# NAMES TO KNOW-ACC

### **Boston College Eagles**

**Top Play:** WR Zay Flowers

Potential Bust: WR Zay Flowers

**Sleeper:** RB Travis Levy

**Impact Transfer:** TE Trae Barry

**Dynasty Prospect:** RB Alec Sinkfield **Fantastic Freshman:** RB Xavier Coleman



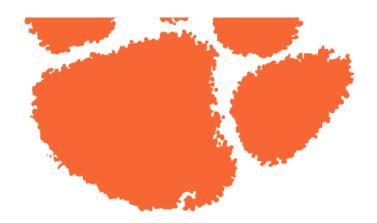
Zay Flowers is the alpha of a very talented WR room for Boston College, finishing 2020 with 55-892-9 on 103 targets in 11 games. All indications are that he will again be a focal point of the BC passing offensive, but as we just mentioned, this is a talented group of WRs coming back, including the return of Kobay White who led the Eagles in receptions in 2018-19. I have reservations if Flowers can reach that 100-target mark with so many mouths to feed. The Eagles should be slinging the pill this year with their current personnel as they do not have a workhorse in the backfield entering 2021, but also because that fits what their current RBs do best which is catch the football. Current RB1 Travis Levy has 84 career receptions, including 35 in 10 games last season, but has never been tasked with a heavy workload. He'll like share duties with West Virginia transfer Alec Sinkfield, also a skilled pass-catcher, and incoming FR Xavier Coleman who played receiver in high school. Sense a trend here? BC also added Hunter Long's replacement in Jacksonville State transfer Trae Barry who posted 33-534-1 a season ago and suspect that he should get an uptick in TDs with better QB play and considering his stature at 6-foot-7. Barry getting the 89 targets that Hunter Long received last year might be a longshot, though.

# **Clemson Tigers**

**Top Play:** QB D.J. Uiagalelei **Potential Bust:** RB Lyn-J Dixon

**Sleeper:** WR Joe Ngata **Impact Transfer:** n/a

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Brothers Collins **Fantastic Freshman:** RB Will Shipley



Game scripts typically don't favor Clemson quarterbacks due to strength of schedule (or lack thereof) and how balanced the Tigers' offense has been previously with the talent in the backfield at running back. There is no C.J. Spiller or Travis Etienne this year, though, which should benefit **D.J. Uiagalelei** who attempted 42 passing attempts in his two starts a year ago. For reference, Trevor Lawrence attempted just 33 passes per game in 2020 and just 28 over the course of his career. To match or surpass his current QB5 ranking, DJU will have to contribute some on the ground, which he is more than capable of doing at 250 pounds, but how much will Clemson risk Uiagalelei considering the extreme lack of depth at the QB position? Walk-on Hunter Helms would be next on the depth chart if DJU ever had to come out of the game, so its reasonable to question how much the coaches would risk putting their start QB in harm's way.

Increased passing volume from DJU would likely be a result of the concern in the Tigers backfield with the lack of clarity as to who the starter is. **Lyn-J Dixon** probably takes the first carry of the season, but how the reps are divvyed up beyond that is anyone's guess. Dixon is listed in bold atop the Clemson DC, but he isn't the only bolded name at running back with Kobe Pace sharing the dreaded "OR" designation. Pace was the trending name following spring ball, garnering praise from coach C.J. Spiller, comparing him to Nick Chubb. With 5-star **Will Shipley** and 4-star Phil Mafah also in the mix, this might wind up being a committee all year long. But I'll take my chances on someone here – Pace being the name trending upwards – from a team that will average 40 PPG. Neither Pace nor Dixon are in the Top 60 of Fantrax's ADP.

Positive notes coming from the Clemson coaching staff this week regarding **Justyn Ross**, but he remains uncleared by the doctors to be full-go. "When we get word that he's going to be cleared, he will be ready to go and confident. He'll rep the slot but also the boundary and field, you name it. He's preparing like he'll be on the field vs. Georgia." If healthy, I suspect Ross to lead the group in receptions, particularly playing in the slot where 100 targets has been a near lock over the years. **Joe Ngata** gets the nod from me as the projected WR2 here, but has to be better dealing with the nicks and bruises of the game according to his WR coach. 58-816-6 is the running seven-year average for the WR2 in this Clemson offense (includes CFP stats) so the likelihood is someone besides Ross will be valuable in CFF this year. 4-star FR **Beaux and Dacari Collins** are listed as third-stringers on the updated Clemson depth chart, but there is room for upward mobility here very soon with some upperclassmen leaving after 2021.

