

KENTUCKY

2005 review: defense

Wildcats



Going into the 2005 season the single biggest goal for the team was to improve the run defense. With a new defensive line and line-backer coach coupled with a new 4-3 scheme it was going to be a challenge. As if this was not tough enough, losing several players to

injury, made a difficult challenge nearly impossible. Despite the barriers the UK staff was able to moderately improve the run defense by 29 YPG. [fig. K-19]

Total Defense		
Stat	UK 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	440 (105)	360 (87)
YPP	5.9 (94)	5.3 (59)
PPG	34 (109)	25 (83)

Rushing Defense		
Stat	UK 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	196 (103)	137 (106)
YPC	4.8 (111)	3.7 (77)

In other analysis I have compared performance that is relevant to the NCAA average or certain category's I will not do that here

In Mike Archers 1st season as Defensive Coordinator for Rich Brooks, UK had a 4.1 YPC, which matched the 2002 unit lead by John Goodner. [fig. K-19] Since that inaugural season Kentucky has ranked among the nations worst teams at stopping the run. Moreover, In 2005 Kentucky was the only Division 1 A team to not hold a single opponent to ≤ 3.8 YPC (NCAA average), not even equally manned Idaho State, Indiana, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt. [Fig. K-20]

By not being competitive in stopping the run:

- 9 of 10 1A opponents were able to improve their season YPC average.
- 6 of 10 opponents were averaged less than the average 3.8 YPC.

The 6 less than average teams collectively averaged:

- 175 RYPG, 61 yards better than their 113 RYPG average.
- 4.4 YPC, 1.2 YPC better than their collective 3.2 YPC average.
- 413 TYDS, 89 YPG better than their collective 324 YPG average.
- 5.4 YPP, 0.6 YPP better than their collective 4.8 YPP average.
- 29 PPG, 9 PPG better than their collective 20 PPG average.

Among other things, the 4 teams \geq the 3.8 YPC average averaged:

- 238 RYPG, 65 RYPG better than their 173 RYPG average
- 477 YPG, 63 YPG better than their 414 YPG season average
- 44 PPG, 11 PPG better than their 33 PPG season average

Poor performance has always been associated with probation as that is what it is designed to do. UK however, is working on a two year run of having 157 starts missed by key players due to injury's. Expectations were much higher for the 2005 team and the injury's parlayed with 2 new coaches and a new 4-3 scheme resulted in one of the poorest defenses in the NCAA.

KENTUCKY YEARLY DEFENSIVE STATS (2000—2005)

2000-2005	RUSHING			PASSING			TOTAL DEF			MISC			
YR	PPG	FD	NO	NET	YPC	ATT	YDS	YPA	PLAY	YDS	YPP	DAPY	PPR
2005	34	22	40	196	4.8	35	243	7.2	75	440	5.9	976	1904
2004	31	21	45	225	4.9	25	203	8.0	71	428	6.0	931	1444
2003	27	21	45	187	4.1	28	196	7.2	72	382	5.3	911	1654
2002	25	21	41	174	4.1	31	227	7.7	72	401	5.6	1002	1611
2001	33	24	40	178	4.4	35	297	8.5	75	475	6.4	1093	1244
2000	35	21	38	163	4.3	28	243	8.7	66	406	6.3	1036	1400

[fig. K-19]

UK 2005 DEFNSIVE YARDS PER CARRY [SORTED ASCENDING]

DATE	OPP	DEFENSIVE PERFORMANCE						OPP OFFENSE YTD AVG.				
		RYDS	YPC	TYDS	YPP	PTS	FD	RYDS	YPC	TYDS	YPP	PTS
10/22/05	Miss.	163	4.2	361	4.7	13	18	73	2.4	282	4.4	13
10/08/05	USC	139	4.1	417	6.0	44	24	95	3.1	316	5.3	24
09/17/05	IU	305	5.1	440	5.4	38	22	131	3.3	351	4.7	23
11/12/05	VU	119	4.4	514	5.5	43	30	115	3.4	396	5.3	27
11/26/05	UT	150	3.9	371	5.9	27	16	128	3.4	326	4.8	19
10/29/05	MSU	173	4.7	375	5.1	7	22	138	3.6	276	4.4	14
09/24/05	UF	187	4.5	537	6.9	49	27	147	3.8	373	5.3	29
11/19/05	UGA	169	5.5	395	5.7	45	21	162	4.7	391	6.2	30
11/05/05	AUB	388	7.9	589	8.4	49	24	194	4.8	410	6.0	32
09/04/05	UL	209	4.5	388	5.3	31	22	189	4.8	482	6.8	43
Opp. Avg. < 3.8 YPC		175	4.4	413	5.4	29	22	113	3.2	324	4.8	20
Opp. Avg. > 3.8 YPC		238	5.6	477	6.6	44	24	173	4.5	414	6.1	33
Difference		63	1.2	64	1.2	15	2	59	1.3	90	1.3	14

[Fig. K-20]

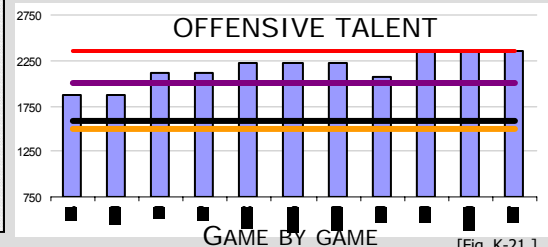
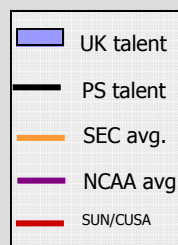
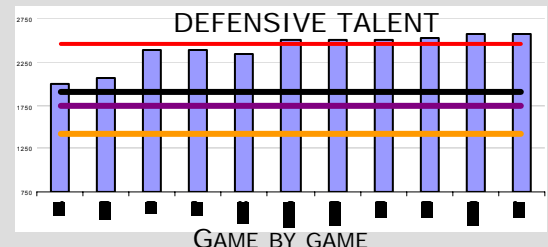
INJURY IMPACT:

In 2005 Kentucky lost 80 games from various key players due to injury. The impact of the injury's can be very difficult on any given team, however, for a team as young as UK the impacts are major. Excuses get old and fans become irate, and in the end the team suffers greatly. In the introduction of this magazine I explain how I generate talent levels for each team based on individual player ratings.

I have reviewed last season's notes and as good as I possibly could, readjusted the talent level for each of UK games. Post Spring Kentucky was rated very similar to the NCAA and considerable better than and average SUN BELT average. However, as you can see, by the end of season the defensive talent level had surpassed the SUN BELT average and offensively was equal to the Conference USA average.

The black line indicates where Kentucky was Post Spring and the blue bars indicate the talent level for that particular game.

Note:
Refer back to page 3 for more talent descriptions



[Fig. K-21]

KENTUCKY

2005 review: defense

Wildcats



Passing Defense		
Stat	UK 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	243 (86)	223 (61)
YPA	7.2 (72)	7.0 (62)

Less than average performance versus average competition sums up the 2005 pass defense.

It is very hard to gauge the performance of the Defensive pass unit because of the freedom at which the run defense allowed teams. Four out of ten teams were not able to improve their season YPA average facing the Cats. Using the lack of run support as a background Kentucky's pass defense ratings are quite surprising.

Overall the opponents they faced, did very little to take advantage of the ground success. It seems that the mixing of zone coverage and solid tackling prevents big plays from occurring, which gives the defense an opportunity to have relative success.

Four of the five teams that had a season average less than 7.0 never achieved the NCAA average in PPG(26). Tennessee took advantage of poor tackling with touchdown passes and 50 and 33 yards (had others called back on penalty's) in route to a season best 8.8.

In summary, above average teams performed well and below average teams performed average.

DEFENSIVE PASS RUSH:

In 2002 and 2003 Kentucky ranked 5th and 6th respectively in sacks per game. As one would expect those also were the two best seasons in defensively against the run and pass.

As mentioned previously, In 2005 Kentucky did not hold a single opponent to the NCAA average of 3.8 YPC, which resulted in several 3rd and short situations. With teams not being forced to pass the ball, the Kentucky defense could not blitz as much as Archer would have liked. The entire pass rush was limited to what the front four could produce, which for 2005 was just 17 total sacks and a NCAA rank of 99th.

For this unit to compete the defensive front seven will need more production in stopping the run and pressur-

UK 2005 DEFENSIVE YARDS PER ATTEMPT [Opp. DYPA Sorted ascending]

DEFENSIVE PASSING STATS										OPP 05' D
Date	OPP	Att	Comp	Yds	YPA	Yds	YPP	Pts	PYDS	YPA
10/29/05	MSU	37	17	202	5.5	375	5.1	7	139	5.0
09/17/05	IU	22	17	135	6.1	440	5.4	38	220	6.0
11/26/05	UT	25	17	221	8.8	371	5.9	27	198	6.1
10/22/05	Miss.	38	19	198	5.2	361	4.7	13	208	6.2
11/12/05	VU	67	39	395	5.9	514	5.5	43	281	6.6
09/24/05	UF	36	27	350	9.7	537	6.9	49	227	7.1
10/08/05	USC	35	24	278	7.9	417	6.0	44	221	7.5
11/05/05	AU	21	13	201	9.6	589	8.4	49	216	7.6
11/19/05	UGA	38	22	226	5.9	395	5.7	45	229	8.2
09/04/05	UL	27	19	179	6.6	388	5.3	31	294	9.4
Opp Avg < 7.0		38	22	230	6.3	412	5.3	26	209	6.0
Opp Avg. > 7.0		31	21	247	8.0	465	6.5	44	237	7.9

[Fig. K- 22]

NCAA2005 Sack Ranking

Rk	Name	SPG
1	Nebraska	4.2
2	Louisville	3.8
11	Auburn	3.3
14	Tennessee	3.0
17	LSU	2.9
20	Arkansas	2.9
25	Florida	2.8
27	Mississippi St.	2.7
28	Georgia	2.7
30	South Carolina	2.7
57	Alabama	2.3
99	Kentucky	1.6
110	Vanderbilt	1.3
116	Illinois	0.9
117	New Mexico St.	0.8

UK Sack History

Year	Sax	Rk	YPC	YPA	Pts.
2005	17	99	4.8	7.2	34
2004	23	65	4.9	8.0	31
2003	25	67	4.1	7.2	27
2002	28	51	4.1	7.7	25
2001	22	71	4.4	8.5	33
2000	21	75	4.3	8.7	35

[Fig. K- 23]

You can see a distinct correlation between the YPC, Sacks, YPA and Points.

