

# MISSISSIPPI

Rebels

## HEAD COACH

HUGH FREEZE  
Second Year at Mississippi  
Overall (3rd year): 17-8  
At Mississippi: 7-6  
Bowl Record Overall: 1-0  
Bowl Record at Miss.: 1-0

## OFFENSIVE COACH

MATT LUKE (OL)  
DAN WERNER (QB)  
Both Second Year at Miss.

## DEFENSIVE COACH

DAVE WOMMACK (S)  
Second Year at Mississippi

## OTHER COACHES

TOM ALLEN (ST/LB)  
MAURICE HARRIS (TE)  
GRANT HEARD (WR)  
JASON JONES (CO-DC/CB)  
CHRIS KIFFIN (DL)  
DERRICK NIX (RB)  
PAUL JACKSON (STR & COND)

## 2012 RECORD

7-6 (3-5)  
FOUNDED  
1848  
STADIUM CAPACITY  
Vaught-Hemingway  
Stadium/60,580  
LOCATION  
Oxford, Mississippi

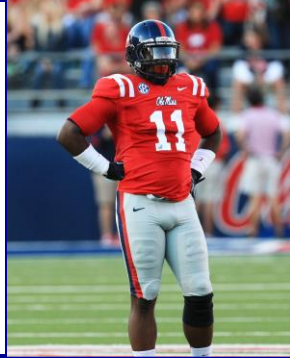
Ole Miss



**PROJECTED OFFENSIVE MVP**  
Bo Wallace, QB



**PROJECTED DEFENSIVE MVP**  
Denzel Nkemdiche, LB



**PROJECTED BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
Channing Ward, DE



**PROJECTED FUTRE PLAYMAKER**  
Robert Nkemdiche, DE

## Projected Offensive Depth Chart

QB	14 BO WALLACE (6'4, 204, JR) 11 Barry Brunetti (6'0, 212, SR) 9 Maikhail Miller (6'2, 240, SO)
RB	3 JEFF SCOTT (5'7, 170, SR) 5 I'Tavius Mathers (5'11, 196, SO) 6 Jaylen Walton (5'8, 168, SO) 7 Mark Dodson, Jr. (5'10, 192, FR)
x-WR	15 DONTE MONCRIEF (6'3, 216, JR) NA Laquon Treadwell (6'3, 199, FR) 88 Cocy Core (6'3, 191, SO)
h-WR	85 JA-MES LOGAN (6'3, 195, SR) 6 Quadarias Mireles (5'11, 185, JR) 28 Korvic Neat (5'9, 164, SR)
z-WR	10 VINCE SANDERS (6'1, 190, JR) 7 Jordan Holder (5'11, 179, SR) 16 Collins Moore (6'1, 196, JR) 8 Terrell Grant (6'3, 215, SR)
TE	84 Jack Nuismer (6'3, 237, SR) 15 Christian Morgan (6'4, 245, FR) 48 Josh Bigham (6'1, 232, SR)
C	56 EVAN SWINDALL (6'4, 295, SR) 54 Austin Douglas (6'2, 320, JR) 61 Ben Still (6'2, 280, SO)
RG	77 Patrick Junen (6'7, 332, SR) 68 Justin Bell (6'3, 335, SO) 50 Ethan Huston (6'4, 306, SO)
LG	72 AARON MORRIS (6'5, 330, JR) 74 Jared Duke (6'7, 354, SR) 65 Chase Hughes (6'3, 292, JR)
RT	71 PIERCE BURTON (6'6, 289, SR) 78 Robert Conyers (6'3, 277, rFR) 73 Darone Bailey (6'5, 316, JR)
LT	70 EMMANUEL MCCRAY (6'5, 316, SR) NA Laremy Tunsil (6'6, 295, FR) 60 Derrick Wilson (6'2, 326, SR)
K	96 Andrew Ritter (6'3, 320, SR) 26 Andrew Fletcher (5'9, 167, JR)
KR	6 Jaylen Walton (5'8, 168, SO) 5 I'Tavius Mathers (5'11, 196, SO)