#### **Duke Blue Devils**

Top Play: RB Mataeo Durant

**Potential Bust:** n/a

**Sleeper:** QB Gunnar Holmberg

**Impact Transfer:** n/a

**Dynasty Prospect:** RB Jordan Waters **Fantastic Freshman:** QB Jordan Moore



Not since 2003 has Duke had a 1,000-yard rusher. Duke RB1 is typically the easiest projection to make for CFF, but this comment from the Athletic gave me some pause when trying to predict **Mateao Durant's** stat-line for this season.

"He really hasn't scratched the surface, in my opinion, for what he's capable of," Duke radio analyst Dave Harding Jr. said on <u>Duke's "The All 22" podcast</u>. "Behind a more improved offensive line and in a system with a more mobile quarterback, that creates a conundrum for the defense to know who they're going to attack, as opposed to every time you run you're expecting the running back to get the ball. So the offense should open up a lot more. ... I think that's going to result in some pretty eye-popping statistics."

Duke hasn't had a running back run for more than 1,000 yards since Chris Douglas had 1,138 yards and six touchdowns on 236 carries in 2003. Harding thinks Duke's staff will ride Durant more instead of splitting carries more evenly with backups Jordan Waters (6-1, 210) and Jaylen Coleman (6-1, 205), who ruptured his Achilles and missed the 2020 season.

Will Durant buck the 18-year trend? That depends on the coaches and the development of backup **Jordan Waters** who did have a 50-yard touchdown run in the spring game. RB2s in this offense have averaged 110 carries for 529 yards and four TDs over the last seven years with no back having less than 80 rushing attempts in a year. Duke will always rotate their backs – how much will they rotate this year with a superior talent in Durant is the question.

Chase Brice was a bust last year and anything Duke puts out there this season would be an upgrade. **Gunnar Holmberg** likely steps in as the QB1, and fits the mold of what we've seen previously from Duke quarterbacks, running a 4.51 40-yard dash back in high school. As bad as last year was, QBs for the Blue Devils had been very consistent in the six years prior, averaging 17 passing touchdowns, and hit at least seven rushing TDs in four seasons between 2015-19. Duke QB1s have also surpassed 100 carries in five of the last seven years, which Holmberg should undoubtedly exceed if he remains the starter.

#### **Florida State Seminoles**

**Top Play:** RB Jashaun Corbin

Potential Bust: QB McKenzie Milton

Sleeper: RB Lawrance Toafili

Impact Transfer: WR Andrew Parchment

Dynasty Prospect: WR Kentron Poitier

Fantastic Freshman: WR Malik McClain



I realize we are hesitant about the Florida State rushing attack, and offense in general, because of the putrid play of the offensive line...which does bring back all five starters. Pass blocking, I get it, they were dreadful. Run blocking, not the case. PFF didn't grade them out all that well, but the Seminoles finished 17<sup>th</sup> in line yards nationally so they were pushing defenders and creating space at the LOS. Any further improvement would bode well for a talented FSU backfield that includes starter **Jashaun Corbin** and **Lawrence Toafili.** Currently RB71 on Fantrax, I really like Corbin at that price, specifically if **McKenzie Milton** ends up winning the job over Jordan Travis as he won't vulture away as many carries from the former Texas A&M transfer. We've seen some monster RB seasons under Mike Norvell in the past, but I believe we are still a year or two away in this rebuild job from seeing that occur. Toafili gives me major Kenny Gainwell vibes with his size, but lack of game-breaking speed at 4.6 40-yard dash.

At quarterback, I don't have a clue as of now who will win the job between Milton and Travis, though it was the former who seemed to be gaining momentum as spring ball moved along. If Norvell settles on one, a Top 30 finish is feasible with QB1s averaging 266 YPG and 27 passing TDs per season. Just not sure that actually happens, especially early in the year. TBD once fall camp resumes. The hope here is that it's Milton with his superior passing abilities which would support one of our breakout candidates for 2021 in **Andrew Parchment**. Norvell has had at least one 1,000-yard receiver in seven of the last eight years as a coach – 2020 being the lone outlier – and the former Kansas transfer has already proven he can produce at the P5 level, leading the Jayhawks with 65-831-7 in 2019. Milton is Parchment's best chance at being relevant in CFF. With Parchment and fellow starters Ontaria Wilson and Keyshawn Helton being upperclassmen, I would look to secure some shares of some talented FR like **Kentron Poitier** and **Malik McClain** who impressed in the spring.