Improvement in both Yards Per Carry and Pass Rush should improve the defense immensely

ing the Quarterbacks, otherwise the young defensive backs will have a long season.



LOUISVILLE

2005 review: Big East



BIGEAST

In 2006 Louisville became a full time member of the Big East conference a move expected to elevate the status of all Cardinal sports programs. Leaving a mid

major (CUSA) and joining a BCS Conference several enhancements are expected for the betterment of the Louisville football program;

- Automatic BCS bids
- Increased revenue from bowl affiliations
- Improved recruiting
- Improved attendance
- Indoor practice facility,
- More competitive schedule among others.

From the Louisville viewpoint, the move has proven to be very positive in all aspects. However, from an overall football standpoint the Big East has made several changes. West Virginia and Louisville are National title contenders; Rutgers, South Florida and Connecticut are bowl contenders. However, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Syracuse, all capable teams have made coaching changes that up to this

point have created very little reason to expect improvement. Specifically Pittsburgh and Syracuse, both teams have arguably the leagues best personnel, but have not been able to generate offensive consistency to win the weakest of all BCS leagues.

With the struggles of Pittsburgh and Syracuse, In the 2005 regular season the Big East did very little to prove the negative media to be wrong. Losing by an average of 9 points per game the Big East managed 3 wins out of 16 Non-Conference games versus Bowl Eligible teams the Big East won just 2.[Fig. L- 4] (USF over UCF, Rutgers over Navy and WVU over UGA). Of those 12 loses 5 were from Pittsburgh and Syracuse. [Fig. L- 3]

In the Bowl's the results were bitter sweet 3 of the 4 schools continued the trend of losing by an average of 10 pts/gm. However, redemption came to the Big East when regular season champ West Virginia used a +3 turnover advantage to overcome the negative Yards Per Play margin of -1.7 YPP (UGA 8.2 vs. WVU 6.5) en-route to a shocking 38-35 Sugar Bowl victory.

2005 BIGEAST VS OOC BOWL TEAMS

OFFENSE: (Collective Avg.)
[equivalent: Team ranking]

Rushing Yards: 140 [rank 66th]
YPC: 3.4 [rank 85th]
Passing Yards: 175 [rank 100th]
YPA: 6.3 [rank 80th]
Total Yards: 315 [rank 104th]
YPP: 4.6 [rank 92nd]
Points Per Game: 20 [rank 95th]

[Fig. L-1]

DEFENSE: (Collective Avg.)
[equivalent: Team ranking]

Rushing Yards: 187 [rank 98th]
YPC: 4.4 [rank 98th]
Passing Yards: 211 [rank 49th]
YPA: 7.8 [rank 93rd]
Total Yards: 398 [rank 79th]
YPP: 5.8 [rank 88th]
Points Per Game: 29 [rank 85th]

[Fig. L-2]

CONFERENCE VS OOC BOWL TEAMS

Conf	WINS	LOSES	%
BIG12	12	7	63%
SEC	11	7	61%
PAC10	14	10	58%
ACC	11	9	55%
BIG10	9	10	47%
IND	5	12	29%
Mwest	5	12	29%
MAC	4	16	20%
BIGEAST	3	13	19%
SUN	2	15	12%
USA	1	17	6%
WAC	0	16	0%

[Fig. L-3]

Date	Team	Opponent	OFFENSE								DEFENSE								MISC	
			Net	YPC	PYds	YPA	Yds	YPP	APY	Pts	Net	YPC	Yds	YPA	Yds	YPP	Pts	DAPY	AP MAR	TO
01/02/06	WestVirginia	Georgia	382	6.1	120	8.6	502	6.5	1151	38	224	8.0	277	8.4	501	8.2	35	1096	55	3
01/02/06	Louisville	VirginiaTech	127	4.2	216	5.8	343	5.1	974	24	187	3.9	203	9.7	390	5.7	35	1104	-130	-4
09/03/05	SouthFla.	PennSt.	97	2.7	200	5.1	297	4.0	893	13	264	6.8	90	6.0	354	6.6	23	949	-56	1
09/03/05	Pittsburgh	NotreDame	103	3.3	220	6.3	323	4.9	825	21	275	5.5	227	8.4	502	6.5	42	1142	-317	-1
09/10/05	Cincinnati	PennSt.	31	0.9	329	6.7	360	4.3	937	24	148	4.0	245	11.1	393	6.7	42	1088	-151	-1
09/17/05	Syracuse	Virginia	80	2.2	172	6.6	252	4.1	886	24	271	6.2	145	5.6	416	5.9	27	896	-10	3
09/17/05	Pittsburgh	Nebraska	114	3.2	190	6.8	304	4.8	746	6	174	3.6	93	4.7	267	3.9	7	881	-135	0
09/17/05	Connecticut	GeorgiaTech	129	3.9	67	2.7	196	3.4	871	13	165	3.1	142	4.7	307	3.7	28	1107	-236	-2
09/17/05	SouthFla.	CentralFla.	326	4.9	100	5.9	426	5.1	985	31	45	2.3	208	5.2	253	4.2	14	876	109	1
10/01/05	SouthFla.	Miami(Fla.)	105	2.6	69	2.2	174	2.5	734	7	178	3.9	173	6.7	351	4.9	27	928	-194	-1
10/01/05	Syracuse	FloridaSt.	45	1.5	189	7.6	234	4.2	950	14	116	3.2	396	11.0	512	7.1	38	1177	-227	-2
10/01/05	WestVirginia	VirginiaTech	150	4.4	103	7.4	253	5.3	673	17	214	4.0	177	10.4	391	5.6	34	871	-198	-2
10/29/05	Rutgers	Navy	114	2.3	221	10.5	335	4.7	887	31	207	4.2	124	6.2	331	4.8	21	876	11	3
11/19/05	Syracuse	NotreDame	143	3.8	78	3.5	221	3.7	707	10	134	3.7	286	7.5	420	5.7	34	927	-220	-1
12/27/05	Rutgers	ArizonaSt.	158	4.9	374	9.8	532	7.6	1148	40	212	4.7	467	13.3	679	8.5	45	1281	-133	0
12/31/05	SouthFla.	NorthCarolinaSt.	136	3.1	159	5.3	295	4.0	602	0	173	3.7	127	6.7	300	4.5	14	745	-143	-2
AVERAGE PER GAME			140	3.4	175	6.3	315	4.6	873	20	187	4.4	211	7.8	398	5.8	29	997	-123	0

[Fig. L-4]

LOUISVILLE

2005 review: offense/defense

Cardinals

UL

Since 2003 the Louisville football program ranks 3rd in Total Yardage margin (Offensive minus Defensive Total yards) of all 119 DIV1A teams. [Fig. L-5]

Considering the list, I don't think anyone can question the merit of this measurement especially when you look at teams from BCS conferences. On top of the list you have the last 3 BCS champions along with an Auburn team that made it's own case for being considered as champion in 2004.

Though Louisville is now a BCS team, the Cardinals have yet to capture the same level of respect similar to that of the other top 5 teams. Most people view the Petrino lead team in a similar light as Boise State and Miami (Ohio) rather than USC, Texas & Oklahoma.

WHY?

In 2005 the Louisville football team faced 4 teams that Sagarin ranked 95th or worse and ironically 3 of the 4 are teams from BCS conferences. (Kentucky, Syracuse and Cincinnati) the other being Florida Atlantic. FAU Head coach, Howard Schellenberger, who is credited for establishing the foundation at which the program operates under today. The other 3 schools are teams that appear on the schedule each year due to the same conference or being the in-state rival and are what I call temporary under achievers.

CONSIDERING THE OPPONENTS; LOUISVILLE'S DEFENSE HAS BEEN AVERAGE

Mike Cassidy has struggled to keep Defensive coordinator jobs longer than the 3 years. Considering the offenses that his defense will face I don't see his 3rd season to be his last in Louisville.

In 2005 the Cardinal defense allowed 22 pts/gm (minus OT) and 324 yds/game both good enough to rank in the NCAA's top 30 for each metric. [Fig. L- 8]

However, this may and may not mean that Cassidy's defense is worthy of such merits. Considering the Offensive opponents collectively averaged 340 YPG (NCAA rank 115th) and 22 PPG (Rank 108th) you can see that the Cardinal Defense did nothing to separate them selves. In fact, only 3 opponents (FAU, RU & Pitt) were

not able to improve the YTD average in Total Yards by facing the Louisville defense.

During the 2005 season, the Cardinals defense faced only 5 teams that rank in the top 85 in total offense. (Oregon State, Rutgers, West Virginia, South Florida, Virginia Tech)

Respectively, in these games the Cardinal defense allowed 10 Points Per game more than the season average of 22. [Fig. L- 6] WVU had 22 extra points scored in overtime and Rutgers played with out starting QB Ryan Hart

! 05' Louisville Opponents (collectively) averaged 4.9 YPP. Which ranked 118th out of 119 D1A teams

(8,482 CPY). Simply by eliminating the 22 overtime points, the average improves to mediocre 27 points per game. In 11 games with Hart at QB, the Rutgers offense averaged 31PPG, 421 total yards, and had 9 games of bettering the NCAA scoring average of 26.