## OFFENSIVE POSITION WRITE-UPS

**Quarterbacks:** In Bo Wallace's last season as the starting quarterback for East Mississippi Community College he threw for 4,604 yards with an 53 touchdowns. Both of those are JUCO records along with his 4,810 total yards. He was an unanimous All-American selection and was then ready to take his talents to a division one program and chose to settle in Oxford. Wallace originally signed with Arkansas State when Hugh Freeze was the head coach but then went to play JUCO football. Wallace won the starting job in 2012 and it was not an easy ride from then on. Wallace was (is) an ideal fit for Freeze's up-tempo spread attack as he threw for 2,994 yards and ran for 390 yards with 30 total touchdowns. Even though there were some bright spots in Wallace's game, many down falls came with it. Wallace threw 17 interceptions which was tied for the national lead. Wallace finished off an up and down season with an impressive showing versus rival Mississippi State. Wallace completed 15 of 22 passes for 294 yards with five touchdowns! Wallace also had a solid bowl game in which he tossed three scores in a 38-17 win over Pittsburgh in the BBVA Compass Bowl. But in those two wins, Wallace threw four picks combined. If Wallace can be consistent and improve on his TD-interception ratio from a year ago look for Ole Miss to be in close games with some of the SEC giants. Former West Virginia quarterback, Barry Brunetti, played in twelve games last season and has tremendous athleticism and provides nice depth along with sophomore Maikhail Miller. Newcomers Devante Kincade and Ryan Buchanon most likely won't see any playing time this season but both were respectively recruited and should be eyeing a starting job once Wallace departs.

**Running Backs:** Senior Jeff Scott has been the leading rusher here for the past two seasons. Scott is eighth in rushing yards in school history with 1,804 yards. (First-Deuce McAllister 3,060 yards) Scott has yet to top 1,000 yards in a season but has been very productive throughout his career. Freeze believes in the small running back (5'7, 170) to gain the tough yards when needed. Scott is a threat in the passing game and runs the read-option beautifully with quarterback Wallace. If Scott can manage to get more yards after contact, look for him to be on some postseason All-SEC teams. Scott is joined by sophomore I'Tavius Mathers and freshmen Mark Dodson, Jr. and Kailo Moore. Other freshman Jordan Wilkins looks to sit after suffering a nasty leg injury last fall. Mathers contributed last season gathering 27 rushes with an awesome 7.7 yard average. Look for Mathers to be more involved this season as he is now the main number two. Freshmen Dodson and Moore project to have an immediate impact. Dodson, Jr. was an early enrollee in which gives him the advantage over fellow freshman Moore. I predict that this group will vastly improve with Scott topping the 1,000 yard mark for the first time for a Rebel since Dexter McCluster in 2009!

**Receivers:** No one was hotter last season for the Rebels than Donte Moncrief. In his final two regular season games, Moncrief had a combined 334 receiving yards with five touchdowns! Moncrief returns along with other top receivers Ja-Mes Logan and Vince Sanders. Logan, Sanders, and Moncrief grabbed 15 of the team's 16 receiving touchdowns by wideouts. Joining the group this season is highly touted recruit Laquon Treadwell. Treadwell is my second ranked receiver in this year's class right behind Ricky Seals-Jones who is attending Texas A&M. Tight ends could be a big issue this fall. The Rebels lose Jamel Mosley and Ferbia Allen who combined 23 receptions and three touchdowns. Newcomers Christian Morgan and Even Engram will have every opportunity to step in and compete for a starting job in fall practice. Senior Jack Nuismer is my projected starter but I believe Morgan may take over the starting job later on in the season. Enrolling this spring helped his chances. With the top three receivers returning along with impactful newcomers I look for Ole Miss to match and improve on last year's numbers.

**Offensive Line:** In the past two seasons Ole Miss has allowed 34 sacks. Compared to the 2009-2010 seasons in which the Rebels totaled for 31 sacks in the two seasons combined, make 34 sacks sound like a big disappointment. The rush game improved from 130 yards per game to 174 but can still get better. All-SEC caliber tackle Emmanuel McCray is the anchor of the group along with center Evan Swindall and tackle Pierce Burton. Of my projected starters the Rebels have 74 career starts. I look for this unit to improve on all numbers especially the rushing totals. Depth could be an issue but highly touted Tunsil and Golson should fit in nicely.