## **Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets**

**Top Play:** RB Jahmyr Gibbs **Potential Bust:** QB Jeff Sims **Sleeper:** WR Kyric McGowan

Impact Transfer: WR Kyric McGowan

Dynasty Prospect: WR Nate McCollum

Fantastic Freshman: WR James BlackStrain



The Georgia Tech offense is admittedly one of my biggest question marks heading into 2021 and how the season plays out. Geoff Collins is clearly bringing in the talent to succeed as both **Jahmyr Gibbs** and **Jeff Sims** have already displayed, but are the Jackets still a year away? 78 percent of their offensive production is back, including four offensive line starters which should benefit Gibbs, but I'm still hesitant to take him in Round 2 where he's going in most drafts. Five 1,000-yard rushers in the last nine years for Dave Patenaude, but Gibbs will be fighting for carries along with Sims and a talented RB room with everyone returning, including Jordan Mason. Good news is that Gibbs' production is based more on touches rather than carries, where he added 24-303-3 as a pass-catcher, and is bound to break a kickoff return TD this year as well after averaging over 25 YPR last season.

Sims is the greater enigma, completing just 55 percent of his throws last season and committing more turnovers than touchdowns. His value comes with his legs where he led the team with 642 yards and six TDs on just 59 attempts per PFF – 342 of which came on designed runs. Infrequent history from Patenaude with designed quarterback runs, but his QB1 from 2014 at Coastal Carolina, did have 154 carries that season, so he does have a sparse track record. Fantrax has Sims as QB35 per ADP and I like him at that range, feeling most comfortable with him as my QB3 or first backup. With Sims starting at least two more seasons, and likely three, he should be drafted within the first three rounds of any startup dynasty. I'm monitor waivers for Georgia Tech WRs to see if anyone pops, which is unlikely IMO, but like what Northwestern transfer **Kyric McGowan** can bring to the table as a receiver/runner. Incoming 4-star **James BlackStrain** is a player I know little about, but was just taken in Round 3 of a continuation dynasty league so somebody obviously likes him.

#### **Louisville Cardinals**

**Top Play:** QB Malik Cunningham

Potential Bust: WR Braden Smith

Sleeper: WR Jordan Watkins

Impact Transfer: WR Shai Werts

**Dynasty Prospect:** RB Jalen Mitchell

Fantastic Freshman: RB Trevion Cooley



Let's start with the backfield where redshirt freshman **Jalen Mitchell** remains the man to beat for the RB1 job. Just read this quote from head coach Scott Satterfield from earlier this month:

"I think well I think we're great shape. (Jalen) Mitchell had an outstanding offseason. He's one of our leaders in our 10 strong group. He's been a great leader for us. Hassan Hall, since the spring and summer, is back to where it was two years ago. (Travion) Cooley has been outstanding. I think we've got a lot of depth there. We're going to have four or five guys that I think we could put out there. You saw what Mitchell could do against Wake Forest - had a great, great game against those guys going for 160 yards. I think he'll be that workhorse there. Hassan Hall is going to be that speed guy. Cooley, he's got great speed and vision and size, he just lacks experience. I'm very excited to see what he's going to be able to do. He's had a great summer, even compared to the spring - he's like a new person, new player. So it's exciting. Greg Desrosiers is another guy. He's playing wide receiver and running back, so he gives another look, another weapon. So it'll be a fun camp to see which one rises up to be our guy."

Sure, there is some coach-speak in there and Satterfield mentions a few names, but not sure who can read that and not heavily lean towards Mitchell being the likely RB1 for 2021. And Satterfield's history has shown it will be one guy as his offenses constantly churn out 1,000-yard backs. RB2s in this system average 107 carries over the last seven seasons, but with Mitchell and Malik Cunningham garnering a heavy dosage of those rushing attempts, I'm not sure there will be much opportunity for another contributor. Not knocking the talent, but I don't have a single dynasty share of Trevion Cooley with the reports of Mitchell this offseason. Should Mitchell lock down the job and succeed, that's 2-3 years of eligibility remaining for him, and don't think the juice is worth the squeeze given where he is being selected as a Top 10 FR running back. While confident Mitchell holds down the job, I can also acknowledge that we do just have really one game of evidence he can produce at the college level, so there is some risk involved here.

