



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. 16, 2014

TENNESSEE TITANS (1-1) AT CINCINNATI BENGALS (2-0)

WEEK 3, GAME 3
SUNDAY, SEPT. 21
AT PAUL BROWN STADIUM

UP NEXT: WEEK 4 BYE

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 1 p.m. Eastern.

Television: CBS broadcast with Brad Johansen (play-by-play) and Chris Simms (analyst). It's considered unlikely that ticket sales will meet the threshold for airing the game in the Bengals' home market. Were the threshold to be reached by 1 p.m. on Thursday, the game would be carried on WKRC-TV (Channel 12) in Cincinnati, WHIO-TV (Channel 7) in Dayton and WKYT-TV (Channel 27) in Lexington, Ky.

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

The game also will be aired to a national audience on affiliates of the Sports USA Radio Network. Broadcasters are Adam Amin (play-by-play), John Robinson (analyst) and Drew Deener (sideline reporter).

Setting the scene: The Bengals are looking to log a franchise-record 11th straight regular-season home win in this week's game against former division rival Tennessee. Cincinnati's momentum factor is high after last week's 24-10 home win over Atlanta, a win about which it would be fair to say, the club has seldom done more with more key pieces missing.

Seven key pieces were missing by the end of the Atlanta game. Two big offensive weapons, WR Marvin Jones and TE Tyler Eifert, were sidelined with injuries going into the contest, and five more regular contributors went down against the Falcons. WR A.J. Green headlined the list, but it also included two other prime starters (LB Vontaze Burfict and G Kevin Zeitler) and two reserves who always play a share of key downs (DT Brandon Thompson and TE Alex Smith). But the offense rolled for 472 yards, and the Falcons, who had piled up 568 yards and 37 points in a Week 1 overtime win, had only three points (down 24-3) and 174 yards through three quarters.

"A number of guys played more snaps than they thought they would," said head coach Marvin Lewis, "and they did a good job. It was a good adjustment also by the coaches, but those guys are the ones who came in and played."

The Bengals are alone in first place in the AFC North Division at 2-0, with everyone else at 1-1. And the injury situation is expected to improve at least somewhat by kickoff time against Tennessee. Could some really good times be just beginning to roll?

"It's just two early steps, and I know we've got things we have to clean up, but things are definitely on the positive side," said OT Andrew Whitworth, who missed time vs. Atlanta with a leg contusion but was able to return to play. "Without a lot of our weapons, we showed the intangibles ... the fortitude and the will. This game was a big step for us offensively. It tells me we should be a team that's hard to beat, especially when we get fully healthy. Marvin preaches to us a lot about our attitude, and playing with force, and we did that today despite the injury problems. I really feel like there's not a position group on this team where we don't have the talent and depth to match up to anybody in the NFL."

On offense, the Bengals have yet to suffer a turnover or allow a sack. They have averaged 426.0 net offensive yards in the first two games. Defensively, Cincinnati's yards-allowed average is not so great (366.0), but the Bengals held Atlanta to three-for-12 in third-down conversions, and they have snagged five turnovers in two games.

"It's time to move on, keep our eyes on the target and let our football do the talking," said Lewis. "But I will give us some credit, this (Atlanta) win was a great job as a team. We dug deep. When guys went down, other guys stepped up. We

beat a good team. They'll do some damage to people down the road."

The Bengals will face a Titans team looking to bounce back from a 26-10 home loss to Dallas last week. Tennessee won by the same score in Week 1 at Kansas City. The Titans rank 11th in the NFL in offense and eighth on defense through Week 2, outgaining their two foes by an average of 53 yards per game.

The Bengals, despite their significant injury problems, rank fourth in the NFL in net offense, a 426.0 yards per game. QB Andy Dalton ranks third in the AFC and seventh in the NFL in passer rating (105.4). HB Giovani Bernard has 279 yards from scrimmage (138 rushing, 141 receiving), ranking second in the AFC and fourth in the NFL. The Bengals rank only 25th in net defense (366.0), but they are tied for fourth in the NFL in takeaways (five). Cincinnati had three interceptions last week against Falcons QB Matt Ryan, a week after Ryan had passed for three TDs and no INTs against New Orleans.

The series: The Bengals and Titans (formerly Houston Oilers) have met 73 times, making the Titans the third-most played foe in Bengals history. Cincinnati has played more games against only Pittsburgh (88) and Cleveland (81). The Bengals and Titans/Oilers were rivals in the old AFC Central Division, playing twice per year in the regular season from 1970-2001.

The Titans lead 39-33-1 in the series. The Bengals lead 20-18 as the home team, but the Titans lead 6-2 in visits to Cincinnati since their relocation to Tennessee. The series total includes one postseason game, a 41-14 Bengals win over Houston in a 1990 season Wild Card game at Riverfront Stadium.

The Bengals won the last meeting, 24-17 at Tennessee in 2011. The Titans won the last meeting in Cincinnati, 24-7 in 2008.

Neither side has ever been shut out in the long series.

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 61 (twice), in wins of 61-17 at the Astrodome in 1972 and 61-7 at Cincinnati in '89. The games are tied for the Bengals' all-time high score in any game. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 54, in the 61-7 '89 game (Bengals' largest winning margin in any game). **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 3, in a 13-3 victory at Cincinnati in 1984.

Titans — MOST POINTS: 48, in a 48-17 victory at Houston in 1990. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 35 (twice), in wins of 41-6 at Houston in 1988 and 38-3 at Cincinnati in '93. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 3 (five times), most recently in a 35-3 win at Nashville in 2000.

The last meetings: Summaries of the two most recent Bengals-Titans meetings — in 2008 at Cincinnati and in '11 at Tennessee — are on page 15 of this news release.

Now that's close: In 73 games — 72 regular season and one postseason — the Bengals and Titans (formerly Oilers) are virtually even in total points scored. The Bengals lead by 1701-1694, an average of .096 per contest.

The Titans lead by 20 points in regular-season — 1680-1660 — but the Bengals won the only postseason game by 27, 41-14 after the 1990 season.

Titans stand in way of club mark: A win over the Titans would give the Bengals a franchise-record 11 straight regular-season wins at home. The team tied the record last week, defeating Atlanta 24-10 for a 10th straight win. Cincinnati's streak started with a win over Baltimore in the 2012 home finale, and last season, en route to the AFC North Division championship, Cincinnati went 8-0 at home for the second time in franchise history. The only

other 10-game home win streak in franchise history covered the full 1988 season and the first two games of 1989.

The Bengals actually won 12 straight at home (Riverfront Stadium) over 1988-89, but two of those were 1988 playoff wins, and playoffs are a separate category in official NFL record-keeping. The current team's overall home win streak was interrupted by a 2013 home playoff loss to San Diego.

The Bengals have not lost at home in the regular season since falling by one point (20-19) to Dallas on Dec. 9, 2012. Cincinnati won its last three home games of last season by margins of 14, 28 and 17 points, and the Bengals prevailed by 14 last week vs. Atlanta.

Here's a recap of the current record-tying 10-game win streak:

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	COMMENT
12-30-12	Baltimore	23-17	Bengals win despite 352-189 yards deficit
9-16-13	Pittsburgh	20-10	Win on MNF after 10-10 halftime tie
9-22-13	Green Bay	34-30	Bengals led 14-0, then trailed 30-14
10-6-13	New England	13-6	Pats held to 1-for-12 on third down
10-27-13	N.Y. Jets	49-9	Marvin Jones club-record four TD catches
11-17-13	Cleveland	41-20	Club-record 31 points in a quarter (2nd)
12-8-13	Indianapolis	42-28	Andy Dalton 120.5 passer rating
12-22-13	Minnesota	42-14	Win plus help delivers AFC North title
12-29-13	Baltimore	34-17	Largest ever Bengals win margin vs. Ravens
9-14-14	Atlanta	24-10	No sacks allowed, no giveaways, three takeaways

Strength vs. strength: The Bengals (2-0) and the Houston Texans (2-0) are the only NFL teams not to allow a sack through Week 2. Against that offensive front, the Titans will bring a defense with eight sacks, tied for second-most in the league.

The Titans' pass rush has been balanced. DT Jurrell Casey leads the team with 2.0 sacks, and six other players have one each.

Call it the 'Breezer Bowl': Though it was no match for the famous "Freezer Bowl" in Bengals lore, the last Titans visit to Cincinnati perhaps should be remembered — with due seriousness — as the "Breezer Bowl."

The wind speed at kickoff of the Titans' 24-7 win at Paul Brown Stadium on Sept. 14, 2008 was 21 mph. However, it drastically changed very soon after the game started. The remnants of Hurricane Ike combined with another strong weather system to produce a powerful windstorm by the end of the first quarter. The final three quarters of the game were played in sustained winds of over 70 mph, which nearly qualified as a Category 1 hurricane (defined as sustained winds of 74-95 mph). The Bengals and Titans managed only 127 and 118 passing yards, respectively.

Though the game was played without incident or other weather conditions such as rain, the windstorm was extremely damaging to areas outside the stadium. It left more than a million people without power in the Greater Cincinnati area, some for more than a month. It unquestionably was the worst disaster in the region in 2008, with damage estimates nearing \$1 billion.

Records vs. Titans: In their long series against the Titans (formerly Oilers) franchise, the Bengals have posted a number of record performances:

- The Bengals record for points in a game was set in a 61-17 win at Houston on Dec. 17, 1972, and Cincinnati tied that mark 17 years to the day later in a 61-7 win vs. Houston on Dec. 17, 1989.
- The Bengals record for victory margin (54) was set in the 61-7 win over Houston in 1989.
- The Bengals individual records for touchdowns (four) and points (24) in a game have been set three times, two of those against the Titans/Oilers franchise. They were first set by FB Larry Kinnebrew at Houston on Oct. 28, 1984, and they were tied by HB Corey Dillon vs. Tennessee on Dec. 4, 1997. The most recent instance was by WR Marvin Jones last season vs. the

New York Jets.

- Chris Bahr's 55-yard field goal at Houston on Sept. 23, 1979 stood for 33 years, until Mike Nugent tied it with a 55-yarder vs. Oakland in 2012.
- Cincinnati scored a team-record five rushing TDs vs. Houston on Oct. 6, 1983, and then tied the mark vs. the Oilers on Oct. 23, 1988.
- The Bengals' team record for first downs (35) was set vs. Houston on Dec. 17, 1989.
- The Bengals' team record for third-down conversions (14) was set against Tennessee in 2007. Cincinnati had 18 attempts.

Bengals-Titans connections: Bengals CB Adam Jones was selected by the Titans in the first round of the 2005 Draft (sixth overall) and played for them from 2005-06 ... Titans defensive coordinator Ray Horton played (1983-88) and coached ('97-2000) for the Bengals ... Titans LB Wesley Woodyard played at Kentucky ... Bengals CB Chris Lewis-Harris (on a temporary roster exemption as of Sept. 16) played at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga ... Titans T Byron Stingily played at Louisville ... Titans LB Dontay Moch (Practice Squad) was chosen by the Bengals in the third round of the 2011 Draft, and was on the Bengals roster in 2011 and '12 ... Titans TE Orson Charles (Practice Squad) played for the Bengals from 2012-13 and was with the Bengals in '14 training camp ... Titans secondary coach Louie Cioffi coached for the Bengals from 1997-2010 ... Bengals linebackers coach Matt Burke coached for the Titans from 2006-08 ... Titans assistant secondary coach Steve Brown coached at Kentucky from 2003-11 ... Titans offensive coordinator Jason Michael played at Western Kentucky ... Titans quality control coordinator Cannon Matthews attended Ohio University and coached at Kentucky Christian in 2012.

BENGALS-TITANS NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	TITANS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored.....	T-11th (23.5)	T-25th (18.0)
Points allowed	3rd (13.0)	T-8th (18.0)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	4th (426.0)	11th (359.5)
Rushing	14th (124.5)	15th (122.0)
Passing.....	3rd (301.5)	14th (237.5)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	25th (366.0)	8th (306.5)
Rushing	11th (95.5)	24th (143.5)
Passing.....	26th (270.5)	1st (163.0)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential	T-2nd (plus-5)	T-8th (plus-2)

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 5	Inside-20 possessions: 4
Total scores: 5 (100.0%)	Total scores: 2 (50.0%)
TDs: 2 (40.0%)	TDs: 2 (50.0%)
FGs: 3 (60.0%)	FGs: 0 (0.0%)
TD% rank: T-25th	TD% rank: T-11th
No scores: 0 (50.0%)	No scores: 2 (50.0%)

TITANS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 5	Inside-20 possessions: 5
Total scores: 4 (80.0%)	Total scores: 5 (100.0%)
TDs: 2 (40.0%)	TDs: 3 (60.0%)
FGs: 2 (40.0%)	FGs: 2 (40.0%)
TD% rank: T-25th	TD% rank: T-17th
No scores: 1 (20.0%)	No scores: 0 (0.0%)

THE HEAD COACHES

Marvin Lewis in 2014 extends his Bengals record for head coaching tenure to 12 seasons. He has led the team to the postseason in four of the last five years, including three straight. The Bengals are one of only five NFL teams to be in the playoffs every year since 2011, and they are one of only six clubs to qualify as many as four times in the last five years.

In total, Lewis has coached five Bengals playoff teams, also a franchise record. Paul Brown is second in the category, with three.

Lewis has 92 career victories, most in Bengals history by a margin of 28 over Sam Wyche (64). Lewis' record is 92-85-1 in the regular season and 92-90-1

including postseason.

The Bengals went 11-5 in the regular season in 2013, winning the AFC North Division championship by three games over both Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Cincinnati lost in the first round of the playoffs, however, falling 27-10 to San Diego at Paul Brown Stadium.

Last year's division title was Cincinnati's third under Lewis. In a 2009 title season in which the Bengals swept all six division games, 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 15th straight season with New England. In the category of most seasons as an NFL head coach with one or more teams, Lewis in 2014 ranks sixth among active coaches, behind Belichick (20th season in 2014), Jeff Fisher (20), Tom Coughlin (19), the Chiefs' Andy Reid (16) and John Fox (13).

Lewis was named the ninth head coach in Bengals history on Jan. 14, 2003. In 2002, 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 (1996-2001) with the Ravens included a Super Bowl victory following the '00 season. In the 2000 regular 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.

Ken Whisenhunt is in his first season as Tennessee head coach. He is in his 18th season as an NFL coach, including six years (2007-12) as head coach in Arizona. Last season, he was offensive coordinator at San Diego, leading the Chargers to a No. 5 NFL ranking, and he was named Assistant Coach of the Year by the Pro Football Writers Association.

As head coach of the Cardinals, Whisenhunt won NFC West titles in 2008 and '09, and the '08 team advanced to Super Bowl XLII, falling to Pittsburgh. His record at Arizona was 49-53, and his win total is the highest in franchise history.

Prior to taking the Cardinals job, Whisenhunt spent six seasons on the Pittsburgh Steelers staff, including 2004-06 as offensive coordinator, when he helped guide the early career of QB Ben Roethlisberger.

Whisenhunt entered the coaching ranks at Vanderbilt in 1995-96 and moved to the NFL in 1997 with the Baltimore Ravens.

He played nine seasons as an NFL tight end, with 62 catches for 601 yards and six touchdowns in 74 career games with the Falcons, Redskins and Jets.

He is a native of Atlanta and played in college at Georgia Tech.

Lewis vs. Titans: Lewis leads, 3-2.

Lewis vs. Whisenhunt: Tied 1-1, both games dating from Whisenhunt's Arizona tenure.

Whisenhunt vs. Bengals: Same as Lewis vs. Whisenhunt.

BENGALS NOTES

It's a first: The 2014 season marks the first of the Bengal franchise's 47 campaigns for the offense to get through Games 1-2 without allowing a sack or a turnover.

"So far, so good," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "That doesn't mean we can't get better, though; even though we can't expect to keep it all zeros. Taking care of the ball and protecting the quarterback are maybe the two things we preach above anything else."

The Bengals are the only NFL offense to stay clean in both areas this season. Houston also has allowed no sacks, but the Texans have one offensive turnover, a lost fumble.

It's almost a first: With Andy Dalton pass completions of 77 yards to A.J. Green at Baltimore and 76 yards to Mohamed Sanu vs. Atlanta, the Bengals have posted completions of 75-plus yards in consecutive games for only the second time in franchise history.

The first instance was in 1969, the franchise's second season, played in the American Football League. On Sept. 21, Greg Cook passed 78 yards to Bob Trumpy in a 34-20 win vs. San Diego, and on Sept. 28, Sam Wyche passed 80 yards to Trumpy in a 24-19 win vs. Kansas City.

And Dalton, of course, is the only individual Bengals QB to get 75-plus completions in consecutive games, just as Trumpy is the only receiver in that category.

He's in first: Bengals CB Adam Jones leads the NFL through Week 2 in punt return average, at 17.8 on four returns. Jones had a 45-yarder on Sept. 7 at Baltimore and a 24-yarder last week vs. Atlanta.

Jones, the former Titan, has five career punt returns for TDs. "I'm trying to score," Jones says. "I don't get excited over 10 yards."

Dalton has doubters on the run: Bengals QB Andy Dalton knows he will be under intense scrutiny throughout the 2014 season, having gained national attention by leading three straight playoff teams but failing thus far to win in postseason. He attracted still more attention when, last month, the Bengals committed to him with a contract extension through 2020. He has handled the spotlight with calm and confidence, and with great play on the field.

Dalton posted a stellar 116.6 passer rating in last week's win over Atlanta, completing 15-of-23 (65.2 percent) for 252 yards, with one TD and no INTs. For Games 1-2, his rating is 105.4, ranked third in the AFC and seventh in the NFL. Dalton leads the NFL in average yards gained per attempt, at 9.07. His rating was 98.7 in Cincinnati's Week 1 win at Baltimore, defying one cable sports show that had fingered him as an "overrated" player who would be "exposed" against the Ravens.

Last week's win over Atlanta improved Dalton's already-best winning percentage for a Bengals starter (minimum 10 games) to .640. He has started all 50 Bengals games since arriving as a second-round draft choice in 2011, and his record is 32-18. He led the offense to a second straight turnover-free

performance in the Falcons game, and he had a second straight game with a long TD pass, this time a 76-yarder to WR Mohamed Sanu to break open a close game, giving the Bengals a 17-3 lead in the third quarter. Dalton beat pressure in his face to make the connection with Sanu, releasing the ball just before being hit by a Falcons rusher.

"I knew they'd be bringing all-out pressure there, so one guy was going to be unblocked," Dalton said. "But we had a good check on, and Mo ran a really good route."

Dalton also was credited with smelling a blitz in Week 1 at Baltimore, when he hit WR A.J. Green for a 77-yard game-winning score in the fourth quarter. He audibled for increased pass protection, buying time for Green to break free beyond Baltimore's coverage.

Dalton was asked after the Atlanta win whether his interception-free start is a result of "approaching the game differently this year, or just execution."

"I think it's a little bit of both," Dalton said. "The way I'm seeing the field and the way I've been directing this offense, I think I've got a better understanding of when to take a chance and when to check it down. It's been good to us so far. We've got to keep that up and try not to turn the ball over."

Dalton has had some good help. He hasn't been sacked yet this season.

"The guys up front played really well," he said after the Falcons game. "Talking about some of the things we emphasize most, it's not turning the ball over and protecting the quarterback."