## Projected Defensive Depth Chart

DE	10 CJ JOHNSON (6'3, 233, JR) 54 Carlos Thompson (6'4, 243, JR) 47 John Youngblood (6'3, 237, rFR)
NT	94 ISAAC GROSS (6'1, 254, SO) 56 Woodrow Hamilton (6'3, 292, SO) 92 Carlton Martin (6'2, 288, JR)
DT	95 BRYON BENNETT (6'2, 294, JR) 45 Lavon Hooks (6'4, 295, JR) NA Herbert Moore (6'2, 330, FR)
DE	NA Robert Nkemdiche (6'5, 260, FR) 55 CAMERON WHIGHAM (6'3, 255, SR) 11 Channing Ward (6'4, 256, SO)
SLB	4 DENZEL NKEMDICHE (5'11, 203, SO) 14 Serderius Bryant (5'9, 223, JR) 24 Keith Lewis (6'1, 235, JR)
MLB	52 MIKE MARRY (6'3, 256, SR) 9 DT Shackleford (6'1, 250, SR) 32 Temario Strong (6'0, 240, rFR)
HUSKY	28 Mike Hilton (5'8, 182, SO) NA Antonio Conner (6'2, 203, FR) 13 Brishen Matthews (6'0, 200, SR)
FS	25 CODY PREWITT (6'2, 214, JR) 8 Chief Brown (6'1, 202, SO) 19 Louis Covington (5'9, 162, SR)
SS	7 TRAE ELSTON (6'0, 190, SO) 8 Chief Brown (6'1, 202, SO) 2 Quintavius Burdette (5'11, 189, SO)
CB	21 SENQUEZ GOLSON (5'9, 188, JR) 20 Carlos Davis (5'9, 163, SO) 23 Anthony Standifer (6'0, 182, SO)
CB	3 CHARLES SAWYER (5'11, 181, SR) 1 Dehendret Collins (5'10, 185, SR) 5 Nick Brassell (6'1, 180, JR)
P	97 Tyer Campbell (6'2, 220, SR) 94 Chris Conley (5'8, 190, SR)
PR	28 KORVIC NEAT (5'9, 164, SR) 3 Jeff Scott (5'7, 170, SR)

## 2013 PREDICTION ARTICLE

Ole Miss had one of their worst seasons in school history in 2007 going 3-8 with a winless SEC record. Even with their winless record, the Rebels returned 16 starters in 2008 and I called them to be much improved with an experienced SEC coach in Houston Nutt. The Rebels managed to get nine wins with a 5-3 SEC record. Most of the success was due to JUCO transfer quarterback Jevan Snead and an experienced offensive line with an outstanding rush defense. Ole Miss went on to have back-to-back nine win seasons then things got bad fast. In 2010, the Rebels went 4-8 with a 1-7 SEC record then went 3-9 to a winless SEC record for the second time in five seasons. Nutt was shown the door and in came Hugh Freeze. Freee brought in a new type of offense and a solid coaching staff who knew how to recruit. The Rebels put up offensive numbers that were some of the best in school history. The defense was shaky but had some spurts of future stardom. In 2012, the Rebels faced a gruesome schedule, my toughest in the SEC, having road games at Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, and LSU. This season the Rebels get LSU and Texas A&M at home but travel to Alabama and Mississippi State with an out of conference game at Texas. They kickoff the season with a primetime Thursday night game at Vanderbilt which should give an idea of what this Rebel team has to offer in their first conference game of the season. This season I believe Ole Miss will exceed last season's stats and records with 19 returning starters and a solid coaching staff. This year the Rebels have a much more manageable schedule and should top seven wins.

