

GEORGIA BULLDOGS



RB Chris Burnette

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2012

QUARTERBACKS - In '08 Matthew Stafford threw for 3,459 (61%, 25-10) and was the #1 overall pick in the NFL draft. Joe Cox (PS#8, 58 car att) took over in '09 as a 5th yr Sr. He threw for 2,584 (24-15) but only comp 56%. UGA's 17 int's were their most s'84. RfR Aaron Murray won the job in '10 and actually had a higher pass eff rating (154.5) than Stafford did as a Jr and higher than Andrew Luck in his rFr ssn. Murray finished #14 in pass eff (3049, 61%, 24-8) which was the 2nd highest ever for a frosh in the SEC (UK's Jared Lorenzen 3,687 in '00) and showed mobility (358 gross rush). True frosh Hutson Mason (PS#43) played in 4 (9-17-102) becoming the 2nd QB in NCAA history to throw a td on his 1st career pass. Added to the mix LY was VHT Christian LeMay (PS#4) and Parker Welch (6'3" 204 So). Murray had similar numbers (3149, 59.1%, 321 gross, 1st Tm SEC) but set a schl record with 35 td (14 int). Mason who played in 4 (254, 60%, 2-0) will RS TY and Murray should be one of the top QB's in the entire country.

RUNNING BACKS - Heading into '07 UGA surprisingly had just one 1,000 yd back s'92! In '07 rFr Knowshon Moreno (PS#14, 1334, 5.6). RfR Aaron Murray won the job in '10 and actually had a higher pass eff rating (154.5) than Stafford did as a Jr and higher than Andrew Luck in his rFr ssn. Murray finished #14 in pass eff (3049, 61%, 24-8) which was the 2nd highest ever for a frosh in the SEC (UK's Jared Lorenzen 3,687 in '00) and showed mobility (358 gross rush). True frosh Hutson Mason (PS#43) played in 4 (9-17-102) becoming the 2nd QB in NCAA history to throw a td on his 1st career pass. Added to the mix LY was VHT Christian LeMay (PS#4) and Parker Welch (6'3" 204 So). Murray had similar numbers (3149, 59.1%, 321 gross, 1st Tm SEC) but set a schl record with 35 td (14 int). Mason who played in 4 (254, 60%, 2-0) will RS TY and Murray should be one of the top QB's in the entire country.

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RECEIVERS - LY UGA had to replace one of the top WR's in college football in AJ Green (#1DC) along with their #2 rec Kris Durham (#4DC). The unit was loaded with fast, fast VHT's with the leading returnees being WR's Tavarres King (PS#6, 504, 18.7), Marlon Brown (PS#3, 133, 12.1) and TE Orson Charles (PS#2, 422, 16.2). Charles was a Mackey finalist (#3, 574, 12.8). King had 205 in the bowl and finished #1 with 705 (15.0) and true frosh Malcolm Mitchell (PS#18) was #2 (665, 14.8, 3rd Tm FRAA). Brown had just 234 (15.6) in 5 sts. TY they lose 2nd Tm AA TE Charles (14 st, #4DC CIN), TE Aaron White (1 st, 101 yds) and Mitchell was at DB in the spg. This group is more exp'd.

OFFENSIVE LINE - In '10 UGA had 155 car sts ret so I expected big time improvement. Surprisingly they slipped to 143 (4.1) rush and 25 sks (7.0%). LY they had to replace 3 st's (9Y st exp) incl a 1st Tm SEC OL then lost Trinton Sturdivant to an ACL (7 st '10). The unit ret 2 st's but 86 car sts. While the ypg improved to 164, the ypc slipped to 3.9 (33 sk, 7.6%). TY they lose 4th Tm AA C Ben Jones (14 st, #4DC HOU), 3rd Tm AA OT Cordy Glenn (14 st, #2DC BUF) and RT Justin Anderson (14 st, #7DC IND) who comb for 125 car sts! While they have 2 ret sts again (3 that st'd 7+) they drop to 31 car sts TY. Still, I felt the L2Y's units underachieved and TY's could match their production.

DEFENSIVE LINE - In '10 they had to replace 3 DL's (comb 26 sts) who were #4, #7 and #7 DC's. DC Grantham's system is similar to Bama's and requires a massive NT. They had 1 st'r back and slipped allowing 147 ypg (3.7, 24 sk). LY they had to replace 1 st'r and 2 bkps but landed 351 lb, PS#5JC John Jenkins and moved PS#3 DeAngelo Tyson to DE. I said they would be much stronger up front and UGA finished #11 in the FBS allowing just 101 ypg rush (3.2) and had 35 sks. This year they lose DE Tyson (11 st, 20 tkl, 1.5 sk, #7DC BAL) but have 7 of the top 8 back and Jenkins didn't arrive until the fall LY. They also move in OLB's Cornelius Washington (6 st, 5 sk) and PS#3 Ray Drew. The proj st's are all PS#24 or better and this is one of the best D-lines in the country.