Regarding the team's long-range 2014 goal — winning in the playoffs — Dalton said:

"This is a long haul, and I can only look ahead and try to keep getting better and helping our team be better. I'm confident in what we have. I know that quarterbacks are ultimately judged by success in the playoffs, and I'm not complaining about that. It's just the way it is. But maybe some people overlook just how hard it is to get to the playoffs. Our fans have come to expect that of us, and it's not that way in every city. I'm proud of what we've accomplished but I know we — and I — have a lot more to do."

No surprise to the teachers: Well before QB Andy Dalton's successful 2014 start, his coaches pretty much predicted it. They said his work in daily preseason practice foretold what figured to be his best season yet.

"I know he's better," said quarterbacks coach Ken Zampese. "I can see it in his decisiveness, his details, the ball placement, the confidence. What strikes me is the consistency. Something may not be right, but we bounce back quickly. Nothing lingers from one bad play to causing another bad one."

If there was any kind of a transition period with Dalton moving into new coordinator Hue Jackson's offensive scheme, it didn't last long.

"I think we have a bond, which is important," Jackson says. "Andy's getting to know me and I'm getting to know him. I like everything about him. What I'm most proud of is, he has allowed me to coach him. I've seen some guys bristle when change happens. He hasn't blinked, and none of the guys on offense have, and that's been good to see."

Says Dalton:

"It's been a really easy transition. Hue and I started this with a good relationship, him being on the staff (in other roles) the last two years. Hue has made it clear that I'm his guy, that I'm going to be running everything, and that's great. Everything with Hue is about the quarterback position, that he's the leader of this team."

Dalton signed up through 2020: Two weeks into preseason, the Bengals signed QB Andy Dalton to a contract extension running through the 2020 season. His original contract had run through 2014.

A second-round Bengals draft choice in 2011, Dalton has led the Bengals to the playoffs in each of his three previous seasons, including an AFC North Division championship in '13. In '13, he set franchise season records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33).

"Andy is being rewarded for his accomplishments with a significant contract," said Katie Blackburn, Bengals executive vice-president, "and we are pleased to have a deal that will make him a key part of our team for a number of years."

Dalton in 2013 won two AFC Offensive Player of the Week awards and was named AFC Offensive Player of the Month for October. He joined S David Fulcher as the only Bengals to win three AFC weekly or monthly awards in a season.

"It's stating the obvious that this is a key move for the ongoing success of our team," said Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis, "I congratulate our front office, and Andy and his representatives, for coming together to make this happen in a constructive way for the football team. Andy is still a young player (26), he has led us to the playoffs three straight years, and by far we have not seen the best of him yet."

"It's great that the Bengals have shown this confidence in me," Dalton said. This is only a beginning. We have higher goals than just making the playoffs, and it's my job to lead us there."

The Bengals and Dalton have received praise for structuring a contract that preserves the team's ability to retain other key players under the salary cap while still rewarding the quarterback handsomely.

"That's important to Andy," said OT Andrew Whitworth. "He understands the game. He understands what makes it go. He won in college at a place (TCU) where not many people won as much as he did. He understands that he needs other guys that help him win. He came in as a rookie and played on a team when it lost its franchise quarterback and was supposed to go 0-16."

Whitworth's reference was to 2011, when the Bengals opened the season with QB Carson Palmer holding out. The team was widely forecast as a last-place finisher, but Dalton, a second-round draft choice, led a 9-7 playoff season and earned a Pro Bowl berth.

A parallel for Dalton? Bengals QB Andy Dalton hasn't yet won a playoff game, but he has led the team to three berths in three seasons, and that's a far better start than most — including one 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.

Dalton's playoff passer rating is not a point of pride at 56.2, but head coach Marvin Lewis points out that Cincinnati's highly rated defenses allowed opposing QBs to post an aggregate 94.9 rating in the three postseason contests.

"So obviously it's not all on Andy," Lewis says. "We all know the way it works, how the pressure falls on the quarterback, but that doesn't mean it's always valid. The pressure is on us as an entire team to improve."

Dalton has had no bigger backer than Bengals president Mike Brown. Prior to the Aug. 4 completion of Dalton's new contract, Brown said:

"I like him on the field; he's steady Eddie," Brown said. "He competes. He doesn't do stupid things. He keeps us focused. He makes us a winning team. He's won nine games, then 10, then 11. That's pretty good. Everybody knows we didn't win in the playoffs, and we have to get over that hump. And we are counting on Andy to get us to that point."

Dalton has a history of earning statistical comparisons with the biggest names among NFL QBs. For example, he has thrown more TD passes (80) over his three seasons than anyone except Manning and Drew Brees. But Brown takes the comparison with the best to off-field matters as well.

"I think he is an exceptional person," Brown said. "Nobody has more respect in our building than he. I would tell you that of all the quarterbacks we have had, he is respected by his teammates as much as any of them."

Apprised of Brown's remarks, Dalton said:

"It means a lot to hear him say that. To know I have support from the top

down, that is exactly what you want. And saying how everyone in the organization respects me ... not that I doubted that, but it's really good to hear."

Andy by the numbers: More of the reasons why QB Andy Dalton draws such high praise from his bosses.

CAREER:

- His 32-18 W-L record as a starter gives him a .640 winning percentage, best in Bengals history for a QB with 10 or more starts.

- He is one of only five starting QBs in NFL history to lead a team to the playoffs his first three seasons.

- His 80 TD passes from 2011-13 stand as third-most in NFL history for a player in his first three seasons, trailing only Dan Marino (98) and Peyton Manning (85).

- He was on the throwing end for the vast majority of A.J. Green's 260 catches from 2011-13, most in NFL history for a player in his first three seasons.

LAST SEASON:

- He joined Peyton Manning and Cam Newton as the only QBs in league history to pass for 3000 yards in their first three seasons.

- He broke Bengals season records set by Carson Palmer for touchdown passes (33) and passing yards (4293).

- He finished the season with a passer rating of 88.8, improving that mark for the third straight season. He ranked fifth in the AFC.

- He joined S David Fulcher as the only Bengals to win three of the NFL's weekly or monthly AFC offensive player awards in a season.

- He became the first Bengals passer to throw for 300 or more yards in four consecutive games.

THIS SEASON:

- In Games 1-2, he became the first Bengals QB to throw completions of 75-plus yards in consecutive games.

Dalton rules against NFC: The Bengals' next game against an NFC opponent will be Oct. 12 vs. Carolina. It's one the team's fans have extra reason to anticipate.

In 13 career games against NFC clubs, Dalton has a 10-3 record, a winning percentage of .769. His three losses have come by a total of 12 points, and his 10 wins have come by an average margin of 13.1. He has thrown for 10 TDs against NFC teams since the NFC's last interception against him.

Dalton's 10th win against the NFC came last week, in a 24-10 decision over Atlanta. Here's a roundup of his history against NFC opposition:

DATE	OPP.	RESULT	COMP-ATT-YDS-TD-INT	RATING
9-25-11	S.F.	49ers, 13-8	17-32-157-0-2	40.8
10-30-11	@Sea.	Bengals, 34-12	18-29-168-2-2	72.2
12-18-11	@StL.	Bengals, 20-13	15-26-179-0-1	62.8
12-24-11	ARIZ.	Bengals, 23-16	18-31-154-2-0	92.7
9-23-12	@Wash.	Bengals, 38-31	19-27-328-3-1	132.9
11-11-12	NYG	Bengals, 31-13	21-30-199-4-0	127.6
12-9-12	DALL.	Cowboys, 20-19	20-33-206-1-1	76.1
12-13-12	@Phil.	Bengals, 34-13	13-27-127-1-0	74.2
9-8-13	@Chi.	Bears, 24-21	26-33-282-2-2	97.2
9-22-13	G.B.	Bengals, 34-30	20-28-235-2-1	105.5
10-20-13	@Det.	Bengals, 27-24	24-34-372-3-0	135.9
12-22-13	MINN.	Bengals, 42-14	27-38-363-4-0	136.2
9-14-14	ATL.	Bengals, 24-10	15-23-252-1-0	116.6

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 56 TDs and just three INTs, a ratio of 18.7-to-1. The leader in the category is Russell Wilson of Seattle, and Aaron Rodgers of Green Bay is second. Tom Brady of New England is fourth.

"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
Russell Wilson, Seattle	39	1	39.0-to-1
Aaron Rodgers, Green Bay	123	4	30.8-to-1
Andy Dalton, Cincinnati	56	3	18.7-to-1
Tom Brady, New England	253	14	18.1-to-1
Kyle Orton, Buffalo	60	4	15.0-to-1

Duo of dreams? One is super-quick, shifty and packs surprising power. The other is powerful first, but with surprising speed and agility. The smaller guy is Bengals HB Giovani Bernard, the bigger one is HB Jeremy Hill, and together they promise great things for the 2014 offense.

Bernard, the second-year pro running in the No. 1 HB spot, had 169 yards from scrimmage last week vs. Atlanta, rushing 27-for-90 with a TD and catching five passes for an additional 79. Both yardage numbers led the team. Hill, the rookie second-round draft choice, rushed 15-for-74 with a TD and added two receptions for 22 yards.

Bernard's 27 carries were a high for his brief career, easily topping a previous high of 15. The 5-9, 208-pounder was his familiar dynamic self, twice hurdling tacklers for extra yardage and turning a short dump pass in the second quarter into a 46-yard gain. Finishing the same drive as his long receiving gain, he bulled four yards for a TD and a 10-3 Bengals lead.

Hill (6-1, 238) is the biggest back on whom the Bengals have spent a high draft pick since 248-pound Pete Johnson in 1977 (also second round). He has plenty of power for crucial short-yardage plays, and he set an LSU career record for yards per carry (6.25). Last season, he had six rushes of 50 or more yards. He capped his career with 216 rushing yards in the Outback Bowl vs. Iowa. Also last season, he averaged 9.8 yards on 26 receptions.

"Obviously Jeremy's bigger than me," says Bernard. "I'm faster than him. I'll take that one. But he's a great back. We're not fighting for whatever. We want to help the team win. We both have that mindset, and that's good to have. It's not about one guy getting more carries than the other. It's about helping the team win."

A total of 164 rushing yards between the two was certainly a comfort for QB Andy Dalton.

"When you get in situations like second half with the lead, you've got to be able to run the ball," Dalton said. "The backs did a good job, and there were a lot of big lanes to run in that the line gave them. There's been an emphasis on the run, and we did a good job of that in this game."

Since taking over for 2014 as Bengals offensive coordinator, Hue Jackson has made no secret of a priority to improve a Bengals ground game that last year ranked 18th in yards per game (109.7) and 28th in yards per rush (3.6).

Look out, Brooks: OK, so there are only two games in the books for 2014. But mark down Bengals HB Giovani Bernard at least on the "watch list" to threaten one of the most enduring records in franchise history.

The mark in question is yards from scrimmage in a season. HB James Brooks set the bar in 1986 with 1773 yards (1087 rushing, 686 receiving), and no one else has come within 150 of that. The No. 2 figure is 1609 (1311 rushing, 298 receiving) by HB Corey Dillon in 2002.

Bernard, coming off a 169-yard game last week at Atlanta, has 279 yards through two games. That projects — admittedly a long projection — to 2232 yards for the season. Bernard this week ranks second in the AFC and fourth in the NFL in scrimmage yards. First place in the league belongs to DeMarco Murray of Dallas at 316.

Bernard and HB Jeremy Hill combined for 265 scrimmage yards last week, most by two Bengals backs in one game since Dec. 3, 2000, when Corey Dillon (216) and Brandon Bennett (70) combined for 286. The Bernard-Hill total was more than the scrimmage yards total of any combo of Bengals backs since Dec. 22, 2002, when Dillon (142), Nick Luchey (65) and Bennett (64) combined for 271.

Run hard and speak softly: Bengals HB Jeremy Hill, whose football accomplishments are detailed in the previous item, has been a winner with fans and news media as well. Throughout his early time as a Bengal, he has shown an appealing blend of confidence and rookie humility.

"I'm glad Coach Hue (Jackson) is trusting me with responsibilities, like making those key short-yardage plays," Hill says. "I pride myself on being a 100 percent guy on short yardage and around the goal line. I want to earn his trust. I've got to do a better job as a receiver. I didn't make a couple catches I should have earlier in the preseason."

Hill also has acknowledged torturing himself over a fumble in an early August practice drill. In the rough Southeastern Conference, he fumbled only once in 371 career touches, and his offense recovered it.

"It's common knowledge; you just can't fumble," Hill said. "The coaches didn't really come down hard on me, but it's the kind of thing you really don't need to say anything about. Those things happen, but it's a very serious matter. I just want to make sure that I don't make the same mistake twice."

Call him Mr. Perfect: Bengals WR Mohamed Sanu threw one pass as a rookie in 2012. The perfectly thrown ball went 50 yards in the air and produced a 73-yard TD to WR A.J. Green at Washington. The play left Sanu with a perfect score on the NFL's passer rating computer — 158.3.

Last season, Sanu's only pass produced a 25-yard gain to HB Giovani Bernard vs. Cleveland. That was good enough to keep his career rating at the magic 158.3, and when then-offensive coordinator Jay Gruden was asked after the game about Sanu possibly throwing more passes, Gruden joked that Sanu "might not want to risk messing up his perfect score."

But that's not Sanu's call, of course, and when coordinator Hue Jackson called for Sanu's third career pass last week vs. Atlanta, Sanu did what he had to do. He threw a ball more than 50 yards in the air to WR Brandon Tate, precisely placed beyond coverage for a 50-yard gain, and his career rating stayed right there at 158.3.

Sanu's career passing totals are now three-for-three for 148 yards with one TD and no INTs.

Beyond the yards gained, Sanu's passes have impressed onlookers with their arc, perfect spirals and accuracy. It is no exaggeration to say he literally can throw it like a top quarterback. When Andy Dalton was asked in his post-game news conference if he has ever advised Sanu "on throwing mechanics or release point," Dalton said:

"Absolutely not. He doesn't even warm up. You just get him the ball and let him throw."

On the 50-yarder last week, Dalton took the center snap and pitched a lateral to Sanu, who appeared to be running a reverse until he stopped and unleashed the aerial. On Sanu's 73-yarder as a rookie, he took a direct center snap in a shotgun formation.

Mo's day job: Passing exploits aside (see previous item), Mohamed Sanu's main job remains catching the ball, and he's doing just fine. He has seven catches for 120 yards in the first two games, including a 76-yard TD last week that put the Bengals ahead 17-3 in the third quarter. Falcons CB Robert Alford was right with Sanu near the Bengals 35, but Alford went for an interception and failed, Sanu snatching the ball away and cruising for a TD. Atlanta had no deep defenders to stop him, having put on a maximum blitz.

"Mo did a big-time contested catch and run," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "It was a huge play in the ballgame."

Sanu also has a two-point conversion catch. He beat tight coverage at Baltimore and claimed a contested ball.

New stat category — wins without A.J.: Bengals flagship WR A.J. Green can be a storyline even when he does almost nothing. One recurring theme in analyses of last week's Bengals win over Atlanta was mild surprise that Cincinnati had been able to win by 14 without him. Green was sidelined early in the first quarter when he re-aggravated a toe strain suffered initially in Week 1 at Baltimore. He played only five snaps and was not targeted.

But the game goes down officially as the first of his career in which he played and did not have a catch.

Green's status for Tennessee is TBD, but onlookers noted with optimism after the Atlanta game that Green had no ice or bandages on the foot, and that he had been standing on the sidelines late in the game, wearing his cleats and in no apparent discomfort.

Green was the AFC leader in receiving yards through Week 1, with 131 at Baltimore, including a game-winning 77-yard TD in the fourth quarter. Now he has much statistical ground to make up but it's more than just his yards and TDs that the team needs back.

Green had pledged after last season's first-round playoff loss to San Diego that he would come back for his fourth season as more of a team leader. And what stood out after Green's winning TD at Baltimore was Green's obviously intense emotional reaction after reaching the end zone. He previously had reacted to most every big play with relative nonchalance. And prior to the offense taking the field for the decisive possession, Green was seen speaking individually to teammates on the sideline, urging that the Bengals could come back from a 16-15 deficit after the gut punch of surrendering a 15-0 lead.

It all seemed — in the very first game — that Green had not been speaking empty words with his 2013 season-exit pledge.

OT Andrew Whitworth proclaimed "it's time for that kind of emotion" from Green.

"It's time for him to play this game and not just be great at it," Whitworth said, "but for lack of better words, put his foot on the throat of people because he can. He's a special talent. Him playing with a lot of passion is a lot of trouble for a lot of people."

Hue J. pushes A.J.: From 2011-13, Bengals WR A.J. Green had the most catches (260) and second-most yards (3833) of any receiver in NFL history for his first three seasons. But when his name came up after last season as No. 2 in the NFL Network's rating of WRs from 2013, behind Calvin Johnson of Detroit, Green received a text message from offensive coordinator Hue Jackson. It was more of a prod than a pat on the back.

"It said, 'Now, let's go be (number) one,'" Green recalls. "One thing about Hue J., he's never satisfied with where I am."

Which is more than fine with Green.

"I knew that text was coming," Green says. "He's pushing me to be better. I want that. No matter what I do or how much I've accomplished these first three years, there's always more I can do, and it's a coach's job to push you to that. I feel like I haven't reached my peak yet. When you get to the point when you feel like you have done everything, it's time for you to hang it up."

Last season, Green set Bengals records for 100-yard receiving games in a campaign (six) and for most consecutive 100-yard games (five). He joined Hall of Famer Tom Fears for fewest games played (38) to hit the triple benchmark of 200 receptions 3000 yards and 20 receiving TDs. In 2012, he became only the second NFL player in what is now a 49-year span to catch a TD pass in nine straight games, joining Hall of Famer Jerry Rice.

But for motivation purposes, Green chooses to take a painful look at his totals from Cincinnati's 0-3 postseason record of the last three years. He has averaged only 53.9 yards with no TDs.

"If I play well, the team plays well," Green says. "I've got to give them that spark in the playoffs, and I haven't done that the whole three years. I've got a lot of regrets about my play in those games, but you can't live in the past."

Best for first four? As noted in the previous item, Bengals WR A.J. Green is first in NFL history for receptions in a player's first three seasons and second for that span in receiving yards.

So what numbers does Green need to reach in 2014 to end the year with the top totals for a receiver's first four seasons?

In receptions, he'll need 83. That would move him from 260 to 343, ahead of Anquan Boldin, the current four-year leader at 342. Certainly that appears within range. Green has had 97 and 98 catches the past two seasons, after grabbing 65 as a rookie.

In receiving yards, Green will need 1564 to overtake Randy Moss, the only player Green has not topped for seasons 1-3. Moss had 5396 yards over his first four seasons, and Green enters his fourth at 3833. A total of 1564 would be a Bengals record, easily topping Chad Johnson's mark of 1440, but that's not to say Green couldn't do it. To stay behind Moss in second place when the four-year total is in, Green would need 1256. That would push him to 5089, ahead of second-place Torry Holt (5088). Green has had more than 1256 receiving yards each of the last two seasons, logging 1350 in 2012 and 1426 last season.

'Tacklin' Tez' is TBD for Titans: Bengals LB Vontaze Burfict is looking for his biggest season yet of his three years in the NFL, but he's had difficulty staying on the field in Games 1 and 2. He was sidelined with a concussion in the second quarter of the season opener at Baltimore, and though he was cleared to return to action vs. Atlanta, he left that game in the third quarter with an injury. His status for Tennessee was undetermined as of Tuesday of this week.

Whenever his return may be, it can't come soon enough for the Cincinnati defense. On Aug. 27, the Bengals signed Burfict to a contract extension running through the 2017 season. Burfict's original contract ran through this season, and had that contract run out, he would have been a restricted free agent for 2015.

