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Football Press Releases August 2005

Wofford College. Sports Information Office

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The Wofford football team will have 90 players reporting to campus tomorrow afternoon for the start of preseason drills.

"We're looking forward to having our kids here," Terrier coach Mike Ayers said. "As a coaching staff, we've been working hard to get ready for this day.

"We have a very young team with a group of freshmen that we need to find out about."

The first practice will be Tuesday at 6:15 p.m.

With a 29-8 overall record and 18-5 league mark, Wofford is the SoCon's winningest team over the last three seasons.

At No. 18 in the final regular-season poll by The Sports Network, the Terriers hold the nation's second-longest current streak for consecutive rankings in the Division I-AA Top 25. Wofford has appeared in 36 straight polls since Oct. 21, 2002. Only Montana (93 polls) has been ranked longer.

Wofford reports to campus Aug. 8 for the start of preseason drills. The Terriers open the campaign Sept. 3 versus Georgetown (Ky.) College, alma mater of Ayers. The Terriers travel to Morgantown the following week, Sept. 10, to face West Virginia.
The Wofford football team, entering its 18th season under head coach Mike Ayers, has been ranked No. 21 by The Sports Network in its preseason I-AA poll.

The Terriers own the nation’s second-longest streak for consecutive rankings in the polls at 36 consecutive weeks dating back to Oct. 21, 2002. Only Montana (93 polls) has been ranked longer. The Grizzlies open with a No. 3 ranking.

Wofford is also the Southern Conference’s winningest team over the last three years. The Terriers carry a 29-8 (.784) overall mark and 18-5 (.783) league record into the 2005 campaign.

A total of 13 starters return to this year’s squad which opens practice at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday.

The Sports Network 2005 Preseason I-AA College Football Poll
1. James Madison (49) -- 2,333
2. Furman (21) -- 2,251
3. Montana (14) -- 2,215
4. Eastern Washington (11) -- 2,053
5. Southern Illinois (3) -- 1,842
6. Georgia Southern -- 1,841
7. New Hampshire -- 1,731
8. Western Kentucky -- 1,698
9. William & Mary (1) -- 1,547
10. Delaware -- 1,538
11. Northwestern State -- 1,431
12. Northern Iowa -- 1,102
13. Hampton -- 1,076
14. Lehigh -- 963
15. Massachusetts (1) -- 869
16. Sam Houston State -- 712
17. Cal Poly -- 681
18. Montana State -- 671
19. Harvard (1) -- 661
20. Jacksonville State -- 658
21. Wofford -- 502
22. North Dakota State -- 421
23. Texas State -- 308
24. Hofstra -- 299
25. Grambling State -- 293

() - number of first-place votes

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Terriers open preseason football practice
August 9, 2005

In anticipation of another season, the Wofford football team opened its 2005 practice slate Tuesday evening on campus on Snyder Field. The practice lasted approximately two hours.

The practice was delayed slightly due to a rain which only lasted 5-to-10 minutes. Several Carolina Panthers stopped to observe the action as they walked to and from the cafeteria to their meetings.

Due to NCAA regulations, the squad wore only helmets and mesh jerseys and shorts.

"We've (the coaches) to continue to stress the effort and tempo to the young ones," said head coach Mike Ayers. "We have to make sure they understand what we want and then continue to work.

"I think we can be a very fundamental and execution team. I believe we will be a physical team.

"I think we have a good group of guys. Hopefully, it will come down to not so much the veterans improve, but how we take the young ones and bring them up to the level at where they need to be."

With nearly 90 players reporting to camp, Ayers and and his staff are looking forward to the season getting underway.

Tuesday's camp started with a running test at 6:30 a.m. followed by meetings and equipment distribution.

The practice was observed by a variety of media outlets, including three TV stations (WSPA, WYFF, WHNS) and a newspaper, the Spartanburg Herald-Journal.

Following lifting and meetings all day tomorrow, the Terriers will return to the practice fields at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday again at Snyder Field.

Wofford is ranked No. 21 in The Sports Network preseason poll. The Terriers own the nation's second-longest streak of consecutive rankings at 36 dating back to Oct. 21, 2002. Only Montana (93 polls) is ranked longer.

The Terriers are also the Southern Conference's winningest program over the last three years with an 18-5 (.783) league mark and 29-8 (.784) overall record.

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Terriers hold second preseason practice
August 10, 2005

The Wofford football team utilized Russell C. King Field and Andrews Field House Wednesday during its preseason camp in preparation of the season opener Sept. 3 versus Georgetown (Ky.).

The field traditionally serves as the home to the Terrier baseball team while the Field House is the old basketball gymnasium.

The team was forced indoors after lightning was spotted in the area.

"I think the kids are working hard," said Wofford head coach Mike Ayers. "The more we continue to rep it, the better the younger guys will get. That is a major focus of camp.

"We're trying to get those guys ready to play and find the ones that will serve us in a backup role or possibly as starters.

"I think for the most part, the effort had some sharpness to it and the execution got a little hectic once we went inside. But, it is a situation where we have to be able to deal with all the elements, whether they are heat or the noise within the gym.

"The good thing about the second day is that there was progress and we will try to build on it tomorrow."

The Terriers began practice yesterday and continued for the second day wearing only helmets and mesh jerseys and shorts per NCAA regulations.

