

INSURANCE SERVICES
DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-900-7392 www.dental50plus.com/26 #6258

INTERNET OFFERS
Choose EarthLink Fiber Internet for speeds up to 5 Gigs, no data caps, no throttling. Prices starting at \$54.95. Plus, a \$100 gift card when you make the switch. Call 1-833-974-4780

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
We Buy Vintage Guitar's! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-866-327-1782

SECURITY
HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 1-877-805-1196

TAX HELP
End your tax worries today. Let us make your tax problem our priority. Scared, stuck with high tax amounts? Our A+ tax professionals can help. Call for a FREE consultation. Call Priority Tax now 1- 855-671-3561

WATCHES
CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-403-2862
IPL0378639
Oct 4 2026

Legals & Public Notices

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Citadel Self Storage - Lexington located at 133 N. Locust Hill Dr., Lexington, KY, 40509 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored by tenants for default on their rental agreement. The sale will occur as an Online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 10/7/2026 at 10:00 AM. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 7568-360311
IPL0374844
Oct 4 2026

Recruitment

Employment

Oliver Racing Stable is seeking 10 Horse Grooms in Lexington, KY. Applicants mail resume to: ATTN: V. Oliver, 751 Curry Pike, Harrodsburg, KY 40330.

RESRG Automotive Trim LLC has an opening for a Lead Process Engineer in Morehead, KY. Developing new product launches, utilizing Elsysca software for trouble shooting and part validation, and designing new racks for the plating line. Analyze plating solutions using wet chemistry and equipment. Domestic (U.S.) travel required up to 20%. How to apply: E-mail resume, referencing #22409.9, including job history, to applications@resrgautomotive.com. EOE.

Saint Joseph Medical Group seeks Interventional Cardiologist to join practice in London, KY. Requires KY Medical License and completion of Interventional Cardiology and Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship. CV to Marty Keith, Marty.Keith@commonspirit.org.

Service Directory

Concrete

Driveways, sidewalks, walkways, pool decks. Regular, exposed aggregate or stamped concrete. 859 421 9518

NEED SOMETHING? Let Classifieds Help

SELL IT NOW Let Classifieds Help

NEED FAST CASH? Let Classifieds Help

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER jobs.kentucky.com

NEED SOMETHING? Let Classifieds Help