Bypassed by NFL teams in the 2012 NFL Draft, Burfict has established himself as one of the most productive college free agent signees by any NFL team in recent years. He has led the Bengals in tackles by wide margins in each of his two seasons, and he led the NFL in tackles in 2013 according to league-wide press box statistics. He was credited by the Bengals coaching staff last season with 204 tackles, 94 more than the second-place player, and he was voted to the Pro Bowl and to a second-team spot on the Associated Press All-Pro team.

Burfict logged four tackles in each of the first two games before being sidelined. He had arguably the defense's best individual play in the Baltimore game, stopping RB Bernard Pierce for no gain at the Ravens 20 in the second quarter and forcing a fumble he recovered himself at the Ravens 23. The Bengals converted the turnover into a field goal for a 15-0 lead.

"Vontaze is a special talent; he has shown us that from his first day here," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "He is a load physically (6-1, 255) and he's

extremely competitive, but what really makes him stand out is the instinct and feel he has for the game. It's something born in him, you can't coach a player to naturally react the way he does in all situations. Signing him as we did is a great move for the future of our defense."

Burfict also led the Bengals last season in tackles-for-loss (eight), and he tied for the front-seven lead in passes defended (10). He had 3.0 sacks, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble. On Nov. 17 vs. Cleveland, he scored a TD on a 13-yard return of a fumble that he forced, and he also had 18 tackles, winning AFC Defensive Player of the Week honors.

"It's great to have this deal done and know I'm going to be here beyond this season," Burfict said. "We can have a great defense again this year, even better than the last couple years."

The Bengals could likely have retained Burfict for 2015 through restricted free agency, and he could have been retained for 2016 as a designated franchise player, at club option. But the club chose instead to work with Burfict on the extension.

"It's unusual to sign a player this early in his career to a contract extension, but Vontaze is a player who merits this," said Katie Blackburn, Bengals executive vice-president. "He has proven to be an exceptional find for us, and we are happy to reward him now for his accomplishments. It's good for him and good for our team."

The Burfict bandwagon: Bengals LB Vontaze Burfict, in only his third pro season, has emerged not only as a Pro Bowl player physically, but as the defense's emotional leader.

Here's a sampling of kudos from teammates and coaches:

- Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther: "I love the kid. I really do. I'll coach very few guys like him in my career. I realize that."

- 11th-year DE Robert Geathers: "He's intense, and everybody feeds off of his energy. He's a football-smart guy, and when you're prepared like that and have his energy, it doesn't matter how old you are."

- S Reggie Nelson: "If you don't want to play with a guy like that next to you, I don't know what to tell you. I love playing next to him."

- LB Jayson DiManche: "He's as confident as any player I've ever seen at any level, and that's what really impresses me. You'll never know if and when he makes a mistake out there, because he's always going so fast and playing so hard. His attitude and effort level are off the charts. That's something as a young linebacker that you try to emulate. It's crazy because Vontaze is actually younger than me."

- CB Darqueze Dennard: "All of the great ones pretty much have that personality, that combative edge that Vontaze does. Lawrence Taylor ... Ray Lewis ... you see the passion in all of that barking and hollering, and you see that in Vontaze. I love it, and I think the rest of the guys appreciate that. He motivates guys and gets them going. When you see a player who is running around having fun and screaming and hollering after he makes plays, it makes you want to go out there and have fun with him."

Burfict is known for taking his edge to practice as well as games, giving teammates some verbal and physical jabs.

"You have to have fun," said Burfict. "You want to make practice it competitive and have fun with it and talk crap. When I talk to Andy (Dalton) or Gio (Bernard), it spices things up. You don't think about the reps, you just think about competing and trying to win that rep. I feel like bringing a bit of an edge and talking a little trash makes us play better and faster."

75 is one popular number: As Tennessee week began for the Bengals, the team's Pro Shop had taken more than 6000 orders for the No. 75 jersey of Bengals DT Devon Still. The third-year pro has touched hearts across the nation with his openness regarding his daughter — Leah, age four — being diagnosed with cancer.

All proceeds from sales of the \$100 jerseys are being donated to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, supporting pediatric cancer research. Bulk buyers to date include two NFL head coaches, New Orleans' Sean Payton and Detroit's Jim Caldwell.

Still played in the line rotation against Atlanta last week and had three tackles.

Gilberry a gift from 'the street': Though Bengals LB Vontaze Burfict is widely known as the most productive undrafted player the Bengals have ever signed as a rookie college free agent, DE Wallace Gilberry is proving he deserves recognition in a related realm — among the best NFL veterans ever picked up by the Bengals "off the street."

Signed by the Bengals in September 2012, after being released by Tampa Bay, Gilberry hit the ground as a playmaker and has not let up. Though not a

starter in '12 or '13, he ranked third on the '12 team in sacks (6.5) and tied for the team lead (7.5) last season. Also from '12-13, he had three fumble recoveries, one of which he returned for a touchdown, and two forced fumbles.

His performance was such that the Bengals didn't overly fret when salary cap reality prevented them from making an all-out effort to retain talented DE Michael Johnson for 2014. Johnson moved on to Tampa Bay as a free agent, and Gilberry has moved in as a starter for the first time in his seven seasons.

And how did Gilberry respond? Well, he virtually hammered the nails in Baltimore's coffin in the opener. With 1:09 to play and Baltimore looking for a tying TD, facing third-and-four at the Bengals 16, Gilberry sacked Joe Flacco for a five-yard loss. And on the next play, fourth-and-nine from the 21, Gilberry and S Reggie Nelson combined to sack Flacco again. Game over, except for two required kneel-downs by Bengals QB Andy Dalton to run out the clock.

Gilberry also had a pass defended in the second quarter, batting down a Flacco aerial to help force a punt. He tied for the line lead for the game in tackles (four). Last week vs. Atlanta, Gilberry logged three tackles.

Gilberry gave credit to new defensive coordinator Paul Guenther for freeing him up to make plays.

"He's very creative," Gilberry said of Guenther. "He'll find a way to get you open. That's one thing I can say about P. He's going to dial them up. It's up to you to execute and get the job done."

Says head coach Marvin Lewis:

"Wallace has seized the opportunity. I think he sees the light at the end of the tunnel, and he's not going to let somebody pass him up. He really has done an excellent job of putting on display that he's the player that deserves to go out there first in our rotation. We're going to roll guys through on the defensive line, as we always have, but Wallace wants to be the guy goes out there first. He's stayed out on the practice field when he's had some nicks, because he wants to be out there."

Gilberry had 22.5 sacks in four college seasons (2004-07), and he left Alabama ranked second in the school's storied history in tackles-for-loss, trailing only future NFL Hall of Famer Derrick Thomas. Gilberry entered the NFL in 2008 undrafted, signed originally by the N.Y. Giants. He saw action in 43 games over four seasons (2008-11) with Kansas City, productive but never a regular starter. He went to Tampa Bay as an unrestricted free agent in 2012. It was to the Bengals' ultimate benefit that his move to the Bucs did not work out as planned.

Two ways to build a defense: The Bengals were the third-ranked defense in the NFL last season. They had strong play at linebacker and in the secondary. But the pre-NFL pedigrees of the LB and DB units were strikingly different, and they remain so in 2014.

The LB corps has a majority of players who entered the NFL undrafted, as college free agents, and the secondary is laden not only with draft choices, but first-round draft choices.

Pro Bowler Vontaze Burfict of course heads the LB group. His story is now widely known. Early in his college career at Arizona State, he was touted as a possible NFL first-round draft choice. But he later acquired the tags of being undisciplined and out of shape, and he was bypassed in the draft. He has disproven those raps with the Bengals, however, and the WLB now stands among the most productive CFA signees of any NFL team in any year.

Emmanuel Lamur has opened the season as the No. 1 SLB, and Vincent Rey, a strong contender for playing time at MLB or OLB, also were originally college free agent signees with the Bengals. Third-year pro Lamur, big and athletic at 6-4 and 240 pounds, had been tabbed for a significant role last season but was lost for the year to a preseason shoulder injury. Not only was Lamur a college free agent in 2012, he had to earn that by starting rookie minicamp as an unsigned tryout player. Rey, a fourth-year pro, broke out last season with 54 tackles, 4.0 sacks, and two INTs (one for a TD). He started three games as an injury replacement at MLB and saw considerable action otherwise in the defensive rotation.

College free agent LB Jayson DiManche found a significant role as a rookie last season, finishing second in special teams tackles (12) and blocking a punt that the Bengals returned for a TD.

Among seven LBs presently on the roster, the only drafted players are No. 1 MLB Rey Mauluga (second round, 2009), OLB Sean Porter (fourth round, '13) and WLB Marquis Flowers (sixth round, '14).

All nine DBs on the roster were drafted, and six of those were first-round selections. Among the six are five CBs and one safety. The CBs are Leon Hall (Bengals, 2007), Terence Newman (Dallas, '03), Adam Jones (Tennessee, '05), Dre Kirkpatrick (Bengals, '12) and Darqueze Dennard (Bengals, '14). The safety is Reggie Nelson (Jacksonville, '07).

Another DB, safety Taylor Mays, was a second-round NFL draft pick.

On the Cincinnati defensive line, eight of the nine players were drafted, but none in the first round. The only undrafted player among the linemen is starting DE Wallace Gilberry, a CFA signee by the New York Giants in 2008.

Aggressiveness calls for a fine line: The Bengals aren't out to beat each other up during practice, but neither will they risk getting beaten up on Sundays for having prepared in too soft a manner. So when contact occurs in practice that goes a bit beyond the design of the work, defensive coordinator Paul Guenther looks the other way to some extent.

"We're not playing against the Bengals, they're not on our schedule, and we never want our guys doing stupid things," Guenther says. "But some things happen in practice. You can't tell a dog not to eat red meat."

Tough but smart is the defense's goal. There's one time when it's OK to be a bully — when you're out to establish your physical dominance during a game, and that concept is one of the ones driving the defense to not rest on its laurels after finishing third in the NFL's 2013 yardage rankings.

"Until we're No. 1, there's always room for improvement," says starting strong safety George Iloka, "and this year we want to be smart bullies. Our mentality is to play aggressive and physical, but we've got to be smart. We've got to know when to take chances. We've got to know if it's third-and-1, we've got to know if it's fourth-and-1, we've got to know if we're backed up that they're going to try to give you a hard count. Little things like that. You don't want to be too aggressive where you're hurting yourself."

Last year the Bengals were a bit on the high side in defensive penalties, ranking 11th with 41 infractions.

"You want to cut down on penalties," Iloka says. "You want to cut down on mistakes. But it's not even those things. There are other aspects to playing smart. Let's say it's third-and-4, and all week we've practiced that this team in this formation is going to run a seam route. Why are you going to be overaggressive and jump the out route? Just be a smart bully. You're smart, and when the time comes to make the hit ... you bully them and you make the play."

Adds Guenther:

"I like how passionate these guys are, how smart they are and how flexible they can be. I'm just really hammering home being a smart football team."

Call him "Unsinkable": Leon Hall has made such progress in his rehab from a right Achilles tear suffered in Game 7 last season, he has reclaimed the starting RCB position he has held since 2007. Thus, he is a viable candidate for an unofficial NFL "first" — first player to return to a prominent lineup position with two Achilles tears in his history. He has started both games and has eight tackles, one INT and three total passes defended.

Hall logged the 24th INT of his career last week vs. Atlanta, grabbing a pass deflected by LB Vontaze Burfict at the Falcons 40 in the third quarter. The Bengals turned the turnover into a TD drive for a 24-3 lead. Hall ranks fifth in Bengals history in INTs, and his next pick will tie him with Lemar Parrish for fourth place at 25.

Hall suffered a left Achilles tear in Game 9 of 2011 — and returned for the '12 season opener. And when head coach Marvin Lewis was asked whether he could recall another player putting two such injuries behind him, Lewis said he could not.

"I don't know that there's been history of that," Lewis said. "All I can say is that Leon again has been very, very diligent and worked very, very hard. His goal was to make it back to practice Day 1 of training camp and to start in the season opener, and he did it."

Hall could log his 100th Bengals game and 100th Bengals start in 2014. He is now at 94 and 88.

"I'm confident my Achilles is where I want it to be, where it should be at this point," Hall says. "Really, there was never really a doubt in my mind. It was just trying to be patient enough to go through that long process again. The long days of (repetitive) calf raises, every day of coming in and seeing Nick (trainer Nick Cosgray) in the morning, being with him for hours day after day, not letting it get to me and mentally staying into it. I knew the physical part of it as far as my strength and running would come in time."

Who said 'T-New' was old? Bengals CB Terence Newman turned 36 three days before the Baltimore game. He missed the last three games of last season, plus the Wild Card playoff, due to a knee injury. His competition among Cincinnati's CB corps includes four first-round NFL draft picks (Adam Jones 2005, Leon Hall '07, Dre Kirkpatrick '11 and Darqueze Dennard '14).

But Newman himself was a No. 1, selected by Dallas in 2003, and no one is budging him from the starting lineup. He led the team vs. Atlanta last week in tackles (10), and he tied for the team lead in passes defended (three). He also

had a special teams tackle. For the season he leads the team in passes defended (four). Newman is in his third Bengals season, following a nine-year Cowboys career in which he was selected for two Pro Bowls.

"I just work, man. I like the game. I have fun with it," Newman said. "This year I'm challenging myself. I've challenged myself since I've been here, but I'm taking a bigger challenge as far as helping others and trying to show them as far as what to do and how to do it. Go to practice and kind of how to work out and what not. I've always been that way, but I'm trying to take that step to the next level, and practice harder. That way, when I get to the games, it's completely second nature."

Newman has been to the playoffs in each of his two Bengals seasons, but the team has lost in the first round both times.

"Any time you lose a playoff game and you get to the age that I am, and the years in your career that I am, you don't know if you're going to get another chance," he said. "I'm trying to do everything that I can to get back there and get past that hump."

Way to work: To understate things, Paul Alexander has seen a few players come and go over 20 seasons as Bengals offensive line coach. And Alexander insists he isn't overstating when he says of G Kevin Zeitler:

"Hardest-working guy I ever coached."

Zeitler, a first-round Bengals draft choice in 2012, has been the starter at RG since day one of his career. He isn't letting it go to his head. He's physically trimmer entering 2014 and says, "I see things on every play that I that tell me I could be that much better. I just want to make more of an impact, make the right corrections, and be more of an impact guard."

Says Alexander:

"He's a machine. He's the Energizer Bunny. He's always in the weight room early; he's always hustling and finishing in practice. He's in range to have a top, top season. The third season is huge for NFL offensive linemen."

Alexander's advice for Zeitler going forward? It might be that sometimes, you can chill out just a little.

"He's very demanding of himself," Alexander says. "He has to overcome that sometimes. At some point you have to accept there's a margin of error — you won't always be perfect — and be realistic."

Zeitler's hard work will have to move to the training room this week, however. He was sidelined during last week's Atlanta game with a calf strain and his status for the Tennessee game is to be determined.

Huber's back: In Games 1-2, the Bengals have cheered the regular-season return of P Kevin Huber, who in five previous seasons has commandeered substantial space in the franchise record book. Huber missed the last two games of last season, plus the Wild Card playoff, due to jaw and neck injuries suffered on punt coverage in Game 14 at Pittsburgh.

The Cincinnati native and University of Cincinnati product is the franchise record holder for career gross punting average (44.2) and net punting average (39.1) En route to those numbers, in 2012, he set club season records for gross (46.6) and net (42.0). Huber also holds the club record for best ratio of inside-20 punts to touchbacks, at 3.83-to-1 (138-36).

In two games this season, Huber has averaged a modest 40.3 yards. But his 39.1 net matches the club career record with which he entered the season. He has five inside-20 kicks and no touchbacks, tied for second in the NFL in both total inside-20s and in differential between inside-20s and touchbacks (plus-5).

Last season Huber had key late punts in wins in Games 5-7 (vs. New England, at Buffalo, at Detroit), and he has been a reliable holder for place kicks throughout his Bengals career. He averaged only a modest 37.8 yards on four punts at Baltimore, but he had three inside-20s and no touchbacks.

"It's a great comfort as a coach to have Kevin back," said head coach Marvin Lewis. "We ask Kevin to do special things with the ball, and he has delivered. Every time you see the returner catch a ball on the boundary and step out of bounds, Kevin's done his job again. That's what we want all the time. We want that ball pinned to the boundary as much as we can. He doesn't get the opportunity like some guys just to stand back there and boom the football. We want that ball put in certain spots all the time."

A fifth-round Bengals 2009 draft choice, Huber was the first kicking specialist selected that year, after a University of Cincinnati career in which he won one national gross punting title and twice led the nation twice in net punting.

TV streak bound for 139: In each of the last 138 Cincinnati TV ratings weeks that have included a Bengals regular-season or postseason broadcast — dating back to the 2004 season — the Bengals have ruled the

Cincinnati airwaves. They have been the top-rated show among all programming in the Cincinnati market, and usually by a wide margin.

And it's a near-certainty that the streak will reach 139 when Cincinnati rankings are released for the week of Sept. 8-14. The Bengals' Sept. 14 game vs. Atlanta drew a rating of 31.4, a figure no non-Bengals programs have closely approached in recent years.

The rating number indicates the percentage of market households tuned to the game — including those not watching TV at the time.

The streak began on Dec. 5, 2004, when a wild Bengals win at Baltimore outpooled all other programs. The highest local Bengals rating during the streak has been 45.5 for a home playoff game vs. Pittsburgh on Jan. 8, 2006.

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 Georgia connection: The Bengals have five players from the University of Georgia on the 53-player roster. It's not as many as at some points last year, when Cincinnati had as many as seven ex-Bulldogs on the 53, but it's still a significant group. Start with WR A.J. Green and DT Geno Atkins, the most decorated Cincinnati players on each side of the ball. Then add in another starter (LG Clint Boling), a still very active 11th-year veteran (DE Robert Geathers), and a promising second-year player (S Shawn Williams).

Last year's total of seven ex-Bulldogs established a Bengals franchise high for most players on the roster at one time from one school. This year's total of five is two more than any other school. Two other schools have three — Alabama (DE Wallace Gilberry, CB Dre Kirkpatrick, OT Andre Smith) and North Carolina (HB Giovani Bernard, C Russell Bodine and WR Brandon Tate).

Asked about the connection with Georgia, coach Marvin Lewis said:

"I would just say that the coaching staff there, under Coach Mark Richt, has done a great job teaching their guys to play aggressive, attacking football. Whether it be offense or defense, they're all no-nonsense guys. So we really like their work ethic, how they handle and carry themselves as people, and that says a lot about the program. I think you guys (media) would agree that they're personable players. They're always approachable, they've been trained the right way, and the Georgia people just do a great job of that."

Georgia's pipeline to the Bengals has been a relatively recent connection. On the Bengals' Alumni List, Georgia ranks only tied for ninth among schools in most players to have made the Cincinnati all-time roster. The Bulldog total is 14. The runaway leader for producing Bengals is Ohio State, at 27. The University of Florida is second at 18. Tied for third at 17 are the University of Cincinnati and Michigan.

NFC beware: The Bengals are 16-6-1 in their last 22 home games against NFC teams, for a winning percentage of .717. The last 22 of the 23 games have been played under head coach Marvin Lewis (15-6-1). Going back a bit farther, the Bengals are 27-13-1 (.671) at home against the NFC since 1993.

The Bengals played and won their first 2014 home game against the NFC last week, defeating Atlanta 24-10. Still on the home schedule from the NFC is Carolina, set for Oct. 12.

