

90 JAY ROSS

Defensive Tackle

6-3, 314, Four Letters

Wilmington, N.C. (New Hanover)



A charter member of East Carolina's nationally-recognized defensive line who led quietly by example during the last three seasons and enjoyed a Conference USA honors-producing year as a senior ... Displayed plenty of quickness, strength and agility in an imposing large frame ... Completed collegiate career as the owner of the longest active starting streak among all players in the ECU program with 38 straight ... In all, played in 52 games with 42 starts ... A tough and resilient athlete who played the majority of the '08 season in pain before sitting out the entire spring practice period to allow nagging leg injury to heal, but bounced back with a complete recovery a year later ... Enrolled at ECU in the fall of 2005, but officially joined the Pirate football program after the spring semester once NCAA eligibility requirements were met (and subsequently earned degree during ECU Commencement Exercises in the Spring of 2009).

2009: Started all 14 games as a senior and was credited with 47 tackles, 4.5 resulting in lost yardage ... An All-Conference USA selection by league head coaches (honorable mention) and *Phil Steele Magazine* (second team) ... Matched a career-high with eight stops vs. UAB after contributing seven tackles against Virginia Tech in a nationally-televised Thursday night matchup ... Also stood third on the team with eight quarterback hurries ... Recorded his first career interception in the Conference USA opener vs. UCF and also recovered a fumble at Tulsa, which included a return of 49 yards for a touchdown ... Netted 1.5 sacks, all coming against UAB in a pivotal league divisional matchup ... Credited with five tackles, 1.5 resulting in lost yardage, vs. No. 18 Houston in the C-USA Championship Game ... Also had one forced fumble (UAB) and one blocked kick (PAT/Houston) ... Posted a season-best three quarterback pressures in division-clinching win vs. Southern Miss ... Played key role on an unit that held seven opponents to less than 100 rushing yards in a game – UCF/70, SMU/28, Rice/78, Memphis/84, Tulsa/30, Houston/30 and Arkansas/81 ... Recorded at least one stop in all 14 games and had multiple-tackle outings in 11 contests ... Closed year in strong fashion, averaging nearly five (4.8) tackles in the last six tilts ... In addition to effort vs. Cougars, also netted five hits against Appalachian State and had four stops vs. West Virginia and Southern Miss.

2008: Started all 14 games at the tackle position as a junior and was credited with 48 tackles, five of those coming as sacks – matching the second-highest total among all Pirate defenders (along with Zack Slate) ... Also stood third on the team with 9.5 tackles for lost yardage and was the unit's co-leader with a pair of fumble recoveries (West Virginia, Tulsa) ... Turned in career-high tackle performances in perhaps two of the biggest games of the year, recording eight stops each against West Virginia and Tulsa in the Conference USA Championship Game ... In addition to the recovered fumbles, also had a pair of sacks against the Mountaineers and Golden Hurricane ... Collected at least one tackle in all 14 games and turned in multi-stop efforts in 11 contests ... Other performances of note came against Virginia Tech (six tackles) in the season opener, Marshall (four), UAB (four) and Kentucky (four) in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl ... Unit's co-leader with five quarterback hurries .. Blocked one kick (FGA vs. UTEP) ... Had at least one tackle for lost yardage in nine tilts with a season-high of two vs. the Miners (-18 yards) ... Added sacks against UCF (1.0), Southern Miss (1.0) and UTEP (1.0) to compliment quarterback drops against West Virginia (0.5) and Tulsa (1.5) ... Left Southern Miss contest early with a hip injury before bouncing back with a four-tackle outing against Blazers that helped ECU clinch a league divisional title ... Earned honorable mention All-Conference USA honors as selected by league head coaches ... Also was a second-team All-Conference USA choice by *Phil Steele Magazine* ... Played pivotal role in helping defensive unit hold three opponents to under 100 rushing yards (Tulane/76, UCF/82, UTEP/57) and two opponents to less than 100 passing yards (West Virginia/72, Memphis/82), while forcing a total of 33 turnovers (No. 7 national rank) ... Part of a defensive front seven that registered 31 sacks (second among all C-USA squads) and 91 tackles for lost yardage (6.50 tflpg), which also stood second in C-USA and 30th nationally.

2007: Selected to the All-Conference USA squad (honorable mention) by league coaches ... Posted 12 starts in 13 games (Southern Miss) ... Ranked 13th on unit team with 38 total stops (13 solo, 25 assists) ... Booked 4.5 TFLs (-21 yards) and two sacks (-12 yards) ... Recorded a career-best seven tackles (two solos) and 2.5 TFLs (-10 yards) against Houston ... Registered at least four tackles in four games ... Part of a defensive front that held four opponents to 80 yards or less rushing (VT/33, UNC/79, NCSU/49, Memphis/77) ... Credited with five quarterback pressures, four pass breakups, two fumble recoveries (UTEP, Boise State) and one forced fumble (UH) ... Booked five tackles vs. Southern Miss and four each against UCF and Marshall ... Also produced quarterback pressures against the Golden Eagles and Knights ... Had three stops in season opener at Virginia Tech before leaving game in third quarter with a knee injury ... Also contributed three tackles in battles vs. UAB and Memphis while adding two hits each against North Carolina, West Virginia and Tulane ... Credited with a season-high two quarterback pressures against Boise State at Aloha Stadium.

2006: Started two of 11 games played on the defensive line as a rookie ... Starts came in back-to-back contests (Virginia and Tulsa) ... Did not experience action against in first two games of the year – Navy and UAB ... Made collegiate debut vs. Memphis (9/16) at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium ... Had seven total tackles during the season, five of those coming as solo hits ... Recorded a season-high three tackles in home setback against Tulsa ... Booked two-stop performances against West Virginia and South Florida in the Papajohns.com Bowl ... Also batted down only pass of season vs. Bulls at Birmingham's Legion Field.

High School: Led Wildcats in sacks during junior and senior seasons and was recipient of program's Iron Man Award in 2003 and 2004 ... A two-time all-conference (Eastern AAAA) and all-area selection for coach John Fitz ... Played key role in New Hanover's successful 7-3 campaign in 2004 ... Served as team captain during senior year and earned a total of three varsity football letters ... Also picked up a pair of basketball letters ... Named to school's Honor Roll for academic distinction.

Personal: Full name is Jay Randall Ross ... Born October 3, 1987 at Wilmington, N.C. ... Earned bachelor's degree (communications) from ECU in May of 2009 (prior to "senior" season) ... Hobbies include fishing and video games.

ROSS' CAREER DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

Year	G/GS	UT	AT	TOT	SKS	TFL	FF	FR	INT	QBH	PB
2006	11/2	5	2	7	0.0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0	1
2007	13/12	13	25	38	2.0	4.5	1	2	0-0	7	4
2008	14/14	18	30	48	5.0	9.5	0	2	0-0	4	0
2009	14/14	14	33	47	1.5	4.5	1	1	1-0	8	0
Totals	52/42	50	90	140	8.5	18.5	2	5	1-0	19	5

Career-high tackles – 8 on three occasions, last vs. UAB (11/21/09)