LINEBACKERS - In '10 UGA had to replace a 1st Tm SEC LB (#1 tkl'r, #3DC) and 2 bkps (7 st, 32 tkl). They shifted to a 3-4 and 2nd Tm SEC DE Justin Houston moved to LB. Houston (1st Tm AA) was the #3 tkl'r but also had 10 sks, 8.5 tfl and 44 qb. UGA's LB corps were banged up in both '08 and '09 but healthier in '10 (22.1 ppg). LY they had to replace Houston (#3DC), a 2nd Tm SEC LB (#1 tkl'r, #3DC), their #4 tkl'r (2 st) and #7 (7 st). They did add in USC transfer Jarvis Jones (PS#23). I noted that UGA's D had underperformed recently and while it was less exp'd they could surprise and they allowed 20.6 ppg (best s'07, 52 ypg less). Jones earned 1st Tm AA (70 tkl, 13.5 sk, 6 tfl, 49 qb) and turned down the NFL. This year the 2 deep returns intact (#2, #3, #7, #9, #10 tkl'r's) and they add in VHT Josh Harvey-Clemons (PS#1). This is one of, if not the best, LB corps in the nation.

DEFENSIVE BACKS - UGA had a veteran secondary in '08 but after finishing #8 and #17 in my PDR, they surprisingly dropped to #57. In '09 they had to replace 2 st's (#3DC) and dropped to #74. In '10 they had to replace 3 st's (#5DC). The unit played better than expected (#29, 55%, 15-16). After giving up 380 pass yds to Ark, they benched their SS and CB (Shawn Williams and Sanders Commings took over) and allowed 170 ypg pass the final 10. Last year they basically had all 4 starters back and the Bulldogs improved to #11 (50.7%, 12-20). S Bacarri Rambo earned 1st Tm AA. This year they lose 4th Tm AA CB Brandon Boykin (14 st, 55 tkl, 3 int, 9 pbu, #4DC PHI) but return 4 of their top 5 and add in PS#5 and PS#17 soph's. It'll be tough to move up much in my PDR, especially without their top CB and 3 starters susp for at least the opener but this unit is even stronger.

SPECIAL TEAMS - I was shocked at where UGA finished in my ST rankings in '11. In the L10Y UGA has had 8 Top 24 ST finishes (5 top 7). K Blair Walsh (#6DC MIN) was a 2-time Groza semi and P Drew Butler (Ray Guy '09) both ret'd along with some dangerous RM like Brandon Boykin (24.3 KR) and Brandon Smith (14.3 PR). They finished #7 in my ST rankings in '10 and I called them the best ST unit in the country. It was shocking as Walsh (55-68 car FG's) hit just 21-35 (L56). Butler still avg 44.2 but his net dropped from 40.6 in '10 to 35.8. UGA avg 6.7 on PR before a 92 yd td in the bowl and avg 21.6 on KR. They all'd a 4 return td's and Richt said "Our ST's were mostly average to scary." UGA plummeted to #81 and TY lose their K/P combo plus their top RM and could drop even further.

COACHES - Mark Richt is in his 12th ssn here and earned SEC COY honors in '02 and '05. He was the OC at Flor St from '94-'00. Richt turned the play calling over to Mike Bobo prior to the GT game in '06. Bobo was a QB here and the QB cch s'01 and became the youngest coor (32) in the SEC in '07. DC Todd Grantham has 11 yrs of NFL coaching exp (DAL DL '08-09, CLE '05-'07). He is currently one of the highest paid FB's assst.