Streaks and service leaders: NT Domata Peko claims the current roster's longest streak for consecutive Bengals starts (69), and his 69 straight games played also tops the roster.

DE Robert Geathers has the most total Bengals games played on the current roster (138). OT Andrew Whitworth has the most total Bengals starts (121). The player with the most total NFL games (169) and starts (167) is CB Terence Newman.

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

No surprise here: America's favorite sport? Once again, pro football claims the top spot. For nearly three decades, according to the Harris Poll, the NFL has been No. 1.

In its most recent survey, Harris found 35 percent of respondents answering "NFL" to the simple question, "What is your favorite sport?" That's more than double the percentage for the No. 2 pick, baseball, at 14 percent. So dominant is the NFL that its percentage is higher than the Nos. 2-4 sports combined (32 percent). College football was No. 3 at 11 percent, making pro or college football the choice of 46 percent. Auto racing was fourth, at seven percent.

In addition, pro football has gained more than any other sport in popularity since 1985, moving up 11 points from 24 percent.

Uniform watch: The Bengals are scheduled to wear black jerseys and white pants in the Tennessee game.

Since 2004, when the Bengals made their last significant uniform redesign, the team has had a number of color options for jerseys and pants. Below are the records (regular season plus postseason) for the different combinations:

JERSEY	PANTS	W-L-T	PCT.
Orange*	Black.....	3-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White.....	12-5-0	.706
Black	Black.....	12-9-1	.568
Black	White.....	25-25-0	.500
White	Black.....	18-21-0	.462
White	White.....	14-21-0	.400

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

Turnover tables are turned: During the term of Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis (2003-present), the Bengals rank tied for third in the NFL in turnover differential, at plus-42.

The Bengals were plus-3 last week in their win vs. Atlanta, and they are plus-five for the season, tied for the second-best differential in the NFL.

Prior to Lewis' tenure, the Bengals had posted a minus turnover differential for five straight years (1998-2002).

Since 2003, NFL teams with just a plus-one differential have won 69.3 percent of their games. At plus-two the percentage has been 83.7. Teams with any plus from one to five have won 80.0 percent of the time.

TEAM	TAKEAWAYS	GIVEAWAYS	DIFFERENTIAL
New England.....	360.....	225.....	+135
Indianapolis.....	293.....	234.....	+59
Cincinnati.....	333.....	291.....	+42
Carolina.....	332.....	290.....	+42
Baltimore.....	335.....	294.....	+41

Since 2003, the Bengals rank fourth in the NFL in most takeaways (333) and fourth in points off turnovers (1035).

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 57-13-1 in the regular season under Lewis with a plus, for an .810 winning percentage. The Bengals were plus-3 in their win last week vs. Atlanta. But the Bengals are 12-54 under Lewis when posting a minus differential.

"It makes a huge difference," Lewis says. "You see it game after 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 night."

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.....	695-307-2	.693
Plus-2.....	555-108-0	.837
Plus-3.....	310-32-1	.905
Plus-4.....	177-5-0	.973
Plus-5 or more.....	85-3-0	.966

In Week 2 play, teams with a plus went a perfect 13-0. For the season, plus teams are 23-5 (.821). Since 2003, teams with any plus have a combined winning percentage of .800. The combined record is 1820-455-3.

And when it's even? The Bengals are 23-18 in head coach Marvin Lewis' full tenure in games when the turnover differential has been even, for a winning percentage of .561. The Bengals have won six of their last eight with even differential, dating back to 2012.

Is it the pep talks? The Bengals are 11-2 under Marvin Lewis when a game is tied at halftime, including 3-0 last season. Here's the history:

DATE	OPPONENT	HALF	FINAL	RESULT
9-14-03	@Oakland.....	10-10	20-23	L
9-28-03	@Cleveland.....	14-14	21-14	W
10-26-03	SEATTLE.....	17-17	27-24	W
11-9-03	HOUSTON.....	17-17	34-27	W
11-16-03	KANSAS CITY.....	3-3	24-19	W
9-20-09	@Green Bay.....	21-21	31-24	W
12-27-09	KANSAS CITY.....	3-3	17-10	W
10-9-11	@Jacksonville.....	13-13	30-20	W
10-21-12	PITTSBURGH.....	14-14	17-24	L
12-30-12	BALTIMORE.....	7-7	23-17	W
9-16-13	PITTSBURGH.....	10-10	20-10	W
10-6-13	NEW ENGLAND.....	3-3	13-6	W
12-1-13	@San Diego.....	7-7	17-10	W

Additional notes include:

- The Bengals played to five halftime ties in 2003, Lewis' first season, and did not have another until '09.
- Lewis' first victory from a halftime tie was also his first Bengals win, a 21-14 decision at Cleveland in Game 4 of '03.
- The Bengals are 63-22-1 under Lewis when leading at halftime but stand only 18-60-0 when trailing.

Bengal bites: Third-year S George Iloka had two INTs last week, the second and third picks of his 25-game career. He leaped to snag a Matt Ryan pass at the Bengals two-yard line in the third quarter, returning 14 yards to the 16, and he ended Atlanta's last offensive bid with a fourth-quarter pick at the Bengals 43, returning 29 yards ... CB Leon Hall also had an INT last week, giving him 24 for his Bengals career, fifth. Hall ranks fifth in Bengals history for career INTs, and his next pick will tie him at 25 with fourth-place Lemar Parrish ...The win over Atlanta left the Bengals at 28-19 in past home openers, including 15-8 in years in which the home opener has not been the season opener. Cincinnati has won its last three home openers ... Mike Nugent's five field goals in the first half in Week 1 at Baltimore tied the NFL record for most field goals in a half. Nugent connected from 49, 22, 28, 46 and 38 yards to give the Bengals a 15-0 second-quarter lead ... The Bengals are 1-or-1 this season on two-point conversions, and opponents are 0-for-1. Since 1994, when the two-point conversion was added to the NFL rules, the Bengals are 18-for-48 (37.5 percent),and their opponents are 19-for-45 (42.2 percent) ... The oldest player on the Bengals' active roster is CB Terence Newman, who turned 36 on Sept. 4 ... The youngest Bengal is HB Jeremy Hill, who's 21 and will turn 22 on Oct. 20 ... The tallest Bengal is DE Margus Hunt at 6-8 ... The shortest Bengal is HB Giovanni Bernard at 5-9 ... The heaviest Bengal is OT Andre Smith at 340 ... The lightest Bengal is WR Dane Sanzenbacher at 184 ... Over the last 11 seasons, including this season, the Bengals have posted winning records in September (20-15), November (20-17-1) and December (27-21). Losing months have been October (16-24) and January (1-4) ... The NFL lists Cincinnati as its fifth-smallest TV market, ranking 26th out of 30 with 908,440 TV households. (There are only 30 NFL markets because New York and San Francisco-Oakland each have two clubs.) Cincinnati ranks 35th among all U.S. TV markets. The eight non-NFL markets larger than Cincinnati (largest to smallest) are Orlando, Sacramento, Portland, Raleigh-Durham, Hartford, Columbus (Ohio), Salt Lake City and Milwaukee ... The Bengals are 15-10 on the road over the last four regular seasons, including this season, tied for the fourth-best winning percentage (.600) among NFL teams.

Head coach Marvin Lewis, on the 2-0 start and the upcoming Titans game:

"I'm pleased. We're as good as we can be on the bottom line, 2-0, but we can't take a step back. We can't take a breath or relax. We've got to have a great week of preparation. You want to win every time, and we know the formula for it, and we have to keep it up. The Tennessee team is very, very talented. This week of preparation is really important."

Lewis, on whether he's seen a cornerback play as strongly at age 36 as Cincinnati's Terence Newman:

"I'm not quite sure how old Rod Woodson was at various points, but he was certainly a great one long into his career. Guys that are great players for a long time continue to do things the right way all the time. They're smart guys, they understand how to take care of their body physically, how to train during the offseason and how to go out and work during the season. Obviously, Terence is a physically gifted athlete as well. He's covering big, fast guys and little, fast guys. It is impressive, and he played a fine football game against the Falcons."

Lewis, on no offensive turnovers in Games 1-2:

"It starts with your quarterback. Your quarterback and your protection. Those go hand in hand. The decision making he has, and then the ball security of those that touch the football all the time. It takes all 11 guys to get their job done right and to not put you in jeopardy of a turnover. Our quarterback has made some good decisions to just throw the ball away and come back with the next play. The way we carry the football all the time in practice is important. We have to continue with that. We've been harping on all that, as we do all the time, and we'll continue to critique it."

G/C Mike Pollak, on QB Andy Dalton beating blitzes for long TD passes in each of the first two games:

"There's going to be times when it's not pretty, but you've got to love Dalton standing in the mess and not worrying about taking the hit. The media was getting after us for not performing well against the blitz, but I think we've answered that. Any time you can have those big striking plays against the blitz, it gets defenses to back off a little bit."

Lewis, on SS George Iloka "breaking out" with two INTs in the Atlanta game:

"George is better twofold this season, compared to last. He played with a cast on his hand throughout last season, and secondly, the experience of being in his second season (starting) now is huge. He's been in the right spots. He was a year ago, but he didn't come down with those plays like he is now. The fact that he's in the right spots now, and he's the big man he is (6-4, 217) — tackling and making plays on the ball — are important. We need him to continue like that."

Lewis, on new offensive coordinator Hue Jackson:

"He is very detailed and demanding, and yet he can put his arm around the guy, and close the door, and explain to him why, and make him understand him why he's being, as the guys say, 'hard on him' that day. It's a good quality to have. You have to have both the demanding and the human qualities. These players are here as their profession, and they don't get to do it for very long. They have to understand we have their best interest at heart, to help them be the best player they can be. That's our goal, and we're going to push hard at that for every single one of them."

Lewis, on QB Andy Dalton's growing maturity as a player:

"Andy continues to grow as the leader of this team. One part of that we continue to develop in practice is just simply throwing the ball away when that's your best decision. Andy has not had a problem with that, and we don't ever want that to creep in, where you try to do too much with the football. You've got to maintain the ball and live to play another down as much as possible."

Lewis, on new defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, who was promoted this year from linebackers coach:

"I think Paul has done an excellent job of reaching out to each one of the defensive players individually — the guys that were returning guys — and has really impressed upon them what his expectations for each of them were individually, as well as collectively. I think they responded. Paul's unique. Paul worked in every phase of football around here, so he's basically been grown

from the ground up with some of these guys, and he's worked with them through special teams, and he's worked with them initially just with me, and he's worked with them through defense and now as the coordinator. He's been involved really from the ground up with a lot of these guys."

OT Marshall Newhouse, Andy Dalton's former college teammate, on Dalton heading forward with a lucrative new contract:

"Any guy with pride wants to live up to that kind of deal. I can only see him getting better from here."

DE Margus Hunt, on seeking a key role in his second pro season:

"I've been in the system for a year. I know where to line up and all the responsibilities that come with that. Now I can really unleash and play. Practices, the OTAs and camp — everything has helped me get the level of confidence that was missing last year. I can play more freely and faster. Last year, too many times I felt I could have, should have, had the sack. I just didn't finish the plays."

Assistant head coach/offensive line coach Paul Alexander, on rookie C Russell Bodine, who has started Games 1-2:

"He's strong, mature, with great lateral quickness. I think he's going to be a terrific player."

Special teams coordinator Darrin Simmons, on how much punt return duty Adam Jones might see this season as coaches balance that role with his CB duties:

"Why would I tip my hand on that? I think he'd love to get more chances. He's dynamic with the ball in his hands. But last year we had injuries to (CBs) Leon (Hall) and Terence (Newman), so he wasn't available for that many chances. We couldn't afford to risk him getting hurt on a punt return. We just have to see how the team breaks down."

Lewis, on college free agent H-back Ryan Hewitt, the only college free agent to earn a spot on the initial 53-player roster:

"Ideally we want a combination of a power guy and a guy who can add pressure on the defense as a skill player. Be an effective blocker, but also add pressure in matchups. Ryan has shown us the potential to provide a little bit of that. He's an excellent receiver. And overall, it's just not been too big for him. As he grows and if he's fortunate enough to stay around here, I think by next year we'll have a real, real, real big physical man."

Pollak, on potentially playing a significant role as a swing player among the guard and center spots:

"I come out (to practice) and ask where I am each day. Whatever gets me in a role to get on the field. I just want to play where I can. I'm later in my career, I know my days are numbered. As long as I can get in there, that's what I care about."

S George Iloka, on the 2014 AFC Central Division race:

"There is no champion right now. We were the 2013 division champ. No one's been crowned the champion of 2014. You're confident in that you know you won it last year. You might feel like, 'OK, they have to beat us now.' But we don't hold a belt."

Defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, on the Bengals high defensive rankings in recent seasons:

"We've got to understand how to define success around here. We've done some good things, but rankings aren't our goal. Success is going to be making the playoffs again and winning in the playoffs. And we won't get there without a great preseason and regular season, so the focus is on now."

Guenther, on the return of LB Emmanuel Lamur, who missed 2013 to an injury in the final preseason game:

"When he got hurt, I almost fainted. He's a young guy with things still to prove, but he had a real chance to expand his role last year, and it's the same situation this year. There's a lot of things you can do with him. He's very fast and agile for a 6-4, 240-pound guy. He can play safety, he can cover tight ends. And as we all know now in the league there are a lot of pass-receiving tight ends that we're going to face. He's a smart player who knows the defense, the kind of guy that understands the big picture. Having him back is a big advantage for us."

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: **Andy Dalton** has started all 50 regular-season and three postseason games of his Cincinnati career. He has led the team to the playoffs in each of his three previous seasons, and in 2014 he'll bid to join Baltimore's Joe Flacco as the only starting QBs in the Super Bowl era to reach the postseason in their first four campaigns. Dalton and Flacco are among five NFL QBs to make postseason in their first three campaigns. Dalton posted a 116.6 passer rating vs. Atlanta, going 15-for-23 (65.2 percent) for 252 yards with one TD and no INTs. It was the second consecutive game in which Dalton did not turn the ball over and was kept sack free. His TD pass came on a 76-yard strike to Mohamed Sanu in the third quarter. For the season, Dalton has passed 40-for-61 (65.6 percent) for 553 yards with two TDs and no INTs, good for a 105.4 passer rating. Through two weeks, Dalton's passer rating ranks third in the AFC and seventh in the NFL. Dalton has a .640 winning percentage as a starter in regular-season games (32-18 record), the best percentage in Bengals history for any QB with 10 or more starts. In leading the Bengals to the AFC North Division title last season, Dalton set franchise records for passing yards (4293) and TD passes (33). **Jason Campbell**, a 10th-year pro with 79 career NFL starts, is in No. 2 QB role. He has been active-DNP for Games 1-2. Campbell signed with the Bengals as a free agent for 2014, after playing nine games with eight starts for Cleveland in 2013. He won an AFC Offensive Player of the Week award for his performance for the Browns in a win over Baltimore. Campbell has 16,697 career passing yards and 87 TD passes.

Halfbacks: Second-year pro **Giovani Bernard**, who generated much excitement while amassing 1209 scrimmage yards as a rookie, is in the No. 1 HB role. Bernard has been a featured part of the offense through two games, generating 52 offensive touches. Bernard rushed 27-for-90 with a TD and had a team-high five receptions for 79 yards at Atlanta. His TD came from four yards out in the second quarter. His 27 rushing attempts and 169 yards from scrimmage were both career highs. For the season, Bernard has rushed 34-for-138 with a TD and caught 11-for-141, leading the team in receptions, receiving yards and scrimmage yards. His 56 receptions last season set a club record for a RB, and he rushed for 695 yards. Short of stature but strong and quick, he showed the ability to create highlight-reel plays in the open field both as a rusher and a receiver. But the Bengals do not figure to be a one-man show in the rushing game. Also strongly in the competition for front-line playing time will be rookie second-round draft pick **Jeremy Hill** of LSU. Against Atlanta, Hill showed why he was the second running back selected in the 2014 Draft. He rushed 15-for-74 (4.9) with a TD and caught two-for-22. His TD came from one yard out in the third quarter, giving the Bengals a 24-3 lead. For the season, Hill has rushed 19-for-93 (4.9) with a TD and has caught two-for-22. Hill led the Bengals in rushing during the preseason (41-for-190, 4.6), and he tied for the team lead in receptions with 10 (for 93 yards). Hill entered the NFL draft after two stellar LSU seasons over which he set a school record for yards per rush (6.25). The 238-pounder had six rushes of 50 or more yards last season, and he has the potential to give the Bengals their best combination of power and breakaway ability at HB since all-time club rushing leader Corey Dillon (1997-2003), who was also a second-round draft selection. Fifth-year pro **Cedric Peerman** played in every Bengals game last season. He played on special teams in Games 1-2 with no statistics. Peerman is an outstanding special teams player as well. Second-year pro **Rex Burkhead** of Nebraska is looking for more time in 2014, but he suffered a knee strain Aug. 16 vs. the Jets and missed the final two preseason games and the first two regular-season games. His status is week-to-week. Burkhead was on the roster all last season but played in only one game. He scored 35 TDs at Nebraska while rushing for 3329 yards, including 14 games of 100 or more rushing yards.

Wide receivers: The Bengals are young, talented and already accomplished on the front line at wide receiver. Leading the pack again is fourth-year pro **A.J. Green**, who has claimed a place among the elite active wideouts in pro football. But Green re-aggravated a toe injury on the Bengals first offensive series vs. Atlanta, and he did not return to the game. His status for Tennessee is to be determined. Green caught six-for-131 with a TD in Week 1 at Baltimore. Green's 260 receptions through 2013 were the most in NFL history for a player over his first three seasons (Anquan Boldin second at 259), and Green's 3833 receiving yards were second-most for a player in seasons 1-3, trailing only Randy Moss (4163). Green seeks his fourth straight Pro Bowl berth in 2014, and in the last two seasons he has been a second-team choice on the Associated Press All-Pro team. Third-year pro **Mohamed Sanu** had to step up in Green's absence against Atlanta, and he did just that. He caught three-for-84, including a 76-yard TD from Andy Dalton in the third quarter. In addition to his receiving exploits, Sanu showed off his arm, completing a 50-yard pass on a reverse play to Brandon Tate. In his three seasons, Sanu has completed all three passes he's

attempted, for 148 yards and a TD. He has caught seven-for-120 with a TD on the season. Sanu is a big and physically tough receiver with strong ability to contest defenders for catches. He caught four-for-36 against Baltimore, and also converted on a two-point conversion attempt hauling in a pass from Andy Dalton. Sanu caught 47 passes for 455 yards and two TDs last year. Third-year pro **Marvin Jones** was listed in the other starting WR spot alongside Green as the preseason schedule began, but Jones suffered a foot fracture in practice on Aug. 9, and has been inactive due to the injury for the first two games. His status going forward is pending. Jones is a fluid athlete with naturally graceful moves who can make tough catches look routine. He had 10 TD catches last season, second on the team to Green's 11, and he set a Bengals record with four receiving scores in a win over the Jets. Jones had 51 receptions and was second on the team in receiving yards at 712. Another veteran in the WR mix is sixth-year pro **Brandon Tate**. Tate has contributed mainly as a kick returner as a Bengal but has seen significant action on offense through the first two games. He caught a 50-yard pass from Sanu vs. Atlanta. For the season, Tate has caught five-for-69. **Dane Sanzenbacher**, a fourth-year pro for 2014, may be ready to push for more playing time. Sanzenbacher's opportunities were limited last season, but his catch total of six for 61 yards included key plays in wins over Buffalo and Detroit. Sanzenbacher played increased snaps vs. Atlanta following Green's injury, and he caught two-for-42. Both of his receptions went for first downs, including one converting a third down. Rookie seventh-round draft choice **James Wright** of LSU was an excellent special teams contributor in college and showed well as a receiver in the preseason and at practice. Wright missed Week 1 with a concussion but made his NFL debut vs. Atlanta. He did not have a reception but did log a special teams tackle. Wright caught two-for-20 on the preseason, including a nine-yard TD at Kansas City.