Receiving the majority of the snaps at quarterback is sophomore Josh Collier (Bonaire, Ga.). He is the projected starter following the graduation of seniors Trey Rodgers and Jeff Zolman.

Also in camp as quarterbacks are true freshmen Dane Romero (West Chester, Ohio) and Ben Widmyer (Couer d'Alene, Idaho) along with sophomore transfer Kasey Cooper (Kissimmee, Fla.).

The players sat through a number of meetings throughout the course of the day, including sessions with their individual position coach.

Wofford has been picked No. 21 in the preseason The Sports Network poll. The Terriers open the season Sept. 3 against Georgetown (Ky.) before traveling to face West Virginia the following week.

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New coach, new drill for Wofford inside linebackers
August 11, 2005

As the Wofford football team prepares for the upcoming season, it is not just the players who are getting ready. The coaches have to as well.

And for first-year inside linebackers coach Nathan Fuqua, the transition from player to coach is an exciting one.

"Right now, the feeling is almost like being a freshman," noted Fuqua. "There are a few jitters and I am trying to learn all I can from (defensive coordinator Nate) Woody."

In Thursday night's practice at Russell C. King Field, Fuqua implemented a new drill for his players. The basis of the drill was to "try and lock off on a block, escape and make a good tackle. The key is to run through the ball carrier."

During the practice, the new coach noticed the work ethic of veterans Justin Franklin (Jacksonville, N.C.), Justin Bell (Ashland City, Tenn.) and Josh Smith (Greer, S.C.) was especially strong.

Senior Jim Thurman (Hixson, Tenn.) did not practice.

Also in the mix are freshmen Seth Goldwire (Guyton, Ga.) and James Mitchell (Oak Ridge, Tenn.).

Thursday's practice marked the first of the camp for the Terriers in shoulder pads. Wofford will continue with shoulder pads through Friday and then don full gear for Saturday's workout.

Wofford will continue its preseason camp at 3:15 p.m. Friday in preparation for the Sept. 3 opener versus Georgetown (Ky.). The Terriers, who are ranked No. 21 by The Sports Network, open their road slate Sept. 10 at West Virginia.

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Hodapp ready to step up in final season
August 12, 2005

Despite the graduation of All-America offensive linemen Eric Deutsch and Bobby Gibbs, the Wofford offensive line continues to produce solid student-athletes. The latest in the line is senior offensive tackle Kevin Hodapp (Cincinnati, Ohio), who has earned preseason All-America praise from Lindy's magazine and The Sports Network.

"Right now, at the beginning of camp, we are just working on getting the plays down," said Hodapp. "I am working to get to a point where I can do them without thinking too much about it. I am also working on getting myself in game shape for every play. Also, we are working on getting the younger guys to understand what we are trying to do and let them know what we expect out of them."

Working with third-year offensive line coach Eric Nash, a former Terrier star himself, has provided the unit the necessary tools to provide the best blocking in the complex wingbone offense of which Wofford runs.

"Kevin is a guy who knows every assignment," noted Nash, a three-time All-Southern Conference selection during his playing days. "He is very technically sound. The older guys on the line learn what they need to do and a lot of it is the little things. Our linemen are a big part of our offense. They help make our plays go.

"The biggest thing is you can draw on the board because there are a lot of different situations that we face. But, it is taking reps on the field and stepping through it. Hodapp has taken around a million reps through his years here. It is also about off-the-field preparation, such as watching film."

Friday's practice at Russell C. King Field marked the second day the team was permitted to wear shoulder pads. Per NCAA regulations, Saturday's practice, which will mark the fifth of the preseason camp, will allow the team to don full gear for the first time.

The team is slated to hit the field at 3:15 p.m. Saturday before taking Sunday off and returning to work for its first two-a-day session Monday.

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Full pads allowed during Saturday's football practice
August 13, 2005

The Wofford football team donned full gear for the first time during its 2005 preseason camp Saturday afternoon at Russell C. King Field. Per NCAA rules, a team can not wear the full pads until its fifth practice. A light rain fell for the final 15 minutes on a relatively cool afternoon.

"I think we made a little bit of progress," said head coach Mike Ayers. "Anytime you come out of shorts and go full pads, the intensity and tempo picked up. I think we got better."

With nearly 95 players in camp, Ayers and his coaching staff have been working hard the first five days to get them in shape for the first two-a-day session which begins Monday.

"We are throwing the ball better. At the receiver position, I think we have some guys that will do a great job for us as far as catching some balls. We are still in the process of getting the young guys as many reps as we can.

"I think it is a matter of just staying after it, being consistent, detailed and thorough. Also, we want a good effort."

The Terriers will take Sunday off but still have position meetings throughout the day. The team will resume practice Monday at 8:30 a.m. before the second session at 6:45 p.m.

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Second week of practice begins for Wofford running backs
August 15, 2005

After taking Sunday off for meetings, the Wofford football team returned to Snyder Field at 6 p.m. Monday for a three-hour session as it began its second week of preseason practice. The Terriers, who are ranked No. 21 by The Sports Network in its preseason poll, are preparing for the Sept. 3 opener at Gibbs Stadium versus Georgetown (Ky.).

