

# GAMECOCK FOOTBALL

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### National Signing Day

### February 4, 2015

NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN (HIGH/LAST SCHOOL)
Zack Bailey	OL	6-5	330	Summerville, S.C. (Summerville)
Shameik Blackshear	DE	6-5	240	Bluffton, S.C. (Bluffton)
Toure Boyd	DB	5-11	180	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Rancho Cucamonga/Chaffey College)
Blake Camper	OL	6-7	295	Virginia Beach, Va. (Frank W. Cox)
Joseph Charlton	K/P	6-4	190	Columbia, S.C. (A.C. Flora)
Jalen Christian	WR	5-9	170	Damascus, Md. (Damascus)
Devante Covington	DE	6-4	235	Rockingham, N.C. (Richmond County/ Georgia Military College)
Mon Denson	RB	5-10	225	LaGrange, Ga. (LaGrange)
Trey Derouen	OL	6-3	325	Lilburn, Ga. (Parkview)
Daniel Fennell	LB	6-2	205	Loganville, Ga. (Grayson)
Rashad Fenton	DB	5-11	180	Miami, Fla. (Miami Carol City)
Ernest Hawkins*	LB	6-1	210	Baltimore, Md. (Dunbar/Hartnell College)
Cory Helms***	OL	6-4	315	Alpharetta, Ga. (Milton/Wake Forest)
Jalen Henry*	LB	5-10	215	Foley, Ala. (Foley)
Octavis Johnson	DB	6-0	185	Homerville, Ga. (Clinch County)
Ulric Jones	DT	6-5	275	Oxford, Ala. (Oxford/Butler CC)
Sean Kelly**	P	5-10	190	Oakland, Fla. (West Orange/FAU/Tallahassee JC)
Marquavius Lewis*	DE	6-3	265	Greenwood, S.C. (Greenwood/ Hutchinson CC)
Kyle Markway	TE	6-4	235	St. Louis, Mo. (St. John Vianney)
Dexter Neal	WR	6-2	195	Stone Mountain, Ga. (Stephenson)
Lorenzo Nunez	QB	6-2	190	Kennesaw, Ga. (Harrison)
Christian Owens*	WR	6-5	200	Griffin, Ga. (Griffin)
Christian Pellage	OL	6-6	305	Brooksville, Fla. (Nature Coast Tech)
Sherrod Pittman*	LB	6-0	215	Jacksonville, Fla. (First Coast)
Connor Redmond	TE	6-4	215	Lawrenceville, Ga. (Archer)
Dante Sawyer	DE	6-3	280	Suwanee, Ga. (North Gwinnett/East Mississippi CC)
Darin Smalls*	DB	5-10	170	Summerville, S.C. (Summerville)
A.J. Turner	RB	5-10	185	Clifton, Va. (Centreville)
Jerad Washington*	WR	5-8	150	Jacksonville, Fla. (First Coast)
Quandeski Whitlow	DE	6-4	220	Opelika, Ala. (Opelika)
Dexter Wideman*	DT	6-4	295	Saluda, S.C. (Saluda/Camden Military)
Antoine Wilder	DB	5-10	180	Riverdale, Ga. (Hapeville Charter)

