

## GEORGETOWN 2019 PREVIEW

HC Rob Sgarlata has been a coach at Georgetown since 1995, serving as an asst until 2003, DC from '04-'13 then was hired as HC in 2014. He was 11-33 (3-21 in Patriot Play) in his first 4 years and the Hoyas went just 1-10 in '17. Last year they had 12 starters back. They started the season 1-4 before rattling off a 3 game win streak including road wins over Fordham and Lafayette. Their win over Bucknell gave the Hoyas 5 wins for the first time 2012. GU ended the season with a 1 pt loss to Holy Cross and were -49 ypg on the season.

In 2016 Georgetown's offense fell by just over 100 ypg to 225 ypg and only 15 ppg. (10 ppg, 184 ypg in league play) In 2017 they barely improved to 242 ypg but ppg fell to 13 (11 ppg, 226 ypg in league play). Last year they made another small incremental improvement with 6 starters back. They averaged 249 ypg and 16 ppg (17 ppg, 228 ypg in league play). Over 3 years they've averaged just 15 ppg and 239 ypg. Last year they lost 2 QB's with starting experience but did get their leading passer back, Gunther Johnson who threw for 1,026 (49%, 4-6) in '17. Johnson went on to start all 11 games and threw for 1,696 (51.4%, 9-6, 119 rush). This year they get Johnson back along with bkp Lorenzo Linsey (8 att LY). The lack of a run game was a big reason for Georgetown's struggles over the years. In '17 their top rusher put up just 183 yds (3.6) so it wasn't a big deal that they lost their top 2 rushers last year. Herman Moultrie only started the last 2 but led with 388 (4.2). Jackson Saffold was #2 with 271 (3.6). Jay Tolliver added 170 (1.9). Last year they didn't have a single player return that topped 100 rush yds in '17. This year they have 5 return including their top 4 RB's (comb for 948 yds LY). Georgetown returned their top 3 WR's last year including 2nd Tm All-Patriot Michael Dereus (696, 15.1). Their top 3 returning put up 1,299 but their next 6 leading receivers were all gone so depth was an issue. Last year Dereus missed 3 games and only put up 379 (18.1). Brandon Williams was again #2 with 326 (11.6). Winston Jackson was #3 with 216 (12.7). This year they lose Williams and Jackson but 7 of their top 9 are back so depth is improved and if Dereus can stay healthy they could improve. Georgetown averaged just 74 rush ypg (2.7) in '16 then dipped further to 61 (2.6) in '17. Last year the Hoyas had 3 starters back and improved to 94 (2.6, 30 sk). This year 3 starters return. Gone are RT Randy Crystian (10 st) and 3rd Tm All-Patriot C Dominic Scarangella (11 st). Six Oline return that have starting experience and they should break 100 rush ypg for the first time since 2014.

Georgetown's defense was impressively consistent from '14-'17, allowing between 375, 385, 391 and 378 ypg and 23, 27, 23, and 27 ppg. Last year the Hoyas had 6 starters back and we expected improved production. They held 5 opponents under 300 ypg and twice held an opponent to less than 200 yds (Marist & Bucknell). Georgetown improved to 298 ypg allowed and just 21 ppg. They lost 2 starters from their Dline after giving up just 147 (3.6, 20 sk) in '17 and got DE Mike Taylor back from injury. The Hoyas held 6 of their foes to 100 rush yds or less including just 19 rush yds allowed in their final 2 games. They improved to 104 (3.1) and sks rose to 34. Their top 8 Dline return including all 3 starters in their 3-man unit. All 3 starters were All-Patriot last year including Kristian Tate (1st Tm, #4 tkl'r, 10 sk). Three of the Hoya's top 4 LB's were gone last year but they still improved to 21 ppg allowed. Georgetown's top 8 LB's return this year including their #1, #3, #5 and #8 tkl'rs. Two All-Patriot performers return in 1st Tm Wesley Bowers and 2nd Tm Xavier Reddick. Three starters returned in Georgetown's secondary last year. They allowed just 194 pass ypg and finished 2nd in the conference in pass eff D (52.7%, 8-20). This year they get 3 of their 5 DB starters back. Gone are 1st Tm All-Patriot S Blaise Brown (#2 tkl'r, 4.5 tfl, 2 int) and 3rd Tm All-Patriot CB Ramon Lyons (#10 tkl'r, 11 pd) as well as 3rd Tm All-Patriot CB Jethro Francois (1 st, #9 tkl'r, 5 pd). 4 with starting experience are back incl their #7, #12, #13 & #14 tkl'rs.

Last year Georgetown only needed to replace their top KR. Brad Hurst hit just 3-11 fg's (L/45). Hurst also handled punt duties, avg 40.8 ypp (net 33.8). Hurst returns and can only improve off of last year's poor fg kicking. Georgetown only needs to replace their top PR.

Georgetown returned 12 starters last year and improved to 5 wins, finishing tied for 2nd in the Patriot at 4-2 thanks to a 1 pt loss to Holy Cross. This year they get 16 starters back and 14 of their top 18 tkl'rs return. They host Colgate and travel to Lehigh and Holy Cross in 3 games that could likely determine if the Hoyas can win their first ever Patriot League Title.