"The younger kids are doing really, really well," said running backs coach Freddie Brown. "At this point, the learning curve is still pretty sharp. The demand on them is tremendous right now for those young guys.

"Our seniors have really stepped up and taken charge of things in the huddle. They are leading and teaching almost as much as I am right now.

"Our younger guys do look promising."

Brown, a 1991 Wofford graduate, is in his 11th total year at Wofford. He began his coaching duties in February 1999 and also serves as the Terriers' head track & field coach.

His primary duties this season will be getting the backfield ready to play in the wingbone offense.

Senior Gabriel Jackson (Dahlonega, Ga.), who is the Southern Conference's second-leading rusher after tallying 647 yards on a league-best 7.0 per carry average, returns at the halfback slot.

At the other halfback position, senior Corey Dunn (Lexington, Ky.) is penciled in as the starter. He was fifth on the squad in 2004 with 239 yards rushing. He averaged 5.7 yards per carry and scored three touchdowns.

In the running back slot is sophomore Michael Hobbs (Andalusia, Ala.). During his freshman campaign, he nearly matched Jackson's per carry average with a 6.9 mark.

"We feel really good about Hobbs and fellow sophomore Adrian Young as both kids are progressing extremely well at this point," noted Brown. "From a halfback standpoint, Jackson has had an outstanding camp to date. Dunn seems to be as strong as he has ever been. We feel good about our backfield situation.

"The offense contains multiple sets, alignments and formations. Just hundreds of plays as well. It is a lot for the kids, but we recruit bright kids that can handle the load. That is one of the things that makes us good in the long run is that we are able to do that.

"The story about Wofford is that it is about the right kid in the right system."

Wofford will continue with the same routine Tuesday by having meetings and lifting during the day and then practice at 6 p.m.
Night practices continue for Wofford football
August 16, 2005

The Wofford football team, normally doing the two-a-day routine during the second week of practices, instead has shifted its focus to a single three-hour session. The Terriers used Snyder Field for the second-straight evening Tuesday.

"I think everyone has done a great job," said head coach Mike Ayers. "When you go three hours, especially in the heat we have had, it makes it tough. But, everyone is working hard and getting after it. We are getting better.

"As coaches, we have seen a tremendous amount of progress in the past couple of days. I really think we will have an opportunity to be a good football team and a lot of young kids will have a chance to play. If we continue to practice hard and practice smart, stay away from the injuries, then we will be alright."

The focuses of Tuesday's practice were "certain pass routes and a certain defense that we are going to see in the first game. I think defensively what we were looking at was a little bit more on the installation, pass rush, combination stunts and the overall plan. We also worked real hard in the kicking game.

Wofford will continue with the same routine Wednesday. Position meetings begin at 10 a.m. followed by lifting at 3 p.m.

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In the trenches with the Terrier defensive line
August 17, 2005

The Wofford football team was back on Russell C. King Field Wednesday evening for its third straight three-hour session this week. The Terriers are in the middle of their second week of preseason practice in preparation of the first scrimmage of the camp Saturday.

Part of the responsibility this season is fortifying the defensive line. The group is coached by 12th-year veteran Jack Teachey.

Following the graduation of All-America Lee Basinger and academic star Ben Whitney, preseason All-Southern Conference choice Katon Bethay headlines this year's unit.

Bethay, who is the only Wofford student-athlete to earn all-league recognition in more than one sport, is the defensive leader. At nose tackle, he is anchoring a line which also features senior Erik Hutchinson and junior Bryan Blair in the defensive end spots.

Seniors Gaby Dibo and Alex Schaefer and junior James Gonsoulin are also pushing for playing time this fall.

The Terriers will hold practices at 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. The team then will participate in an intrasquad scrimmage Saturday at 7 p.m.

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Terriers winding down week before scrimmage
August 18, 2005

The Wofford football team has one practice remaining, at 6 p.m. Friday, before participating in its first intrasquad scrimmage of the fall at 7 p.m. Saturday.

The Terriers have been utilizing both Snyder Field and Russell C. King Field this week as they are preparing for the clash.

On both sides of the ball, the players have been practicing hard and getting as many repetitions in as possible while staying healthy.

Throughout the first two weeks of camp, head coach Mike Ayers and his staff have seen considerable progress and are pleased with the team’s work ethic.

Following Saturday night’s scrimmage, Wofford will take Sunday off before returning to work Monday.

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Monday, August 22, 2005

Contact: Steve Shutt (864-597-4093)

Terriers continue preseason preparations

SPARTANBURG, SC – The Wofford football team continued preseason practice on Monday as the Terriers prepare for their season opener at home against Georgetown (Ky) on
Monday as the Terriers prepare for their season opener at home against Georgetown (Ky) on Saturday, September 3.

Head coach Mike Ayers put the Terriers through a two-hour practice at Russell C. King Field on Monday night. The light practice was an opportunity for Wofford to recover from Sunday night’s two-hour scrimmage and concentrate on correcting mistakes.

“We let them recover from the scrimmage so that we can have the rest of the week to go over the mistakes that we made last night,” said Ayers.

Monday’s practice included a complete review of the kicking game.

“All three kickers did a great job in the kickoff phase,” said Ayers in referring to incumbent kicker junior Nick Robinson (DeLand, Fla), along with freshmen Patrick Mugan (Hendersonville, N.C./N. Hendersonville) and Chris Tommie (Greenwood, S.C./Emerald). “We still are not as consistent in the field goal aspect as we need to be.”