Tight ends/H-back: Fifth-year pro **Jermaine Gresham** (two Pro Bowls) and second-year player **Tyler Eifert** (first-round draft pick in 2013) return after the first season in Bengals history in which two TEs were considered part of the starting base offense. But Eifert suffered an elbow injury in the season opener at Baltimore and has been placed on the Reserve/Injured list with a designation to possibly return this season. The earliest he could resume play would be Nov. 6 vs. Cleveland. Gresham caught three-for-25 vs. Atlanta and has caught five-for-41 on the season. Gresham and Eifert led the way last season to a club-record receptions total by TEs (88), and the receiving yardage total by TEs (915) ranked third in club annals. Gresham is the first Bengals TE to log three consecutive seasons of 50 or more catches, spanning 2010-12, and last year he had 46 catches, just short of tying Mike Ditka as the only other NFL player to hit 50 in his first four seasons. Eifert last season had 39 catches for 445 yards and two TDs. Also back for 2014 is 10th-year vet **Alex Smith**, who last year played in all 16 games, but Smith suffered a biceps injury vs. Atlanta, and his status going forward has not been determined. H-back **Ryan Hewitt** was the lone college free agent to make the 53-man roster. Hewitt, a product of Stanford, has played in each of the first two games with no statistics. He started the Atlanta game at H-Back. Hewitt has been praised by the coaching staff for an impressive overall performance for a college free agent.

Offensive linemen: Four veteran returnees and one rookie form the No. 1 offensive line as the regular season opens. Last week vs. Atlanta, the line led protection vs. which allowed no sacks for the second consecutive game, and the offense tallied 472 net yards, including 170 rushing yards, the team's highest output since Nov. 25, 2012 vs. Oakland (221 rushing yards). Returning to the tackle spots are LOT **Andrew Whitworth** and ROT **Andre Smith**. Whitworth returns to LOT after finishing last season at guard, due to injuries elsewhere on the line. Whitworth leads the current roster in career Bengals starts (118 regular season), and 89 of those have been at OT. He was a Pro Bowl selection in the 2012 season and is one of the team's prime locker room leaders. Smith, a sixth-year player, has started 38 of the team's last 39 regular-season and postseason games. He missed all four preseason games while rehabbing from a concussion, but was able to come back and start at Baltimore. Smith was a Bengals first-round draft choice in 2009. The RG spot is held for the third season by **Kevin Zeitler**, a 2012 Bengals first-round draftee. He left the Atlanta game in the second quarter with a calf injury, however, and his status for Tennessee has not been determined. Zeitler missed four games last season due to a foot injury, but came back to start the regular-season finale and the Wild Card playoff. **Clint Boling**, a fourth-year pro in 2014, is the starting LG. Boling had started 29 straight games (including postseason) until he was felled on Dec. 1 of last season by a major knee injury. Boling made a quicker-than-expected recovery, and saw full action in preseason and has started the first two games of the season. At C, fourth-round draft choice **Russell Bodine** of North Carolina has been in the starting role since the opening of training camp. Among Bengals

offensive line rookies not drafted in the first round, he is bidding to become the first to hold down a starting position for a season since G Eric Steinbach in 2003, and Steinbach was a second-rounder. **Mike Pollak**, a seventh-year pro in his second Bengals season, figures as a contributor at any of the three interior line positions. Pollak came in to play RG vs. Atlanta after the injury to Zeitter. He was active-DNP for Week 1. Pollak missed much of the early 2013 season due to a knee injury, but he came on to play in eight games with five starts. The Bengals made an acquisition to bolster OT depth with the off-season signing of fifth-year pro **Marshall Newhouse** as an unrestricted free agent. Newhouse had 47 games played with 31 starts for Green Bay from 2010-13, plus four playoff game appearances with two starts. Newhouse started all four preseason games (two at LOT, two at ROT) and has seen action in the first two games this season as an extra blocking TE on selected plays. Second-year OT **Tanner Hawkinson** and first-year G/C **T.J. Johnson** both cracked the 53-man roster, and both were inactive (coaches' decision) for the Atlanta game. Hawkinson was on the Bengals roster for all of 2013 but only played in one game. Johnson spent the entire 2013 season on the Bengals practice squad.

Defensive linemen: The Bengals defensive line has been recognized in recent seasons as one of the NFL's best, and plenty of talent returns for 2014. The cornerstone is fifth-year DT **Geno Atkins**, a first-team All-Pro in 2012 and an elite player again last year until a knee injury (ACL tear) cost him the last seven games. Atkins started vs. Atlanta and had one tackle. For the season, he has logged two tackles, including one for a loss. Atkins has had few if any NFL peers as an interior pass rusher, with 26 sacks in 41 games over 2011-13. Alongside Atkins for the fourth straight year is NT **Domata Peko**, a team leader on the field and in the locker room. Peko has led the line in tackles for most of his previous eight Bengals seasons. He started vs. Atlanta and led the line with five tackles. For the season, Peko has seven tackles. He is the only current Bengal to have started every game the last four seasons. Cincinnati's depth at DT has been led by third-year pro **Brandon Thompson**, who started the last seven games in 2013, after Atkins was injured. But Thompson left the Atlanta game with a knee injury, and his status for Tennessee has not been determined. At Baltimore in Week 1, Thompson tied for the line lead with four tackles. Third-year DT **Devon Still** was signed to the active roster on Sept. 10. He played in line rotation vs. Atlanta and had three tackles. Last season, defensive ends **Carlos Dunlap** and **Wallace Gilberry** tied for the team lead in sacks (7.5). Dunlap had two tackles (one for loss) against Atlanta, including a 10-yard sack of Matt Ryan in the second quarter. For the season, Dunlap has logged five tackles (two for loss), including two sacks. Last season, Dunlap also blocked two field goals, led the team in forced fumbles (four, for the second straight season) and led the line in passes defended (10). Gilberry logged three tackles vs. Atlanta. On the season, he has seven tackles (one for loss), including 1.5 sacks, and has a pass defended. Gilberry collected his 7.5 sacks last season while starting only two games, and he has opened 2014 in the No. 1 RDE spot. He had 1.5 sacks in Week 1 at Baltimore. DE **Robert Geathers** is back for an 11th Bengals season. He was limited to two games last season by an elbow injury but is fully recovered for 2014. He has played in the line rotation in Games 1-2, with one tackle. He started every game in '12 and leads the roster in career Bengals games (138). Fresh off a strong preseason in which he led the Bengals with four sacks, second-year DE **Margus Hunt** has played in the line rotation in Games 1-2. He has one special teams tackle and a pass defended on the season. The 6-8, 290-pounder has tremendous physical potential and played in 10 games as a rookie last season. His only limitation has been football experience, as he's a native of Estonia and had never played football before taking it up at 2009 at Southern Methodist University, where he initially had arrived on a track and field scholarship. Yet another promising DE prospect is rookie **Will Clarke**, third-round draft choice from West Virginia. Clarke has the size and stature (6-6, 271) the Bengals seek at DE and is the only player in West Virginia history to win three "Iron Mountaineer" awards for excellence in the weight room. Clarke has been inactive (coaches' decision) for the first two games of the season. He finished the preseason with nine tackles and a sack.

Linebackers: Cincinnati's linebacker corps is led by 2013 season Pro Bowl WLB **Vontaze Burfict**, who truly merits being called a tackling machine. He logged 204 tackles last season, most on the team by a margin of 96, and that followed a rookie season in which his 174 stops led the team by 22. Burfict started at WLB vs. Atlanta and had four tackles and a pass defended. He left the game in the third quarter with an injury, and his status for Tennessee has not been determined. For the season, Burfict has eight tackles, a forced fumble, a fumble recovery and two passes defended. He had a pass defended vs. Atlanta that led to an INT by CB Leon Hall. Burfict already ranks among the top college free agent finds in Bengals history, a once-touted star at Arizona State whose

draft stock had tumbled due to raps for undisciplined play and poor physical shape, raps he has disproven as a pro. Second on the Bengals in tackles the last three seasons has been MLB **Rey Mauluga**, a sixth-year pro in 2013. Mauluga started at MLB and had one tackle vs. Atlanta. For the season, Mauluga has logged four tackles. Mauluga had 110 tackles last season. He has started 13 or more games each season since joining the Bengals in 2009 as a second-round draft choice. **Emmanuel Lamur** has opened the season as the No. 1 SLB, and fourth-year pro **Vincent Rey** is a strong contender for playing time at MLB or OLB. Third-year pro Lamur, big and athletic at 6-4 and 240 pounds, had been tabbed for a significant role last season but was lost for the year to a preseason shoulder injury. Lamur started at SLB vs. Atlanta and logged eight tackles with a pass defended. Lamur leads the Bengals with 19 tackles on the season, and he also has an interception and two passes defended. Rey played vs. Atlanta and had one tackle. For the season, Rey has recorded five tackles and two passes defended. Rey broke out last season with 54 tackles, 4.0 sacks, and two INTs (one for a TD). He started three games as an injury replacement at MLB and saw considerable action otherwise in the defensive rotation. On Nov. 10 at Baltimore, he became the first (and still only) Bengal with three sacks and an INT in the same contest. OLB **Jayson DiManche** has played on special teams in each of the first two contests with no statistics. DiManche played in every game last season after making the roster as a college free agent, and he finished second in special teams tackles (12) while logging six tackles on defense. Second-year pro **Sean Porter** was with the Bengals last season but did not play due to a torn labrum suffered in preseason. After an offseason of rehab, he came back and made the 2014 season-opening roster. He suffered a hamstring injury in the preseason finale vs. Indianapolis, and has been inactive for the first two contests. His status for Tennessee has not been determined. Rookie OLB **Marquis Flowers** cracked the 53-man roster. Flowers, the sixth-round pick out of the University of Arizona, has played on special teams in Games 1-2 (no stats). He played in all four preseason games and logged 10 tackles, tying for third on the team.

Defensive backs: Cincinnati's starting safeties from last year's third-ranked NFL defense return for 2014 and there is depth at the position as well. **George Iloka**, a third-year pro in '14, is the starting SS, and he had two INTs vs. Atlanta last week. He intercepted Matt Ryan in the third quarter and on the Falcons final offensive play of the game. For the season, Iloka has four tackles, two INTs and three passes defended. Eighth-year pro **Reggie Nelson** has been a Bengals starter since late 2010. He started at FS vs. Atlanta and logged four tackles, including a nine-yard sack of Ryan in the fourth quarter. He also had a pass defended. On the season, Nelson ranks third on the team with 14 tackles and tied for second on the team with 1.5 sacks. He's a hard hitter and also has logged 11 INTs for the Bengals. He led the team in INTs in 2011 and tied for the team lead in '12. The Bengals also have two other safeties with NFL credentials. **Taylor Mays**, a fifth-year player, had played in 25 straight Bengals games (including postseason) before a shoulder injury sidelined him at midseason last year. Mays played on special teams vs. Atlanta (no statistics). He leads the team with two special teams tackles on the season. Aiming for a bigger role in 2014 is second-year pro **Shawn Williams**. A third-round draft pick in '13, Williams played in every game, primarily on special teams, and he led the team in special teams tackles (14). He has played on special teams in Games 1-2 (no statistics). The Bengals are more than two-deep in the prime depth-chart spots at corner, with four well-credentialed veterans and a first-round draft choice. The incumbents at the starting spots are LCB **Terence Newman** and RCB **Leon Hall**. Newman started at LCB vs. Atlanta, leading the team 10 tackles and three passes defended. For the season, Newman leads the secondary and is second on the team with 16 tackles, and he leads the team with four passes defended. Hall has started Games 1-2 at RCB. Against Atlanta, he had six tackles, an INT and an additional pass defended. Hall picked off Ryan in the third quarter, setting up a TD for the Bengals. He has eight tackles, an INT and two passes defended on the season. Hall was limited to five games last year, his season ended by an Achilles tear. Hall was a Bengals first-round draft choice in 2007, and his 24 career INTs rank fifth in club history. Eighth-year vet CB **Adam Jones** played in every game last season, with 13 starts at either CB or nickel back. Jones played against Atlanta and recorded four tackles and a pass defended. For the season, Jones has 10 tackles and two passes defended. Last season, Jones tied for the team lead in INTs (three) and led the team in passes defended (18). He's in his fourth season with the Bengals. CB **Dre Kirkpatrick**, a first-round Cincinnati 2012 draft choice, was limited by injuries as a rookie but came on last season to play 14 games with three starts. He played on special teams against Atlanta with no statistics. Kirkpatrick has two tackles on defense and one on special teams for the season. Last season, Kirkpatrick had two INTs, one for a TD, in the regular-season finale vs. Baltimore and wound up tied for the team lead in INTs (three) for the season. Primed to challenge the vets for playing time at CB is

2014 first-round draft choice **Darqueze Dennard** of Michigan State. Dennard was a USA Today first-team All-American last season while helping lead the Spartans to a No. 3 national ranking and a No. 1 ranking in fewest yards allowed. He made his NFL debut against Atlanta (one special teams tackle).

Special teams: The Bengals' specialist trio from last season returns. K **Mike Nugent** went one-for-four on field goal attempts, hitting from 31 yards, and missing from 38, 49 and 55 yards, respectively. He was three-for-three on extra points and is four-for-four on the season. Nugent also handles kickoffs for the Bengals, and all 12 of his kickoffs have reached the end zone, with four touchbacks. Nugent made five first half field goals Week 1 at Baltimore, tying an NFL record for field goals made in a half. It also tied a personal career high for field goals made in a game. Nugent had two game-winning field goals in the final two minutes last season. He holds club season records for points (132) and field goals (33), both set in 2011. P **Kevin Huber** holds franchise career records for gross punting average (44.2) and net average (39.1), and he also holds the season records for both categories, set in 2012 (46.6 gross and 42.0 net).

Against Atlanta, Huber punted four times for a gross average of 42.8 and a net of 41.0. He had two inside-20 kicks and no touchbacks. For the season, Huber's gross average is 40.3 and his net is 39.1, matching the club record with which he entered the season. He has five inside-20 kicks and no touchbacks. Huber missed the last two regular-season games of 2013 and the Wild Card playoff due to injury, but he returns at full speed for this season. LS **Clark Harris** has played in every Bengals game since signing in October of 2009. He has had no unplayable snaps, with his Bengals total now standing at 724 (381 punts and 343 place kicks). CB **Adam Jones** has averaged 17.8 yards on four punt returns this season and leads the NFL. He has five career punt returns for TDs. WR **Brandon Tate** has been the team's primary punt returner and kickoff returner in recent seasons, and he had one kickoff return for 29 yards against Atlanta. He ranks first in Bengals history in average yards per kickoff return (24.87), and he is second in punt return average (9.87). He ranked sixth in the AFC last season in kickoff return average (26.1) and punt return average (9.3). CB **Dre Kirkpatrick** was a standout on punt coverage, downing one punt at the Atlanta four and teaming with Harris to down another at the one. S **Taylor Mays** leads the team for the young season in special teams tackles, with two.

IMPORTANT DATES

<p>Sept. 23, 2014 — Priority on multiple waiver claims is now based on the current season's standing.</p> <p>Oct. 14, 2014 — 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>Oct. 28, 2014 — All trading ends at 4 p.m. Eastern.</p> <p>Oct. 29, 2014 — 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. 11, 2014 — Signing period ends at 4 p.m. Eastern, for Franchise Players who are eligible to receive Offer Sheets.</p> <p>Nov. 11, 2014 — 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 from playing in NFL in 2014.</p> <p>Nov. 11, 2014 — Deadline for clubs to sign by 4 p.m. Eastern, their Unrestricted Free Agents to whom June 1 tender was made.</p>	<p>Nov. 11, 2014 — If still unsigned after this date, such players are prohibited from playing in NFL in 2014.</p> <p>Nov. 11, 2014 — 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 2014.</p> <p>Nov. 11, 2014 — 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 2014.</p> <p>Nov. 28, 2014 — 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> <p>Dec. 26, 2014 — Deadline for waiver requests in 2014, except for "special waiver requests," which have a 10-day claiming period, with termination or assignment delayed until after the Super Bowl.</p> <p>Dec. 29, 2014 — Clubs may begin signing free-agent players for the 2015 season.</p> <p>Jan. 3-4, 2015 — Wild Card Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 10-11, 2015 — Divisional Playoff Games.</p> <p>Jan. 18, 2015 — AFC and NFC Championship Games.</p> <p>Jan. 25, 2015 — Pro Bowl, Glendale, Arizona.</p> <p>Feb. 1, 2015 — Super Bowl XLIX, University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale, Arizona.</p>
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THE LAST BENGALS-TITANS MEETINGS

2008 SEASON

WEEK 2, GAME 2

Tennessee Titans 24, Cincinnati Bengals 7
Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals' struggling offense scored its first TD of the season, tying the score at 7-7 on HB Chris Perry's 13-yard run in the second quarter. Overall, however, it was a second straight game of offensive frustration for Cincinnati as both teams played in exceptionally windy conditions (sustained winds of over 70 mph). The Titans used a 51-yard rushing gain by RB Chris Johnson to help set up a 14-7 lead at halftime, and the only TD of the second half came when Tennessee LB Keith Bulluck blocked and recovered a Kyle Larson punt in the end zone. Bengals QB Carson Palmer suffered two INTs with no TD passes, while Tennessee veteran QB Kerry Collins, subbing for injured Vince Young, battled the wind conditions for a TD pass and no INTs. The Bengals fell to 0-2 — their first 0-2 start since 2003 — and the Titans improved to 2-0.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Tennessee	0	14	3	7	—	24
Cincinnati	0	7	0	0	—	7

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR-LEFT
Tenn. — L.White 1 run (R.Bironas kick)	2-11:06
Cin. — C.Perry 13 run (S.Graham kick)	2-3:16
Tenn. — J.Gage 11 pass from K.Collins (R.Bironas kick)	2-0:38
Tenn. — R.Bironas 34 field goal	3-4:49
Tenn. — K.Bulluck blocked punt recovery in end zone (R.Bironas kick)	4-14:05

Missed FGs: Graham (37RU). **Attendance:** 64,540. **Time:** 2:55.