03'-05' Total Yards (Margin)

TEAMS	TOTAL	POINTS
USC	6497	963
Texas	5872	900
Louisville	5477	686
Lsu	5387	658
Oklahoma	5218	666
Texastech	5218	477
Boisest.	4268	794
Auburn	4225	600
Miami(Ohio)	3893	552
Georgia	3845	476

DOES LOUISVILLE DESERVE TO BE RANKED WITH BSC CHAMPIONS?



[Fig. L-5]

Total Defense		
Stat	UL 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	324 (24)	340 (115)
YPP	4.7 (24)	4.9 (118)
PPG	24 (48)	108 (23)

However, facing the Cardinals defense with Freshman QB Mike Teel, Rutgers managed season lows in: Points (5), Total Yards (187), Net Rushing yards (96), Passing yards (91).

LOUISVILLE DEFENSIVE OPPONENTS

VERSUS TOP 85 OFFENSES STATS ALLOWED							OPP OFF	
Date	Opp	sax	Rush	Yds	Pts	Pts	Rank	
09/17/05	OSU	5	42	419	27	25	34th	
11/11/05	RU	1	96	187	5	28	44th	
10/15/05	WVU	3	281	390	46	32	50th	
01/02/06	VT	3	187	390	35	34	57th	
09/24/05	USF	0	251	355	45	22	81st	
AVERAGE		2.4	171	348	32	28	53	

[Fig. L- 6]

VERSUS TOP 85 OFFENSES STATS ALLOWED							OPP OFF	
Date	Opp	sax	Rush	Yds	Pts	Pts	Rank	
11/03/05	PITT	2	62	260	20	23	87th	
10/22/05	UC	5	149	384	22	19	95th	
12/03/05	UCONN	6	87	342	20	21	96th	
10/08/05	UNC	4	108	332	14	18	104th	
09/04/05	UK	7	47	325	24	20	109th	
10/01/05	FUA	9	15	202	10	13	111th	
11/26/05	SU	3	43	302	17	14	118th	
AVERAGE		5.1	73	307	18	18	103	

[Fig. L- 7]

LOUISVILLE

2005 review: defense

Cardinals

UL The final four games of the 2003 season the Louisville defense allowed 153 points (38PPG) which led to the changes at defensive coordinator. After just one season into Petrino's tenure, he and defensive coordinator Mike Gilhammer agreed that the Cardinal defense needed to be upgraded and thus drastic changes were needed.

Petrino filled the defensive coordinator job with Kentucky alumni Mike Cassidy. Cassidy, a veteran with over 25 years coaching defense made an immediate impact to the Cardinals defense. In his first season as Defensive coordinator the Louisville defense improved in several areas:

Pts / FD	RUSHING	PASSING	TOTAL
PPG: 28→20	YPC: 4.2→3.2	YPA: 7.3→5.8	YPP: 5.7→4.5
FD: 24→17	RYDS: 170→109	PYDS: 258→197	TYDS: 429→306

Cassidy, a coach that recently has struggled to keep jobs longer than 3 seasons, is fortunate to have the nations top offense while facing arguably the nations weakest offensive opponents.

In 2005 Louisville's opponents averaged just 4.9 Yards Per Play, which 2nd easiest only to 4.8 of Arkansas State and only 340 YPG which is 115th out of 119 schools.

2005 Rushing Defense		
Stat	UL 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	114 (22)	152 (73)
YPC	2.8 (11)	3.5 (111)

[Fig. L- 11]

RUSHING DEFENSE:

Cassidy's Defense has always been known for stopping the run. In his first season as defensive coordinator he improved the Cardinals rushing defense going from 4.2 > 3.2 YPC. With a front seven comprised of four NFL drafted players, Louisville ranks as the 12th best run stopping team in the NCAA in 2004. [Fig. L-10]

In Cassidy's two years the Cardinals have faced 12 teams that rush for > 3.8 YPC and expectedly 6 of them scored over 26 and 6 scored less than 26. However, in games versus opponents that are less than average, Louisville dominates them, allowing just 2.0 YPC and 20 PPG.

2005 Passing Defense		
Stat	UL 05'	Opp. Off.
YPG	210 (47)	189 (116)
YPA	7.2 (71)	6.3 (100)

PASSING DEFENSE:

Fortunately for the Cardinals only West Virginia and Rut-

2000-2005 LOUISVILLE DEFENSIVE

2003-2005 YTD	Rushing			Passing			Total Off.			MISC			
	YR	PTS	FD	No	Net	YPC	Att	Yds	YPA	Plays	Yds	YPP	APD
2005	24	19	38	114	2.8	31	210	7.2	69	324	4.7	946	2061
2004	20	17	35	109	3.2	32	197	5.8	67	306	4.5	910	1802
2003	28	24	39	170	4.2	36	258	7.3	76	429	5.7	1004	1902
2002	25	18	40	113	2.7	33	207	6.4	72	320	4.4	968	1899
2001	18	18	39	139	3.2	32	199	6.5	70	339	4.7	883	2052
2000	22	18	36	80	2.2	36	224	6.4	72	304	4.2	966	1711

[Fig. L- 8]

Total Defense 2004-2005

Rk	TEAM	TYDS	PPG Rk
1	Alabama	250	2
2	Virginiastech	256	1
3	Lsu	259	4
4	Northcarolinast.	261	16
5	Floridast.	291	12
6	Auburn	292	3
7	Oklahoma	293	13
8	Pennst.	298	6
9	Miami(Fla.)	299	5
10	Georgia	304	7
11	OhioSt.	306	10
12	Georgiatech	307	19
13	Texas	309	8
14	Connecticut	312	25
15	Louisville	314	29

[Fig. L- 9]

DYPC 2004-2005

Rk	TEAMS	YPC
1	FloridaSt.	2.5
2	NorthCarolinaSt.	2.7
3	Oklahoma	2.8
4	Kansas	2.9
5	PennSt.	2.9
6	OhioSt.	3.0
7	LSU	3.0
8	TCU	3.0
9	Tennessee	3.0
10	Iowa	3.0
11	California	3.0
12	Louisville	3.0
13	BostonCollege	3.1
14	GeorgiaTech	3.1
15	WestVirginia	3.1

[Fig. L- 10]

2005 Opponents Offensive avg

Rk.	OPP OFF	YPP
119	Arkansasst.	4.82
118	Louisville	4.91
117	Miami(Fla.)	4.91
116	Navy	4.94
115	Virginia	4.98

Rk.	OPP OFF	TYDS
119	Arkansasst.	334
118	Auburn	336
117	La.-Monroe	339
116	Vanderbilt	339
115	Louisville	340

[Fig. L- 11]

gers are the only Big East teams to average better than the NCAA average 7.0 YPA in 2005.

With the focus on stopping the run, the passing game often times falls short and allows big plays. Since 2004, the Cardinal have faced 12 offenses that are in the upper half of the NCAA with better than 7.0 Yards Per Attempt and on average, these teams scored 26 PPG. However, looking at it closer, 8 of the 12 teams scored over the 26 point average and 4 were below. Despite averaging 7.6 Yards Per Attempt on the season the 4 teams combined to score just 19 total points, 381 Total passing yards and average just 3.8 Yards Per Attempt.

KEY POINT:

Only North Carolina in 2004 played with it's #1 Quarterback. Rutgers, Cincinnati and Tulane were all playing with #2 quarterbacks and the results bared that out. Conversely as expected when facing less than average passing teams the Cardinals allowed a solid 19 PPG with just one opponent scoring over 24 PPG.

Date	Opp.	Yds	YPA	Pts	YPA	Quarterback
09/25/04	UNC	145	5.6	0	7.6	#1 Darian Durant
11/11/05	RU	91	3.8	5	7.9	#2 Mike Teel
11/27/04	UC	33	1.2	7	7.1	#2 Carey/Murray
12/04/04	Tul.	112	4.5	7	7.6	#2 Richard Irvin

LOUISVILLE

2005 review: offense

Cardinals

LOUISVILLE CARDINALS OFFENSE

UL

In 2002 with an in-experienced offensive line and expectations at an all time high, John L. Smith lead the Louisville Cardinals to a 5th consecutive bowl game. At halftime during the GMAC bowl loss to Marshall, word had spread that Smith had accepted the Michigan State job despite the Cardinals underachieving season. Smith came to the Derby City with a reputation for coaching offense; however, at 333 YPG the 2002 unit was the lowest output the Cardinals had since the 1997 1-10 team under Ron Cooper.

In 2003, Bob Petrino inherited a seasoned offensive line, NFL caliber running back from Florida State and with the help of some unheralded coaches improved the Cardinal offense to one the nations best. In Petrino's 1st season as head coach the offense improved from 97th (333 YPG) In Total offense to 5th (489 YPG) and 29 PPG to 35 PPG.

Other Year 1 improvements: [Fig. L- 12]

NET RYDS: 134 → 228	PYDS: 226 → 261	TYDS: 333 → 489
YPC: 2.9 → 5.6	YPA: 6.6 → 8.6	YPP: 4.8 → 6.9

RUNNING GAME :

During the Petrino era, Southern California has lost 2 games, gained 19,193 total yards, won two Heisman trophy's, a BCS championship, a BCS runner up and at 6.8 YPP is 2nd to the Cardinals 7.0 YPP. [Fig. L- 13] Even more impressive is considering that since 2000 only 7 schools averaged that same level (≥7.0 YPP) for 1 full season and UL has done it over a 3 year period. [Fig. L- 14]

2005 Rushing Offense		
Stat	UL 05'	Opp. Def.
YPG	189 (30)	153 (64)
YPC	4.8 (17)	3.7 (51)

Under Smith, I had recognized that in games the Cardinals offense gains 3.2 YPC (or more) that the offense scores on average 16 PPG and 139 YPG more than in games when the YPC is less than 3.2. Under Petrino the numbers are even more drastic. In games that the Louisville offense rushes at (or below) 3.2 YPC the offense scores 11 PPG and mounts only 355 YPG, compared to 44 PPG and 511 YPG.