Ayers said that Tommie, who has the inside track to become Wofford’s starting punter this fall, hit several punts of 60 or more yards. “He has a tremendous leg,” said Ayers. “He just needs to relax and go out there and do his thing.”

For the second straight day, the Terriers may have lost a player for the season due to injury. Junior halfback Demetrick Swindler, a 5-10, 175-pound junior halfback, appears to have torn his ACL. He was scheduled to undergo an MRI later on Monday night and could face season-ending surgery down the road.

Wofford will practice again on Tuesday and Wednesday before going through another intrasquad scrimmage on Thursday.
Wednesday, August 24, 2005
Contact: Steve Shutt (864-597-4093)

**Terriers return to Roberts Practice Fields**

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – After utilizing Russell C. King Field and Snyder Field for practice over the last two weeks, the Wofford football team will return to the Frank J. Roberts Practice Fields on campus with this evening’s practice.

The Carolina Panthers broke camp at noon on Wednesday, allowing the Terriers to return to their normal locker room in the Richardson Physical Activities Building.

“It will be nice to move into our locker room and we’re looking forward to getting back onto our practice fields,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “We’ve been in a locker room without air conditioning. Now, everyone will have a locker and everyone will have a chair.”

Wofford went through a three-hour workout on Tuesday night at King Field as they prepare for the season opener on Sept. 3 against Georgetown (Ky.).

“We’re still working on fundamentals,” said Ayers. “We had some young guys miss assignments and some older guys still need a refresher. “We’ve got a good group of young men that are developing a good chemistry. Down the road, that will help us win some games.

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**Wofford’s Katon Bethay named to Buchanan Award Watch List**

SPARTANBURG, SC – The Sports Network has placed Wofford nose tackle Katon Bethay on its preseason Buck Buchanan Award Watch List it was announced on Wednesday. Bethay, a second-team preseason All-American by *The Sports Network*, is one of just 16 players from across the nation in Division I-AA football to be named to the list. The Buchanan Award is given annually to the nation’s top defensive player in Division I-AA.

Former Terrier safety Matt Nelson finished third in voting for the 2003 Buchanan Award. Bethay, a 6-2, 285-pound senior from Milton, Wis. Was fourth on the team with 71 tackles last year. He is a two-time second team All-Southern Conference selection on the defensive line and also has earned All-SoCon honors in the shot put.

Buck Buchanan was a 6-7 All-Pro defensive lineman for 13 years in both the National Football League and the American Football League. He earned NAIA All-America honors at Grambling State before starring with the Kansas City Chiefs.

The Terriers open the 2005 season at home on Sept. 3 against Georgetown (Ky.) College.
Terrier football completes second scrimmage
August 25, 2005

Nearly 100 plays were ran as the Wofford football team held its second scrimmage of the preseason camp Thursday evening at Snyder Field. The Terriers are ranked No. 21 in the preseason The Sports Network poll.

Wofford is carrying four quarterbacks in camp, including three newcomers. Only sophomore Josh Collier has prior game experience running the offense entering this season. He completed 3-of-4 passes for 64 yards and one touchdown. The scoring strike was a 7-yarder to freshman tight end Fenn Allen in the back of the endzone. Allen juggled the ball before hauling it in.

The other three signal callers, freshmen Kasey Cooper, Dane Romero and Ben Widmyer were a combined 10-of-36 for 151 yards. They rotated between running the scout team offense and the first-team unit.

"I think offensively, the young quarterbacks have progressed," said head coach Mike Ayers. "We are more consistent on offense than we were in the first scrimmage (Aug. 20)."

On the defensive side of the ball, the group picked off seven passes, including a 55-yard touchdown return by preseason All-Southern Conference selection and defensive lineman Katon Bethay. Sophomore Dan Tavani had two picks, while Brian Kemp, Brian Ford, Alex Love and Dedrick Stuckey each had one.

Kemp also opened the second half with a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

"Defensively, we have some guys that are flying around. The secondary did a nice job of breaking on the ball and making plays. We are at the point where everything from here on out is game preparation for Georgetown (Ky.)."

"Tonight, we accomplished our major goal, which was to get out of this thing without any injuries. I think after looking at the film, we will see some good stuff."

Junior Terrance Ware was the team's leading rusher with 43 yards on a team-high tying seven carries. Freshman Frank Domonousky also had seven rushes and gained 35 yards. Wide receiver Jimbo Robinson registered 16 yards on a reverse.

The wide receiver corps was paced by a 57-yard effort from freshman Andy Strickland. Former Terrier basketball and track & field star Adrien Borders added 56 yards. Both players had two catches.

"The young kids are coming and getting better. We just need to get them up to speed to where they are executing at a high level because we are going to need it."

Each of the three kickers in camp, Nick Robinson, Patrick Mugan and Chris Tommie attempted the extra points and field goals. Tommie made two of the three field goal attempts, from 29 and 27 yards. He and Robinson each converted all three points after touchdown.

Wofford will continue its preseason practice Friday as it gears up for the Sept. 3 opener versus Georgetown (Ky.) at Gibbs Stadium.