\*Enrolled in January 2015

\*\*Walk-on transfer who enrolled in January

\*\*\*Transfer from a 4-year school

## By Position

### OFFENSE (14)

**Quarterback (1):** Lorenzo Nunez

**Running Back (2):** Mon Denson,  
A.J. Turner

**Wide Receiver (4):** Jalen Christian,  
Dexter Neal, Christian Owens, Jerad  
Washington

**Tight Ends (2):** Kyle Markway,  
Connor Redmond

**Offensive Line (5):** Zack Bailey,  
Blake Camper, Trey Derouen, Cory  
Helms, Christian Pellage

### DEFENSE (16)

**Defensive End (5):** Shameik Black-  
shear, Devante Covington, Marquavius  
Lewis, Dante Sawyer, Quandeski Whitlow

**Defensive Tackle (2):** Ulric Jones,  
Dexter Wideman

**Linebacker (4):** Daniel Fennell,  
Ernest Hawkins, Jalen Henry, Sherrod  
Pittman

**Defensive Backs (5):** Toure Boyd,  
Rashad Fenton, Octavis Johnson, Darin  
Smalls, Antoine Wilder

### SPECIAL TEAMS (2)

**Kicker/Punter (1):** Joseph Charlton

**Punter (1):** Sean Kelly

## **ZACK BAILEY**

**Offensive Line 6-5 330**  
**Summerville, S.C.**  
**(Summerville)**

Highly regarded in-state offensive lineman who attends Summerville (S.C.) High School... was one of five finalists for South Carolina's Mr. Football award... helped legendary coach John McKissick and the Green Wave to an 8-5 record and to the second round of the Class AAAA Division I playoffs as a senior... played left guard for the Sandlappers in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas where he was recognized as the strongest player at the game... considered a four-star prospect, the No. 2 player in the state, the fifth-best offensive guard in the country and No. 72 overall by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 29th-best offensive guard in the country by Scout... regarded as a four-star prospect, the fourth-best player in the state, the 12th-best offensive guard in the country and No. 247 overall by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the fifth-best player in the state, the No. 15 offensive guard in the country and No. 220 overall by ESPN... had offers from all over the Southeast... Zackary Bailey was born November 8, 1995.

## **SHAMEIK BLACKSHEAR**

**Defensive End 6-5 240**  
**Bluffton, S.C.**  
**(Bluffton)**

Talented defensive end who attends Bluffton (S.C.) High School... played for coach Ken Cribb and the Bobcats... missed half of his senior season with a knee injury... selected to play in the Under Armour All-America game in St. Petersburg, Fla... racked up 96 tackles, 18 for loss, five sacks and 15 hurries as a sophomore... considered a four-star prospect, the fifth-best player in the state and the 18th-best strongside defensive end in the country by Rivals... rated a four-star prospect, the 11th-best defensive end in the country and No. 120 overall by Scout... regarded as a four-star prospect, the second-best player in the state, the eighth-best weakside defensive end in the country and No. 119 overall by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the fourth-best player in the state, the No. 18 defensive end and No. 203 overall by ESPN... had numerous offers from all over the Southeast, with Clemson, North Carolina, Georgia and LSU among his favorites... born July 9, 1997.

## **TOURE BOYD**

**Defensive Back 5-11 180**  
**Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.**  
**(Rancho Cucamonga/Chaffey College)**

Junior college transfer who played safety at Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. for one year under head coach Rob Hadaway... recorded 80 tackles, two interceptions and broke up 10 passes... also blocked four kicks for the Pan-

thers, who finished 6-5... garnered all-conference honors... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals, Scout and ESPN... rated a four-star prospect, the fifth-best JUCO player in California, the third-best JUCO safety in the country and the 21st-best junior college player overall, according to 247Sports... selected South Carolina over Arizona, Southern Miss, Utah and Washington State... planned to attend Boise State out of high school, but detoured to College of the Desert (Palm Desert, Calif.) before spending a year at Chaffey... grew up in Birmingham, Ala. before moving to California as a teenager... graduated from Rancho Cucamonga (Calif.) High School in 2012... helped the Cougars to an 11-2 record under head coach Nick Balz in 2011... will have three years to play two... born February 21, 1994.

## **BLAKE CAMPER**

**Offensive Line 6-7 295**  
**Virginia Beach, Va.**  
**(Frank W. Cox)**

Offensive lineman who attends Frank W. Cox High School in Virginia Beach, Va... coached by Bill Stachelski... helped the Falcons to a 9-3 record and to the second round of the 6A playoffs as a senior... father, John, played for Steve Spurrier at Duke... considered a three-star prospect, the 26th-best player in the state and the 85th-best offensive tackle in the country by Rivals... a three-star prospect and the 88th-best offensive tackle in the country according to Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 28th-best player in the state and the 75th-best offensive tackle in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 32nd-best player in the state and the 90th-best offensive tackle in the country by ESPN... committed to Rutgers before switching his pledge to the Gamecocks... also considered East Carolina, Louisville, Maryland, North Carolina State, Virginia, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest and West Virginia... born December 17, 1996.

## **JOSEPH CHARLTON**

**Kicker/Punter 6-4 190**  
**Columbia, S.C.**  
**(A.C. Flora)**

Local product who attends A.C. Flora High School in Columbia... handled the kickoff, punting and placekicking duties as a prep... helped the Falcons and coach Reggie Shaw to a 13-2 record and a spot in the state AAA semifinals as a senior... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals and Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 20th-best player in the state and the second-best punter in the country by 247Sports... ESPN ranks him as a three-star prospect, the 21st-best player in the state and the 15th-best kicker in the country... born April 7, 1997.

