8-1-2013

Football Press Releases August 2013

Wofford College. Sports Information Office

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Monday, August 5, 2013
Wofford Football Opens 2013 Practice
SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The Wofford College football team began preparation for the 2013 season with the first day of practice on Monday. The opening practice lasted two hours and was held in shorts and helmets.
Wofford reported to campus on Sunday afternoon, with several meetings held on Sunday night. On Monday morning at seven, the team took part in the conditioning test. All players who participated in the test completed it.
Following equipment fitting and afternoon meetings, the team took the Gibbs Stadium field for the first time at 6:00 pm. Most of the practice was spent with position groups, with one segment devoted to kickoff coverage. The defense also used a period to work a turnover circuit.
“I think for the most part we had good energy during practice,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “We kind of drifted a little bit towards the end, which may have been because we got them up early this morning for the fitness test. Our returning guys plugged right in and did a nice job. The most difficult thing is when you have a bunch of freshmen and they don’t quite understand the tempo that you are looking for and they don’t understand the sharpness that you require. There was a little too much walking around for me so we tried to talk to them some after practice and communicate that we were asking for something else.”
Wofford will practice at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday on the lower soccer practice field. The team will be in shoulder pads for the first time on Wednesday and move to full pads on Friday.
**NOTABLES:** Freshman quarterback Nick Colvin is working at wide receiver … Wofford President Dr. Nayef Samhat attended the first portion of practice … This season’s Terriers are from 21 different states, plus Sweden … South Carolina leads the way with 29 student-athletes, followed by Georgia at 22 … The 2013 season begins with a road trip on August 31 to Baylor.
Wednesday, August 7, 2013
Wofford Football Practice Update
SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The Wofford College football team continued preparations for the 2013 season on Wednesday afternoon. The two hour practice at Gibbs Stadium was held in helmet and shoulder pads in humid conditions.
The practice began with a team segment as the first string offense faced off against the first string defense. Position drills were followed by a one-on-one tackle drill, one of the highlights of the practice as players cheered on their teammates.
In seven-on-seven, James Lawson completed first down passes to Will Gay and Jeff Ashley. Michael Weimer hit Cam Flowers for a first down, while Evan Jacks found Paul Nelson to move the chains. Brad Butler threw a five-yard pass to Zach Muller for a touchdown.
Pass rush drills and pass defense were followed by punt return. Six players returned punts, with Will Gay and Octavius Harden leading the group. In the final team segment of practice, Donovan Johnson had a 15-yard run and James Zotto had an interception. Evan Jacks found Octavius Harden for a 30-yard reception. The day ended with PAT as Kasey Redfern, David Marvin, and Paul Inclan took reps.
“The first day of shoulder pads some of the guys are still getting used to it,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “I saw some good things and I think that we definitely can be a good football team. The big thing is sustaining the effort that we need throughout the 24 periods and keeping the focus. The tough thing that you get into is you get competitive and the next thing you know things can get carried away into falling over. We can’t afford injuries so we have to do a better job of practicing together and practicing smart to be a quality team.”
Wofford will practice at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday on the lower soccer practice field. The team will move to full pads on Friday and have the first scrimmage on Saturday at 6:15 p.m.
QUICK NOTES: Freshman tight end Nolan Auton joined the 95 players in camp, as freshman safety Nick Ward (mono) is being held out of practice … Defensive lineman Ethan Gaskins (hamstring) and defensive back Josh Grimes (knee) did not practice … Wofford was picked fifth in the nation in the FCS Preseason Coaches Poll … The Sports Network Preseason Poll will be released next Monday … The 2013 season begins with a road trip on August 31 to Baylor.
Saturday, August 10, 2013
Wofford Football Practice Update
SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The Wofford College football team continued preparations for the 2013 season with two practices, including a scrimmage, on Saturday. Highlights of the scrimmage included a touchdown pass caught by Will Gay and an interception by Coleton Robinson.

The morning began with a practice that lasted an hour and 45 minutes on the lower practice fields. The scrimmage at Gibbs Stadium was composed of six segments of ten plays each for a total of sixty plays. Between each segment the team focused on special teams.

In the opening series, the first string offense and first string defense were matched up against each other. After a 20-yard run by Will Gay, James Lawson completed passes to Jeff Ashley and Will Irwin. Donovan Johnson added two carries before the series ended short of the endzone.