## DEFENSIVE POSITION WRITE-UPS

**Defensive Line:** All the key parts are back from the line that spent most of the time in the backfield last season. The rush defense was on point last season as the Rebels posted their best rush defense (129yppg) since 2008. (86yppg) The Rebels racked up 103 tackles for loss last season which was 17 better than the national champs. A lot of credit goes to the linebacking corp as well. Even with pressure from everywhere across the line, defensive end CJ Johnson seemed to receive the most attention as he posted 55 stops with 6.5 sacks and 1.5 tackles for loss. Johnson progressed as the season went on and this year is expected to thrive in his second season as the full time starter. On the other side, senior Cameron Whigham returns but will be pushed heavily for the starting role by the number one overall recruit Robert Nkemdiche. Even with the loss of tackles Uriah Grant and Gilbert Pena, the interior line still looks solid. Rising star Isaac Gross will start at nose even though only being 6'1 and 254 pounds. He had a fine season in 2012 with 7.5 tackles for loss and 40 total tackles. Bryon Bennett is listed as the starter this preseason but could be knocked to second string with highly touted JUCO recruit Lavon Hooks coming in. Hooks was an early enrollee and has the potential to be an immediate star. This season I look for this unit to improve on last season's pass rush numbers and be one of the better defensive line units in the conference!

**Linebackers:** Outside linebacker Denzel Nkemdiche, yes, his brother, did more than he was expected of as a freshman in 2012. Nkemdiche led the team in tackles with 82, had 13.5 tackles for loss, and four forced fumbles. Nkemdiche earned first team All-SEC accolades and rightly so. Nkemdiche at 5'11 203 may be an undersized SEC linebacker but his hard hitting and quickness puts that stereotype away. With Mississippi's 4-2-5 defensive scheme there are only two linebackers. This season joining Nkemdiche as the only other heavily touted LB is senior Mike Marry. In 2011, Mike Marry was my projected breakthrough player on the team and that year he finished first on the team in tackles with 81. Last season Marry finished third on the team in tackles with 78 and second in tackles for loss with eight. Key backup DT Shackleford suffered a torn ACL in 2011 and sat out last season. Shackleford looks to be in the mix this season now being fully healthy. Mike Hilton looks to jump into the starting role at the "Husky" position but newcomer Antonio Conner may be starting there at season's end. This group is strong and should continually improve this season.

**Defensive Backs:** The pass defense was the obvious issue in the Rebel defense in 2012. The rush defense finished as one of the best in awhile but the pass defense averaged 246.5 yards per game which was 11<sup>th</sup> in the conference. Safety Cody Prewitt led the secondary in tackles last season with 80 while also posting 3.5 tackles for loss. Prewitt's specialty is rush defense and causing turnovers. (two forced fumbles and two picks in 2012) The prototype free safety looks to have a solid year if he continues to improve on pass defense. Strong safety and rover Trae Elston returns after finishing last season with 61 tackles and six pass breakups. The Rebels return both starting corners from 2012 along with others who have some starting experience and playing experience in general. Charles Sawyer is the headliner of the group with 25 starts over his career. Sawyer finished the season with 63 tackles and eight pass breakups. Junior Senquez Golson also returns after filling in just nicely last season by tying the team lead in interceptions with three. This season the team adds former Rebel two-way player Nick Brassell. Brassell played for Ole Miss in 2011 but the grades caught up to him and he enrolled at a JUCO. Brassell was the fifth ranked JUCO player in the 2013 class and looks to have an immediate impact after already having a full season of playing experience back in 2011. I look for this secondary unit to improve on their dismal pass defense numbers from last season due to the added experience. The unit returns the number two, four, five, and nine top tacklers on the team from last season.

**Coaching Staff:** Hugh Freeze was hired as the Mississippi head coach after serving one year as coach at Arkansas State. In his only season there, Freeze went 10-2 with a GoDaddy.com bowl game bid, in which he did not coach. (NIU 38 ASU 20) Freeze was known as an avid recruiter when at Mississippi from 2005 through 2007 and that gave Ole Miss another reason to snatch him up a year earlier than his expected departure time from Arkansas State. The offensive coordinators are Matt Luke, second year, along with Dan Werner who enters his second year after serving here before in 2006 and 2007. The defensive coordinators are loaded with experience. Jason Jones spent five years at Oklahoma State and fellow coordinator, Dave Wommack, has been a coordinator at seven other schools.

