GEORGETOWN HOYAS

QUARTERBACKS - Last year Georgetown had to replace 3 year starter Gunther Johnson. Joseph Brunell, son of NFL legend Mark Brunell, saw action in 8 games last year and threw for 607 (62%, 3-3). Brunell and Pierce Holly split time at QB. Brunell started 4 games including the first 2. He threw for 1,185 (58.5%, 7-4). Holley took over in the 3rd game and finished with 6 starts. He led with 1,260 (60.6%, 3-5). This year Brunell departs while Holley appears to have the job all to himself. Senior Tyler Knoop is the only other QB to attempt a pass last year but did rush for 132 (7.3). They are a little more experienced than last entering last year. Holley has a strong arm and is accurate so he should put up betting numbers this season.

RUNNING BACKS - In '18 Georgetown didn't have a single RB return that topped 100 rush yards for the season. In '19 they had 4 return including Herman Moultrie (388, 4.2) and Jackson Saffold (271, 3.6). Joshua Stakely missed 3 games but still led with 404 (5.3) including 139 vs Bucknell. Moultrie was #2 with 379 (3.4) and Saffold added 228 (3.6). All 3 RB's returned last year. Stakely missed 2 games and led with just 276 (3.1). Moultrie had 200 (2.9). Saffold added 109 (2.7). This year Stakely and Moultrie return while Saffold departs. They were much better in '19 than last season so we can chalk that up to rust after sitting out 2020 and expect a solid improvement this year.

RECEIVERS - Last year Georgetown had to replace WR Michael Dareus who was 2nd Team All-Patriot in '17 (696, 15.1) and led in '19 with 726 (17.7). Joshua Tomas returned after putting up 709 (13.4) and Cameron Crayton was back after putting up 331 (10.3) in '19. Tomas was 2nd Team All-Patriot after putting up 732 (12.8). Crayton led with 756 (16.8) and was named 1st Team All-Patriot. Asante Das added 431 (12.0). Their top 6 WR's all return, including both All-Patriot guys. This is one of the top WR units in the Patriot.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In '18 Georgetown rushed for just 94 ypg (2.6) and allowed 30 sacks. In '19 the Hoyas returned 3 starters again and had 6 back with starting experience. They improved to 147 ypg (3.8) and sacks dropped to 20. Last year they only lost LT Ryan Jelinek. Four starters returned and once again 6 had starting experience. The year off caused some rust and they fell to just 84 rush ypg (2.6) with 28 sacks (8%). This year they lose LT Josh Stevens (11 st) and LG TJ Thomas (6 st). All 3 returning starters were 3rd or 4th Team All-Patriot last year including RT Mac Hollensteiner who was committed to transfer to Virginia before deciding to return. Five have starting experience and they should be much better and possibly match the success they had in '19.

DEFENSIVE LINE - In '18 Georgetown allowed just 104 rush ypg (3.1). In '19 their top 8 DL all returned. They were gashed for 355 yds in the opener, then allowed 119 ypg the rest of the season. The Hoyas allowed 141 (3.6) overall and sacks dropped to 26. Last year they lost DE Khristian Tate (#9 tkl'r, 3 sk) who started the first 6 of '19 but missed the last 5. Also gone was DT Duval Paul (7 st, #11 tkl'r) and Marquis Parris (4 st, #16 tkl'r). Four with starting experience were back. They lost DT Quincy Chinwuko in the first game. They were less experienced and the Hoyas allowed 197 (5.0) and just 11 sacks. This year Georgetown gets all 3 starters back and their top 7 all return including their #6, #10, #12, #13, #14 and #19 tacklers. They go from inexperienced to experienced and should make a big jump after giving up their most rush ypg in more than a decade.

LINEBACKERS - Georgetown returned their top 8 LB's in '19 including their #1, #3, #5 and #8 tkl'rs. Last year they lost 2x All-Patriot LB Xavier Reddick (#1 tkl'r) and 1st Tm All-Patriot Wes Bowers (#5 tkl'r) along with George Ikott (2 st, #8 tkl'r, 7 tfl). They did get their #3 and #4 and #7 tkl'rs back. Justin Fonteneaux led with 85 takles (#6 in Patriot). He returns this year along with Owen Kessler (7 st, #9 tkl'r, 5.5 tfl) and Stephen Sergio (2 st, #15 tkl'r). Their only loss is JLB Palmer Nix (11 st, #4 tkl'r). With 3 of their top 4 including their leading in tfl's in Fontenot, this is another improved unit and the strength of the defense.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - In '19 the Hoyas returned 3 of their top 5 DB's and they held their foes to just 154 pass ypg (58.6%) and had 12 int's while allowing just 3 td's! They Hoyas finished #1 in pass efficiency D in the Patriot League. Last year they returned their #2, #6, #10 and #13 tkl'rs. They did lose S Leon Agee (10 st, #14 tkl'r). but 3 starters were back and this time 4 of their top 5 DB's returned. Georgetown allowed 185 pass ypg but 62.4% (16-4) and they fell to #6 in pass efficiency D in the Patriot. This year they lose S Ahmad Wilson (11 st, #2 tkl'r, 3 pd), CB Delano Salgado (11 st, #8 tkl'r) and CB Jonathan Honore (8 st, #16 tkl'r, 4 pd). Only 2 of their 5 starters return including their #3 and #5 tacklers but this is a less experienced unit coming off a poor season.