Travis Woods
Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director
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Full release attached as a PDF

Game 1 Georgetown, KY (0-0)
at Wofford (0-0)

When Saturday, Sept. 3, 2005
Kickoff at 7:00 EDT
Site Gibbs Stadium
(grass, capacity 13,000)
Radio WSPG 1400 AM
Mark Hauser, Thom Henson
Tom Brown (sideline)
TV none
Series Wofford leads 1-0

Last Meeting Wofford 7-0 in 1928

Game Week

• Coach Ayers Lunch: Media covering the Terriers are invited to the weekly Mike Ayers Luncheon held on Mondays at 11:30 a.m. in the Ginko Room of the Burwell Building on campus. Wofford players will be present. Please call in advance if you plan on attending.

• Interviews: All interviews with Wofford coaches and players can be arranged by contacting athletic media relations director Steve Shutt at (864) 597-4093.

• Practices: All Wofford practices are open to the media.

WOFFORD (0-0, 0-0)
Sept. 3 GEORGETOWN (Ky) 7:00
Sept. 10 at West Virginia 6:00
Sept. 17 GEORGIA SOUTHERN* 7:00
Oct. 1 at Chattanooga* 4:00
Oct. 8 ELON* 1:30
Oct. 15 VMI* 1:30
Oct. 22 APPALACHIAN STATE* 1:00
Oct. 29 at The Citadel* 4:00
Nov. 5 at Western Carolina* 2:00
Nov. 12 at Furman* 3:30
Nov. 19 at Gardner-Webb 1:30

GEORGETOWN, Ky. (0-0, 0-0)
Sept. 3 at Wofford 7:00
Sept. 17 BELHAVEN* 7:00
Sept. 24 at Bacone 1:30
Oct. 1 BETHEL COLLEGE* 1:30
Oct. 8 at Campbellsville* 1:30
Oct. 15 at Virginia-Wise* 6:00
Oct. 22 UNION COLLEGE* 1:30
Oct. 29 PIKEVILLE COLLEGE* 1:30
Nov. 5 at Shorter College* 1:30
Nov. 12 at Cumberland College* 1:30

The Story Line: Two of the top college football teams in their respective divisions will meet in the season opener for both teams . . . Wofford College, ranked 21st in The Sports Network preseason NCAA Division I-AA poll, will host the NAIA’s third-ranked team, Georgetown (Ky.) College on Saturday, September 3 at Wofford’s Gibbs Stadium . . . The game will feature Wofford head coach Mike Ayers coaching against his alma mater for the first time in his 20-year coaching career.

The Coaches: Wofford head coach Mike Ayers (Georgetown, Ky. ’74), the winningest coach in school history, is in his 18th season with the Terriers and has a record of 110-80-1 . . . He is in his 21st year as a college head coach and his all-time record is 121-101-2 that includes a three-year stint as the head coach at East Tennessee State University (1976-78) . . .
coach with an all-time record of 121-101-2 that includes a three-year stint as the head coach at East Tennessee State from 1985-87 ... Ayers has earned Southern Conference Coach of the Year honors five times in the last five years, being so honored by the league coaches in 2000 and 2003 and by the media in 2000, '02 and '03 ... Over the last three years, Ayers has led the Terriers to a 29-8 overall record and an 18-5 league mark including a conference championship and an appearance in the Division I-AA national semifinals in 2003 ...

Georgetown head coach Bill Cronin (Indiana '78) is in his ninth year with the Tigers and has a career record of 88-14 ... Cronin was the NAIA National Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2001

Series vs. Georgetown: This will be just the second meeting ever between Wofford and Georgetown ... The Terriers posted a 7-0 win over Georgetown in 1928 in the only previous meeting between the two clubs.

About Georgetown: Georgetown College, founded in 1787, has become an NAIA powerhouse ... Over the last six seasons, the Tigers have captured two national championships and been national finalists twice ... Georgetown was 12-1 in 2004 as it won its seventh straight Mid-South Conference title ... Georgetown, with an enrollment of 1,350, is a member of the Mid-South Conference ... The Tigers were 12-1 last year ... The Tigers are ranked third in the NAIA preseason polls, the same spot in which they finished the 2004 season after reaching the national semifinals...

Ayers and Georgetown: Wofford head coach Mike Ayers played college baseball and football at Georgetown College ... He was born in Georgetown and attended high school in Cincinnati ... After earning a football scholarship to Georgetown, Ayers earned all-district honors at linebacker while also starting at offensive tackle ... He also earned all-district honors as a catcher on the baseball team in addition to competing in gymnastics and wrestling ... He received his bachelor's degree from Georgetown in 1974 and a masters in 1976 ... He is a member of the Georgetown Athletic Hall of Fame ... He was a graduate assistant coach with the Tigers in '74 before being promoted to defensive coordinator in '75.

Ayers on Georgetown: “Anytime you face a school that you played at, there’s always going to be something special. Georgetown (Ky.) is where I was born and went to college. Georgetown afforded me an opportunity to do something that I truly love and that’s coach. I was able to start coaching there. When we open up that first weekend, there’s going to be a great deal of emotion that you have anytime you’re in conflict with a place that you love. That particular day, there will be two places that I love, Georgetown College and Wofford.”