## SPECIAL TEAMS POSITION WRITE-UPS



In 2011, punter Tyler Campbell led the nation with a 46.4 yard average as a sophomore. Freeze decided to redshirt Campbell last season as his technique was not up to par as his new rugby approach didn't go as planned. Senior Jim Broadway took over for Campbell in 2012 and had a decent season. Broadway averaged 41.1 yards per punt and knocked 15 within the 20 yard line. Projected starting kicker Andrew Ritter was also redshirted last season. In 2011, Ritter was in charge of kickoff duties as he had 43 total kickoffs with an average of 67.7 yards per kick with 12 touchbacks. Bryson Rose started all 13 games last season even after starting off slow going 0-4 in the first two games. Rose picked up the pace by going 18 of 24 in his next 24 attempts. Many of his misses came from beyond 50 yards. The kick returning duties will be handled by running backs Jaylen Walton and I'Tavius Mathers. Walton averaged 24.7 yards per return last season with one touchdown on a 100 yard return! Mathers only had three returns last season. Korvic Neat is planned to start at punt returner after his 16 returns last season. Neat averaged 5.1 yards per return last season. A much more experienced group should improve on last year's numbers.

**Newcomers for 2012**

**QB (2)**

**Ryan Buchanon**

(6'4-210-HS-Jackson, MS)

**Devante Kincade**

(6'1-185-HS-Dallas, TX)

**RB (4)**

**Eugene Bradley**

(5'10-180-HS-New Orleans, LA)

**Mark Dodson, Jr.**

(5'10-192-HS-Memphis, TN)

**Kailo Moore**

(6'1-210-HS-Cordova, TN)

**Jordan Wilkins**

(6'1-195-HS-Powder Springs, GA)

**WR (5)**

**Quincy Adebeyejo**

(6'3-180-HS-Cedar Hill, TX)

**Trey Bledsoe**

(6'2-190-200-HS-Grenada, MS)

**Derrick Jones**

(6'2-185-HS-Eupora, MS)

**Quadarius Mireles**

(5'11-185-JC-Delray Beach, FL)

**Laquon Treadwell**

(6'3-198-HS-Crete, IL)

**TE (3)**

**Evan Engram**

(6'3-210-HS-Powder Springs, GA)

**Arshad Jackson**

(6'6-238-HS-Hampton, GA)

**Christian Morgan**

(6'4-245-HS-Plano, TX)

**OL (4)**

**Daronte Bouldin**

(6'6-310-HS-Canton, MS)

**Austin Golson**

(6'6-290-HS-Prattville, AL)

**Davion Johnson**

(6'4-315-HS-Byhalia, MS)

**Laremy Tunsil**

(6'6-295-HS-Lake City, FL)

**DL (3)**

**Lavon Hooks**

(6'4-295-JC-Atlanta, GA)

**Herbert Moore**

(6'2-330-JC-Memphis, TN)

**Robert Nkemdiche**

(6'5-260-HS-Loganville, GA)

**LB (2)**

**Marcus Robinson**

(6'2-225-JC-Hutchinson, KS)

**Ray Ray Smith**

(6'3-210-HS-Florence, AL)

**DB (3)**

**Nick Brassell**

(6'1-180-JC-Batesville, MS)

**Antonio Conner**

(6'2-203-HS-Batesville, MS)

**Bobby Hill**

(6'0-165-HS-Moultrie, GA)

**David Kamara**

(5'10-185-HS-Loganville, GA)

**K (1)**

**Andy Pappanastos**

(5'11-180-HS-Montgomery, AL)