! Don't get caught up in these numbers

Conventional thinking is that if you stop the Cardinal Running game you stop the Cardinal offense, which is true. However, how difficult is it to stop or limit the running game?

The point that is missing, Louisville has been held below 3.2 YPC only twice out of 37 games. One of the 2 games they still managed 493 total yards. Nineteen of the remaining 35 games Louisville gained over 5.0 YPC. [Fig. L- 16]

2000-2005 YTD			RUSHING			PASSING			TOTAL OFF.			MISC	
YR	PTS	FD	NO	NET	YPC	ATT	YDS	YPA	NO	YDS	YPP	PYDS	PPR
2005	43	24	39	189	4.8	31	294	9.9	71	482	7.1	1155	1722
2004	50	27	45	250	5.8	30	289	9.6	74	539	7.4	1245	1757
2003	35	23	40	228	5.6	30	261	8.6	70	489	6.9	1092	1671
2002	29	18	35	107	2.9	35	226	6.6	70	333	4.8	1038	2064
2001	31	19	36	122	3.1	33	260	7.9	69	382	5.6	1014	1833
2000	35	20	37	134	3.5	35	257	7.4	73	391	5.4	1094	1855

[Fig. L- 12]

2005 Total Offense		
Stat	UL 05'	Opp. Def.
YPG	482 (9)	354 (33)
YPP	7.1 (3)	5.1 (41)
PPG	43 (3)	25 (46)

NCAA CUMULATIVE: 03-'05'			TEAMS/YEAR: YPP ≥ 7.0				
RK	TEAMS	YPP	YR	TEAM	NO.	YDS	YPP
1	UL	7.0	2001	BYU	76	543	7.2
2	USC	6.8	2004	CALI.	70	492	7.1
3	TEX.TECH.	6.6	2001	FLA.	72	528	7.4
4	TEXAS	6.5	2000	FSU	77	549	7.2
5	CALI.	6.5	2005	UL	71	482	7.1
6	HAW.	6.4	2004	UL	74	539	7.4
7	MINN.	6.4	2005	USC	77	580	7.5
8	BG	6.2	2005	TEXAS	72	512	7.1
9	TOLEDO	6.2					
10	BOISEST.	6.1					

[Fig. L- 13]

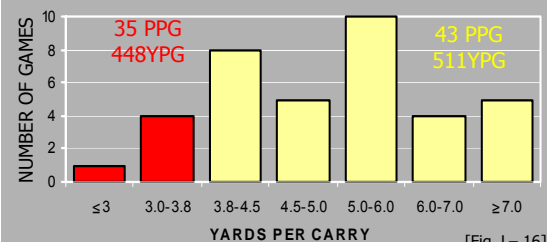
[Fig. L- 14]

Running game

NCAA RUSHING OFFENSE (NCAA RANK)					
RK	TEAM	AVG. RK	NET	YPC	TD
1	TEXAS	1	3395 (2)	5.63 (1)	45 (1)
2	NAVY	2	3833 (1)	5.42 (2)	41 (2)
3	MINNESOTA	4	3372 (3)	5.42 (3)	36 (5)
4	LOUISVILLE	6	2744 (8)	5.38 (5)	41 (4)
5	CALIFORNIA	7	2753 (7)	5.41 (4)	28 (10)
6	SOUTHERNCALIFORNIA	7	2571 (10)	5.19 (6)	32 (6)
7	RICE	7	3249 (4)	4.9 (10)	29 (8)
8	WESTVIRGINIA	9	3021 (6)	4.99 (7)	27 (13)
9	AIRFORCE	10	3043 (5)	4.67 (18)	30 (7)
10	MEMPHIS	13	2671 (9)	4.96 (8)	25 (21)

[Fig. L- 15]

Yards Per Carry details



[Fig. L- 16]

YPC - KEY POINTS:

- I.) Louisville's offense has been held at the NCAA avg (3.8) 4 times. (10%)
- II.) 35 PPG when rushes for ≤ 3.8 YPC (43 PPG > 3.8)
- III.) 448 TYPG when held to ≤ 3.8 YPC (511 YPG > 3.8)

BETWEEN THE LINES:

The 2003 CUSA title was at stake when #25 UL was defeated at #9 TCU 28-31. A game UL gained 580 yards to TCU 461, the Cardinals had 3 missed field goals with one being the last play of the game. The following game at home, the emotionless Cardinals were routed by Memphis 37-7. The lowest YPC output of the Petrino era. (2.1 YPC, 216 TYDS and 7 Pts)

BY ELIMINATING THAT GAME:

UL averages 42 PPG and 502 YPG in the 3 games the Cardinals YPC ≤ 3.8

LOUISVILLE

2005 review: offense

Cardinals

OPPONENTS PASS DEFENSE

UL Common sense tells us that in games the passing efficiency is held in check the scoring should be down. However, it does not answer why & which teams may be able to limit the Cardinals Passing game.

Previously, I have explained that UofL has faced the 44th most difficult schedule from a Pass Defense perspective. In 2005 UofL faced 5 teams that were better than the NCAA average (7.0) in Yards Per Attempt and the other 7 that were in the lower half. Considering the two groups, the upper group holds the Cardinal offense to 29 PPG, which is 30 points less than the other teams. The three areas impacted most are: [Fig. L- 20]

1. Touchdown / Interception Ratio
2. QB Rating
3. Yards Per attempt (Big Plays)

OPP-DYPA	PTS	ATT	COMP	INT	YDS	YPA	TD	TD/INT	QB
< 7.0	29	35	21	1.1	266	7.9	1.1	1.0	81
> 7.0	59	26	20	0.4	332	12.8	3.2	8.0	151

TOUCHDOWN / INTERCEPTION RATIO

Louisville averages 3.2 touchdowns and 0.4 interceptions per game versus the weaker group for an 8/1 ratio and just one touchdown and one interception (1/1) against to good defenses. The NFL method for QB rating may be the single best measurement and in this case the numbers are quite staggering. Louisville's QB rating against the lower group was 151 and 81.1 when playing the better units.

Earlier, I mentioned the strategy of the Detroit Pistons in the NBA playoffs. In a similar fashion, I believe the teams that do not over react to stopping the run and focus on preventing the big pass play have the best opportunity for success.

This does not mean to ignore the run, but it means defenses have to be creative and deceptive disguising the coverage, with out selling out to stop the run. The running game will get yards regardless of the opponent and the efforts to top stop it. The Louisville offense is the model offense for having the run set

up the pass. Once a defense commits and extra player in the running game, the defense becomes exposed to big plays.

BIG PLAYS

Yards per attempt, is one of the most inconsistent metrics in football. Oftentimes this metric is greatly skewed because of big plays. Simply by making or missing tackles can be the difference in a 3rd down play going 7 yards versus 70. Opposing defenses should not simply focus on stopping the run. In 2005 on 1st down alone UL had 40 pass plays that went for over 15 yards for an average of 31 yards each. For the season the Cardinals average 11 Yards *Per pass attempt* on 1st down.

	YPA / Down			DYPA
	1st	2nd	3rd	
Virginia Tech	6.3	4.3	9.1	5.18
Pittsburgh	7.8	10.6	3.9	5.70
Connecticut	19.8	1.0	4.3	6.14
South Florida	7.7	6.2	6.3	6.44
West Virginia	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.52
Syracuse	9.6	17.3	6.0	6.96
Kentucky	6.1	8.1	5.9	6.97
North Carolina	14.3	5.6	9.6	7.08
Florida Atlantic	19.6	7.6	3.6	7.10
Rutgers	10	8.8	17.5	7.29
Cincinnati	10.9	11.4	4.5	7.61
Oregon State	20.2	16.5	6.0	8.58
< 7.0 DYPA	9.5	5.7	5.9	6.0
> 7.0 DYPA	13.0	10.8	7.6	7.4

[Fig. L- 19]

SUMMARY:

Teams that are able to harness explosive plays are teams that have low DYPA and have the best chance at limiting the point scored by the Louisville Cardinals. [Fig. L- 19]

OPPONENTS PASS DEFENSE (DYPA sorted ascending)

Date	Opponent	PPG	DYPA	YPP / Down			Total YDS by			
				1	2	3	1	2	3	
01/02/06	Virginia Tech	24	5.18	3.6	5.7	3.9	136	120	62	
11/03/05	Pittsburgh	42	5.70	4.6	6.3	3.9	221	150	62	
12/03/05	Connecticut	30	6.14	7.8	4.6	3.9	321	102	63	
09/24/05	South Fla.	14	6.44	5.8	3.7	3.4	237	108	54	
10/15/05	West Virginia	24	6.52	3.8	3.9	4.0	149	108	68	
11/26/05	Syracuse	41	6.96	4.8	11.0	1.9	195	285	25	
09/04/05	Kentucky	31	6.97	4.7	6.6	2.7	182	171	43	
10/08/05	North Carolina	69	7.08	4.4	3.9	7.4	217	108	119	
10/01/05	Florida Atlantic	61	7.10	9.7	5.2	3.5	455	99	39	
11/11/05	Rutgers	56	7.29	4.5	5.5	9.0	229	138	135	
10/22/05	Cincinnati	46	7.61	9.0	7.3	2.5	380	146	15	
09/17/05	Oregon St.	63	8.58	9.7	8.6	5.0	418	120	20	
		< 7.0 DYPA	29	6.3	5.0	6.0	3.4	206	149	54
		> 7.0 DYPA	59	7.5	7.5	6.1	5.5	340	122	66