Battle of Training Camp Sites: Both Wofford and Georgetown are the training camp homes of National Football League teams ... The Cincinnati Bengals have trained at Georgetown since 1997 ... The Carolina Panthers have held preseason camp at Wofford since 1995 ... During the time that the two NFL teams have trained at their current summer camps, the Panthers hold a 2-0 regular season series advantage ... Carolina beat the Bengals 52-31 on Dec. 8, 2002 and 27-3 on Sept. 26, 1999.

Injury Report: Wofford suffered two season-ending injuries during preseason camp ... Senior free safety Shaun Bennett tore his right Achilles tendon early in an Aug. 21 scrimmage ... Bennett was attempting a comeback from a torn left Achilles tendon that he suffered in last year’s preseason and cost him the entire 2004 season ... Junior halfback Demetric Swindler, a 5-10, 175-pound junior halfback, suffered a torn ACL on Aug. 22 ... OT Davy Olmsted underwent arthroscopic surgery on a knee during preseason camp and will not play in the season opener ... TE Justin Pinckney had knee surgery and is not expected to play this season ... DB Colby Harris is expected to miss the opener after suffering a concussion during training camp.

Winners on the field: Both Georgetown head coach Bill Cronin and Wofford head coach Mike Ayers own the distinction of being their school’s winningest head coach.

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**And in home openers:** Wofford has won four straight home openers . . . The Dogs defeated Johnson C. Smith 56-0 in 2004, topped South Carolina State 35-13 in 2003, defeated Newberry 48-0 in ‘02 and stopped Charleston Southern 35-10 in 2001.

**Friends and Foes:** Wofford has a strong recruiting presence in Cincinnati, Ohio and Northern Kentucky . . . A number of Terriers and Tigers share the same high school alma maters and a number of players were prep teammates . . . Wofford freshmen Brandon Hunt and Travis Boyd are both graduates of Louisville, Ky. Ballard High School as are Georgetown freshman Matt Stratton and junior quarterback Andy Ahrens. . . . Wofford freshman quarterback Dane Romero is from Lakota West High in West Chester, Ohio. . . . Georgetown has three Lakota West grads in junior linebacker Jason Leimberger, freshman linebacker Trey Iverson and freshman defensive lineman Brandon Poston . . . Terrier rookie offensive lineman Ben Miller matriculated from Cincinnati’s LaSalle High School as did Georgetown’s senior tight end David Kemen and freshman defensive lineman Nick Dooros. . . . Wofford halfback Corey Dunn is a graduate of Lexington, Ky.’s P.L. Dunbar High as is Georgetown sophomore linebacker Rick Jones . . . Wofford offensive linemen Corey McKenna and Marty Bauer are both graduate of Cincinnati Eldo H.S. as is Georgetown sophomore linebacker Kevin Harnist.

**WOFFORD OFFENSE (Wingbone)**

- **LT** 79 Brad Birrenkott (6-5, 280, Sr.)
  74 Will Rutherford (6-5, 260, Jr.)
- **LG** 61 Derek Tiller (6-0, 275, Jr.)
  65 Ben Quick (6-3, 280, Fr.)
- **C** 71 Brad Anderson (6-2, 285, Sr.)
  66 Corey McKenna (6-2, 270, Sr.)
- **RG** 68 Marty Bauer (6-2, 290, Jr.)
  73 Ben Miller (6-3, 305, Fr.)
- **RT** 78 Kevin Hodapp (6-3, 280, Sr.)
  76 Derek Wooten (6-7, 270, So.)
- **TE** 86 Cody Garland (6-4, 255, Sr.)
  88 Fenn Allen (6-5, 215, Fr.)
- **WR** 13 Brandon Berry (5-8, 160, Jr.)
  18 Dane Romero (6-1, 190, Fr.) OR
  19 Ben Widnyer (6-0, 195, Fr.)
- **QB** 12 Josh Collier (6-2, 195, So.)
  18 Dane Romero (6-1, 190, Fr.) OR
  19 Ben Widnyer (6-0, 195, Fr.)
- **HB** 34 Corey Dunn (5-11, 205, Sr.)
  2 Terrance Ware (5-9, 180, Jr.)
  6 Adrian Young (5-11, 200, So.)
- **RB** 3 Michael Hobbs (5-10, 195, So.)
  22 Aaron Johnson (5-10, 180, Sr.)

**WOFFORD DEFENSE (Multiple 50)**

- **DE** 53 Erik Hutchinson (5-11, 245, Sr.)
  98 James Gonsoulin (6-0, 250, Jr.)
- **NT** 92 Katon Bethay (6-2, 285, Jr.)
  94 Gaby Dibo (6-0, 284, Sr.)
- **DE** 90 Bryan Blair (5-9, 255, Jr.)
  60 Michael Combest (6-1, 250, So.)
- **OLB** 28 Derek Newberry (6-2, 218, Sr.)
  21 Kyle Horne (6-2, 205, Jr.)
- **ILB** 57 Josh Smith (6-0, 224, Sr.)
  55 Jim Thurman (6-2, 225, Sr.)
- **ILB** 45 Justin Franklin (6-2, 220, So.)
  49 Justin Bell (6-0, 230, Jr.)
**OLB** 29 Jason Leventis (5-10, 205, So.)
42 Aaron Scott (6-0, 190, Fr.)
**LCB** 16 Dedrick Stuckey (5-10, 180, Sr.)
30 Zac Grey (5-11, 175, So.)
**FS** 10 Brian Ford (6-3, 195, So.)
11 Alex Love (6-0, 185, Sr.)
**SS** 7 Dan Tavani (5-10, 200, So.)
24 Maurice Faulk (6-2, 190, So.)
**RCB** 5 Brian Kemp (5-11, 175, So.)
11 Alex Love (5-10, 180, Jr.)