ALSO ON ROSTER:

QB Ben Shelton 6'1" 180 Jr	FB Greg Mulkey 6'3" 230 Jr	DL Geoff Rapp 6'3" 230 Jr
QB Greg Bingham 6'4" 223 So	FB Chris Young 6'1" 230 Jr	LB Ricky Lowe 6'7" 258 Sr
RB Alex Parsons 5'10" 194 Jr	FB Drew Wilson 6'2" 206 Jr	LB Taylor Maxey 5'10" 220 Jr
RB James Davis 5'11" 215 Fr	WR Taylor Bradberry 6'3" 192 Sr	DB Luis Capella 5'10" 176 Jr
FB Ben Mazingo 6'0" 225 Fr	WR Jamal Payette 6'3" 183 Jr	DB Lucas Redd 6'1" 210 Jr
FB Merritt Hall 5'11" 215 Fr	WR Michael Erdman 5'10" 191 So	DB Austin Herod 5'10" 191 Jr
	WR Curtis Wyatt 6'1" 195 So	DB Jessie Jones 6'0" 190 Jr

PHIL'S FORECAST

In Richt's 2nd ssn ('02) he led UGA to their first SEC Title in 20 yrs and set a schl record with 13 wins (#3 AP). In '03 they finished 11-3 and in '04 they beat FL for the 1st time s'97 and finished 10-2 (#7). In '05 they had to replace 6 NFL DC's and my publication was the only one to call for UGA to win the SEC East (most had them 3rd). They thrashed LSU 34-14 in the SEC Title game but after an upset loss to WV in the Sugar Bowl, only finished #10. Only UGA and USC finished in the Top 10 each year from '02-'05. UGA's D finished in the top 20 for 7 str yrs ('01-'07). Richt became just the 5th SEC HC to win 10+ in 4 straight yrs (Bryant, Dooley, Fulmer, Spurrier). In '06 they had just 9 ret sts and finished 9-4 (#23). In '07 the SEC media picked them #3 in the East. I was the only magazine to pick them to win the SEC East and I had them tying for the Title and that they did. After beating Hawaii in the Sugar Bowl 41-10, they finished #2. In '08 they were tagged #1 in the press AP poll. In '08 of the 14 sources from football.stassen.com, 10 had UGA either #1 or #2 in the country, but I had UGA 2nd in the East mostly due to a killer schedule. UGA finished 10-3 (#13). In '09 they were #13 in the press AP but surprisingly slipped to 8-5 (-21 ypg SEC). In '10 I did not put Richt on my "Coaches On The Hotseat" list as I figured he could survive a losing season and that proved accurate. UGA lost to UCF in the bowl and had their first losing ssn s'96 at 6-7. That tm did have 4 net close losses. LY UGA only had 12 ret sts but I called them one of the Most Improved Teams and they were my upset pick to win the SEC East as they did not have to face LSU, Ala or Ark out of the West. Things didn't look good early as they lost to Boise then had an amazing loss to S Car (basically allowed 4 D/ST td's). UGA then won their next 10. In their closest wins they led Vandy 23-7 but settled for 6 FG's and only won by 5. Vs Fla they had a 354-226 yd edge but due to poor ST play, only won by 4. They had clinched a berth in the SEC Title game when they beat GT 31-17. They held #1 ranked LSU to zero FD's in the 1H and had a 135-12 yd edge. Unfortunately they gave up a PR for a td and later an IR td and actually lost by 32 despite a 296-237 yd edge. It was another hard luck loss in the bowl to Mich St in 3OT. TY they again avoid LSU, Ala and Ark and have 16 ret sts and were +155 ypg in the SEC, 3rd best. If you incl the results of the SEC Title gm, they were #2. LY they did have just 3 true SEC AG's and TY have just 3 SEC HG's. UGA a legitimate Nat'l Title contender.