As for Cunningham, he should benefit from an improved offensive line – 74 percent completion rate when he wasn't pressured in 2020 according to PFF. In turn, better play up front would result in less turnovers (15) one would think. Cunningham provides owners with an incredible floor with his rushing ability, accounting for 789 rushing yards (non-sack yards), 338 of which were on designed run plays. Question marks come also at receiver where Cunningham will not have Tutu Atwell or Dez Fitzpatrick at his disposal. I wanted to believe in slot man **Braden Smith**, who had a 100-yard receiving performance in Week 1 last year, but put up marginal numbers in place of Atwell when he was lost for the season. **Jordan Watkins** came on strong towards the end of last season with six catches in the last two games, and is being touted as the WR1 (for now) by the Louisville 247 site. For a redshirt freshman that can be had in the final round of any CFF draft format, why not take a swing? Former Georgia Southern QB **Shai Werts** transfers in and will convert to receiver, but looks to be just a depth piece. Top 3 at WR should comprise of Watkins, Smith and Justin Marshall.

# **Miami Hurricanes**

Top Play: QB D'Eriq King

Potential Bust: RB Cam'Ron Harris

**Sleeper:** RB Donald Chaney Jr.

Impact Transfer: WR Charleston Rambo

Dynasty Prospect: WR Keyshawn Smith

Fantastic Freshman: QB Jake Garcia



There seems to be a consensus on the value of Miami starting quarterback **D'Eriq King** in CFF where he sits QB17 on my board, is QB17 in Fantrax's ADP and was taken as QB18 in the eighth round in our July 1st bestball league. King sounds as though he will be healthy for the Week 1 opener vs. Alabama, but I have my reservations as to how much he will use his legs after multiple ACL injuries over the course of his career. King was very good throwing the football last season, completing 64 percent of his throws with 23 TDs and just five interceptions, and was so consistent for his CFF owners as he topped 25 fantasy points in every game but the Clemson matchup. King's legs were a big reason why he was able to accomplish that, though, notching at least eight rushing attempts in every contest. King is best suited as your QB2 with potential QB1 upside if he's still able to scoot like he has in the past. 2022 will feature a tightly-contested battle to be King's successor with spring camp darling **Jake Garcia** and Tyler Van Dyke. From the sounds of it, those who are just penciling in Garcia as the QB1 for next season are misinformed.

Offensive coordinator Rhett Lashlee feels he has three Ferrari's in his backfield with **Donald Chaney Jr.**, **Cam'Ron Harris** and Jaylan Knighton, but has stated repeatedly this offseason that he wants one car and not three. Chaney was taking strides in the spring towards that RB1 job before a shoulder injury/surgery shut him down for the summer, though indications are he should also be ready for Week 1. Harris looked good to start last year, with 134 yards rushing against both UAB and Louisville to open the season, but was apparently at odds with the coaching staff about his role in the offense which limited his playing time the rest of the way. Why he came back, I still don't understand.

Top 3 WRs appear set for Miami with Mike Harley occupying the slot, Oklahoma transfer **Charleston Rambo** and redshirt FR **Keyshawn Smith**. Rambo had a good camp, followed up with a strong spring game performance, but I'd be shocked if anyone unseated Harley here as the WR1 considering a Rhett Lashlee offense typically favors the slot, dating back to his SMU days where James Proche had back-to-back 100 target seasons. Over the final six games last season, Harley averaged over 100 yards and 1 TD per contest.

### **NC State Wolfpack**

Top Play: RB Zonovan Knight

Potential Bust: RB Zonovan Knight

**Sleeper:** QB Devin Leary

**Impact Transfer:** n/a

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Porter Rooks **Fantastic Freshman:** WR Julian Gray



Prime example of the Devy/C2C influence cooked into the Fantrax ADP rankings with **Zonovan Knight** currently sitting at RB40. Great player, but the coaching staff was intent on sharing carries last season between he and Ricky Person. I've seen little indication that the division of carries this year will change between the two as long as both are healthy, and OC Tim Beck has utilized the committee approach for the last five seasons with no RB topping 182 carries. Knight is clearly the best RB on the roster, but I wouldn't draft him in the Top 40 among CFF running backs.