**WOFFORD SPECIALISTS**

- **P** 31 Chris Tommie (6-0, 175, Fr.)
  17 Andy Strickland (6-0, 185, Fr.)
- **PK/KO** 27 Nick Robinson (5-10, 180, Jr.)
- **PR** 13 Brandon Berry (5-8, 160, So.)
  30 Zac Grey (5-11, 175, So.)
- **KR** 30 Zac Grey (5-11, 175, So.)
  5 Brian Kemp (5-11, 175, So.)
- **H** 82 Jimbo Robinson (5-10, 180, So.)
- **LS** 63 Chris Collins (6-2, 250, So.)
  56 Greg German (6-3, 225, Jr.)
- **KO** 27 Nick Robinson (5-10, 180, Jr.)

**GEORGETOWN OFFENSE (Run and Shoot)**

- **LT** 65 Mike Secor 6-4 275 So.
  70 Michael O'Keefe 6-6 245 RFr.
- **LG** 68 Kevin Sanderson 6-3 280 Sr.
  56 Will Catron 6-0 240 Jr.
- **C** 78 Michael Polly 6-3 260 Jr.
  64 Tyler Gross 6-4 275 So.
- **RG** 72 Mike Crum 6-3 285 Sr.
  Robbie Janning 6-3 300 Fr.
- **RT** 63 Chris Wergers 6-4 275 Sr.
  77 Joe Dunn 6-3 320 Sr.
- **LH** 33 C.R. Rohrbough 6-1 195 Sr.
  4 Adam Russell 5-11 193 Sr.

- **FB** 37 James Brown 5-10 190 So.
  21 Chris Sharrock 5-9 210 Jr.

- **RH** 28 Chris Travis 5-9 190 Jr.
  45 John Keene 5-10 170 RFr.

- **RE** 83 David Penland 5-11 170 Jr.
  6 Tyrus Walker 6-1 180 So.

- **LE** 3 Brian Piper 6-3 180 Jr.
  29 Josh Sato 5-7 160 Jr.

- **QB** 17 Jeff Smith 6-6 230 Jr.
  19 Andy Ahrens 5-11 195 So.

**GEORGETOWN DEFENSE (3-4)**
<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Courtney White</td>
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<td>Joe Berrow</td>
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<td>Kenya Williams</td>
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<td>Nick Scott</td>
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<td>DE</td>
<td>Joshua Williams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ryan Whalen</td>
<td>6-3</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLB</td>
<td>Nick Bridewell</td>
<td>6-2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mike Gabbard</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jason Leimberger</td>
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<td>Zach Cline</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Rick Jones</td>
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<td>Matt Shansky</td>
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<td>Clay Hamblen</td>
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<td>Adam Meier</td>
<td>6-0</td>
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<td>Nathan Stuckey</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Ryan Sarlls</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>Brandon Blackerby</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Ryan Blackerby</td>
<td>5-9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adrian Morton</td>
<td>6-0</td>
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<td>So.</td>
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</table>

**GEORGETOWN SPECIALISTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<th>Height</th>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Daniel Snodgrass</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dan Starkey</td>
<td>6-1</td>
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<td>So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>David Penland</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>170</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dan Starkey</td>
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<td>So.</td>
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</table>

Steve Shutt
Associate AD/Media Relations
Wofford College
429 N. Church St
Spartanburg, SC 29303
(864) 597-4093
Wofford Football News

August 29, 2005

Game 1  Georgetown, KY (0-0) at Wofford (0-0)

When  Saturday, Sept. 3, 2005
Kickoff at 7:00 EDT

Site  Gibbs Stadium
(grass, capacity 13,000)

Radio  WSPG 1400 AM
Mark Hauser, Thom Henson
Tom Brown (sideline)

TV  none

Series  Wofford leads 1-0

Last Meeting  Wofford 7-0 in 1928

Game Week

• **Coach Ayers Lunch:** Media covering the Terriers are invited to the weekly Mike Ayers Luncheon held on Mondays at 11:30 a.m. in the Ginko Room of the Burwell Building on campus. Wofford players will be present. Please call in advance if you plan on attending.

• **Interviews:** All interviews with Wofford coaches and players can be arranged by contacting athletic media relations director Steve Shutt at (864) 597-4093.

• **Practices:** All Wofford practices are open to the media.