The second series featured the second team offense and second string defense. Michael Weimer had a six-yard run and Octavius Harden ran for a first down. Ray Smith had two runs for seven yards each.

The third team opened with a six-yard run by Hunter Windham. Zach Muller had two short receptions from Brandon Goodson. Jesse Williams came up with a forced fumble for the defense. Coleton Robinson picked off a tipped pass, while Brandon Curtis had a tackle for loss on a reverse to end the series.

The first team offense and defense were back on the field for the fourth series. Jeff Ashley caught a 25-yard pass from Evan Jacks. Jacks then found Will Gay for a 40-yard touchdown reception, however the defense claimed a sack on the play. Chris Armfield had a tackle for loss in the series.

Each of the three kickers in camp then made field goal attempts from 22-yards, 32-yards, and 37-yards. Paul Inclan hit all three field goals, while Kasey Redfern and David Marvin both made two field goals.

In the fifth series, Taylor Bragg worked with the second team offense. Bragg completed a pass to Wade Francis and Zach Muller had a pair of catches. For the final series of the day, Will Irwin made a 22-yard reception from Brad Butler. Logan Christian and Chris Martin both had catches for first downs, while Butler added a run for a first down.

“We got sixty good reps and there is a lot to teach from,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “We covered it all in the kicking game. I think overall the effort was great. This was our second practice today with a full practice this morning and then we came out and had a good night. I like the work ethic that the kids have and they will compete. We just have to continue to get better physically. The young guys have to get up to speed on understanding the concepts that we are trying to teach, but overall it was a very productive week and a very productive day.”

Wofford will take a day off on Sunday before returning to the field for two practices on Monday at 9:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

**QUICK NOTES:** Friday’s practice was held in Benjamin Johnson Arena due to thunderstorms in the area … The scrimmage was held with referees from the Southern Conference … Several players were held out of the scrimmage for a variety of reasons, including Tymeco Gregory, Nolan Auton, Nick Ward, Dakota Hopper, Tyrese Little, Jonny Martin, Roo Daniels, and Jordan Pope … The 2013 season begins with a road trip on August 31 to Baylor.
Saturday, August 17, 2013
Wofford Football Completes Second Scrimmage

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The Wofford College football team held the second scrimmage of the 2013 season on Saturday evening at Gibbs Stadium. The scrimmage lasted a total of 60 plays, with the offense and defense each running 30 plays. Highlights included an interception by SeQuan Stanley and a touchdown run by Evan Jacks.

The scrimmage began with a short segment of team plays as a warm-up. After the opening kick-off, the first team offense took the field. Donovan Johnson had back-to-back carries for a gain of 30 yards. Jeff Ashley added a ten-yard reception on the drive.

With the first team defense on the field and the offense working on cards, Nick Colvin caught a 40-yard pass in double coverage from Brad Butler. Jeremy Holt had a tackle for loss, while Tarek Odom and Mike McCrimon each had sacks.

Back on offense, Michael Weimer completed a ten-yard pass to Wade Francis and an 8-yard pass to Paul Nelson. Jonny Martin ran three yards for a first down and Francis added a 12-yard catch. The drive ended with a 37-yard field goal by Kasey Redfern.

The defense took the field for the second time and Tom Bove recorded a sack. Travis Thomas added a tackle for loss and then with the offense inside the ten-yard line SeQuan Stanley made an incredible interception in the endzone to end the series.

The third series for the offense opened with a 15-yard run by Will Gay. After a seven-yard run by Lorenzo Long, Evan Jacks gained 18-yards down the near sideline. Lorenzo Long picked up a first down with a 15-yard run. After a five-yard first down carry by Caleb Lucas, Evan Jacks scored on a three-yard run.

In the final series of the scrimmage, the defense had tackles for loss by SeQuan Stanley and Boston Bryant. Josh Davis and James Zotto combined to break up a pass from Taylor Bragg.

“I think we have made progress,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “There are some guys that are starting to separate themselves. I am really pleased with some of our running backs. We are making progress with the passing game and the receivers. Evan Jacks had a good night and did some good things even when things broke down to turn it into a positive. Defensively we have some guys that are playing pretty well. We had a couple situations on deep balls where we had an opportunity for picks and did not make it happen. We are in pretty good shape in the kicking game. We went live there and it was good, not great, but with Kasey Redfern I think he is going to be an All-Conference guy for us. He is fundamentally where he needs to be and will be an asset for us.”