If looking for a sleeper at QB, and a long-shot candidate for a meteoric rise ala Zach Wilson, **Devin Leary** is worth a look. In the four-game sample size from 2020, Leary improved his completion rate to 60 percent with eight TDs and just two interceptions, including a big-time performance at Pitt where he threw for 336 yards and four scores. NC State has averaged between 33 and 39 passing attempts since Dave Doeren arrived so that amount of volume is enough to warrant a CFF roster spot at bare minimum. Leary will also benefit from his top five targets at receiver all returning, and 18 starters as a whole are back for NC State. With Emeka Emezie and Thayer Thomas both being seniors, I would look at adding some of the underclassmen in dynasty formats who should get a shot at playing with Leary in 2022, including star in the making **Porter Rooks**, and incoming FR **Julian Gray**. It does not sound like the TE position will not be part of the passing attack this season, so we could see an uptick in targets among all of the receivers.

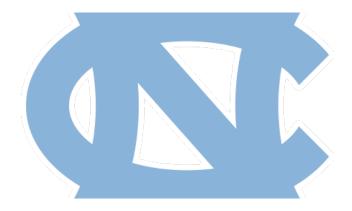
#### **North Carolina Tar Heels**

**Top Play:** QB Sam Howell

Potential Bust: WR Khafre Brown

**Sleeper:** WR Beau Corrales

**Dynasty Prospect:** QB Drake Maye **Fantastic Freshman:** RB Caleb Hood



There really isn't much more to be said about **Sam Howell** that hasn't already been written to this point. His overall ADP of 18.3 is exactly where he should be drafted in the middle to back half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, and you should be celebrating if able to land him in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of drafts. Howell topped 20 fantasy points in all but one game last season, and there doesn't seem to be any worry about losing Dyami Brown or Dazz Newsome with the talent that's being recruited to UNC these days. Josh Downs will replace Newsome in the slot, and if past history is any indication, he's a lock for 60+ receptions in 2021 with how much focus there is with the slot receiver in this passing attack.

As for who joins Downs, senior **Beau Corrales** feels like the safest bet right now the way Howell and the coaching staff is talking him up this offseason with his QB stating that he is "probably the guy I have the most chemistry with." Corrales won't challenge defenses over the top with his speed, but is the team's best jump ball specialist at 6-foot-3. It's a three-way battle currently for who starts opposite Corrales on the outside, with my preferred choice being Khafre Brown who can take the top off the defense like his older brother. Seven-year average for WR2s in Phil Longo's system is 51-849-8 so there is a strong chance someone besides Downs is a viable option in CFF.

At running back, Tennessee **Ty Chandler** looks to be the clear alpha here, but the staff has stressed that he is not Javonte Williams or Michael Carter, but more a combination of the two. Love Chandler's potential here with four OL starters back, and his skillset as a pass-catcher as Williams/Carter combined for 50 receptions last season. Longo's RB1 averages just 163 carries per season, so UNC will spread carries around. The issue is the lack of clarity as to who that will be. Redshirt FR D.J. Jones should get the first crack, but incoming FR **Caleb Hood** impressed this spring, and has the body-type of a young A.J. Dillon with his tree trunk legs.

For continuation dynasty leagues, 4-star QB **Drake Maye** is the heir apparent when Howell heads to the NFL and should be amongst the top five quarterbacks selected in your drafts.

## **Pittsburgh Panthers**

**Top Play:** WR Jordan Addison **Potential Bust:** WR Taysir Mack **Sleeper:** RB Israel Abanikanda

Impact Transfer: WR Melquise Stovall

Dynasty Prospect: WR Myles Alston

Fantastic Freshman: WR Myles Austin



It's a pass-first offense under OC Mark Whipple as Pitt averaged the second-most attempts in the ACC last season at 38.6 att/g, yet somehow Kenny Pickett remains a borderline CFF prospect at quarterback. Pickett did average 25 FPPG in 2020, but had a few clunkers where he failed to top 19 fantasy points three times. Pickett does get work on the ground which boosts his value – eight rushing scores in nine games – but those eight TDs are a statistical outlier for what the QB position has done under Whipple over the last seven years. I don't see him topping that mark this year, particularly with the increased talent in the backfield.

Speaking of the backfield, it's not a position we like to target under Whipple, averaging just 151 carries per season by the RB1. The buzz has been palpable this offseason, though, surrounding redshirt FR **Israel Abanikanda** with comparisons from Pat Narduzzi to Le'Veon Bell. I see more Jahmyr Gibbs 2.0 with his speed and rushing style, and was named the most improved offensive player for Pitt during the spring. Wouldn't mind adding Izzy A. with a late-round draft pick, but this isn't a scheme that cultivates many productive CFF backs.