Wofford Football News

WOFFORD (0-0, 0-0)

Sept. 3  GEORGETOWN (Ky) 7:00
Sept. 10 at West Virginia  TBA
Sept. 17 GEORGIA SOUTHERN* 7:00
Oct. 1 at Chattanooga* 4:00
Oct. 8 ELON* 1:30
Oct. 15 VMI* 1:30
Oct. 22 APPALACHIAN STATE* 1:00
Oct. 29 at The Citadel* 4:00
Nov. 5 at Western Carolina* 2:00
Nov. 12 at Furman* 3:30
Nov. 19 at Gardner-Webb 1:30

GEORGETOWN, Ky. (0-0, 0-0)

Sept. 3  at Wofford 7:00
Sept. 17 BELHAVEN* 7:00
Sept. 24 at Bacone 1:30
Oct. 1 BETHEL COLLEGE* 1:30
Oct. 8 at Campbellsville* 1:30
Oct. 15 at Virginia-Wise* 6:00
Oct. 22 UNION COLLEGE* 1:30
Oct. 29 PIKEVILLE COLLEGE* 1:30
Nov. 5 at Shorter College* 1:30
Nov. 12 at Cumberland College* 1:30

The Story Line: Two of the top college football teams in their respective divisions will meet in the season opener for both teams . . . Wofford College, ranked 21st in The Sports Network preseason NCAA Division I-AA poll, will host the NAIA’s third-ranked team, Georgetown (Ky.) College on Saturday, September 3 at Wofford’s Gibbs Stadium . . . The game will feature Wofford head coach Mike Ayers coaching against his alma mater for the first time in his 20-year coaching career.

The Coaches: Wofford head coach Mike Ayers (Georgetown, Ky. ‘74), the winningest coach in school history, is in his 18th season with the Terriers and has a record of 110-80-1 . . . He is in his 21st year as a college head coach with an all-time record of 121-101-2 that includes a three-year stint as the head coach at East Tennessee State from 1985-87 . . . Ayers has earned Southern Conference Coach of the Year honors five times in the last five years, being so honored by the league coaches in 2000 and 2003 and by the media in 2000, ‘02 and ‘03 . . . Over the last three years, Ayers has led the Terriers to a 29-8 overall record and an 18-5 league mark including a conference championship and an appearance in the Division I-AA national semifinals in 2003 . . .

Georgetown head coach Bill Cronin (Indiana ‘78) is in his ninth year with the Tigers and has a career record of 88-14 . . . Cronin was the NAIA National Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2001.

Series vs. Georgetown: This will be just the second meeting ever between Wofford and Georgetown . . . The Terriers posted a 7-0 win over Georgetown in 1928 in the only previous meeting between the two clubs.

About Georgetown: Georgetown College, founded in 1787, has become an NAIA powerhouse . . . Over the last six seasons, the Tigers have captured two national championships and been national finalists twice . . . Georgetown was 12-1 in 2004 as it won its seventh straight Mid-South Conference title . . . Georgetown, with an enrollment of 1,350, is a member of the Mid-South Conference . . . The Tigers were 12-1 last year . . . The Tigers are ranked third in the NAIA preseason polls, the same spot in which they finished the 2004 season after reaching the national semifinals . . .

Ayers and Georgetown: Wofford head coach Mike Ayers played college baseball and football at Georgetown College . . . He was born in Georgetown and attended high school in Cincinnati . . . After earning a football scholarship to Georgetown, Ayers earned all-district honors at linebacker while also starting at offensive tackle . . . He also earned all-district honors as a catcher on the baseball team in addition to competing in gymnastics and wrestling . . . He received his bachelor’s degree from Georgetown in 1974 and a masters in 1976 . . . He is a member of the Georgetown Athletic Hall of fame . . . He was a graduate assistant coach with the Tigers in ‘74 before being promoted to defensive coordinator in ‘75.

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Preseason Honors

I-AA.Org Preseason All-SoCon

1st Team
OT Kevin Hodapp
HB Gabriel Jackson
DL Katon Bethay

2nd Team
LB Justin Franklin
NT Katon Bethay
Honorable mention offense
OT Kevin Hodapp

The Sports Network
2nd team defense

SoCon Football Coaches Poll
Team (1st place votes) Points
1. Furman (6) 48
2. Georgia Southern (2) 44
3. Appalachian State 35
4. Wofford 29
Western Carolina 29
6. Chattanooga 17
7. The Citadel 12
8. Elon 10

SoCon Media Poll
Team (1st place votes) Points
1. Furman (26) 297
2. Georgia Southern (9) 277
3. Appalachian State (1) 229
4. Wofford (3) 188
5. Western Carolina 162
6. Chattanooga 110
7. The Citadel 81
8. Elon 60

Coaches Preseason All-SoCon

Team
OFFENSE
First Team
OT Kevin Hodapp, Wofford
Second Team
RB Gabriel Jackson, Wofford
DEFENSE
First Team
DL Katon Bethay, Wofford
Second Team
LB Jim Thurman, Wofford

Predicted order of finish

I-AA.Org
1. Furman
2. Georgia Southern
3. Appalachian State
4. Chattanooga
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<th>Player</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td>Brad Birrenkott</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Will Rutherford</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LG</td>
<td>Derek Tiller</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>275</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ben Quick</td>
<td>6-3</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Brad Anderson</td>
<td>6-2</td>
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<td>Ben Miller</td>
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<td>RT</td>
<td>Kevin Hodapp</td>
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<td>Core McKenna</td>
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<td>TE</td>
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<td>Fenn Allen</td>
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<td>Brandon Berry</td>
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<td>Matt Beavin</td>
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### Wofford Defense (Multiple 50)

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### Georgetown Offense (Run and Shoot)

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### Georgetown Specialists

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