2012 PROJECTED STARTING LINEUP

OFFENSE	JERSEY # IN RED	DEFENSE	JERSEY # IN RED
QB 11 AARON MURRAY JR.	6-1 211 PS#6. 13 gm, 3049 (61%, 24-8), 167 rush, 1st Tm Fr AA '10. 14 st, 3149 (59%, 35-14) 1st Tm SEC LY. RB Christian LeMay (6'2" 198 Fr) PS#14. 14 Huisoon Mason (6'3" 196 Jr) 4 gm, 254 (60%, 2-0) LY.	DE 93 ABRY JONES SR.	6-3 309 PS#24. 6 st, 42 tkl, 5.5 tfl 2Y. 14 st, 48 tkl, 7 tfl, 3 pbu LY. 56 Garrison Smith (6'3" 294 Jr) PS#13. 3 tkl, 1 tfl true. L2 st, 14 gm, 22 tkl, 3 tfl LY. 96 Mike Thornton (6'1" 287 So) PS#53. RS '10. 7 gm, 2 tkl LY.
RB 1 ISAHIA CROWELL SO.	5-11 215 PS#4. 7 st, 12 gm, 850 (4.6), 59 rec (7.4) rush. 2nd Tm FRAA LY. 4 Keith Marshall PS#2. IFS. 24 Ken Malcolm (6'0" 226 So) PS#37. 2 st, 6 gm 174 (4.1) LY. 33 Kyle Karempelis (5'9" 180 So).	NOSE 6 JOHNN JENKINS SR.	6-3 351 PS#5JC. 7 st, 14 gm, 28 tkl, 6 tfl, 1 int, 10 qb LY. 99 Kwame Geathers (6'6" 350 Jr) PS#61. 8 gm, 7 tkl '10. 3 st, 12 gm, 14 tkl, 1 pbu LY. Jonathan Taylor is PS#14. John Atkins is PS#72.
WR 82 MICHAEL BENNETT SO.	6-3 208 PS#70. 4 st, 320 (10.0) LY. 26 Malcolm Mitchell (6'1" 184 So) PS#18. 9 st, 665 (14.8) true. FB Richard Samuel (6'2" 242 Sr) PS#10. 9 st, 768 (3.9) 3Y. Alexander Ogletree (5'10" 224 Jr). 1 st LY.	DE 83 CORNELIUS WASHINGTON SR.	6-4 269 PS#16. 9 st, 25 gm, 37 tkl, 8 tfl 2Y. 6 st, 12 gm, 17 tkl, 5 sk, 29 qb LY.
FL 12 TAVARRS KING SR.	6-1 193 PS#6. 9 st, 443 (22.2) 2Y. 5 st, 504 (18.7) '10. 13 st, 705 (15.0) LY. 86 Justin Scott-Wesley (5'11" 218 Fr) PS#31. Ran spg track. 17 Rantavious Wooten (5'10" 185 Jr) PS#40. 3 gm, 39 (19.5) OFY LY.	OLB 47 Ray Drew (6'5" 263 So) PS#3. 8 tkl, 3 tfl true. 58 Sterling Bailey (6'3" 259 Fr) PS#19. Dexter Morant (6'7" 245 So) PS#61.	
WR 15 MARLON BROWN SR.	6-5 222 PS#8. 8 gm, 15 (7.5) true. 12 gm, 133 (12.1) '10. 5 st, 12 gm, 234 (15.6) LY. 31 Chris Conley (6'3" 202 So) PS#41. 288 (18.0) LY. 25 Rhett McGowan (6'0" 190 Jr) 7 gm, 84 (12.0) LY.	OLB 33 Chase Vasser Jr.	6-3 227 PS#44. 3 tkl '10. 3 st, 12 gm, 16 tkl, 3 tfl, 1 int LY. 44 TJ Stripling (6'6" 222 Jr) 14 gm, 3 tkl 2Y. 95 Reuben Faloughi (6'5" 255 Jr) 18 gm, 5 tkl 2Y. Corey Campbell (5'10" 210 So) 12 gm, 2 tkl LY.
TE 88 Arthur Lynch Jr.	6-5 272 PS#4. 1 st, 11 gm, 2 rec true. RS '10. 1 st, 14 gm LY. 87 Jay Rome (6'6" 254 Fr) PS#3. Ty Flournoy-Smith is PS#82. 83 Jack Loonan (6'0" 215 Fr). Daniel Williams (6'2" 220 Fr).	ILB 35 MICHAEL GILLIARD SR.	6-2 220 PS#37. 22 gm, 15 tkl 2Y. 11 st, 65 tkl, 7 tfl, 8 qb LY. 45 Christian Robinson (6'2" 226 Sr) PS#64. 11 st, 46 tkl, 6 tfl '10. 4 st, 12 gm, 47 tkl, 6.5 tfl LY. 48 Kosta Vavlas (6'0" 219 So) 14 gm, 19 tkl LY.
LG 64 Dallas Lee Jr.	6-4 300 PS#46. 3 gm bkp 10. 7 st (5LG, 2RG) 8 gm, then OFY with broken leg LY. 79 Mark Beard (6'5" 300 Jr) PS#43JC. IFS. Could also play OT. 76 Zach DeBell (6'6" 273 Fr) PS#34. Very athletic.	ILB 9 ALEC OGLETREE JR.	6-3 236 PS#5. 5 st, 34 tkl true. 8 st, 52 tkl, 7.5 tfl, 6 qb LY. 52 Amario Herrera (6'2" 231 So) PS#27. 8 st, 14 gm, 37 tkl, 3 tfl, 2 pbu, 3 qb LY. 41 Brandon Burrows (6'3" 240 So) PS#92. OFY '11.