[Fig. L- 20]

KENTUCKY

2006 preview: offense

Wildcats

Written by: Erik Seals

QUARTERBACK

KEY LOSSES: None
PROJECTED

STARTER: Andre Woodson

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Jr	Andre' Woodson	6-5 / 240	18	40
So	Curtis Pulley	6-4 / 203	9	99

2005 Statistics

PASSING	GP	Effic	Att-Cmp-Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Lng	Avg/G
Andre' Woodson	11	115	253-146-6	58	1644	6	79	150
Curtis Pulley	9	85	50-31-3	62	208	0	22	23.1
Total	11	110	304-178-9	59	1857	6	79	169

For the first time in the Rich Brooks era, Kentucky will likely start the same quarterback for two consecutive seasons. Junior Andre Woodson (6'5, 232) has 12 career starts under his belt. Woodson has completed over 58% of his career passes while throwing just seven INT's in 341 career attempts. The knock on Woodson has been decision making and ball security in the pocket, but the junior has made significant strides in both areas. Woodson has one of the strongest arms in the SEC. Sophomore Curtis Pulley is the likely backup, but his game looks very little like Woodson's. Pulley has incredible speed and athleticism, the type of ability that will allow him to play virtually any skill position on offense. Last season, Pulley saw action in nine of Kentucky's 11 games. The only weakness in Pulley's game is his ability to stretch the field vertically. Expect to see Pulley on the field this season at both quarterback and spot duty at wide receiver. Freshman Will Fidler (6'4, 205) will probably be the #3 QB. Though Fidler enrolled in school in time to participate in spring practice, Kentucky will likely redshirt the true freshman unless injuries dictate otherwise.

RUNNING BACK

KEY LOSSES: Arliss Beach (288 yards rushing, 6 TD) and Alexis Bwenge (starting FB)

PROJECTED STARTER: Rafael Little (RB) and John Conner (FB)

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Jr	Rafael Little	5-10 / 198	20	30
So	*Tony Dixon	5-9 / 208	8	85
rFr	Alphonso Smith	6-1 / 190	0	132
Fr	Maurice Grinter	6-2 / 253	0	137
rFr	John Conner	5-11 / 233	0	185

2005 Statistics

RUSHING	GP	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Rafael Little	11	197	1103	58	1045	5.3	9	65	95
Tony Dixon	8	54	283	39	244	4.5	1	67	30.5
Arliss Beach	10	64	314	26	288	4.5	6	23	28.8
Curtis Pulley	9	49	212	63	149	3.0	3	33	16.6
Alexis Bwenge	11	15	53	2	51	3.4	1	10	4.6
Glenn Holt	11	2	25	0	25	12.5	1	20	2.3
Draak Davis	11	1	9	0	9	9.0	0	9	0.8
Keenan Burton	7	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	0.1
Andre' Woodson	11	57	101	234	-133	-2.3	1	15	-12.1
Total	11	391	1818	403	1415	3.6	21	65	129

The Wildcats have three outstanding athletes to rotate at tailback, headlined by All-American candidate Rafael Little. Little (5'10, 188) rushed for 1,045 yards last season (5.3

ypc) while finishing 5th in the nation in all-purpose yardage. The junior from South Carolina was an Associated Press 1st team All-SEC selection in 2005. Backing Little up is sophomore Tony Dixon. Dixon (5'9, 203) broke his leg in fall camp last year resulting in him missing the entire season. Few remember that before the injury, Dixon was ahead of Little on the depth chart. Dixon has excellent speed and runs with the toughness of a fullback. Expect to see the Cats utilize a plethora of two back sets this season featuring Little and Dixon. The #3 player on the depth chart is redshirt freshman Alfonso Smith. Smith (6'1, 190) is one of the fastest players on the team. It's hard to imagine Smith getting many snaps playing behind Little and Dixon, but it will be hard to keep the youngster on the sideline. Smith has elite athletic ability and game changing speed. At fullback, Kentucky's top two options seem to be redshirt freshman John Conner (5'11, 233) and true freshman Maurice Grinter (6'2, 250). Conner gets the early nod because he's been in the program longer, but Grinter will eventually become the starter. Grinter has tremendous size. He has excellent athletic ability as well.

WIDE RECEIVER

KEY LOSSES: Glenn Holt (21-200), Tommy Cook (11-155), and Scott Mitchell (23-288).

PROJECTED STARTERS: Keenan Burton

(WR), DeMoreo Ford (WR), and Jacob Tamme (TE)

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Jr	Keenan Burton	6-2 / 195	21	55
Jr	Steve Johnson	6-2 / 185	0	28
Jr	John Logan	6-0 / 189	4	23
So	DeMorio Ford	5-10 / 190	2	143
So	Dicky Lyons	5-11 / 190	8	97
Fr	Michael Strickland	6-2 / 190	0	159
Fr	Terrance Jones	6-2 / 185	0	161
Jr	Jacob Tamme	6-5 / 240	22	107
rFr	Ross Bogue	6-5 / 247	0	100

2005 Statistics

RECEIVING	GP	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Keenan Burton	7	24	365	15.2	2	53	52.1
Rafael Little	11	46	449	9.8	0	65	40.8
Scott Mitchell	11	23	288	12.5	2	79	26.2
Jacob Tamme	11	29	251	8.7	1	31	22.8
Tommy Cook	8	11	155	14.1	0	53	19.4
Glenn Holt	11	21	200	9.5	0	25	18.2
Tony Dixon 04'	8	8	61	7.6	0	17	7.6
Arliss Beach	10	8	65	8.1	0	16	6.5
DeMoreo Ford	4	2	10	5.0	0	6	2.5
Curtis Pulley	9	2	19	9.5	0	13	2.1
*Dicky Lyons 04'	7	2	11	5.5	0	6	1.6
Total	11	178	1857	10.4	6	79	169

UK lacks depth and experience at the wide receiver and tight end positions, however, they do have two of the SEC's best to throw at opposing defenses. Junior Keenan Burton (6'2, 195) has All-SEC potential, but needs to stay healthy. Burton has 46 career receptions, averaging 13 yards per catch. The Louisville native has good size and tremendous athletic ability. Injuries have cost Burton 13 games over the

KENTUCKY

2006 preview: offense

Wildcats

Written by: Erik Seals

past two seasons. Sophomore DeMoreo Ford (5'10, 189) saw his freshman season cut short by a knee injury. Ford, who will start opposite Burton, has great hands, good speed, and blocks as well as any receiver on the Kentucky roster. JUCO transfer Steve Johnson (6'3, 198) will be counted on heavily in the receiver rotation. Johnson's tremendous athletic ability resulted in a 73-reception season in 2005 for Chabot Junior College in Hayward, California. The Cats will also need a significant contribution from redshirt sophomore Dicky Lyons (5'11, 190). Lyons has good athleticism and overall ability, but his lack of consistency has hurt his effort to climb the depth chart. Still, Lyons is likely to see significant playing time in 2006. True freshman Michael Strickland (6'2, 190) has drawn the early praise of UK's offensive coaching staff. Strickland runs precise routes, has great hands, and blocks extremely well. Kentucky offensive coordinator called Strickland a more athletic Tommy Cook. That's good news for Wildcat fans. Junior Jacob Tamme (6'5, 240) is entrenched as the starting tight end. Tamme fought through an injury plagued 2005 season, but still managed to haul in 29 passes for 251 yards. If healthy, Tamme will approach the 40 catch mark this season. All of Kentucky's depth is in the freshman class. Zipp Duncan (6'5, 250), T.C. Drake (6'6, 230), Ross Bogue (6'5, 235), and Tyler Sexton (6'2, 254) will battle for the backup spot.

OFFENSIVE LINE

KEY LOSSES: None

PROJECTED STARTERS: James Alexander (LT), Christian Johnson (LG), Matt McCutchan (Center), Michael Aitcheson (RG), and Hayden Lane (RT).

Kentucky returns all of their offensive linemen from 2006, led by senior Matt McCutchan (6'3, 310). The Navy transfer has logged 21 straight starts at center. McCutchan is the most irreplaceable lineman on the Kentucky roster. His likely backup, redshirt Jorge Gonzalez, has never played a snap at the I-A level. The left tackle position suffered a huge blow when sophomore Aaron Miller was ruled ineligible. Sophomores James Alexander (6'5, 281) and Garry Williams (6'3, 283), both of which played as true freshman, will battle for the left tackle spot. Though Alexander has a slight edge as fall camp closes, both will likely see significant minutes. Both are excellent athletes. Another position battle exists at one of the guard spots. Senior Fatu Turituri (6'3, 290) was regarded as UK's best lineman last season before going down with a sea-

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Sr	Hayden Lane	6-6 / 283	30	63
Sr	Trai Williams	6-4 / 286	24	80
Sr	Matt McCutchan	6-3 / 310	22	39
Sr	Michael Aitcheson	6-3 / 300	18	61
So	James Alexander	6-5 / 281	11	118
So	Christian Johnson	6-4 / 325	10	102
So	Gary Williams	6-3 / 288	8	86
So	Micah Jones	6-4 / 330	7	54
Sr	Fatu Turituri	6-3 / 290	7	35
Sr	Travis Slaydon	6-3 / 290	4	60
rFr	Zack Hennis	6-8 / 322	0	73
rFr	Sefo Blaylock	6-4 / 325	0	133

son ending knee injury. Sophomore Christian Johnson (6'4, 325) is one of the strongest players on UK's roster. Johnson logged significant minutes as a true freshman. Though Johnson appears to have a slight edge on Turituri, both will see plenty of minutes this season. Senior Michael Aitcheson (6'3, 300) will start at the other guard position. Aitcheson started all 11 games last season at left guard. Senior Trai Williams (6'4, 286) will battle for playing time behind Aitcheson. Williams started all 11 games last season at right guard. Williams has 12 career starts. The Cats return one of the most experienced linemen in the SEC at right tackle in senior Hayden Lane (6'6, 275). Lane has started 23 consecutive games for the Wildcats. True freshman Justin Jeffries (6'5, 300) moved from DT to offensive tackle halfway through fall camp and flourished in his new role. UK would prefer to redshirt the freshman, however. Overall, the offensive line is deeper and more athletic and talented than at any point in the Brooks era. The time it takes the starting five to gel will go a long way in determining how successful the 2006 offense will be.