TEAM STATISTICS	TENN.	CIN.
First downs	16	11
Third down conversions-attempts	4-13	3-13
Total net yards	295	215
Net yards rushing	177	88
Net yards passing	118	127
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions	21-14-0	27-16-2
Sacks against-yards lost	1-10	1-7
Punts-average	6-48.0	7-30.9
Punt returns-yards	2-6	2-42
Kickoff returns-yards	1-36	3-92
Penalties-yards	5-25	5-35
Fumbles-lost	2-1	3-0
Time of possession	32:34	27:26

RUSHING

TENN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
C.Johnson	19	109	51	0	C.Perry	21	64	13t	1
L.White	18	59	17	1	K.Watson	4	14	7	0
A.Hall	3	9	6	0	D.Dorsey	3	10	7	0
C.Hentrich	1	0	0	0					
TOTALS	41	177	51	1	TOTALS	28	88	13t	1

PASSING

TENN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
K.Collins	21	14	128	1-0	C.Palmer	27	16	134	0-2
TOTALS	21	14	128	1-0	TOTALS	27	16	134	0-2

RECEIVING

TENN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
J.Gage	5	59	19	1	C.Johnson	4	37	13	0
B.Jones	2	26	19	0	T.Houshmandzadeh	3	26	9	0
A.Crumpler	2	16	9	0	R.Kelly	3	14	11	0
C.Johnson	2	12	7	0	D.Dorsey	2	49	36	0
J.McCareins	2	9	6	0	A.Chatman	2	16	8	0
B.Scaife	1	6	6	0	C.Perry	2	-8	-3	0
TOTALS	14	128	19	1	TOTALS	16	134	36	0

DEFENSE

Tennessee (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** C.Hope 4-4-8, R.Fowler 4-3-7, V.Fuller 3-3-6, N.Harper 4-1-5, K.Vanden Bosch 3-2-5, M.Griffin 4-0-4, C.Finnegan 3-1-4, K.Bulluck 2-2-4, D.Thornton 2-1-3, J.Kearse 1-2-3, J.Jones 2-0-2, E.King 2-0-2, T.Brown 1-0-1, A.Haynesworth 1-0-1, S.Tulloch 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** J.Kearse 0.5-3.5, K.Vanden Bosch 0.5-3.5. **INT.-YDS.:** M.Griffin 1-15, C.Finnegan 1-0. **PD:** C.Finnegan 1, M.Griffin 1, N.Harper 1, C.Hope 1, J.Jones 1. **FF:** A.Haynesworth 1, N.Harper 1, J.Kearse 1. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Cincinnati (coaches' stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** Dh.Jones 4-11-15, K.Rivers 5-6-11, M.White 5-6-11, R.Jeanty 7-2-9, C.Ndukwe 5-3-8, D.Peko 4-4-8, F.Rucker 4-3-7, R.Geathers 2-4-6, J.Thornton 1-5-6, A.Odom 4-1-5, J.Fanene 0-4-4, L.Hall 3-0-3, J.Joseph 2-1-3, D.Blackstock 1-2-3, O.Harris 1-1-2. **SKS.-YDS.:** A.Odom 1-10. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** L.Hall 1, J.Joseph 1, C.Ndukwe 1. **FF:** A.Odom 1. **FR-YDS.:** K.Hebert 1-0.

2011 SEASON

WEEK 9, GAME 8

Cincinnati Bengals 24, Tennessee Titans 17
Sunday, Nov. 6, 2011 at LP Field

After a sluggish first half, the Bengals dominated Tennessee in the third and fourth quarters. Cincinnati secured its fifth straight victory, tying the team's longest winning streak since a season-opening, six-game streak by the 1988 AFC Championship club. Rookie QB Andy Dalton led his third fourth-quarter comeback of the season. The Bengals trailed 17-7 at halftime, but Dalton closed the gap to 17-14 with a 15-yard TD pass to WR Jerome Simpson in the third quarter, and he got the winning score on a five-yard pass to WR Andre Caldwell early in the fourth quarter. CB Nate Clements stopped Tennessee's last good comeback chance with a forced fumble and recovery against TE Jared Cook, and Bengals K Mike Nugent tacked on a FG for the final margin. Dalton threw three TD passes — his first career game with three — and no INTs. The Bengals improved to 6-2, including 4-1 on the road, and gained a tie with Baltimore for first place in the AFC North. Tennessee fell to 4-4.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati	0	7	7	10	—	24
Tennessee	3	14	0	0	—	17

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR-LEFT
Tenn. — R.Bironas 43 field goal	1-7:20
Cin. — C.Cochart 1 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick)	2-10:41
Tenn. — D.Williams 8 pass from M.Hasselbeck (R.Bironas kick)	2-5:18
Tenn. — L.Hawkins 16 pass from M.Hasselbeck (R.Bironas kick)	2-0:08
Cin. — J.Simpson 15 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick)	3-6:33
Cin. — A.Caldwell 5 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick)	4-10:52
Cin. — M.Nugent 36 field goal	4-1:55

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 69,143. **Time:** 3:18.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	TENN.
First downs	20	19
Third down conversions-attempts	8-16	5-14
Total net yards	319	328
Net yards rushing	109	78
Net yards passing	210	250
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions	39-22-0	41-24-0
Sacks against-yards lost	1-7	2-22
Punts-average	7-44.0	7-45.7
Punt returns-yards	5-9	2-8
Kickoff returns-yards	3-51	1-27
Penalties-yards	9-87	7-100
Fumbles-lost	1-0	3-1
Time of possession	32:55	27:05

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	TENN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
C.Benson	20	78	16	0	C.Johnson	14	64	20	0
B.Scott	6	24	7	0	J.Ringer	4	11	5	0
A.Dalton	3	4	3	0	M.Hasselbeck	2	3	2	0
B.Leonard	1	3	3	0					
TOTALS	30	109	16	0	TOTALS	20	78	20	0

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	TENN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.Dalton	39	22	217	3-0	M.Hasselbeck	41	24	272	2-0
TOTALS	39	22	217	3-0	TOTALS	41	24	272	2-0

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	TENN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
A.Green	7	83	23	0	L.Hawkins	5	63	30	1
A.Caldwell	5	22	7	1	J.Cook	4	47	15	0
D.Lee	3	49	25	0	C.Johnson	4	46	21	0
J.Simpson	3	43	18	1	D.Williams	4	34	10	1
C.Pressley	2	13	9	0	N.Washington	3	28	13	0
C.Cochart	2	7	6	1	C.Stevens	1	25	25	0
					J.Ringer	1	14	14	0
					A.Hall	1	9	9	0
					M.Mariani	1	6	6	0
TOTALS	22	217	25	3	TOTALS	24	272	30	2

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (coaches' stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** N.Clements 7-2-9, D.Skuta 7-2-9, T.Howard 6-3-9, R.Nelson 3-3-6, B.Johnson 4-1-5, C.Crocker 2-2-4, D.Peko 1-3-4, P.Sims 1-3-4, C.Dunlap 3-0-3, R.Geathers 2-1-3, L.Hall 2-1-3, K.Jennings 2-1-3, M.Lawson 1-2-3, F.Rucker 2-0-2, G.Atkins 1-1-2, G.Wilson 1-0-1, J.Fanene 0-1-1, M.Johnson 0-1-1, T.Mays 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** C.Dunlap 2-22. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** C.Dunlap 1, L.Hall 1, B.Johnson 1, M.Johnson 1. **FF:** N.Clements 1, T.Howard 1. **FR-YDS.:** N.Clements 1-0.

Tennessee (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** J.Babineaux 9-1-10, J.McCourty 6-2-8, A.Verner 6-1-7, A.Ayers 2-3-5, M.Griffin 3-1-4, S.Smith 3-1-4, B.Ruud 2-2-4, C.Finnegan 2-1-3, J.Jones 2-1-3, J.Casey 1-2-3, D.Morgan 1-1-2, W.Witherspoon 1-1-2, K.Klug 1-0-1, G.McRath 1-0-1, S.Marks 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** S.Smith 1-7. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** C.Finnegan 2, J.Babineaux 1, B.Ruud 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

2014 GAME SUMMARIES

WEEK 1, GAME 1

Cincinnati Bengals 23, Baltimore Ravens 16 Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014 at M&T Bank Stadium

The Bengals were dangerously close to a gut-wrenching opening loss when Baltimore scored on an 80-yard TD pass from QB Joe Flacco to WR Steve Smith with 5:46 left, taking a 16-15 lead after trailing 15-0. But the Bengals responded on the second play of their next possession with a 77-yard scoring bomb from QB Andy Dalton to WR A.J. Green at the 4:58 mark. The Ravens had one more shot, moving to a third-and-four at the Cincinnati 16-yard line with 1:09 left, but the Bengals sacked Flacco on the next two plays to secure the win. DE Wallace Gilberry had one of the sacks and shared the other with S Reggie Nelson. The Bengals dominated the game well into the third quarter but could not cash a TD, moving ahead 15-0 on five Mike Nugent FGs in the first half. Nugent tied the NFL record for FGs in a half.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	6	9	0	8	—	23
Baltimore.....	0	0	7	9	—	16

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — M.Nugent 49 field goal.....	1-10:25
Cin. — M.Nugent 22 field goal.....	1-1:25
Cin. — M.Nugent 28 field goal.....	2-10:13
Cin. — M.Nugent 46 field goal.....	2-4:36
Cin. — M.Nugent 38 field goal.....	2-2:07
Balt. — J.Forsett 13 run (J.Tucker kick).....	3-2:20
Balt. — J.Tucker 38 field goal.....	4-10:28
Balt. — S.Smith 80 pass from J.Flacco (run failed).....	4-5:46
Cin. — A.Green 77 pass from A.Dalton (M.Sanu pass from A.Dalton).....	4-4:58

Missed FGs: M. Nugent (45B), J. Tucker (55WR).
Attendance: 70,925. **Time:** 3:14.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	BALT.
First downs.....	16	26
Third down conversions-attempts.....	4-14	8-17
Total net yards.....	380	423
Net yards rushing.....	79	94
Net yards passing.....	301	329
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	38-25-0	62-35-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	0-0	3-16
Punts-average.....	4-37.8	4-42.3
Punt returns-yards.....	1-45	2-2
Kickoff returns-yards.....	0-0	4-109
Penalties-yards.....	4-45	3-29
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	2-1
Time of possession.....	30:30	29:30

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	BALT.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
G.Bernard	14	48	16	0	J.Forsett	11	70	13t	1
J.Hill	4	19	8	0	B.Pierce	6	17	6	0
A.Green	1	5	5	0	J.Flacco	3	7	3	0
M.Sanu	1	4	4	0					
A.Dalton	6	3	3	0					
TOTALS	26	79	16	0	TOTALS	20	94	13	1

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	BALT.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
A.Dalton	38	25	301	1-0	J.Flacco	62	35	345	1-1
TOTALS	38	25	301	1-0	TOTALS	62	35	345	1-1

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	BALT.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
A.Green	6	131	77t	1	D.Pitta	10	83	23	0
G.Bernard	6	62	32	0	S.Smith	7	118	80t	1
M.Sanu	4	36	13	0	J.Forsett	5	14	6	0
B.Tate	4	19	7	0	O.Daniels	4	34	12	0
T.Eifert	3	37	20	0	K.Aiken	4	30	8	0
J.Gresham	2	16	12	0	T.Smith	3	50	25	0
					J.Jones	2	16	11	0
TOTALS	25	301	77t	1	TOTALS	35	345	80t	1

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** E.Lamur 5-6-11, R.Nelson 7-3-10, A.Jones 4-2-6, T.Newman 4-2-6, V.Burfict 4-0-4, W.Gilberry 3-1-4, B.Thompson 3-1-4, V.Rey 2-2-4, G.Iloka 3-0-3, C.Dunlap 2-1-3, R.Mauluga 1-2-3, L.Hall 2-0-2, D.Kirkpatrick 2-0-2, D.Peko 0-2-2, G.Atkins 1-0-1, R.Geathers 1-0-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** W.Gilberry 1.5-8.5, C.Dunlap 1-4, R.Nelson 0.5-3.5. **INT.-YDS.:** E.Lamur 1-1. **PD:** V.Rey 2, V.Burfict 1, W.Gilberry 1, M.Hunt 1, A.Jones 1, E.Lamur 1, T.Newman 1. **FF:** V.Burfict 1. **FR-YDS.:** 1-0.

Baltimore (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** D.Smith 4-5-9, D.Stewart 4-5-9, C.Mosley 4-2-6, A.Jackson 5-0-5, C.Brown 4-1-5, J.Smith 2-3-5, T.Suggs 2-3-5, C.Canty 2-2-4, C.Upshaw 2-1-3, M.Elam 1-2-3, D.Tyson 1-2-3, B.Williams 1-1-2, T.Jernigan 0-2-2, H.Ngata 0-2-2, E.Dumervil 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** None. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** M.Elam 1, A.Jackson 1, P.McPhee 1, C.Mosley 1, H.Ngata 1, J.Smith 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

WEEK 2, GAME 2

Cincinnati Bengals 24, Atlanta Falcons 10 Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals started slowly, missing two FGs with the score tied 3-3. But Cincinnati broke ahead 10-3 late in the second quarter, as a 91-yard drive featured a 46-yard gain by HB Giovani Bernard on a short pass and a four-yard TD run by Bernard. Bernard had 169 yards from scrimmage (90 rushing and 79 receiving). His 27 rushing attempts topped by 12 his previous career high. Two more TDs in the third quarter sealed the deal as Cincinnati went ahead 24-3. One of the TDs came on a 76-yard pass from QB Andy Dalton to WR Mohamed Sanu, as Dalton became the first Bengals QB to complete a pass of 75-plus in each of two consecutive games. A week earlier, the Falcons had won their opener in OT against New Orleans with 568 yards of offense. QB Matt Ryan had passed for three TDs and no INTs against the Saints. But the Bengals held Atlanta to 309 yards and intercepted three Ryan passes. The victory was Cincinnati's 10th straight in the regular season at home, tying a franchise record set in 1988-89. The Bengals completed a second straight game without allowing a sack or turnover on offense, marking the first time in franchise history for such a feat in Games 1-2. Cincinnati improved to 2-0 and took an undisputed one-game lead in the AFC North. Atlanta dropped to 1-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Atlanta.....	3	0	0	7	—	10
Cincinnati.....	3	7	14	0	—	24

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Cin. — M.Nugent 31 field goal.....	1-5:19
Atl. — M.Bryant 46 field goal.....	1-1:08
Cin. — G.Bernard 4 run (M.Nugent kick).....	2-2:11
Cin. — M.Sanu 76 pass from A.Dalton (M.Nugent kick).....	3-10:58
Cin. — J.Hill 1 run (M.Nugent kick).....	3-6:28
Atl. — J.Jones 14 pass from M.Ryan (M.Bryant kick).....	4-8:35

Missed FGs: M.Nugent (38WR, 49WL, 55SH).
Attendance: 58,574. **Time:** 3:11.

TEAM STATISTICS	ATL.	CIN.
First downs.....	19	21
Third down conversions-attempts.....	3-12	6-14
Total net yards.....	309	472
Net yards rushing.....	97	170
Net yards passing.....	212	302
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	44-24-3	24-16-0
Sacks against-yards lost.....	2-19	0-0
Punts-average.....	6-44.3	4-42.8
Punt returns-yards.....	1-7	3-26
Kickoff returns-yards.....	4-118	1-29
Penalties-yards.....	7-56	7-55
Fumbles-lost.....	0-0	0-0
Time of possession.....	27:01	32:59

RUSHING

ATL.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
S.Jackson	11	46	13	0	G.Bernard	27	90	12	1
M.Ryan	3	28	12	0	J.Hill	15	74	13	1
J.Rodgers	5	23	9	0	A.Dalton	3	6	4	0
TOTALS	19	97	13	0	TOTALS	45	170	13	2

PASSING

ATL.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
M.Ryan	44	24	231	1-3	A.Dalton	23	15	252	1-0
					M.Sanu	1	1	50	0-0
TOTALS	44	24	231	1-3	TOTALS	24	16	302	1-0

RECEIVING

ATL.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
J.Jones	7	88	24	1	G.Bernard	5	79	46	0
R.White	5	42	19	0	M.Sanu	3	84	76t	1
H.Douglas	4	38	16	0	J.Gresham	3	25	19	0
D.Freeman	2	22	18	0	D.Sanzenbacher	2	42	26	0
A.Smith	2	19	15	0	J.Hill	2	22	18	0
L.Toilolo	2	13	10	0	B.Tate	1	50	50	0
S.Jackson	1	7	7	0					
D.Hester	1	2	2	0					
TOTALS	24	231	24	1	TOTALS	16	302	76t	1

DEFENSE

Atlanta (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** P.Worrioll 6-8-14, J.Bartu 8-1-9, D.Lowery 4-2-6, P.Solai 4-2-6, K.Biermann 3-3-6, W.Moore 2-4-6, P.Shembo 2-4-6, R.Alford 2-3-5, J.Massaquoi 2-2-4, J.Babineaux 2-0-2, D.Trufant 2-0-2, R.Hageman 1-1-2, R.McClain 1-1-2, C.Peters 1-1-2, M.Goodman 0-2-2. **SKS.-YDS.:** None. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** D.Trufant 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** T.Newman 7-3-10, E.Lamur 5-3-8, L.Hall 5-1-6, D.Peko 3-2-5, A.Jones 4-0-4, V.Burfict 2-2-4, R.Nelson 2-2-4, W.Gilberry 3-0-3, D.Still 2-1-3, C.Dunlap 1-1-2, G.Iloka 1-0-1, G.Atkins 0-1-1, R.Mauluga 0-1-1, V.Rey 0-1-1. **SKS.-YDS.:** C.Dunlap 1-10, R.Nelson 1-9. **INT.-YDS.:** G.Iloka 2-42, L.Hall 1-(-3). **PD:** G.Iloka 3, T.Newman 3, L.Hall 2, V.Burfict 1, A.Jones 1, E.Lamur 1, R.Nelson 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

THE BENGALS ARE:

REGULAR SEASON

1-0 at home
1-0 on the road
2-0 when scoring first
0-0 when opponent scored first
0-0 in games decided by three points or fewer
1-0 in games decided by seven points or fewer
2-0 when leading at halftime
0-0 when tied at halftime
0-0 when trailing at halftime
2-0 when leading after three quarters
0-0 when tied after three quarters
0-0 when trailing after three quarters
1-0 when rushing for 100 net yards

2-0 when opponent rushed for less than 100 net yards
2-0 with plus turnover differential
0-0 with even turnover differential
0-0 with minus turnover differential
2-0 when passing for 250 net yards
1-0 when opponent passed for 250 net yards
2-0 when scoring 20 points or more
0-0 when opponent scored 20 points or more
2-0 when game was outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
0-0 when game was inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
0-0 on natural grass
2-0 on synthetic surface
1-0 with fewer penalty yards

UNDER MARVIN LEWIS, THE BENGALS ARE:

2003-PRESENT (REGULAR SEASON)

53-35-1 at home
39-50-0 on the road
63-28-1 when scoring first
29-57-0 when opponent scores first
17-18-1 in games decided by three points or fewer
46-41-1 in games decided by seven points or fewer
63-22-1 when leading at halftime
11-2-0 when tied at halftime
18-61-0 when trailing at halftime
72-13-1 when leading after three quarters
7-4-0 when tied after three quarters
13-68-0 when trailing after three quarters
61-32-0 when rushing for 100 net yards

58-21-1 when opponent rushes for less than 100 net yards
57-13-1 with plus turnover differential
23-18-0 with even turnover differential
12-54-0 with minus turnover differential
33-28-0 when passing for 250 net yards
24-28-1 when opponent passes for 250 net yards
73-33-0 when scoring 20 points or more
31-75-0 when opponent scores 20 points or more
88-79-1 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
4-6-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
33-30-0 on natural grass
59-55-1 on synthetic surface
46-43-1 with fewer penalty yards

BEST PERFORMANCES

REGULAR SEASON

RUSHING YARDS

90 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
74 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
48 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 7 at Baltimore

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

27 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
15 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
14 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 7 at Baltimore

LONGEST RUSHES

14 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
13 — Jeremy Hill, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
12 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

RECEPTIONS

6 — A.J. Green, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
6 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
5 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

RECEIVING YARDS

131 — A.J. Green, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
84 — Mohamed Sanu, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
79 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

PASSING YARDS

301 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
252 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

PASS ATTEMPTS

38 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
23 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
1 — Mohamed Sanu, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