RT 75 Kolton Houston So.	6-5 291 PS#39. RS '10. Not elig '11 per NCAA rules. Outstanding spg hopes to be elig in fall. John Theus (6'6" 292 Fr) PS#3. Greg Pyke is PS#87. 70 Eddie McQuillen (6'6" 264 Fr) RS LY.	OLB 29 JARVIS JONES JR.	6-3 241 PS#23. 8 gm, 13 tkl, 1.5 tfl at USC '09. 14 st, 70 tkl, 19.5 tfl, 49 qb 1st Tm AA LY. Josh Harvey-Clemons (6'5" 208 Fr) PS#1. 51 Ramik Wilson (6'2" 224 So) PS#54. 4 tkl true. AJ McDonald (6'0" 240 So).
RG 68 CHRIS BURNETTE JR.	6-2 313 PS#34. 12 st RG LY, could move to C. 78 Watts Dantizer (6'0" 310 So) PS#27. 3 gm as true LY. Could also play OT. LS 59 Nathan Thomas (6'3" 254 Fr). 60 Wright Gazaway (6'0" 240 Jr).	CB 1 BRANDEN SMITH SR.	6-2 217 PS#97. 12 tkl rFr. 9 st, 36 tkl, 3 int '10. 14 st, 55 tkl, 4 tfl, 13 pb LY. Susp'd first 2 '12. 5 Damian Swann (5'11" 177 So) PS#5. 1 st, 11 gm, 5 tkl true. 37 Devin Bowman (6'0" 175 Fr).
LG 64 Dallas Lee Jr.	6-4 300 PS#46. 3 gm bkp 10. 7 st (5LG, 2RG) 8 gm, then OFY with broken leg LY. 79 Mark Beard (6'5" 300 Jr) PS#43JC. IFS. Could also play OT. 76 Zach DeBell (6'6" 273 Fr) PS#34. Very athletic.	CB 1 BRANDEN SMITH SR.	5-11 176 PS#5. 1 st RB, 14 tkl, 2 pbu true. 9 st, 17 tkl, 4 pbu, 2 int '10. 7 st, 14 gm, 24 tkl, 3 pd, 100 yd rush, PR (7.8) LY. 26 Malcolm Mitchell (6'1" 184 So) PS#18. 9 st WR, 665 (14.8), 38 rush (9.5) true.
RT 75 Kolton Houston So.	6-5 291 PS#39. RS '10. Not elig '11 per NCAA rules. Outstanding spg hopes to be elig in fall. John Theus (6'6" 292 Fr) PS#3. Greg Pyke is PS#87. 70 Eddie McQuillen (6'6" 264 Fr) RS LY.	SS 36 SHAWN WILLIAMS SR.	6-1 220 PS#79. 3 st, 34 tkl '10. 13 st, 14 gm, 72 tkl, 10 pd LY. 25 Marc Deas (6'1" 197 So) PS#92. 14 gm, 3 tkl LY. 11 Connor Norman (5'10" 208 So) 14 gm, 13 tkl LY. 43 Quintavious Harrow (5'11" 183 So).
LT 72 KENARIOUS GATES JR.	6-5 328 PS#213. Burned RS gm 6, 3 st RG, 7 gm true. 1 st LG, 12 st LY. 74 Austin Long (6'5" 304 Jr) PS#17. DNP 2Y. 2 gm LY. 83 Xavier Ward (6'7" 264 Fr) PS#60. 67 Hugh Williams (6'5" 254 So) 3 gm LY.	FS 18 BACARRI RAMBO SR.	6-0 218 PS#76. 11 gm, 25 tkl, 7 pd rFr. 13 st, 82 tkl, 6 pd '10. 13 st, 55 tkl, 8 pbu, 8 int 1st Tm AA LY. 39 Corey Moore (6'2" 207 So) PS#17. 12 gm, 1 tkl LY. 3 Blake Sailors (5'11" 186 Jr). 27 gm, 18 tkl 2Y.
K NA Marshall Morgan Fr.	6-3 195 PS#9. Schl rec 59 yd FG in HS (tied longest in country). 99 Jamie Lindley (5'11" 177 Sr) no gm action 3Y. 93 Patrick Beless (5'9" 155 Fr) Scott Eichler (5'11" 184 Sr). No action LY.	P NA COLLIN BARBER FR.	6-2 191 PS#28. All GA in HS. 97 Adam Erickson (5'10" 168 So) no action LY.
		90 ETHAN JACKSON (5'11" 182 rFr) PS#145. 98 Cody Johnson (6'1" 200 So) was a RS at Troy in '10. DNP here LY.	