PROJECTION:

In 2005, the Wildcats offense suffered injury after injury at just about every position group. Injuries along with a youthful offensive line resulted in an ineffective offense more often than not. This season, things should go much more smoothly. Offensive coordinator Joker Phillips returns his quarterback, backup quarterback, running back, tight end, top wide receiver, and the entire starting offensive line from last season. With opposing defenses keying on Rafael Little, it will be imperative that the Cats produce an effective passing game each weekend. To accomplish that, the Cats will need production from DeMoreo Ford or another receiver. UK is fortunate to have three All-SEC candidates at the skill positions (Burton, Tamme, and Little), but defenses will be able to key on those players much more easily if a second receiver fails to emerge. Steve Johnson and Michael Strickland are two names to remember. Both have been impressive in fall camp. Junior quarterback Andre Woodson could be in for a breakout season. Woodson has tremendous arm strength and the ability to put the football on the money on deep and intermediate routes. Look for Curtis Pulley to take the occasional snap at quarterback along with some snaps at wide receiver. Pulley is one of the best athletes on the UK roster. The youngster is devastating in the open field. Of course, all of that is contingent on Kentucky fielding a SEC caliber offensive line. Kentucky has an excellent blend of youth and experience along with plenty of depth. The offense will begin to show significant improvement when the offensive line starts to gel as a unit. Overall, look for a much more effective, efficient Kentucky offense in 2006.

LOUISVILLE

2006 preview: offense

Cardinals

Written by: Shannon Poynter

QUARTERBACKS:

RETURNING STARTERS: 1

KEY LOSSES: None

PROJECTED STARTER: Brian Brohm

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Jr	Brian Brohm	6-4/225	21	8
So	Hunter Cantwell	6-3/223	8	129

Michael Bush was among the nation's leaders in scoring despite playing in only ten of Louisville's twelve games.

George Stripling had 7.9 yards per carry on 79 efforts spelling Bush after Bush's foot injury; in mopup duty he was the leading rusher in the North Carolina game and followed that up being the leading rusher in Bush's absence against Rutgers and Syracuse.

2005 Statistics

PASSING	GP	Effc	Att-Cmp-Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Lng	Avg/G
Brohm, Brian	10	166.73	301-207-5	68.8	2883	19	76	288.3
CANTWELL, H.	8	138.71	73-39-4	53.4	640	5	57	80
Douglas, Harry	12	-200	1-0-1	0	0	0	0	0
Bush, Michael	10	0	1-0-0	0	0	0	0	0

Louisville's QBs are coached by Jeff Brohm who is in his fourth year as Louisville's QB's coach

Brian Brohm returns off of a year that saw him get the Big East's offensive player of the year award. His 68.8 completion percentage in 2005 was among the nation's leaders, and the passing game actually had more yards per game than 2004 despite nearly record setting efficiency from Stefan Lefors. But his season was shortened by a knee injury that has skeptics of equaling that production out in force.

Hunter Cantwell had mixed returns in his two starts against Uconn and Va Tech. He had a TD and INT against Uconn with 270+ yards, and three TDs against an outstanding Va Tech defense. But his three INTs and fumble were direct factors in coughing up a 24-13 fourth quarter lead.

Ga Tech transfer Pat Carter will split practice reps between WR and QB.

PROJECTION: Anticipation of aerial success is very high for Louisville. Brohm is among the best pro style QBs in college football and potentially is playing his last year at Louisville. Brohm's greatest strength is his accuracy on deep and intermediate balls, and he throws passes with a very catchable pace. Despite the downfield nature of Louisville's passing attack, Brohm threw only five interceptions on the year on 301 attempts (Cantwell threw four on 73). If there truly aren't any complications with Brohm's knee, the likelihood of exceeding 19 tds in the air for Brohm seems great. They have the flexibility of being able to run the same offense with Cantwell that they ran with Brohm with the exception of running any QB draws, but Cantwell has a good, live arm to work with. Petrino also has a lot of flexibility to use the athletic Carter in packages. You're not going to find many college offenses with the varied QB experience level of Louisville's (though a case could certainly be made for Arizona State, LSU and Ohio State). If you're looking for weaknesses or ineffectiveness, Louisville's screen game wasn't nearly effective with Brohm and Cantwell as it was with Stefan Lefors, nor are Brohm or Cantwell ever going to hurt opponents with their feet outside the framework of a designed rollout. Overall though this is an outstanding unit.

RUNNING BACKS:

RETURNING STARTERS: 2

KEY LOSSES: None

PROJECTED STARTER: Mike Bush, Kolby Smith

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Sr	Michael Bush	6-3/250	35	1
Sr	Kolby Smith	5-11/512	33	43
So	George Stripling	6-1/192	11	133
So	Brock Bolin	6-1/240	0	61

2005 Statistics

RUSHING	GP	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Bush, Michael	10	205	1176	33	1143	5.6	23	73	114.3
STRIPLING, G.	12	79	633	12	621	7.9	7	89	51.8
Smith, Kolby	10	107	532	9	523	4.9	6	30	52.3
Spencer, Sergio	9	12	41	2	39	3.2	0	10	4.3
Douglas, Harry	12	6	54	17	37	6.2	0	29	3.1
Haskins, Robert	12	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	0.2
Brohm, Brian	10	41	96	132	-36	-0.9	4	15	-3.6
CANTWELL, H.	8	12	7	59	-52	-4.3	0	3	-6.5
Total	12	472	2542	280	2262	4.8	41	89	188.5

Louisville's RBs are coached by Greg Nord. Nord is in his third year as the RB's coach under Bobby Petrino and his fourth different coach at Louisville. He also is the TE's coach.

Kolby Smith brings experience and versatility to the running back corps. In his previous three campaigns at Louisville he played at FB, RB and was a special teams stalwart on coverage units.

Brock Bolin will be eligible after transferring from Illinois and will also split time between FB and RB. Derionte Taylor returns as the FB.

You could probably best sum up Louisville's running back situation in one word: versatile. You have the big nimbleness of Michael Bush coupled with the breakaway speed of Stripling and the elusiveness of Smith. Bolin's skill set is largely unknown, but he was worked at both RB positions in the Spring and may bring a pass catching component that Louisville hasn't had from the FB position since TE's Ibn Green and Jamie Asher did stints there in the mid 90's. Bush is an unquestioned NFL prospect and likely will be among the Top Two senior RBs in college football with Auburn's Kenny Irons. With the exception of the bowling ball-esque Taylor, each of the Louisville RBs is an effective pass catcher. With the exception of Stripling, each is regarded as a good blocker both against the run and in the all-important category of pass protection. The only slight might be a stretch against Cincinnati that saw Bush fumble three times, but he didn't lay the ball on the ground after that for the remainder of the season.

PROJECTION: Onward and upward for the 2006 edition. There was some disappointment in the 4.8 ypc numbers put up by the Louisville offense in 2005 relative to the awesome production of 5.7 and 5.6 of the two predecessors, but overall the ground game was effective. There will be some disappointment if that number isn't exceeded with a healthy Bush and Smith, both of which missed two games last season, as well as the seasoning of Stripling who finally gained the confidence of the staff with some tough production against Rutgers and Syracuse. There appears to be a better lead blocking options than just employing Taylor, and that should help Smith who had to take snaps at FB as a result of a lack of options.

WIDE RECEIVERS/TIGHT ENDS

RETURNING STARTERS: 1

KEY LOSSES: Joshua Tinch, Montrell Jones, Broderick Clark

PROJECTED STARTER: Mario Urrutia, Harry Douglas, Patrick Carter, Gary Barnidge

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Jr	Harry Douglas	5-11/170	23	65
Sr	Jimmy Riley	6-1/212	22	51
So	Mario Urrutia	6-6/200	11	67
Jr	Patrick Carter	6-3/199	0	66
So	Chris Vaughn	6-3/200	0	84
Jr	Scott Long	6-5/251	0	66
Jr	Harry Douglas	5-11/170	23	65
Sr	Jimmy Riley	6-1/212	22	51

2005 Statistics

RECEIVING	GP	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Tinch, Joshua	12	67	855	12.8	4	39	71.2
Jones, Montrell	12	43	574	13.3	5	60	47.8
Urrutia, Mario	11	37	797	21.5	7	76	72.5
Douglas, Harry	12	27	457	16.9	2	46	38.1
Bush, Michael	10	21	253	12	1	21	25.3
Smith, Kolby	10	18	196	10.9	1	57	19.6
Barnidge, Gary	11	17	240	14.1	2	43	21.8
CLARK, B.	3	4	45	11.2	0	17	15
Haskins, Robert	12	3	53	17.7	0	27	4.4
GIACOMINI, B.	12	3	16	5.3	1	9	1.3
Kuhn, Scott	12	2	9	4.5	1	7	0.8

Louisville's wide receivers are coached by Offensive coordinator Paul Petrino who is in his fourth year at the helm in both capacities; he was at Louisville under John L. Smith for the 1998 and 1999 campaigns and left for Southern Miss in 2000 to take their QB's coaching reigns.

The Tight ends are coached by Greg Nord.