PASS COMPLETIONS

25 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
15 — Andy Dalton, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
1 — Mohamed Sanu, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

LONGEST PASSES

77 — Andy Dalton to A.J. Green, Sept. 7 at Baltimore (TD)
76 — Andy Dalton to Mohamed Sanu, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta (TD)
50 — Mohamed Sanu to Brandon Tate, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

169 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
136 — A.J. Green, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
110 — Giovanni Bernard, Sept. 7 at Baltimore

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

29 — Brandon Tate, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

45 — Adam Jones, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
24 — Adam Jones, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
2 — Adam Jones, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

TOTAL TACKLES*

11 — Emmanuel Lamur, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
10 — Reggie Nelson, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
10 — Terence Newman, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta

SOLO TACKLES*

7 — Reggie Nelson, Sept. 7 at Baltimore
7 — Terence Newman, Sept. 14 vs. Atlanta
5 — (three times)

***NOTE:** The defensive statistics above are press box statistics produced at the games.

GAME-BY-GAME TEAM STATISTICS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 7	at Baltimore	380	26-79	301	25-38	1/0	0-0	16	4-14	0-0	30:30
Sept. 14	ATLANTA	472	45-170	302	16-24	1/0	0-0	21	6-14	0-0	32:59
Sept. 21	TENNESSEE										
Sept. 28	— BYE —										
Oct. 5	at New England										
Oct. 12	CAROLINA										
Oct. 19	at Indianapolis										
Oct. 26	BALTIMORE										
Nov. 2	JACKSONVILLE										
Nov. 6	CLEVELAND										
Nov. 16	at New Orleans										
Nov. 23	at Houston										
Nov. 30	at Tampa Bay										
Dec. 7	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 14	at Cleveland										
Dec. 22	DENVER										
Dec. 28	at Pittsburgh										
2014 TOTALS		852	71-249	603	41-62	2/0	0-0	37	10-28	0-0	31:44

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 7	at Baltimore	423	20-94	329	35-62	1/1	3-16	26	8-17	2-1	29:30
Sept. 14	ATLANTA	309	19-97	212	24-44	1/3	2-19	19	3-12	0-0	27:01
Sept. 21	TENNESSEE										
Sept. 28	— BYE —										
Oct. 5	at New England										
Oct. 12	CAROLINA										
Oct. 19	at Indianapolis										
Oct. 26	BALTIMORE										
Nov. 2	JACKSONVILLE										
Nov. 6	CLEVELAND										
Nov. 16	at New Orleans										
Nov. 23	at Houston										
Nov. 30	at Tampa Bay										
Dec. 7	PITTSBURGH										
Dec. 14	at Cleveland										
Dec. 22	DENVER										
Dec. 28	at Pittsburgh										
2014 TOTALS		732	39-191	541	59-106	2/4	5-35	45	11-29	2-1	28:16

TRANSACTIONS

(TRANSACTIONS FROM 6-12-13 THROUGH 6-18-14 ARE IN BENGALS 2014 MEDIA GUIDE)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>June 18, 2014 — Waived HB Jeff Scott.</p> <p>July 21, 2014 — Signed DT LaKendrick Ross (FA); Waived WR Alex Neutz.</p> <p>July 24, 2014 — Acquired WR Conner Vernon on waivers from Cleveland; Signed WR Jeremy Johnson (FA); Waived P T.J. Conley.</p> <p>July 26, 2014 — Waived OT Curtis Feigt (left squad).</p> <p>Aug. 4, 2014 — Signed QB Andy Dalton* to a contract extension.</p> <p>Aug. 8, 2014 — Waived WR Jeremy Johnson, DT Zach Minter and WR Conner Vernon.</p> <p>Aug. 9, 2014 — Signed QB Tyler Wilson (FA).</p> <p>Aug. 17, 2014 — Waived G Chandler Burden.</p> <p>Aug. 25, 2014 — Terminated the contract of CB R.J. Stanford; Waived DT Larry Black, S Isaiah Lewis, K Quinn Sharp and WR Ryan Whalen.</p> <p>Aug. 26, 2014 — Waived TE Kevin Brock, WR Jasper Collins, LB James Davidson, LB J.K. Schaffer (injured), QB Matt Scott and CB Lavelle Westbrook (injured).</p> <p>Aug. 27, 2014 — Signed LB Vontaze Burfict* to a contract extension; LB J.K. Schaffer and CB Lavelle Westbrook cleared waivers and reverted to the Reserve/Injured list.</p> <p>Aug. 29, 2014 — Terminated the contract of HB BenJarvus Green-Ellis; Waived LB Brandon Joiner, DT LaKendrick Ross and QB Tyler Wilson.</p> <p>Aug. 30, 2014 — Placed G Trey Hopkins on the Reserve/Injured list; Placed QB AJ McCarron on the Reserve/Non-Football Injury list; Placed CB Chris Lewis-Harris on the Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list; Terminated the contracts of S Danieal</p> | <p>Manning and OT Will Svitek; Waived CB Lavelle Westbrook from the Reserve/Injured list (injury settlement); Waived the following 13 players: H-B Orson Charles, OT Dan France, WR Cobi Hamilton, CB Victor Hampton, DT David King, WR Colin Lockett, CB Onterio McCalebb, DE Dontay Moch, DE Sam Montgomery, C Trevor Robinson, DT Devon Still, FB Nikita Whitlock and HB James Wilder Jr..</p> <p>Aug. 31, 2014 — Signed the following nine players to the practice squad: OT Dan France, TE Kevin Greene (FA), DT David King, WR Colin Lockett, CB Onterio McCalebb, DE Sam Montgomery, C Trevor Robinson, DT Devon Still, and HB James Wilder Jr..</p> <p>Sept. 3, 2014 — Signed WR Tevin Reese to the practice squad.</p> <p>Sept. 6, 2014 — Signed CB Onterio McCalebb from the practice squad; Waived DT Christo Bilukidi.</p> <p>Sept. 9, 2014 — Waived CB Onterio McCalebb.</p> <p>Sept. 10, 2014 — Signed DT Devon Still from practice squad; Placed TE Tyler Eifert on the Reserve/Injured list (designated for possible return); Signed CB Onterio McCalebb and TE Ryan Otten (FA) to practice squad.</p> <p>Sept. 15, 2014 — Announced that the NFL granted CB Chris Lewis-Harris (Reserve/Suspended by Commissioner list) a two-day roster exemption to participate in team activities.</p> |
|---|--|

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

PARTICIPATION CHART

LEGEND

(NOTE: Position designation indicates start.)

<p>P — played as a substitute</p> <p>DNP — did not play</p> <p>IL — inactive list</p> <p>PS — practice squad</p>	<p>RI — reserve/injured list</p> <p>RPUP — reserve/physically unable to perform list</p> <p>RNFI — reserve/non-football injury list</p> <p>RNF-I — reserve/non-football illness list</p> <p>RSBC — reserve/suspended by commissioner list</p>	<p>RF — reserve/future list</p> <p>REX — roster exemption</p> <p>^ — reserve/injured player designated for return</p> <p>* — eligible to practice with a roster exemption</p> <p>NWT — not with team</p>
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NAME	Cin.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	G-S	@Balt.	ATL.	TENN.	@N.E.	CAR	@Ind.	BALT.	JAX.	CLE.	@N.O.	@Hou.	@T.B.	PITT.	@Cle.	DEN.	@Pitt.
Atkins, Geno.....	2-2	DT	DT														
Bernard, Giovanni.....	2-2	HB	HB														
Bodine, Russell.....	2-2	C	C														
Boling, Clint.....	2-2	LG	LG														
Burfict, Vontaze.....	2-2	WLB	WLB														
Burkhead, Rex.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Campbell, Jason.....	0-0	DNP	DNP														
Clarke, Will.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Dalton, Andy.....	2-2	QB	QB														
Dennard, Darqueze.....	1-0	IL	P														
DiManche, Jayson.....	2-0	P	P														
Dunlap, Carlos.....	2-2	LDE	LDE														
Eifert, Tyler.....	1-1	TE	RI^														
Flowers, Marquis.....	2-0	P	P														
France, Dan.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Geathers, Robert.....	2-0	P	P														
Gilberry, Wallace.....	2-2	RDE	RDE														
Green, A.J.....	2-2	WR	WR														
Greene, Kevin.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Gresham, Jermaine.....	2-2	TE	TE														
Hall, Leon.....	2-2	RCB	RCB														
Harris, Clark.....	2-0	P	P														
Hawkinson, Tanner.....	0-0	DNP	IL														
Hewitt, Ryan.....	2-1	P	H-B														
Hill, Jeremy.....	2-0	P	P														
Hopkins, Trey.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Huber, Kevin.....	2-0	P	P														
Hunt, Margus.....	2-0	P	P														
Iloka, George.....	2-2	SS	SS														
Johnson, T.J.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Jones, Adam.....	2-0	P	P														
Jones, Marvin.....	0-0	IL	IL														
King, David.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Kirkpatrick, Dre.....	2-0	P	P														
Lamur, Emmanuel.....	2-2	SLB	SLB														
Lewis-Harris, Chris.....	0-0	RSBC	RSBC														
Lockett, Colin.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Maulaluga, Rey.....	2-2	MLB	MLB														
Mays, Taylor.....	2-0	P	P														
McCalebb, Onterio.....	1-0	P	PS														
McCarron, AJ.....	0-0	RNFI	RNFI														
Montgomery, Sam.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Nelson, Reggie.....	2-2	FS	FS														
Newhouse, Marshall.....	2-0	P	P														
Newman, Terence.....	2-2	LCB	LCB														
Nugent, Mike.....	2-0	P	P														
Otten, Ryan.....	0-0	NWT	PS														
Peerman, Cedric.....	2-0	P	P														
Peko, Domata.....	2-2	NT	NT														
Pollak, Mike.....	1-0	DNP	P														
Porter, Sean.....	0-0	IL	IL														
Reese, Tevin.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Rey, Vincent.....	2-0	P	P														
Robinson, Trevor.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Sanu, Mohamed.....	2-2	WR	WR														
Sanzenbacher, Dane.....	2-0	P	P														
Schaffer, J.K.....	0-0	RI	RI														
Smith, Alex.....	2-0	P	P														
Smith, Andre.....	2-2	ROT	ROT														
Still, Devon.....	1-0	PS	P														
Tate, Brandon.....	2-0	P	P														
Thompson, Brandon.....	2-0	P	P														
Whitworth, Andrew.....	2-2	LOT	LOT														
Wilder, James Jr.....	0-0	PS	PS														
Williams, Shawn.....	2-0	P	P														
Wright, James.....	1-0	IL	P														
Zeitler, Kevin.....	2-2	RG	RG														

STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	WR	LOT	LG	C	RG	ROT	TE	TE	WR	QB	HB
Sept. 7	at Baltimore	Green	Whitworth	Boling	Bodine	Zeitler	An.Smith	Gresham	Eifert	Sanu	Dalton	Bernard
Sept. 14	ATLANTA	Green	Whitworth	Boling	Bodine	Zeitler	An.Smith	Gresham	Hewitt(H-B)	Sanu	Dalton	Bernard
Sept. 21	TENNESSEE											
Sept. 28	— BYE —											
Oct. 5	at New England											
Oct. 12	CAROLINA											
Oct. 19	at Indianapolis											
Oct. 26	BALTIMORE											
Nov. 2	JACKSONVILLE											
Nov. 6	CLEVELAND											
Nov. 16	at New Orleans											
Nov. 23	at Houston											
Nov. 30	at Tampa Bay											
Dec. 7	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 14	at Cleveland											
Dec. 22	DENVER											
Dec. 28	at Pittsburgh											

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	LDE	NT	DT	RDE	SLB	MLB	WLB	LCB	RCB	SS	FS
Sept. 7	at Baltimore	Dunlap	Peko	Atkins	Gilberry	Lamur	Mauluga	Burfict	Newman	Hall	Iloka	Nelson
Sept. 14	ATLANTA	Dunlap	Peko	Atkins	Gilberry	Lamur	Mauluga	Burfict	Newman	Hall	Iloka	Nelson
Sept. 21	TENNESSEE											
Sept. 28	— BYE —											
Oct. 5	at New England											
Oct. 12	CAROLINA											
Oct. 19	at Indianapolis											
Oct. 26	BALTIMORE											
Nov. 2	JACKSONVILLE											
Nov. 6	CLEVELAND											
Nov. 16	at New Orleans											
Nov. 23	at Houston											
Nov. 30	at Tampa Bay											
Dec. 7	PITTSBURGH											
Dec. 14	at Cleveland											
Dec. 22	DENVER											
Dec. 28	at Pittsburgh											

DEPTH CHART

SEPT. 16, 2014

OFFENSE

WR	18	A.J. GREEN	19	Brandon Tate	86	<u>James Wright</u>
LOT	77	ANDREW WHITWORTH	74	Marshall Newhouse		
LG	65	CLINT BOLING	67	Mike Pollak		
C	61	<u>RUSSELL BODINE</u>	67	Mike Pollak	60	T.J. Johnson
RG	68	KEVIN ZEITLER	60	T.J. Johnson		
ROT	71	ANDRE SMITH	72	Tanner Hawkinson		
TE/H-B	84	JERMAINE GRESHAM (TE)	89	<u>Ryan Hewitt</u> (H-back)		
TE/H-B	81	ALEX SMITH (TE)	89	<u>Ryan Hewitt</u> (H-back)		
WR	82	MARVIN JONES	12	Mohamed Sanu	11	Dane Sanzenbacher
QB	14	ANDY DALTON	17	Jason Campbell		
HB	25	GIOVANI BERNARD	32	<u>Jeremy Hill</u>	30	Cedric Peerman
					33	Rex Burkhead

DEFENSE

LDE	96	CARLOS DUNLAP	99	Margus Hunt		
NT	94	DOMATA PEKO	98	Brandon Thompson		
DT	97	GENO ATKINS	75	Devon Still		
RDE	95	WALLACE GILBERRY	91	Robert Geathers	93	<u>Will Clarke</u>
SLB	59	EMMANUEL LAMUR	51	Jayson DiManche		
MLB	58	REY MAUALUGA	57	Vincent Rey		
WLB	55	VONTAZE BURFICT	56	Sean Porter	53	<u>Marquis Flowers</u>
LCB	23	TERENCE NEWMAN	27	Dre Kirkpatrick		
RCB	29	LEON HALL	24	Adam Jones	21	<u>Darqueze Dennard</u>
SS	43	GEORGE ILOKA	36	Shawn Williams		
FS	20	REGGIE NELSON	26	Taylor Mays		

SPECIAL TEAMS

P	10	Kevin Huber				
K	2	Mike Nugent				
LS	46	Clark Harris				
H	10	Kevin Huber				
PR	19	Brandon Tate	24	Adam Jones	11	Dane Sanzenbacher
KOR	19	Brandon Tate	11	Dane Sanzenbacher	24	Adam Jones
					30	Cedric Peerman

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 Bernardjee-o-VAHN-ee</p> <p>Russell BodineBO-dine</p> <p>Vontaze Burfict VONN-tez BER-fict(rhymes with "perfect")</p> <p>Darqueze Dennarddar-KWEZ deh-NARD</p> <p>Jayson DiManche dih-MAHNCH</p> <p>Tyler Eifert (Reserve/Injured)..... IE(rhymes with "tie")-fert</p> <p>Marquis Flowers mar-KEECE(rhymes with "peace")</p> <p>Robert Geathers (pronounced as "gathers")</p> <p>Jermaine Greshamjer-MAIN GRESH-em</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 KirkpatrickDRAY</p> <p>Emmanuel Lamurluh-MER</p> <p>Rey Maualuga.....RAY mow(rhymes with "now")-uh-LOO-guh</p> <p>Onterio McCalebb (practice squad)mc-KAY-lebb</p> <p>Domata Peko DOE-mah-tah PECK-o</p> <p>Vincent Rey RAY</p> <p>Mohamed Sanusuh-NOO</p> <p>Dane Sanzenbacher SAHNZ-en-bock-er</p> <p>Devon Still DEV-un</p> <p>Ken Zampese (quarterbacks coach) zam-PEE-zee</p> <p>Kevin Zeitler ZITE-ler</p>
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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 16, 2014

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
97	Atkins, Geno	DT	6-1	303	3-28-88	5	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
25	Bernard, Giovanni	HB	5-9	208	11-22-91	2	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
61	Bodine, Russell	C	6-3	306	6-30-92	R	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Boling, Clint	G	6-5	310	5-9-89	4	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
55	Burfict, Vontaze	LB	6-1	248	9-24-90	3	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
33	Burkhead, Rex	HB	5-10	215	7-2-90	2	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
17	Campbell, Jason	QB	6-5	235	12-31-81	10	Auburn	Laurel, Miss.	FA'14
93	Clarke, Will	DE	6-6	271	5-4-91	R	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
14	Dalton, Andy	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	4	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
21	Dennard, Darqueze	CB	5-11	202	10-10-91	R	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
51	DiManche, Jayson	LB	6-1	244	9-22-90	2	Southern Illinois	Hamilton, N.J.	CFA'13
96	Dunlap, Carlos	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	5	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
53	Flowers, Marquis	LB	6-3	240	2-16-92	R	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
91	Geathers, Robert	DE	6-3	286	8-11-83	11	Georgia	Georgetown, S.C.	D4b'04
95	Gilberry, Wallace	DE	6-2	275	12-5-84	7	Alabama	Bay Minette, Ala.	FA'12
18	Green, A.J.	WR	6-4	207	7-31-88	4	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
84	Gresham, Jermaine	TE	6-5	260	6-16-88	5	Oklahoma	Ardmore, Okla.	D1'10
29	Hall, Leon	CB	5-11	195	12-9-84	8	Michigan	Vista, Calif.	D1'07
46	Harris, Clark	LS	6-5	245	7-10-84	6	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
72	Hawkinson, Tanner	OT	6-5	300	5-14-90	2	Kansas	McPherson, Kan.	D5'13
89	Hewitt, Ryan	HB	6-4	254	1-24-91	R	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
32	Hill, Jeremy	HB	6-1	238	10-20-92	R	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
10	Huber, Kevin	P	6-1	214	7-16-85	6	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
99	Hunt, Margus	DE	6-8	290	7-14-87	2	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13
43	Iloka, George	S	6-4	220	3-31-90	3	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
60	Johnson, T.J.	G/C	6-4	310	7-17-90	1	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
24	Jones, Adam	CB	5-10	186	9-30-83	8	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
82	Jones, Marvin	WR	6-2	198	3-12-90	3	California	Fontana, Calif.	D5b'12
27	Kirkpatrick, Dre	CB	6-2	190	10-26-89	3	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
59	Lamur, Emmanuel	LB	6-4	240	6-8-89	3	Kansas State	West Palm Beach, Fla.	CFA'12
37	Lewis-Harris, Chris	CB	5-10	186	2-11-89	2	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smyrna, Ga.	CFA'12
58	Mauluga, Rey	LB	6-2	255	1-20-87	6	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
26	Mays, Taylor	S	6-3	225	2-7-88	5	Southern California	Seattle, Wash.	T(S.F.)'11
20	Nelson, Reggie	S	5-11	210	9-21-83	8	Florida	Melbourne, Fla.	T(Jax.)'10
74	Newhouse, Marshall	OT	6-4	328	9-29-88	5	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	UFA(G.B.)'14
23	Newman, Terence	CB	5-10	197	9-4-78	12	Kansas State	Salina, Kan.	FA'12
2	Nugent, Mike	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	10	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
30	Peeran, Cedric	HB	5-10	214	10-10-86	5	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
94	Peko, Domata	DT	6-3	322	11-27-84	9	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
67	Pollak, Mike	G/C	6-3	300	2-16-85	7	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	UFA(Car.)'13
56	Porter, Sean	LB	6-1	242	1-12-91	2	Texas A&M	Schertz, Texas	D4'13
57	Rey, Vincent	LB	6-0	255	9-6-87	4	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
12	Sanu, Mohamed	WR	6-2	210	8-22-89	3	Rutgers	South Brunswick, N.J.	D3a'12
11	Sanzenbacher, Dane	WR	5-11	184	10-13-88	4	Ohio State	Toledo, Ohio	W(Chi.)'12
81	Smith, Alex	TE	6-4	250	5-22-82	10	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	UFA(Cle.)'13
71	Smith, Andre	OT	6-4	340	1-25-87	6	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	D1'09
75	Still, Devon	DT	6-5	310	7-11-89	3	Penn State	Wilmington, Del.	D2'12
19	Tate, Brandon	WR	6-1	195	10-5-87	6	North Carolina	Burlington, N.C.	W(N.E.)'11
98	Thompson, Brandon	DT	6-2	315	10-19-89	3	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
77	Whitworth, Andrew	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	9	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
36	Williams, Shawn	S	6-0	216	5-13-91	2	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
86	Wright, James	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	R	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14
68	Zeitler, Kevin	G	6-4	315	3-8-90	3	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