Pitt will return four of the top five pass-catchers from last year, including breakout FR **Jordan Addison** who led the team with 60-662-4 on 87 targets. We've seen multiple instances of 100+ reception WRs in Whipple's offense during his time at UMass, and the slot receiver is typically the primary beneficiary (where Addison primarily plays). 100 targets are not out of the realm of possibilities for Addison, but prefer him mostly in PPR formats. **Taysir Mack** returns for his senior year, and had a good spring from all accounts, but did not produce more than three fantasy points in any of his last five games played last year. Don't be surprised if Shocky Jacques-Louis, Jared Wayne, Tre Tipton and Hawaii transfer **Melquise Stovall** all see an equal target share.

## **Syracuse Orange**

**Top Play:** WR Taj Harris

Potential Bust: QB Garrett Shrader

Sleeper: QB Garrett Shrader

**Impact Transfer:** n/a

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Damien Alford **Fantastic Freshman:** RB Josh Hough



Head coach Dino Babers reiterated that Tommy DeVito will enter fall camp as the QB1 after he improved his play over the spring. We've heard that for a few years now and I remain unconvinced with watching him play, hence my projection that **Garrett Shrader** will eventually take over as the starter at some point. Babers' job is on the line this year, and he can't continue to rely on a multi-year starter that has shown no development. In recent bestballs, I've been securing Shrader with my last few picks as Babers' offense was relatively effective in the past using a dual-threat with Eric Dungey. 24 rushing touchdowns in 24 games played for Dungey in 2017-18, and Shrader is just as good a runner with more girth to him to withstand the punishment from defenders. Shrader's passing leaves much to be desired, and his understanding of the offense will determine how quickly he sees the field.

Very little interest in the Syracuse backfield, particularly if Shrader does eventually get the nod as he will see 100+ carries. Cuse gets back both Abdul Adams and Jarveon Howard to go along with breakout FR Sean Tucker in what should be a committee for the entirety of the season as we've seen under Babers – RB1 averages just 165 carries per season. Incoming FR **Josh Hough** was in the mix for the RB2 job in the spring before Adams/Howard announced their intentions to return, and probably doesn't see the field at all this year.

**Taj Harris** should lead the team in receiving once again, and may shift inside to the slot which could prove beneficial for increased usage. Harris was targeted 10 or more times in four of his last six games in 2020. If Harris moves inside, look for redshirt FR **Damien Alford** to nab one of the outside spots as he had a very strong spring camp from all accounts and provides excellent size at 6-foot-5. He might be the future WR1 for the Orange next season after Harris departs.

## **Virginia Cavaliers**

**Top Play:** QB Brennan Armstrong

Potential Bust: RB Wayne Taulapapa

Sleeper: WR Billy Kemp IV

**Impact Transfer:** TE Jelani Woods

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Demick Starling **Fantastic Freshman:** RB Amaad Foston



**Brennan Armstrong** should be a second-round CFF draft pick in a redraft or startup dynasty format, and you should be celebrating if you snag him any later than that. Best news is that nabbing him in the third round or later is a distinct possibility with his ADP currently sitting at QB13 and No. 50 overall which pits him closer to the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> round range. Aside from the matchup vs. NC State where Armstrong was knocked out of the game in the first half due to injury, the junior QB scores 20 or more fantasy points every week, and score more than 30 points on six different occasions. With Armstrong not being an NFL Draft prospect, he should be drafted no later than Round 2 in any startup dynasty league with two years of eligibility remaining.

The UVA backfield is a mess and I'm steering clear here despite Bronco Mendenhall's constant desires for a workhorse to emerge in the backfield. **Wayne Taulapapa** remains the RB1 for now, after leading the Cavs in rushing among non-QBs with just 395 yards. Any one of Taulapapa, Indiana transfer Ronnie Walker Jr. or sophomore Mike Hollins could lead the team in rushing, and I would not be surprised. Incoming 3-star **Amaad Foston** had a strong spring camp, with Mendenhall stating he is their best pass-catcher out of the backfield already.