Mario Urrutia comes off a stellar and surprising 2005 campaign that saw him hover among the nation's leaders in yards per reception on the basis of big days against

LOUISVILLE

2006 preview: offense

Cardinals

Written by: Shannon Peayter

Oregon State, Florida Atlantic and North Carolina. He ultimately finished up averaging 21.5 a catch and seven touchdowns despite a stint after the West Virginia game where he had knee problems.

Harry Douglas is the only other returnee among the Wideouts who has over four grabs at Louisville getting 27 on the year at nearly 17 a grab. He's a threat on reverses as well, getting a 65 yard td jaunt in 2004 against Boise State and a 37 yarder against Va Tech to setup Louisville's final score in the Gator Bowl.

Jimmy Riley is an interesting redshirt senior in a program that throws the football around like Louisville: he doesn't have a career catch to his credit. To this point in his career he's been the historical footnote to the question "Who was the member of the kickoff team that was plastered in an onside's kick against West Virginia?"

Three transfers from Division I programs bring a little experience and variety: Chris Vaughn transfers from Notre Dame and is a big kid with one career grab, Pat Carter was a QB at Ga Tech until Reggie Ball became entrenched at the position and serves as a slot receiver for Louisville and Duke transfer Corey Thompson had 19 catches as a freshman for the Blue Devils before transferring to Louisville.

Among newcomers, Louisville native JaJuan Spillman, redshirt freshmen Trent Guy and Scott Long are the most likely contributors. Spillman and Guy are among the quickest players in the program, whereas Long is a big receiver at 6'2, 210.

Much like the running back positions, Louisville's wide receivers are long on a versatile array of talent. You have four big receivers in Mario Urrutia (6'6, 220), Pat Carter (6'3, 215), Chris Vaughn (6'3, 220) and Scott Long (6'2, 210), you have the speed merchants of Harry Douglas and the possibility of that with Jajuan Spillman and Trent Guy and you have in Urrutia, Douglas and to some extent Jimmy Riley guys who have been in the program long enough to be assimilated into their roles. In Petrino's first three seasons he has favored experience in September above all else, so look for Urrutia, Douglas, Thompson, Riley, Carter and Vaughn to be your principles in multiple receiver sets against Kentucky and Miami. Ultimately you'll see Spillman be integrated into the return game.

The tight ends are junior Gary Barnidge and Scott Kuhn; Barnidge is the more highly regarded receiver, Kuhn the more consistent blocker.

PROJECTION: this should be a fun group to watch. They lose Montrell Jones and Joshua Tinch to graduation and the sort of toughness that both brought to the table. Douglas and Urrutia were the principle homerun threats last season and should return into that role in 2006, but they'll need to find a reliable third down threat aside from Douglas to replace Tinch. Douglas is the best combination route runner, hands, speed and run-after-catch threat in the program and should see considerable escalation over the 27 catches and 457 yards catching he had in 2005. Given the numbers Louisville has in 2006 and the thinness at tight end after the transfer of Careq Bonner, you'll likely see more three receiver sets than you saw in 2005. On a tangible level of speed and sheer explosiveness, this corps should exceed the level of 2005; it's on the intangible levels provided by Montrell Jones and Joshua Tinch that it will remain to be seen...Jones did the dirty work of fielding every conceivable bad punt and kickoff in the last two years and saved the offense incalculable hidden yardage totals; Tinch was involved in every facet of Louisville's program in some capacity with the exception of defense (which ironically he almost setted at his freshman year had 2002 LB's coach Mike Cox had his druthers) and was on all kickoff and punt units as well as being a team captain. Sheerly on potential, there's pro talent in the person of Urrutia and if you listen to the coaches they'll say the same about Pat Carter once he is fully assimilated into being a wideout. But the odds on favorite for breakout season from among the wideouts has to be Harry Douglas. If somebody from among the group proves they're up to making the tough catch, this should be a very effective corps.

OFFENSIVE LINE:

RETURNING STARTERS: 3

KEY LOSSES: Jason Spitz (#3 Draft Choice Green Bay), Travis Laffew (undrafted Chicago Bears)

PROJECTED STARTER: George Bussey, Marcel Benson, Eric Wood, Renardo Foster, Kurt Quarterman
Mike Summers returns for his fourth year as Louisville's offensive line coach; interestingly, Summers was the only position coach on the Louisville staff who had a stint

as a coordinator until Mike Cassity's arrival from Illinois. Summers was the offensive coordinator at Oregon State under Jerry Pettibone and ran their wishbone offense.

Louisville loses four year starters

Travis Laffew (Free agent signee of the Chicago Bears) and Jason Spitz (3rd rounder of the Green Bay Packers) as well as OT Jeremy Darveau. They return Soph C Eric Wood and Sr. OG Kurt Quarterman for his third year as a starter.

2003 and 2004 starter at OT

Renardo Foster returns from a prolonged rehab stint that cost him half of 2004 and hindered him in 2005.

Marcel Benson was redshirted after transferring from a JUCO (as was Marcus Gordon) and will battle converted TE Breno Giacomini at a tackle spot.

George Bussey took control of the guard slot vacated when Spitz graduated in the Spring after a projected challenge from Danny Barlowe. Bussey had extended duty at RT when Jeremy Darveau went down with an injury on the first play from scrimmage against Rutgers and played extensively against Syracuse.

On a sheer athletic and talent level, there's guarded optimism from the coaching staff regarding the offensive line. Losing eight year's worth of starting on the weakside is a concern for any program, but that concern is tempered by the return to health of a very talented Renardo Foster and an apparent commitment to conditioning from fellow senior strongside guard Kurt Quarterman. Both have legitimate professional aspirations and depending on the source could be first day selections. But whether the 2006 Louisville offense is a well-oiled machine in the 2004 mold or a sometimes prolific but sometimes headscratchingly ineffective one like it's predecessor hinges almost entirely on how the two weakside slots are filled. Coach Summers likes Bussey's athleticism and his ability to get out a three point stance and pull, but he's not the drive blocker that Spitz was. Benson and Giacomini are both long and athletic themselves, but their ability to play with intensity from one down to the next that Laffew displayed is an open question. Both sides of the line are tied together very well by an outstanding center prospect in Eric Wood, who got the nod at center in August when it became apparent that Renardo Foster wasn't ready to play at guard and Spitz was moved back there from center. Until Spitz was drafted by the Packers, there hadn't been a Louisville offensive linemen drafted since Roman Oben in 1995, so Louisville's offensive prowess is a little surprising when put in that light.

PROJECTION: Relative to 2004, there were some disappointments in 2005. The 25 sacks allowed was a big jump from 2003 and 2004 in part because of Stefan Lefors' ability to take a collapsing pocket and turn it into a ten yard gain, but the 15 sacks in the last four games was an alarming total considering Brohm's injury and mystifying considering they went the previous five game stretch only giving up two in that span. Some of that jump could be attributed to the coinciding of injury between Bush and Brohm. Subsequently despite the lost experience of Spitz, Laffew and Darveau there's legitimate and manageable room for improvement in pass protection. Foster's return to health is critical, and to offset the loss of the powerful Spitz you'll see more movement from the weakside replacements. It will be interesting to see how the changes perform in short yardage with the loss of Spitz and Laffew in particular. The skill sets clearly will be different from the previous three seasons under Petrino when they ran behind Spitz and Laffew for the tough yards...it's Quarterman and Foster's show in 2006 when Louisville needs two yards

DEFENSIVE LINE:

RETURNING STARTERS: 2

KEY LOSSES: Elvis Dumervil (#4 DC by Denver), Montavious Stanley (#6 DC by Dallas)

PROJECTED STARTER: Zach Anderson, Amobi Okoye, Adrian Grady, Brando Cox

Defensive line coach Kevin Wolthausen is in his third year as Louisville's defensive line coach; he was the linebackers coach in his first year at Louisville. He was promoted to co-defensive coordinator after the 2005 season.

Louisville's likely starters vs. Kentucky are Brandon Cox at WDE and Zach Anderson at

Year	Name	Size	GMS	06' PR
Sr	Kurt Quarterman	6-5/336	30	61
Sr	Michael Sturgeon	6-4/298	17	100
Jr	Breno Giacomini	6-7/290	17	75
Sr	Renardo Foster	6-7/322	17	13
So	Eric Wood	6-4/296	10	110
Jr	Danny Barlowe	6-5/290	8	100
Jr	Devon May	6-4/292	6	105
Jr	Marcel Benson	6-6/318	1	34
Jr	Marcus Gordon	6-6/317	1	28
So	George Bussey	6-4/280	0	116
rFr	Mike Donahue	6-3/300	0	99
rFr	Brian Roche	6-5/300	0	82
Fr	Josh Hawkins	6-7/330	0	126

the PUBLISHERS PICK

LOUISVILLE 41
KENTUCKY 34

TEAMS	Plays	YDS	YPP	RYDS	YPC	PYDS	YPA	PTS
UL	75	487	6.5	172	4.3	315	9.0	41
UK	70	400	5.7	172	4.3	228	7.6	34

Lets get one thing clear. I am not the type to pick the favorite. Anybody can pick a 22 point favorite with little risk. In 2002 and 2004 I picked Kentucky for the 2 touchdown upset. But this year, I believe the single biggest match up difference is Urrutia vs the in experience of Kentucky's secondary. Other than that I this game could be a wash.

People say you can't play a game on paper – I agree. Just because a team is favored over 3 touchdowns does not mean they will win a game.

If you want to play it out on paper it clearly is closer than that. All the loses are from Louisville who won in 2005 by 7 points and these loses are not the usual ones. They have lost 5 players that are suiting up on NFL rosters. While Kentucky has done nothing but get more mature and more experience.

Kentucky scored 24 points in 2005 while averaging more per play that what I have projected for this game. The players are the same only they have more experience and depth. Through out Mike Cassidy's career his defenses have shown to be open to big plays and especially vulnerable to "balanced" offenses. Which is exactly what I see UK having in 2006.