## **JALEN CHRISTIAN**

**Wide Receiver 5-9 170**  
**Damascus, Md.**  
**(Damascus)**

Standout wide receiver who attends Damascus (Md.) High School... helped the Hornets and head coach Chris DeRosa to a 14-1 record and a spot in the state championship game as a senior... was on the 2015 Semper Fidelis All-American roster... was a two-way, four-year varsity starter who played receiver, defensive back, and returned kicks and punts... considered a four-star prospect, the eighth-best player in the state and the 38th-best wide receiver in the nation, according to Rivals... rated a four-star prospect, the 33rd-best wide receiver in the country and No. 231 overall by Scout... regarded as a four-star prospect, the best player in the state, the seventh-best "athlete" in the country and No. 105 overall by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the fourth-best player in Maryland, the No. 29 wide receiver in the country and No. 252 overall by ESPN... had over 20 Division I offers... born January 12, 1997.

## **DEVANTE COVINGTON**

**Defensive End 6-4 235**  
**Rockingham, N.C.**  
**(Richmond Co./Georgia Military)**

Defensive end originally signed with the Gamecocks in February 2013... spent the past two seasons at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Ga... coached by Bert Williams... considered a two-star prospect by Rivals and Scout out of junior college... ranked as a three-star prospect and the No. 10 junior college defensive end by ESPN... helped Richmond County (Rockingham, N.C.) to an 11-2 record and to the quarterfinal round of the state playoffs as a senior in 2012... coached by Paul Hoggard... named to the 2012 Associated Press all-state team... participated in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas following his senior season... as a junior, recorded 34 tackles and eight sacks... out of high school he was considered a three-star prospect who was ranked as the 28th-best player in the state of North Carolina by Rivals... a three-star prospect and the nation's 42nd-best defensive end by Scout... a three-star prospect, the 17th-best player in the state, and the 20th-best weakside defensive end in the country by 247Sports... a three-star prospect and an All-Atlantic Region pick according to PrepStar... also had offers from Clemson, East Carolina, NC State and Tennessee... hails from the same high school that produced former Gamecock All-American Melvin Ingram... born March 6, 1994... will have three years to play two.

## **MON DENSON**

**Running Back 5-10 225**  
**LaGrange, Ga.**  
**(LaGrange)**

Running back who attends LaGrange (Ga.) High School... also played linebacker... earned all-state honors for coach Dialleo Burks... the Grangers posted a 5-6 record and lost in the first round of the Class AAAAAA playoffs in his senior season... rushed for nearly 1,300 yards and 15 touchdowns... selected to play in the Georgia-Florida All-Star game where he scored on a 26-yard run... also selected for the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl... considered a three-star prospect, the 47th-best player in the state and the 46th-best running back in the nation, according to Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 83rd-best running back in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 82nd-best player in the state and the 57th-best running back in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 56th-best player in the state and the No. 50 running back in the country by ESPN... had nearly 20 Division I offers... Daquarius Denson was born September 25, 1996.

## **TREY DEROUEN**

**Offensive Line 6-3 325**  
**Lilburn, Ga.**  
**(Parkview)**

Offensive line who attends Parkview High School in Lilburn, Ga... the Panthers went 4-6 under coach Eric Godfree in 2014... earned second-team Class AAAAAA All-State honors by the Georgia Sports Writers Association... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals... recognized as a three-star prospect and the nation's 91st-ranked offensive guard by Scout... rated a three-star prospect, the 91st-best player in the state and the 55th-best offensive guard in the country by 247Sports... considered a three-star prospect, the 91st-best player in the state and the 57th-best offensive guard in the nation by ESPN... originally committed to Mississippi State... also visited Florida and Louisville... Dennis Derouen III was born January 27, 1997.

## **DANIEL FENNELL**

**Linebacker 6-2 205**  
**Loganville, Ga.**  
**(Grayson)**

Linebacking prospect who attends Grayson High School in Loganville, Ga... helped the Rams and head coach Mickey Conn to a 10-2 record and the second round of the Class AAAAAA state playoffs in his senior season... rated a three-star prospect, the 46th-best player in the state and the 38th-best outside linebacker in the country by Rivals... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 71st-best player in the state and the 22nd-best inside linebacker in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect and the No. 40 outside linebacker

by ESPN... had over 20 Division I offers... born October 18, 1996.