**2013 SCHEDULE**

Date	Opponent	'12 Record	'12 O-YPG	'12 D-YPG	Ret. Strs.
Aug. 29	AT VANDERBILT	9-4 (5-3)	380	334	7/6/1
Sep. 7	SE MO STATE	3-8 (2-6)*	358	437	6*/3/1
Sep. 14	AT TEXAS	9-4 (5-4)	435	404	10*/9/1
Sep. 28	AT ALABAMA	13-1 (7-1)	446	250	6*/7/1
Oct. 5	AT AUBURN	3-9 (0-8)	305	421	7*/8/2
Oct. 12	TEXAS A&M	11-2 (6-2)	559	390	6*/5/1
Oct. 19	LSU	10-3 (6-2)	374	308	8*/4/0
Oct. 26	IDAHO	1-11 (1-5)	315	474	7/3/0
Nov. 9	ARKANSAS	4-8 (2-6)	420	410	4/8/1
Nov. 10	TROY	5-7 (3-5)	499	444	4*/5/2
Nov. 16	MISSOURI	5-7 (2-6)	356	391	8*/6/1
Nov. 28	AT MISS. STATE	8-5 (4-4)	382	387	7*/5/1

As great as Alabama's class was, Ole Miss received the most buzz throughout the recruiting period. Ole Miss was the talk during National Signing Day as they received many pledges from the nation's top recruits including the number one overall recruit Robert Nkemdiche. Many could have seen Nkemdiche landing in Oxford due to his brother, Denzel, already being a member of the Mississippi football team. But what many didn't expect, was the fact that Hugh Freeze and company would sign multiple recruits ranked at the top of their positions. Top rated offensive tackle Laremy Tunsil chose the Rebels along with wide receiver Laquon Treadwell. Both were eyeing different schools before signing day.

Even though most coaches would like to see immediate impact from their recruits, Ole Miss might be expecting initial impact due to the lack of depth at some positions, especially offensive line. Even though above I said the offensive line would be a strength for Ole Miss, it still lacks depth and experience. Laremy Tunsil along with my number seven rated tackle Austin Golson will both have the opportunity to play immediately. Staying with the offense, wide receiver Laquon Treadwell should be an immediate help and could find himself in a starting position by the end of the year.

Nkemdiche will, of course, get his chance to show his ability in his freshman year but others like Herbert Moore and the top rated JUCO defensive player Lavon Hooks look to also make a big splash in their first seasons in Oxford.

With all the talk of how the Rebels finished the recruiting process, let's not forget about the commitments (signees) that they managed to get before February. Running backs Kailo Moore and Mark Dodson, Jr. should see some early playing time along with tight end Christian Morgan. Safety Antonio Conner was one of the biggest gets in this class as he is expected to compete immediately for a starting spot. Hanging onto former Rebel player, Nick Brassell, was also huge as he was the fifth ranked JUCO prospect in the 2013 class.

**2012 Individual Statistics**

**Returning Player**

**OFFENSE**

**PASSING**

B. Wallace.....235comp, 368att, 2,994yds, 22TDs 17ints.

B. Brunetti.....23comp, 36att, 196yds, 1TDs 0ints.

**RUSHING**

J. Scott.....197att, 846yds, 4.3avg, 6TDs

B. Wallace....143att, 390yds, 2.7avg, 8TDs

R. Mackey....79att, 325yds, 4.1avg, 3TDs

**RECEIVING**

D. Moncrief....66rec, 979yds, 14.8avg, 10TDs

J. Logan.....43rec, 490yds, 11.4avg, 1TD

V. Sanders.....39rec, 504yds, 12.9avg, 4TDs

**DEFENSE**

**TACKLES**

D. Nkemdiche-82, C. Prewitt-80, M. Marry-78,

C. Sawyer-63, T. Elston-61, C. Johnson-55

**SACKS**

C. Johnson-6.5, J. Jones-3.5, D. Nkemdiche-3

**INTERCEPTIONS**

D. Collins-3, S. Golson-3, D. Nkemdiche-3

**SPECIAL TEAMS**

**KICKING**

B. Rose.....18-28FGs 49-49XPs, 103points

**PUNTING**

J. Broadway....57 punts 2,345yds, 39.6avg, 36.6net

**2012 Team Statistics**

**OFFENSE (Nat/SEC)**

Scoring: 31.5ppg (47/6)

Passing: 249.9ypg (49/5)

Rushing: 173.9ypg (49/5)

Total: 423.8ypg (46/5)

**DEFENSE (Nat/SEC)**

Scoring: 27.6ppg (60/9)

Passing: 246.5ypg (80/11)

Rushing: 129.3ypg (25/6)

Total: 375.9ypg (46/7)