The graduation of Terrell Jana and loss of Lavel Davis Jr. for most of the 2021 season means there are over 100+ targets available for the returning WRs to gobble up. **Billy Kemp** lead the Hoos in targets with 97 last year and is still listed as a RB on Fantrax, a great selection as a RB4-5 in PPR formats. Redshirt FR **Demick Starling** is one of the fastest players on the team and looks to be next man up for that slot role after Kemp graduates, which has been ultra-productive in this offense in the past with both he and Olamide Zaccheaus. With Davis Jr. also being UVA's best jump-ball specialist, we could see increased usage from the TE position with 6-foot-7 Oklahoma State transfer **Jelani Woods** who should get an ample number of targets in general as well – last year's TE1 Tony Poljan was third on the team with 61 targets.

#### **Virginia Tech Hokies**

**Top Play:** n/a

Potential Bust: QB Braxton Burmeister

**Sleeper:** RB Jalen Holston

**Impact Transfer:** n/a

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Jaden Payoute **Fantastic Freshman:** WR Jaylen Jones



Speaks to the talent level of Virginia Tech right now on offense that I'm not including a Top Play for the Hokies as I don't view a single player worthy of being drafted in a CFF standard redraft league. Promising quotes from head coach Justin Fuente coming out of Media Day regarding his QB1 **Braxton Burmeister**, stating he will have a huge role in running game as one of the better athletes on the team. Va Tech QBs ran the ball 17 times per game in 2020, and Burmeister should see a similar stat-line, particularly with the question marks at running back. The junior QB was injured multiple times last year, so TBD if he can make it through a full season handling that type of volume on the ground.

With Burmeister getting a healthy dosage of the ground work, that does limit the impact Virginia Tech running backs have in the stat-column, averaging just 156 carries per season. **Jalen Holston** appears set to get the first crack at the RB1 job for this year, and has shed 10 pounds to become more of a home-run threat ala his predecessor Khalil Herbert who averaged 7.68 YPC. Holston won't reach that, but will be running behind one of the better lines in the ACC that returns 92 career starts and was 31st nationally in line yards created.

I don't believe Burmeister is good enough a passer – career 56 percent completion rate – is good enough to support any Hokie receiver to the point where they are a viable option in CFF leagues. Tre Turner, Tayvion Robinson and tight end James Mitchell should dominate the target share in 2021, but Tech does have some young talent in the pipeline with redshirt FR **Jaden Payoute** who provides "decent size, track speed and great leaping ability" and incoming FR **Jaylen Jones** and Da'Wain Lofton who showed "maturity beyond their years this spring as early enrollees" – the Athletic.

#### **Wake Forest Demon Deacons**

**Top Play:** WR Jaquarii Roberson **Potential Bust:** QB Sam Hartman **Sleeper:** RB Christian Beal-Smith **Impact Transfer:** RB Christian Turner

**Dynasty Prospect:** WR Ke'Shawn Williams

Fantastic Freshman: RB Will Towns



We didn't touch the statistical projection for WR1 **Jaquarii Roberson** following the disappointing news that fellow receiver Donovan Greene will be out for the season due to injury. Roberson's target share may actually get a boost now considering how talented a player Greene is, but it will be interesting to see how he will be deployed in 2021 as he operated out of the slot last year 76 percent of the time. With Greene out, Taylor Morin gets a bump to WR2 for us, with a full-fledged battle for the starting outside spots between A.T. Perry and Donald Stewart for WR3 – Stewart was ahead coming out of spring ball. Redshirt FR **Ke'Shawn Williams** is a player I was not familiar with prior to some digging following the Greene news, but looks to be next man up as the possible WR4. In his limited snaps last year, Williams operated solely out of the slot, so moving Roberson outside does make a bit of sense.

**Sam Hartman** was a disappointment last year, capped off by his abysmal four-interception performance in the bowl game vs. Wisconsin. After rushing 107 times in nine games back in 2018 as a starter, the thought was he could produce a similar clip to what Jamie Newman did back in 2019 with 180-574-6, but that never transpired as Hartman had just 63 carries. Confidence remains high from the coaching staff that Hartman will rebound from last year's performance, but we need him to be unleashed running the ball if he is to be a Top 40 QB in CFF this season. He's now down one of his best WR options now too with Greene out.

As we frustratingly saw last year with Kenneth Walker, Wake Forest will always rotate their running backs no matter who is in the backfield. **Christian Beal-Smith** takes over the reins now as the starter, and displayed he is plenty capable with three 100-yard rushing performances as a backup. RB1s under Dave Clawson average just 144 carries per season, though, so expect to see plenty of backup Christian Turner who comes over from Michigan, and potentially others as well.