## **RASHAD FENTON**

**Defensive Back 5-11 180**  
**Miami, Fla.**  
**(Miami Carol City)**

Attends Miami Carol City High School in Miami... coached by Aubrey Hill, who played for Coach Spurrier at Florida... played in the International Bowl in Arlington, Texas, following the season... started on the varsity squad at Norland High as a freshman... rated a three-star prospect by Rivals... is a three-star prospect and the 119th-best cornerback in the country according to Scout... considered a three-star prospect, the 58th-best player in the state of Florida and the 45th-best cornerback in the country by 247Sports... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 224th-best player in the state and the No. 97 cornerback in the country by ESPN... selected South Carolina over Louisville and Florida... was born February 17, 1997.

## **ERNEST HAWKINS**

**Linebacker 6-1 210**  
**Baltimore, Md.**  
**(Dunbar/Hartnell College)**

Junior college transfer who enrolled at South Carolina in January... played one year for coach Matt Collins at Hartnell College in Salinas, Calif... earned first-team all-conference honors in the Golden Coast Conference for a Panther team that went 9-2... credited with 56 tackles in just eight games played with 12.0 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 35th-best JUCO player in the state, the third-best junior college inside linebacker in the country and No. 135 overall by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect and the No. 3 junior college inside linebacker by ESPN... also considered Colorado and Hawaii after his year of junior college... graduated from Dunbar High in Baltimore in 2012... originally signed with UTEP, but did not attend school until enrolling at Hartnell in 2014... will have four years to play three.

## **CORY HELMS**

**Offensive Line 6-4 315**  
**Alpharetta, Ga.**  
**(Milton/Wake Forest)**

Transfer who will join the Gamecocks after playing 23 games including 22 starts over the past two years for Wake Forest... started the first seven games of the 2014 season at left guard, then moved back to center for the final five contests... earned Freshman All-America accolades in 2013... played in all 12 games with 11 starts at center as a true freshman... started every game except Senior Day vs. Duke, giving way to senior Whit Barnes... started the season opener vs. Presbyterian to be-

come the first Demon Deacon since defensive tackle Marvin Mitchell in 1987 to start his very first collegiate game... a 2013 graduate of Milton High School in Georgia... earned all-metro, all-region and high school All-American honors... awarded first team All-Region 5-6A honors as a senior... was the starting center for the Blue team in the Offense-Defense All-America Bowl in Houston... ranked as the No. 9 center nationally and the No. 58 prospect in Georgia by Rivals... played for coach Howie DeCristofaro... had 11 offers including South Carolina, Syracuse, Cincinnati, Louisville and USF... selected the Gamecocks over offers from Mississippi State, Texas A&M and Penn State after electing to leave Wake Forest... born December 31, 1994.

## **JALEN HENRY**

**Linebacker 5-10 215**  
**Foley, Ala.**  
**(Foley)**

Linebacker who graduated from Foley (Ala.) High School in December 2014... enrolled at Carolina in January... coached by Todd Watson... the Lions reached the state Class 7A semifinals with a 10-4 record... selected for the Alabama-Mississippi All-Star game following his senior season... missed the majority of his junior season after breaking his foot in the second game of the year... led his team in tackles as a sophomore... also played baseball and basketball... considered a three-star prospect and the 31st-best player in the state by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 76th-best outside linebacker in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 38th-best player in the state and the 40th-best inside linebacker in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 30th-best player in the state and the No. 78 outside linebacker by ESPN... also considered Southern Miss.

## **OCTAVIS JOHNSON**

**Defensive Back 6-0 185**  
**Homerville, Ga.**  
**(Clinch County)**

Defensive back who attends Clinch County High School in Homerville, Ga... played on both sides of the ball for the Panthers, who were eliminated in the first round of the Class A state playoffs... coached by Jim Dickerson... earned first-team all-state accolades... rated a four-star prospect, the 18th-best player in the state, the 19th-best cornerback in the country and the 209th-best player overall, according to Rivals... rated a four-star prospect, the 31st-best cornerback in the country and No. 288 overall by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 37th-best player in the state and the 31st-best "athlete" in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 54th-best player in Georgia and the No. 55 "athlete" in the country by ESPN... had a dozen major Division I offers and selected South Carolina over Clemson and Tennessee... born Dec. 4, 1995.



## ULRIC JONES

**Defensive Tackle 6-5 275**  
**Oxford, Ala.**  
**(Oxford/Butler CC)**

Junior college transfer who played at Butler (Kan.) Community College... coached by Troy Morrell... earned honorable mention all-conference accolades in the Jayhawk Conference at defensive end... credited with 43 tackles, 5.5 tackles for loss and 3.5 sacks in 2014 for a Grizzlies team that went 8-3... logged 19 tackles with two tackles for loss in 2013... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the No. 97 JUCO player in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 21st-best JUCO player in the state, the 10th-best JUCO strong-side defensive end in the country and the No. 119 JUCO player overall by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect and the No. 9 junior college defensive end by ESPN... originally committed to Maryland before selecting the Gamecocks... graduated from Oxford (Ala.) High School in 2013... selected Mississippi State out of high school... will have three years to play two... born Jan. 13, 1995.