The overall talent and experience is a slight edge to Louisville. But I think the loses are very large to the Cardinals and they must find someone to fill some big shoes that departed to the NFL.

Kentucky has 2 play makers that were not in the game in 2005:

Tony Dixon will be the feature back between the tackles for UK which is where I believe UK will have an advantage. He runs low and hard and with good vision.

LOUISVILLE MUST STOP THE PASS

Andre Woodson has matured by 1 year, He played away from Commonwealth in Auburn, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida the friendly confines should not be an issue.. This offense can easily surpass the 7.0 YPA that gives the Cardinal fits. With Woodson in and Burton on the outside, the deep ball will be there and if it is not then the running lanes will be open because the Cards will have 2 on Burton. Which is why I believe Pulley as QB will see action. Burton outside and Tammie in the middle must be covered with 3 people. I believe this will open up lanes for Dixon, Little and Pulley.

When Pulley comes in the defense can not change, they still must cover Burton, and the offense will be very different and hard to defend. If Louisville can not find a pass rusher to fill the shoes of Elvis, and a run stuffer like Stanley, the Linebacking group that is also missing a NFL player will have their hands full with a "straight" ahead rushing attack with Dixon, Little and Pulley.

Burton and Little: Either can make plays with in the offense, but I would not be surprised to see a return from either of them.

But in the end this is not the year for Kentucky. Regardless what you hear from the UK camp 2007 is the year that the talent level and experience reaches competitive levels.

For the Cardinals on the other hand the 2006 season has much potential and now is the time to strike. It may be decades before the Louisville offense can feature players like Brohm and Bush.

KENTUCKY OFFENSE

POS	Year	Name	Size	GMS	PPR
QB	Jr	Andre' Woodson	6-5 / 240	18	40
QB	So	Curtis Pulley	6-4 / 203	9	99
RB	Jr	Rafael Little	5-10 / 198	20	30
RB	So	*Tony Dixon	5-9 / 208	8	85
WR	Jr	John Logan	6-0 / 189	4	23
WR	Jr	Steve Johnson	6-2 / 185	0	28
WR	Jr	Keenan Burton	6-2 / 195	21	55
WR	So	Dicky Lyons	5-11 / 190	8	97
WR	So	DeMorio Ford	5-10 / 190	2	143
WR	Fr	Michael Strickland	6-2 / 190	0	158
TE	rFr	Ross Bogue	6-5 / 247	0	100
TE	Jr	Jacob Tammie	6-5 / 240	22	107
C	Sr	Matt McCutchen	6-3 / 310	22	39
C	rFr	Jorge Gonzalez	6-3/300	0	210
OG	Sr	Fatu Turituri	6-3 / 290	7	35
OG	Sr	Michael Aitcheson	6-3 / 300	18	61
OG	Sr	Trai Williams	6-4 / 286	24	80
OG	So	Christian Johnson	6-4 / 325	10	102
OT	Sr	Hayden Lane	6-6 / 283	30	63
OT	So	Gary Williams	6-3 / 288	8	86
OT	So	James Alexander	6-5 / 281	11	118
OT	Fr	Justin Jefferies	6-5/300	0	130
Kentucky Offensive Totals				242	1889

LOUISVILLE DEFENSE

Pos	Year	Name	Size	GMS	PPR
DE	Sr	Zack Anderson	6-4/268	12	20
DE	Jr	Brandon Cox	6-4/253	19	98
DE	Fr	D. Whitehead	6-6/245	0	112
DE	rFr	Michael Adams	6-3/248	0	144
DT	Sr	Amobi Okoye	6-1/312	32	56
DT	So	Earl Heyman	6-3/283	11	57
DT	Jr	Willie Williams	6-4/300	10	58
DT	So	Adrian Grady	6-2/292	12	126
LB	Sr	Nate Harris	6-1/235	11	7
LB	Sr	Abe Brown	6-4/230	32	27
LB	Jr	Malik Jackson	6-2/230	1	62
LB	So	Lamar Myles	6-0/216	9	71
LB	Jr	Preston Smith	6-1/220	22	77
LB	Jr.	Tarrence Butler	6-3/222	22	89
FS	Sr	Brandon Sharp	5-11/195	31	68
FS	RSo	Deon Palmer	6-0/203	0	72
SS	Jr.	Jonathan Russell	6-2/194	20	73
SS	Fr	Latarius Thomas	6-2/195	0	122
C	So	Rod Council	5-11/189	12	59
C	Sr	Gavin Smart	5-9/192	24	62
C	So	Bobby Buchanan	5-11/188	8	66
C	Sr	William Gay	5-11/184	34	71
Louisville Defensive TOTALS				322	1597

LOUISVILLE 41

KENTUCKY 34

I see no reason to change anything from the past. The Louisville offense has been dominant in the Governors cup even before Petrino was on the sidelines.

I do see this game going a little different than the last 2 games. The more snaps Brohm plays they more chance to reagrevate the knee, the closer the game the more snaps he be required to play.

Petrino has stated that he wants to score early and often. To me that means look for the ball to be in the air as much as possible.

UK's defense has done OK in the past. But that was because teams did not have to pass they could basically run at will.

Overall Louisville has a slight offensive advantage in talent and even less in experience. There are several questions with the Cards Offensive line but there also is with the Cats Defensive Ends.

I have more respect for Bob Petrino as an offensive coach than any coach in the Nation.

The core of the UK defense has been improved and I think that will bear out in the Louisville running game. Consider last season 2 UL runs by Kolby Smith made up 50 of Louisville Rushing yards. They are explosive, but I expect this to dip slightly in 2006 based on what I expect to be less QB runs and some growing pains in the offensive line.

I see the single biggest difference in this game will 1 ~ 3 long pass plays. In 2005 UK tackled well and receivers had very little room to run. Regardless the zone defenses that Archer employees I see a much more efficient passing unit than what we saw in 2005.

KENTUCKY OFFENSE

POS	Year	NAME	Ht./Wt.	GMS	PPR
DE	Sr	Durrell White	6-3/260	30	43
DE	Jr	Dominic Lewis	6-3/258	7	57
DE	So	Nii Adjei Oninku	6-1/245	11	67
DE	Jr	Travis Day	6-3/265	14	112
DT	Sr	Lamar Mills	6-1/285	24	32
DT	Jr	Ricky Abren	6-2/285	19	52
DT	Jr	Jason Leger	6-1/282	21	72
DT	So	Myron Pryor	6-1/300	11	89
LB	Jr	Joe Schuler	6-3/233	22	47
LB	Jr	Wesley Woodyard	6-1/212	21	88
LB	So	Braxton Kelley	6-0/226	7	101
LB	Fr	Micha Johnson	6-2/255	0	101
LB	So	Johnny Williams	6-3/235	11	127
FS	Fr	Calvin Harrison	6-1/190	0	73
FS	So	Marcus McClinton	6-1/210	13	74
SS	Jr	Roger Williams	6-0/210	22	78
SS	Fr	Ashton Cobb	6-0/205	0	126
C	Sr	Karl Booker	6-1/190	22	51
LB	So	Ben McGrath	6-2/240	8	114
C	So	Shomari Moore	5-9/190	11	116
C	Fr	Trevard Lindley	6-0/175	0	122
C	Fr	Paul Warford	5-11/195	0	129
Kentucky Defensive Totals				274	1871

LOUISVILLE DEFENSE

Pos	Year	Name	Size	GMS	PPR
QB	Jr	Brian Brohm	6-4/225	21	8
QB	So	Hunter Cantwell	6-3/223	8	128
RB	Sr	Michael Bush	6-3/250	35	1
RB	So	George Stripling	6-1/193	11	133
WR	Jr	Harry Douglas	5-11/170	23	65
WR	Sr	Jimmy Riley	6-1/212	22	51
WR	So	Mario Urtia	6-6/200	11	67
WR	Jr	Patrick Carter	6-3/199	0	66
WR	So	Chris Vaughn	6-3/200	0	84
WR	Jr	Scott Long	6-5/251	0	66
TE	Jr	Gary Barnidge	6-6/236	22	111
TE	Jr	Scott Kuhn	6-5/251	14	67
C	Sr	Michael Sturgeon	6-4/298	17	100
C	So	Eric Wood	6-4/296	10	110
OG	Jr	Marcel Bensen	6-6/318	1	34
OG	rFr	Mike Donahue	6-3/300	0	99
OG	Jr	Danny Barlowe	6-5/290	8	100
OG	Sr	Kurt Quarterman	6-5/336	30	61
OT	Sr	Renardo Foster	6-7/322	17	13
OT	Jr	Marcus Gordon	6-6/317	1	28
OT	Jr	Breno Giacomini	6-7/290	17	75
OT	So	George Bussey	6-4/280	0	116
Louisville Offensive Totals				268	1584

KENTUCKY's Trump Card:

My picked is based on a even TO battle, this is the area of which a blow out can occur or UK can win.

In Football turnovers are cyclical. In recent years the Governors cup the winner was also the team that won the turnover battle.

Of UK's common opponents, Louisville in the only team that UK has not won the battle with at least once. It could be this year and it could be all UK needs to win the game.

TEAMS	2003	2004	2005	Total
Louisville	-1	-2	-3	-6
Indiana	0	+1	-1	0
Florida	+1	+1	-3	-1
South Carolina	-1	+1	-3	-3
Mississippi St.	+1	+2	0	+3
Georgia	-1	0	-1	-2
Vanderbilt	-1	+1	+1	1
Tennessee	-2	+1	-1	-2

IS IT UK'S TURN IN 2006?

I WILL BE ADDING MY 2006 SEASON PROJECTIONS HERE SOON. ONCE COMPLETE I WILL SEND THEM OUT