

# The 10 best NFL performances by local college players over the weekend

Justin Sayers, Louisville Courier Journal Published 8:19 a.m. ET Sept. 18, 2018 | Updated 8:38 a.m. ET Sept. 18, 2018



(Photo: Wm. Glasheen/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis)

Week 2 of the NFL season is in the books (<https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/2018/09/16/nfl-week-2-32-things-we-learned/1328305002/>) and featured games decided on last-second field goals, historic performances from unexpected quarterbacks and yet another tie.

More than 20 players from colleges in the area played in Week 2, including Baltimore Ravens rookie quarterback Lamar Jackson (<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/sports/college/louisville/2018/09/09/lamar-jackson-ravens-nfl-debut-stats/1249989002/>) (Louisville), who ran the ball twice for six yards, and Green Bay Packers wide receiver Randall Cobb (Kentucky), who caught four passes for 30 yards.

Other players didn't get into the games, including New Orleans Saints quarterback Teddy Bridgewater (coach's decision), Los Angeles Rams offensive lineman Jamon Brown (suspension), and Miami Dolphins wide receiver Devante Parker (injury).

**Read more:** [NFL power rankings: Major changes at top of our list \(https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/2018/09/18/week-3-nfl-power-rankings-jaguars-rams-chiefs-eagles-patriots/1332082002/\)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/2018/09/18/week-3-nfl-power-rankings-jaguars-rams-chiefs-eagles-patriots/1332082002/)

**See also:** [Fantasy football rankings: Steelers will shine in Week 3 \(https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/fantasy/2018/09/17/fantasy-football-rankings-week-3/1341840002/\)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/fantasy/2018/09/17/fantasy-football-rankings-week-3/1341840002/)

Here's a look at the 10 best performances from local players from the weekend:

## Keelan Cole, WR, Jacksonville Jaguars (Kentucky Wesleyan)



Keelan Cole scores a TD in Sunday's game vs. New England. (Photo: Reinhold Matay, Reinhold Matay-USA TODAY Sports)

The Louisville native and Central High School graduate had a monster game for the Jaguars, catching seven passes for 116 yards and a touchdown in a 31-20 win over the New England Patriots ([http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/\\_/gameId/401030733](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030733)). The undrafted second-year pro also [made an insane one-handed catch \(https://www.courier-journal.com/story/sports/nfl/2018/09/16/keelan-cole-catch-jacksonville-jaguars-new-england-patriots/1330014002/\)](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/sports/nfl/2018/09/16/keelan-cole-catch-jacksonville-jaguars-new-england-patriots/1330014002/).

## Tevin Coleman, RB, Atlanta Falcons (Indiana)

Starting in place of the injured Devonta Freeman, Coleman ran for 107 yards on 16 carries in the [Falcons' 31-24 win over the Carolina Panthers](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030691) ([http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/\\_/gameId/401030691](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030691)). The fourth-year pro added another 18 yards receiving on four receptions.

## **Bilal Powell, RB, New York Jets (Louisville)**

The eighth-year pro caught five passes for 74 yards, including a 28-yard touchdown in the third quarter of the [Jets' 20-12 loss to the Miami Dolphins](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore?gameId=401030700) (<http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore?gameId=401030700>). He also rushed for six yards on five carries.

## **Taywan Taylor, WR, Tennessee Titans (Western Kentucky)**



Taywan Taylor scores a TD in Sunday's game vs. Houston. (Photo: The Associated Press)

The [Pleasure Ridge High School product](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/sports/college/football/2017/04/21/waiting-his-time-come-wkus-taywan-taylor-prepares-nfl-call/99954034/) (<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/sports/college/football/2017/04/21/waiting-his-time-come-wkus-taywan-taylor-prepares-nfl-call/99954034/>) caught three passes, including an 18-yard touchdown, in the [Titans' 20-17 win against the Houston Texans](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore?gameId=401030694) (<http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore?gameId=401030694>). The second-year pro ended the game with 32 receiving yards.

## **Tyler Higbee, TE, Los Angeles Rams (Western Kentucky)**

Higbee caught his third professional touchdown and first of the 2018 season in the [Rams' 34-0 rout of the Arizona Cardinals](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030732) ([http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/\\_/gameId/401030732](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030732)). The 3-yard score marked Higbee's only catch of the win.

## **Sheldon Rankins, DL, New Orleans Saints (Louisville)**

The defensive tackle totaled five tackles and one sack in the [Saints' 21-18 win against the Cleveland Browns](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030708) ([http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/\\_/gameId/401030708](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030708)). He also had two quarterback hits.

## **Jaire Alexander, CB, Green Bay Packers (Louisville)**



Jaire Alexander (23) celebrates a missed field goal in Sunday's tie vs. Minnesota. (Photo: Dan Powers/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis)

The rookie totaled eight tackles and 0.5 sacks in the [Packers' 29-29 tie](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030705) against the Minnesota Vikings. Alexander almost had his first NFL interception, but it was negated by a [controversial roughing-the-passer call in the final minutes](https://247sports.com/nfl/green-bay-packers/LongFormArticle/Clay-Matthews-penalty-NFL-reaction-121999171/#121999171_2).

## Wesley Woodyard, LB, Tennessee Titans (Kentucky)

The 32-year-old is showing no signs of slowing down in his 11th year, as he recorded a team-high eight tackles in the [Titans' 20-17 win against the Texans](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore?gameId=401030694). He also recorded a quarterback hit.

## Danny Trevathan, LB, Chicago Bears (Kentucky)

In his seventh NFL season, the linebacker recorded a team-high eight tackles, two sacks, and two quarterback hits in the [Bears' 24-10 against the Seattle Seahawks](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030739) on Monday night.

## Jordan Berry, P, Pittsburgh Steelers (Eastern Kentucky)

The fourth-year punter averaged 46.4 yards on five punts in the [Steelers' 42-37 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs](http://www.espn.com/nfl/boxscore/_/gameId/401030698). He landed one punt inside the 20-yard-line and another in the endzone for a touchback.

Justin Sayers: 502-582-4252; [jsayers@courierjournal.com](mailto:jsayers@courierjournal.com); Twitter: [@\\_JustinSayers](https://twitter.com/_JustinSayers). Support strong local journalism by subscribing today: [courier-journal.com/justins](https://www.courier-journal.com/justins).

[Fullscreen](#)

© 2019 NFL Media