## SEAN KELLY

**Punter 5-10 190**  
**Oakland, Fla.**  
**(W. Orange/FAU/Tallahassee JC)**

Transfer who joined the Gamecocks in January of 2015 as a walk-on... did not play football in the fall of 2014 while attending Tallahassee Junior College... spent the previous two years at Florida Atlantic... as a sophomore in 2013, he punted for 3,072 yards, averaging 42.7 yards per punt, and set a career-best with a 64-yard punt against FIU... had 19 punts of over 50 yards and pinned opponents inside the 20 on 26 occasions... ranked third in Conference USA and 36th in the NCAA for average yards per punt... ranked third in punting yards and second in average yards per punt in FAU history... also had a pair of 63-yard boots against Rice and Auburn... named FAU's Special Team MVP and was a three-time FAU game ball winner (at ECU, at Rice and NMSU)... received second-team honors in Phil Steele's 2013 Mid-Season All-C-USA team and was a second team all-conference selection... as a freshman, joined the squad during camp in 2012 and handled every punt for the squad... averaged 39.9 yards per punt including 14 that were 50+ yards... 16 landed inside the 20... saw four games where he was called into action eight times, all on the road (Georgia, Alabama, ULM and Western Kentucky)... four of his 50+ yard boots were at Alabama, including two that fell inside the 20... attempted a field goal in the season opener and was credited with six kickoffs in the first two games... awarded a scholarship after his freshman season by Carl Pelini... punted and played quarterback at West Orange High School in Winter Garden, Fla. and drew interest from Catawba College as a signal-caller... also considered Florida State before selecting the Gamecocks... will have two years to play two.

## MARQUAVIUS LEWIS

**Defensive End 6-3 265**  
**Greenwood, S.C.**  
**(Greenwood/Hutchinson CC)**

Highly regarded junior college transfer who enrolled at South Carolina in January... played at Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College for head coach Rion Rhoades... named the Jayhawk Conference Defensive Player of the Year and first-team all-conference... twice earned conference Player of the Week accolades and once garnered national Player of the Week honors... credited with 63 tackles in 12 games including 20.5 tackles for loss and 11.0 sacks... had 21 quarterback hurries, forced two fumbles and recovered one... helped the Blue Dragons to an 11-win season for the first time in the program's 83-year history and a No. 4 final ranking, their highest ever in the NJCAA Football Poll... in 2013 he logged 63 tackles with 19 tackles for loss, 7.5 sacks, 15 quarterback hurries, two forced fumbles, one fumble recovery and a blocked kick... graduated from Greenwood (S.C.) High School in 2012... attended Greenville Tech in the fall of 2012 before transferring to Hutch... is a four-star prospect according to Rivals... rated a five-star prospect and the best junior college prospect in the country by Scout... ranked as a four-star prospect and the No. 1 junior college strong-side defensive end in the country and No. 3 overall by 247Sports... ESPN considers him a four-star recruit, the second-best defensive end and the No. 6 player overall in the JUCO ranks... also considered Auburn before choosing the Gamecocks... has two years to play two.

## KYLE MARKWAY

**Tight End 6-4 235**  
**St. Louis, Mo.**  
**(St. John Vianney)**

Tight end who attends St. John Vianney in Kirkwood, Mo... coached by Paul Day... played both ways and in multiple roles for the Golden Grifins during his prep career... team went 7-5 in his senior campaign... earned first-team Class 5 All-State honors as a tight end... as a junior, he caught 28 passes for 254 yards and a touchdown and recorded 64 tackles with seven sacks, helping his squad to a 7-4 record... logged 18 catches for 225 yard and two scores and earned all-conference honors at defensive end after collecting 43 tackles with four sacks as a sophomore... rated a three-star prospect and the 13th-best player in the state by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 31st-best tight end in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 18th-best player in the state and the 45th-best tight end in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 10th-best player in the state and the No. 17 tight end by ESPN... offer list included several Big Ten schools with Iowa at the top of his list, where his uncle, Matt Markway, played for the Hawkeyes in the '90s... born March 4, 1997.