SPECIAL TEAMS - Georgetown had 3 K's combine for just 5-9 fg's with Brad Hurst making 4-7 (L/44) in '19. Hurst also averaged 40.7 ypp (Net 34.0) but they did have 3 punts blocked. Joshua Tomas avg'd 13.1 PR with 1 td and 18.5 KR. Last year they lost their do-it-all kicker in Hurst. Conor Hunt handled every aspect of the kicking game. He made 7 of 12 fg's (L/45) and also averaged 41.7 ypp with their team net jumping to 38.2. Tomas averaged 6.8 PR and 20.3 KR. This year Hunt departs. Davis Walker spent his freshman year at Tulane and made a 27 yard fg at Columbia in '19. This unit is clearly down after losing their do-it-all kicker.

COACHES - Rob Sgarlata enters his 9th year at Georgetown. Sgarlata is a Hoyas alumni and coached here from '06-'13 as the DC and '95-'03 as an assistant position coach. During his time here he has coached WR/TE's, Oline, Dline, QB's, RB's and DB's. OC Rob Spence is in his 4th season and also coaches the QB's. He has held OC positions at Clemson, Syracuse, Bethune Cookman, Toledo, Louisiana Tech and Hofstra. DC Kevin Doherty is in his 5th year. He was ST's Coor here from '12-'16. He also held the DC and DB positions at Harvard from '01-'09. Trey Henderson is the 4th year Special Teams Coordinator.

FORECAST

OFFENSE - Georgetown made slight incremental improvements from '16-'18, only avg 225, 242 and 249 ypg. In '19 they had 7 starters including QB Gunther Johnson. The Hoyas put up 343 ypg and 24.2 ppg but those numbers were inflated by a blowout win over Catholic University (69-0) and they put up just 16 ppg in Patriot League play. They had 8 starters back on offense but lost the progress they made, dropping to 19 ppg and 334 ypg. This year Georgetown gets 8 starters back again. They have their top QB, top 2 RB's and top 6 WR's as well as 3 All-Patriot OLinemen. After sitting a year out they are equipped to make a jump back to around 24 ppg.

DEFENSE - Georgetown's defense was impressively consistent from '14-'17, allowing between 375 and 391 ypg each year and gave up 23, 27, 23 and 27 ppg. In '18 the Hoyas had 6 starters back. They held 5 foes under 300 yards and improved to just 298 ypg and 21.1 ppg. In '19 they had 14 of their top 18 tkl'rs back and 7 starters returned. They allowed just 16.6 ppg and 294 ypg. Last year 6 starters were back after sitting out '20. The Hoyas didn't handle the year off well and slipped to 30.6 ppg and 382 ypg. This year they have 7 starters back. Four of their top 6 tacklers return and they get 12 of their top 15 back. This was a consistently one of the better defenses in the Patriot and they could return to form with a full normal season behind them.

2022 - The Hoyas won 3, 4 and 3 games in his first 3 years then they dropped to 1-10 in '17 (-135 ypg). In '18 they improved to 5-6 and were just -49 ypg. They had 16 starters back in '19 and matched that record but only won 1 conference game despite improving to +49 ypg with 4 losses coming by 7 pts or less. Georgetown was the ONLY Patriot League team to not play in the spring. The Hoyas had their opener cancelled then won at Delaware St 20-14. During a 4 game losing streak they fell behind 20-9 1Q and lost by 35 vs Harvard, only trailed 28-24 late 4Q vs Columbia in an 11 point loss, was tied 21 all 4Q vs Colgate but lost by a td and was blownout by Holy Cross. Georgetown got back on the winning side, beating Patriot cellar dwellar Bucknell 29-21. They dropped their last 4 including a 1 point loss to Lafayette and a 7 point loss to Morgan St. Georgetown finished 2-8 and was -48 ypg overall and -76 vs Patriot foes. Sgarlatta is 10-19 in games decided by 7 points or less. They travel to Marist and Monmouth in non-conference play. They also get the two top Patriot League teams at home. They do host Bucknell and St. Francis. This is an improved team and the year off clearly hurt them while the other Patriot League teams benefitted from spring play but the schedule is tough and they may not get back to the 5 win mark they had in 2019.