Wofford will take a day off on Sunday before returning to the field for two practices on Monday at 9:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

QUICK NOTES: The scrimmage was held with referees from the Southern Conference … Several players were held out of the scrimmage for a variety of reasons, including Nick Ward, Dakota Hopper, Tyrese Little, Phifer Nicholson, Brody Hingst, Kevin Thomas, Josh Grimes, and Davis Lenoir … There were no injuries in the scrimmage … Former Wofford players Travis Wilson and Mike Rucker were in attendance … The 2013 season begins with a road trip on August 31 to Baylor.
Join The Goal Line Club!

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In its first year the Goal Line Club initiative was hugely successful! Gifts for each of the Terriers’ 49 touchdowns on the 2012 season raised more than $57,000 for the newly formed Goal Line Club Endowed Scholarship Fund.

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Click to make your pledge now!
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For more information visit our website or contact Al Clark ’01 at 864-597-4090 or clarkao@wofford.edu.
Saturday, August 17, 2013
Wofford Football Completes Final Scrimmage
SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The Wofford College football team held the final scrimmage of the 2013 fall camp on Wednesday evening at Gibbs Stadium. The squad ran almost 80 plays, highlighted by a touchdown run by Donovan Johnson and touchdown receptions for Michael Harpe and Will Gay.
After the opening kick-off, the first team offense took the field. With James Lawson at quarterback, Cam Flowers had a 12-yard run and Ray Smith had a 25-yard carry. The drive was capped by a 25-yard touchdown run by Donovan Johnson.
With the first team defense on the field and the offense working on cards, Tarek Odom recorded a sack on the first play. Odom and E.J. Speller combined for a tackle for loss before Alvin Scioneaux had an interception. Darius Burton added a sack in the series.
Back on offense, Michael Weimer had an eight-yard run and completed a 12-yard pass to Zach Muller. A five-yard run by Weimer was followed by another completion to Muller and a catch by Paul Nelson. Short runs by Jonny Martin and Octavius Harden set up a one-yard touchdown reception by Michael Harpe.
A quick special teams segment of 32-yard field goals saw David Marvin and Paul Inclan each make both attempts. The defense took the field for the second time with Drake Michaelson and Josh Davis combining for a pass break-up. Nick Colvin had a first down reception from Brad Butler on the scout team.
The third series for the offense opened with an 8-yard run by Evan Jacks. After a first down run by Ray Smith and a first down reception by Wade Francis, Nick Colvin added a nine-yard reception. Jacks ran for five yards, which led to a ten-yard touchdown reception by Will Gay.
In the final series of the scrimmage, the defense had a tackle for loss by Tarek Odom and a sack by Chris Armfield. Jeremy Holt and Darius Burton combined for a tackle for loss, while Lincoln Stewart and Bernard Williams each had pass break-ups.
The team then ran the one-minute drill to complete the scrimmage. The first drive ended with an interception by Brion Anderson. The second stalled after a sack by Jim Dolinak. SeQuan Stanley ended the third drive with an interception.
“We got out of it healthy which is always the main thing,” said head coach Mike Ayers. “We did a little more in the kicking game. I think that there was some good ball played. I thought offensively we moved around and did some good things. We have to stay away from the things that beat you, such as the penalties. Execution-wise I think all of the quarterbacks did a nice job and we can be a good offense. It is a process and we have a week and a half left and then we really find out what we are all about.”
Wofford will have practice on Thursday at 6:15 p.m., Friday at 4:00 p.m., and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. before taking Sunday off. Game week begins Monday with practice at 3:30 p.m.
QUICK NOTES: The scrimmage was held with referees from the Southern Conference … Several players were held out of the scrimmage for a variety of reasons, including Nick Ward, Dakota Hopper, Michael Comer, Tyrese Little, Phifer Nicholson, Brody Hingst, Josh Grimes, and Daryl Vining … There were no injuries in the scrimmage … The scrimmage was technically the end of camp, as players move into their regular dorm rooms on Thursday morning … It was also the last two-a-day practice of the fall … The 2013 season begins with a road trip on August 31 to Baylor.