## DEXTER NEAL

**Wide Receiver 6-2 195**  
**Stone Mountain, Ga.**  
**(Stephenson)**

"D.J." attends Stephenson High School in Stone Mountain, Ga... played multiple positions on both sides of the ball for coach Ron Gartrell... helped the Jaguars to an 8-4 record and the second round of the Class AAAAA state playoffs as a senior... caught seven touchdowns and averaged over 15 yards per catch as a sophomore... rated a four-star prospect, the 23rd-best player in the state and the 31st-best wide receiver in the country by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 127th-best wide receiver in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 77th-best player in the state and the 85th-best wide receiver in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the 44th-best player in the state and the No. 54 wide receiver in the country by ESPN... had offers from about 20 Division I schools with his interest primarily on Georgia, Tennessee, Clemson and Auburn... also highly regarded as a baseball player who could be drafted in July... rated the No. 116 overall baseball prospect and the No. 26 outfielder by Perfect Game... interested in playing two sports at South Carolina... born January 11, 1997.

## LORENZO NUNEZ

**Quarterback 6-2 190**  
**Kennesaw, Ga.**  
**(Harrison)**

Quarterback prospect who attends Harrison High School in Kennesaw, Ga... coached by Matt Dickmann... the Hoyas went 5-6 in his senior season... also played cornerback and safety... threw for 803 yards and rushed for 1,193 as a senior... threw for 1,200 yards as a junior... considered a four-star prospect, the 25th-best player in the state and the 16th-best dual-threat quarterback in the country according to Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 31st-best quarterback in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 38th-best player in the state and the 15th-best dual-threat quarterback in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 53rd-best player in Georgia and the No. 18 dual-threat quarterback by ESPN... had numerous offers from all over the country... born September 11, 1996.

## CHRISTIAN OWENS

**Wide Receiver 6-5 200**  
**Griffin, Ga.**  
**(Griffin)**

Lanky wide receiver who graduated from Griffin (Ga.) High School in December and enrolled at South Carolina in January... the Bears, under head coach Jarrett Laws, went 11-1 in 2014 and reached the second round of the Class AAAA playoffs... as a junior he had 23 catches for 600 yards and three touchdowns... considered a four-

star prospect, the 33rd-best player in Georgia and the 11th-best tight end in the country by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 79th-best wide receiver in the country by Scout... 247Sports considers him a three-star prospect, the 64th-best player in Georgia and the nation's 70th-best wide receiver... ranked as a four-star prospect, the 38th-best player in the state and the No. 5 H-tight end in the country by ESPN... also played basketball in high school... originally committed to Georgia and had offers from Clemson, Louisville, North Carolina and Tennessee among others.

**CHRISTIAN PELLAGE**  
**Offensive Line 6-6 305**  
**Brooksville, Fla.**  
**(Nature Coast Tech)**

Offensive lineman who attends Nature Coast Tech in Brooksville, Fla... helped coach Justin Worden and the Sharks post a 7-4 mark in his senior season... earned a spot on the Florida Class 5A first-team all-state squad... invited to play in the Under Armour All-America Game played in St. Petersburg Fla... considered a three-star prospect, the 75th-best player in the state and the 51st-best offensive tackle by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 63rd-best offensive tackle in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 62nd-best player in the state and the 47th-best offensive tackle in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the 28th-best player in Florida, the No. 14 offensive tackle in the nation and No. 138 overall by ESPN... selected South Carolina over Florida among more than 30 offers... born Jan. 22, 1997.

**SHERROD PITTMAN**  
**Linebacker 6-0 215**  
**Jacksonville, Fla.**  
**(First Coast)**

Linebacker who graduated from First Coast High School in Jacksonville, Fla. in December and enrolled at Carolina in January... coached by Marty Lee... Buccaneers went 12-1 in his senior season and reached the third round of the Florida 8A playoffs... broke his leg late in his final campaign... earned a spot on the Florida Class 8A all-state squad... tallied 103 tackles and three interceptions as a junior, earning first-team all-state honors... logged 74 tackles with seven forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries as a sophomore... considered a four-star recruit, the 19th-best player in the state of Florida, the nation's fifth-best inside linebacker, and the country's 112th-best player overall by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 31st-best middle linebacker in the country by Scout... 247Sports ranks him as a three-star prospect, the 61st-best player in Florida and the nation's 32nd-best outside linebacker... ranked as a four-star prospect, the 40th-best player in Florida, the No. 6 inside linebacker and No. 222 overall by ESPN... also considered Louisville and Southern California.