64	France, Dan (8-31-14)	OT	6-5	315	4-1-91	R	Michigan State	North Royalton, Ohio	CFA'14
83	Greene, Kevin (8-31-14)	TE	6-4	255	5-14-90	1	Southern California	Oakland, Calif.	FA'14
76	King, David (8-31-14)	DT	6-4	300	12-27-89	1	Oklahoma	Houston, Texas	FA'13
15	Lockett, Colin (8-31-14)	WR	5-11	188	4-5-91	R	San Diego State	Diamond Bar, Calif.	CFA'14
39	McCalebb, Onterio (9-10-14)	CB	5-10	175	8-10-89	1	Auburn	Fort Meade, Fla.	CFA'13
70	Montgomery, Sam (8-31-14)	DE	6-3	270	5-25-90	2	Louisiana State	Greenwood, S.C.	FA'14
80	Otten, Ryan (9-10-14)	TE	6-6	241	4-7-90	1	San Jose State	Loomis, Calif.	FA'14
16	Reese, Tevin (9-3-14)	WR	5-10	170	1-2-91	R	Baylor	Temple, Texas	FA'14
66	Robinson, Trevor (8-31-14)	C	6-5	300	5-16-90	3	Notre Dame	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'12
34	Wilder, James Jr. (8-31-14)	HB	6-3	232	4-14-92	R	Florida State	Tampa, Fla.	CFA'14

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

5	McCarron, AJ (8-30-14; shoulder)	QB	6-3	220	9-13-90	R	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

73	Hopkins, Trey (8-30-14; leg)	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	R	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
50	Schaffer, J.K. (8-27-14; concussion)	LB	6-0	232	6-10-90	2	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	FA'12
85	+ Eifert, Tyler (9-10-14; elbow)	TE	6-6	250	9-8-90	2	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Brian Braswell (offensive assistant/quality control), Matt Burke (linebackers), Mark Carrier (defensive backs), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (assistant special teams/quality control), 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), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (quarterbacks).

NOTE: A plus sign (+) indicates a player on the Reserve/Injured list who is designated for possible return to the active roster in 2014. An equals sign (=) indicates a player eligible to participate in team activities on a roster exemption.

NUMERICAL ROSTER

SEPT. 16, 2014

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
2	Mike Nugent.....	K	5-10	190	3-2-82	10	Ohio State	Centerville, Ohio	FA'10
10	Kevin Huber.....	P	6-1	214	7-16-85	6	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
11	Dane Sanzenbacher.....	WR	5-11	184	10-13-88	4	Ohio State	Toledo, Ohio	W(Chi.)'12
12	Mohamed Sanu.....	WR	6-2	210	8-22-89	3	Rutgers	South Brunswick, N.J.	D3a'12
14	Andy Dalton.....	QB	6-2	220	10-29-87	4	Texas Christian	Katy, Texas	D2'11
17	Jason Campbell.....	QB	6-5	235	12-31-81	10	Auburn	Laurel, Miss.	FA'14
18	A.J. Green.....	WR	6-4	207	7-31-88	4	Georgia	Summerville, S.C.	D1'11
19	Brandon Tate.....	WR	6-1	195	10-5-87	6	North Carolina	Burlington, N.C.	W(N.E.)'11
20	Reggie Nelson.....	S	5-11	210	9-21-83	8	Florida	Melbourne, Fla.	T(Jax.)'10
21	Darqueze Dennard.....	CB	5-11	202	10-10-91	R	Michigan State	Dry Branch, Ga.	D1'14
23	Terence Newman.....	CB	5-10	197	9-4-78	12	Kansas State	Salina, Kan.	FA'12
24	Adam Jones.....	CB	5-10	186	9-30-83	8	West Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	FA'10
25	Giovani Bernard.....	HB	5-9	208	11-22-91	2	North Carolina	Boca Raton, Fla.	D2a'13
26	Taylor Mays.....	S	6-3	225	2-7-88	5	Southern California	Seattle, Wash.	T(S.F.)'11
27	Dre Kirkpatrick.....	CB	6-2	190	10-26-89	3	Alabama	Gadsden, Ala.	D1a'12
29	Leon Hall.....	CB	5-11	195	12-9-84	8	Michigan	Vista, Calif.	D1'07
30	Cedric Peerman.....	HB	5-10	214	10-10-86	5	Virginia	Gladys, Va.	W(Det.)'10
32	Jeremy Hill.....	HB	6-1	238	10-20-92	R	Louisiana State	Baton Rouge, La.	D2'14
33	Rex Burkhead.....	HB	5-10	215	7-2-90	2	Nebraska	Plano, Texas	D6a'13
36	Shawn Williams.....	S	6-0	216	5-13-91	2	Georgia	Damascus, Ga.	D3'13
37 =	Chris Lewis-Harris.....	CB	5-10	186	2-11-89	2	Tennessee-Chattanooga	Smymna, Ga.	CFA'12
43	George Iloka.....	S	6-4	220	3-31-90	3	Boise State	Houston, Texas	D5c'12
46	Clark Harris.....	LS	6-5	245	7-10-84	6	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
51	Jayson DiManche.....	LB	6-1	244	9-22-90	2	Southern Illinois	Hamilton, N.J.	CFA'13
53	Marquis Flowers.....	LB	6-3	240	2-16-92	R	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz.	D6'14
55	Vontaze Burfict.....	LB	6-1	248	9-24-90	3	Arizona State	Corona, Calif.	CFA'12
56	Sean Porter.....	LB	6-1	242	1-12-91	2	Texas A&M	Schertz, Texas	D4'13
57	Vincent Rey.....	LB	6-0	255	9-6-87	4	Duke	Far Rockaway, N.Y.	CFA'10
58	Rey Maualuga.....	LB	6-2	255	1-20-87	6	Southern California	Eureka, Calif.	D2'09
59	Emmanuel Lamur.....	LB	6-4	240	6-8-89	3	Kansas State	West Palm Beach, Fla.	CFA'12
60	T.J. Johnson.....	G/C	6-4	310	7-17-90	1	South Carolina	Aynor, S.C.	D7b'13
61	Russell Bodine.....	C	6-3	306	6-30-92	R	North Carolina	Scottsville, Va.	D4'14
65	Clint Boling.....	G	6-5	310	5-9-89	4	Georgia	Alpharetta, Ga.	D4'11
67	Mike Pollak.....	G/C	6-3	300	2-16-85	7	Arizona State	Chandler, Ariz.	UFA(Car.)'13
68	Kevin Zeitler.....	G	6-4	315	3-8-90	3	Wisconsin	Waukesha, Wis.	D1b'12
71	Andre Smith.....	OT	6-4	340	1-25-87	6	Alabama	Birmingham, Ala.	D1'09
72	Tanner Hawkinson.....	OT	6-5	300	5-14-90	2	Kansas	McPherson, Kan.	D5'13
74	Marshall Newhouse.....	OT	6-4	328	9-29-88	5	Texas Christian	Dallas, Texas	UFA(G.B.)'14
75	Devon Still.....	DT	6-5	310	7-11-89	3	Penn State	Wilmington, Del.	D2'12
77	Andrew Whitworth.....	OT	6-7	330	12-12-81	9	Louisiana State	West Monroe, La.	D2'06
81	Alex Smith.....	TE	6-4	250	5-22-82	10	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	UFA(Cle.)'13
82	Marvin Jones.....	WR	6-2	198	3-12-90	3	California	Fontana, Calif.	D5b'12
84	Jermaine Gresham.....	TE	6-5	260	6-16-88	5	Oklahoma	Ardmore, Okla.	D1'10
86	James Wright.....	WR	6-1	201	12-31-91	R	Louisiana State	Buras, La.	D7a'14
89	Ryan Hewitt.....	H-B	6-4	254	1-24-91	R	Stanford	Denver, Colo.	CFA'14
91	Robert Geathers.....	DE	6-3	286	8-11-83	11	Georgia	Georgetown, S.C.	D4b'04
93	Will Clarke.....	DE	6-6	271	5-4-91	R	West Virginia	Pittsburgh, Pa.	D3'14
94	Domata Peko.....	DT	6-3	322	11-27-84	9	Michigan State	Pago Pago (American Samoa)	D4'06
95	Wallace Gilberry.....	DE	6-2	275	12-5-84	7	Alabama	Bay Minette, Ala.	FA'12
96	Carlos Dunlap.....	DE	6-6	280	2-28-89	5	Florida	North Charleston, S.C.	D2'10
97	Geno Atkins.....	DT	6-1	303	3-28-88	5	Georgia	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	D4a'10
98	Brandon Thompson.....	DT	6-2	315	10-19-89	3	Clemson	Thomasville, Ga.	D3b'12
99	Margus Hunt.....	DE	6-8	290	7-14-87	2	Southern Methodist	Karksi-Nuia (Estonia)	D2b'13

PRACTICE SQUAD (date assigned)

15	Colin Lockett (8-31-14).....	WR	5-11	188	4-5-91	R	San Diego State	Diamond Bar, Calif.	CFA'14
16	Tevin Reese (9-3-14).....	WR	5-10	170	1-2-91	R	Baylor	Temple, Texas	FA'14
34	James Wilder Jr. (8-31-14).....	HB	6-3	232	4-14-92	R	Florida State	Tampa, Fla.	CFA'14
39	Onterio McCalebb (9-10-14).....	CB	5-10	175	8-10-89	1	Auburn	Fort Meade, Fla.	CFA'13
64	Dan France (8-31-14).....	OT	6-5	315	4-1-91	R	Michigan State	North Royalton, Ohio	CFA'14
66	Trevor Robinson (8-31-14).....	C	6-5	300	5-16-90	3	Notre Dame	Elkhorn, Neb.	CFA'12
70	Sam Montgomery (8-31-14).....	DE	6-3	270	5-25-90	2	Louisiana State	Greenwood, S.C.	FA'14
76	David King (8-31-14).....	DT	6-4	300	12-27-89	1	Oklahoma	Houston, Texas	FA'13
80	Ryan Otten (9-10-14).....	TE	6-6	241	4-7-90	1	San Jose State	Loomis, Calif.	FA'14
83	Kevin Greene (8-31-14).....	TE	6-4	255	5-14-90	1	Southern California	Oakland, Calif.	FA'14

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

5	AJ McCarron (8-30-14; shoulder).....	QB	6-3	220	9-13-90	R	Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	D5'14
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned; injury)

50	J.K. Schaffer (8-27-14; concussion).....	LB	6-0	232	6-10-90	2	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	FA'12
73	Trey Hopkins (8-30-14; leg).....	G	6-3	310	7-6-92	R	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
85 +	Tyler Eifert (9-10-14; elbow).....	TE	6-6	250	9-8-90	2	Notre Dame	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D1'13

COACHING STAFF: Head coach: Marvin Lewis. Assistants: Paul Alexander (assistant head coach/offensive line), Brian Braswell (offensive assistant/quality control), Matt Burke (linebackers), Mark Carrier (defensive backs), Kyle Caskey (running backs), Brayden Coombs (assistant special teams/quality control), 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), Chip Morton (strength and conditioning), Darrin Simmons (special teams coordinator), James Urban (wide receivers), Ken Zampese (quarterbacks).

NOTE: A plus sign (+) indicates a player on the Reserve/Injured list who is designated for possible return to the active roster in 2014. An equals sign (=) indicates a player eligible to participate in team activities on a roster exemption.

STATISTICS

RECORD: 2-0

DATE	W-L	SCORE	OPPONENT	ATTENDANCE
9-7	W	23-16	at Baltimore	70,925
9-14	W	24-10	ATLANTA	58,574
9-21			TENNESSEE	
9-28			— BYE —	
10-5			at New England	
10-12			CAROLINA	
10-19			at Indianapolis	
10-26			BALTIMORE	
11-2			JACKSONVILLE	
11-6			CLEVELAND	
11-16			at New Orleans	
11-23			at Houston	
11-30			at Tampa Bay	
12-7			PITTSBURGH	
12-14			at Cleveland	
12-22			DENVER	
12-28			at Pittsburgh	

TEAM STATISTICS		BENGALS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS		37	45
Rushing		14	14
Passing		21	27
Penalty		2	4
3rd Down: Made-Att		10-28	11-29
3rd Down Pct.		35.7	37.9
4th Down: Made-Att		0-0	2-4
4th Down Pct.		0.0	50.0
POSSESSION AVG.		31:44	28:16
TOTAL NET YARDS		852	732
Avg. Per Game		426.0	366.0
Total Plays		133	150
Avg. Per Play		6.4	4.9
NET YARDS RUSHING		249	191
Avg. Per Game		124.5	95.5
Total Rushes		71	39
NET YARDS PASSING		603	541
Avg. Per Game		301.5	270.5
Sacked-Yards Lost		0-0	5-35
Gross Yards		603	576
Att.-Completions		62-41	106-59
Completion Pct.		66.1	55.7
Had Intercepted		0	4
PUNTS-AVG.		8-40.3	10-43.5
Net Punting Avg.		8-39.1	10-34.4
PENALTIES-YARDS		11-100	10-85
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST		0-0	2-1
TOUCHDOWNS		4	3
Rushing		2	1
Passing		2	2
Returns		0	0

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
BENGALS	9	16	14	8	0	47
OPPONENTS	3	0	7	16	0	26

SCORING	TD	TD-R	TD-P	TD-Rt	K-PAT	FG	S	PTS
Mike Nugent	0	0	0	0	3-3	6-10	0	21
Mohamed Sanu	1	0	1	0	—	—	0	8
Giovani Bernard	1	1	0	0	—	—	0	6
A.J. Green	1	0	1	0	—	—	0	6
Jeremy Hill	1	1	0	0	—	—	0	6
BENGALS	4	2	2	0	3-3	6-10	0	47
OPPONENTS	3	1	2	0	2-2	2-3	0	26

Two-point conversions: Sanu 1 (1 P). BENGALS 1-1 (0-0 R, 1-1 P), OPPONENTS 0-1 (0-1 R, 0-0 P).

Sacks-yards: Carlos Dunlap 2-14, Wallace Gilberry 1.5-8.5, Reggie Nelson 1.5-12.5. BENGALS 5-35, OPPONENTS 0-0.

Fumbles-lost: None. BENGALS 0-0, OPPONENTS 2-1.

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	CMP%	YDS/ATT	TD	TD%	INT	INT%	LG	SKD-YDS	RAT
Andy Dalton	61	40	553	65.6	9.07	2	3.3	0	0.0	77t	0-0	105.4
Mohamed Sanu	1	1	50	100.0	50.00	0	0.0	0	0.0	50	0-0	118.8
BENGALS	62	41	603	66.1	9.73	2	3.2	0	0.0	77t	0-0	108.5
OPPONENTS	106	59	576	55.7	5.43	2	1.9	4	3.8	80t	5-35	61.7

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Giovani Bernard	41	138	3.4	16	1
Jeremy Hill	19	93	4.9	13	1
Andy Dalton	9	9	1.0	4	0
A.J. Green	1	5	5.0	5	0
Mohamed Sanu	1	4	4.0	4	0
BENGALS	71	249	3.5	16	2
OPPONENTS	39	191	4.9	13t	1

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Giovani Bernard	11	141	12.8	46	0
Mohamed Sanu	7	120	17.1	76t	1
A.J. Green	6	131	21.8	77t	1
Brandon Tate	5	69	13.8	50	0
Jermaine Gresham	5	41	8.2	19	0
Tyler Eifert	3	37	12.3	20	0
Dane Sanzenbacher	2	42	21.0	26	0
Jeremy Hill	2	22	11.0	18	0
BENGALS	41	603	14.7	77t	2
OPPONENTS	59	576	9.8	80t	2

INTERCEPTIONS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
George Iloka	2	42	21.0	28	0
Emmanuel Lamur	1	1	1.0	1	0
Leon Hall	1	-3	-3.0	-3	0
BENGALS	4	40	10.0	28	0
OPPONENTS	0	0	—	—	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	IN-20	LG	BLK.
Kevin Huber	8	322	40.3	39.1	0	5	50	0
BENGALS	8	322	40.3	39.1	0	5	50	0
OPPONENTS	10	435	43.5	34.4	1	4	57	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Adam Jones	4	0	71	17.8	45	0
Brandon Tate	0	5	0	—	—	0
BENGALS	4	5	71	17.8	45	0
OPPONENTS	3	3	9	3.0	7	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Brandon Tate	1	29	29.0	29	0
BENGALS	1	29	29.0	29	0
OPPONENTS	8	227	28.4	47	0

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

Mike Nugent: (49G, 22G, 28G, 46G, 38G, 45B), (31G, 38WR, 49WL, 55SH).

Opponents: (55WR, 38G), (46G).

DEFENSE*	ST	AT	TT	SKS-YDS	INT-YDS	PD	FF	FR-YDS
Emmanuel Lamur	10	9	19	0-0	1-1	2	0	0-0
Terence Newman	11	5	16	0-0	0-0	4	0	0-0
Reggie Nelson	9	5	14	1.5-12.5	0-0	1	0	0-0
Adam Jones	8	2	10	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
Leon Hall	7	1	8	0-0	1-(-3)	2	0	0-0
Vontaze Burfict	6	2	8	0-0	0-0	2	1	1-0
Wallace Gilberry	6	1	7	1.5-8.5	0-0	1	0	0-0
Domata Peko	3	4	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Carlos Dunlap	3	2	5	2-14	0-0	0	0	0-0
Vincent Rey	2	3	5	0-0	0-0	2	0	0-0
George Iloka	4	0	4	0-0	2-42	3	0	0-0
Brandon Thompson	3	1	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Rey Mauluga	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Devon Still	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Dre Kirkpatrick	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Geno Atkins	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Robert Geathers	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0-0
Margus Hunt	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0-0

SPECIAL TEAMS*	ST	AT	TT	FR-YDS	BP	BFG	BXP
Taylor Mays	2	0	2	0-0	0	0	0
Darqueze Dennard	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Margus Hunt	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Dre Kirkpatrick	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Emmanuel Lamur	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Reggie Nelson	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Terence Newman	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Mike Nugent	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
Cedric Peerman	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0
James Wright	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0

* NOTE: All defensive statistics above are press box statistics produced at the games.