**CONNOR REDMOND**  
**Tight End 6-4 215**  
**Lawrenceville, Ga.**  
**(Archer)**

Tight end prospect who attends Archer High School in Lawrenceville, Ga... overcame a back injury to help head coach Andy Dyer and the Tigers to the Class AAAAAA state championship game and an 11-4 record after an 0-3 start in his senior season... earned a spot on the 2013 AJC first-team offense all-state team after making about 40 catches... played tight end and linebacker as a freshman then moved strictly to tight end for the remainder of his prep career... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 37th-best tight end in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 158th-best player in the state and the 60th-best tight end in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 106th-best player in Georgia and the No. 21 tight end in the country by ESPN... had more than a dozen Division I offers... picked South Carolina over Boston College Virginia and Kansas State... born September 9, 1996.

**DANTE SAWYER**  
**Defensive End 6-3 280**  
**Suwanee, Ga.**  
**(North Gwinnett/East Mississippi CC)**

Defensive end who spent the 2014 season at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba, Miss... played for coach Buddy Stephens... helped the Lions to a perfect 12-0 record and the NJCAA football championship... credited with 21 tackles including 6.5 sacks and 10.5 tackles for loss... also forced a pair of fumbles... considered a four-star prospect by Rivals... was a three-star prospect and the No. 36 JUCO player in the country according to Scout... regarded as a four-star prospect, the third-best JUCO player in the state, the top JUCO weakside defensive end in the country and No. 6 overall junior college prospect by 247Sports... ranked as a four-star prospect, the No. 3 junior college defensive end and 13th overall by ESPN... coached by Bob Sphire at North Gwinnett High School in Suwanee, Ga... graduated in 2014... helped the Bulldogs to a 13-3 record and the state championship game as a senior... logged 49 tackles, including eight tackles for loss and three sacks in his final campaign... earned first-team Class 6A all-state accolades by the Georgia Sportswriters... also earned a spot on the AJC's Class 6A all-metro team... played in the U.S. Army All-America Bowl... recorded three sacks in that all-star game... out of high school, Rivals considered him a four-star prospect, the 13th-best player in the state, the seventh-best strongside defensive end in the country and No. 87 on the Rivals100 list... Scout ranked him as a four-star prospect, the 24th-best defensive end in the country and No. 231 overall... considered a four-star prospect, the 8th-best player in the state, the fifth-best weakside defensive end in the nation, and No. 121 overall, according to 247Sports... ESPN considered him a

four-star prospect, No. 88 on its ESPN300 list, the ninth-best defensive end in the nation and the seventh-best player in the state... ranked by Prep-Star as a four-star prospect and No. 60 on the Top 150 Dream Team... also visited Missouri before choosing the Gamecocks... born Dec. 17, 1994.

**DARIN SMALLS**  
**Defensive Back 5-10 170**  
**Summerville, S.C.**  
**(Summerville)**

Defensive back who originally signed with the Gamecocks in February 2014 but did not enroll in school until January 2015... spent the fall of 2014 rehabbing his knee injury... played for legendary coach John McKissick at Summerville (S.C.) High School, graduating in 2014... the Green Wave went 11-3 and reached the state semifinals in his senior season... suffered a knee injury in his final campaign... logged 60 tackles and intercepted six passes as a sophomore, returning two for touchdowns... also competed in baseball and track... Rivals considered him a three-star prospect, the 11th-best player in the state and the 37th-best cornerback in the country... Scout rated him as a three-star prospect and the 53rd-best cornerback in the country... considered a three-star prospect, the 15th-best player in the state, and the 37th-best safety in the nation, according to 247Sports... ESPN considered him a three-star prospect, the 23rd-best safety in the nation and the 14th-best player in the state... ranked by Prep-Star as a three-star prospect and an All-Atlantic Region pick... had more than a dozen major college offers.

**A.J. TURNER**  
**Running Back 5-10 185**  
**Clifton, Va.**  
**(Centreville)**

Running back who attends Centreville High School in Clifton, Va... played both sides of the ball for head coach Chris Haddock... missed much of his senior season with a wrist injury when the Wildcats went 12-3 and reached the state 6A title game before losing in overtime... played in the International Bowl in Arlington, Texas, following the season... helped guide his team to an undefeated season and a state title as a junior when he rushed for 1,287 yards, scored 32 touchdowns and logged eight interceptions... rated a three-star prospect, the 18th-best player in the state and the 44th-best running back in the nation by Rivals... rated a four-star prospect and the 41st-best running back in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 17th-best player in the state and the 34th-best running back in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 31st-best player in Virginia and the No. 80 running back in the country by ESPN... had over 20 Division I offers with Virginia and Michigan State as his top choices... first name is Antonio... born May 12, 1997.

## **JERAD WASHINGTON**

**Wide Receiver 5-8 150**  
**Jacksonville, Fla.**  
**(First Coast)**

Speedy wide receiver who graduated from First Coast High School in Jacksonville in December 2014... enrolled at Carolina in January... helped the Buccaneers under head coach Marty Lee to a 12-1 record and the third round of the 8A playoffs as a senior... caught 52 passes for 889 yards... earned a spot on the Florida Class 8A all-state squad... played for Nease High in Ponte Vedra Beach (Fla.) as a freshman where he caught 67 passes for 790 yards and five touchdowns before his family moved to Baltimore... played his sophomore season in Maryland before moving back to the Jacksonville area... a three-star prospect according to Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 144th-best wide receiver in the country by Scout... 247Sports ranked him as a three-star prospect, the 214th-best player in Florida and the nation's 187th-best wide receiver... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 171st-best player in the state and the 149th-best wide receiver in the country by ESPN... also played baseball... had interest from Kentucky and North Carolina among other schools.

## **QUANDESKI WHITLOW**

**Defensive End 6-4 220**  
**Opelika, Ala.**  
**(Opelika)**

"Boosie" is a defensive end who attends Opelika (Ala.) High School... played for coach Brian Blackmon... helped the Bulldogs to a 9-2 record and the second round of the Class 6A playoffs in his senior season... recorded 50 tackles including 17.5 for loss, 5.5 sacks and 27 quarterback hurries... participated in the Alabama-Mississippi All-Star Classic where he had three tackles for loss including a sack... had eight tackles for loss and his 43 tackles as a junior in 2013... handled the team's kickoffs as a sophomore... rated a three-star prospect, the 15th-best player in the state and the 24th-best weakside defensive end in the nation by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 61st-best defensive end in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 29th-best player in the state and the 38th-best weakside defensive end in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 23rd-best player in Alabama and the No. 53 defensive end by ESPN... also visited Louisville and Florida among his numerous offers... is a cousin of former Kentucky quarterback Jalen Whitlow... born May 16, 1997.

## **DEXTER WIDEMAN**

**Defensive Tackle 6-4 295**  
**Saluda, S.C.**  
**(Saluda/Camden Military)**

Defensive lineman who originally signed with the Gamecocks in February 2014... spent the fall at Camden (S.C.) Military Academy... played for head coach Will Rice... dislocated his elbow in the third game... enrolled at South Carolina in January 2015... rated as a four-star prospect by Rivals and ESPN... considered a four-star prospect and the top prep school recruit in the country by 247Sports... graduated from Saluda (S.C.) High School in 2014... the Tigers went 5-6 under head coach Wayne Bell in 2013... played in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas and in the Under Armour All-America game following his senior season... logged four tackles in the Shrine Bowl... credited with 64 tackles and seven sacks in 2012... logged 61 tackles with 14.5 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks in 2011... Rivals considered him a four-star prospect, the fifth-best player in the state, the 15th-best defensive tackle in the country and No. 237 on the Rivals250 following his senior season... Scout ranked him as a four-star prospect, the 22nd-best defensive tackle in the country and No. 266 overall... 247Sports listed him as a four-star prospect, the nation's No. 7 defensive tackle, the second-best player in the state and No. 64 on its Top247 list... ESPN considered him a four-star prospect, the 12th-best defensive tackle in the nation, No. 179 on the ESPN300 list and the sixth-best player in the state... ranked by PrepStar as a four-star prospect and No. 141 on the Top 150 Dream Team... originally committed to Florida State.

## **ANTOINE WILDER**

**Defensive Back 5-10 180**  
**Riverdale, Ga.**  
**(Hapeville Charter)**

Defensive back who attends Hapeville Charter in Atlanta... played both safety and running back for coach Winston Gordon and the Hornets... underwent knee surgery in October and missed the rest of his senior season... considered a three-star prospect by Rivals... rated a three-star prospect and the 52nd-best safety in the country by Scout... regarded as a three-star prospect, the 70th-best player in the state and the 41st-best safety in the country by 247Sports... ranked as a three-star prospect, the 90th-best player in Georgia and the No. 58 safety in the country by ESPN... also visited Tennessee State and had interest in Mississippi State and Louisville... Antoine Wilder Jr. was born December 2, 1996.