



BUCKEYE BULLETIN

FALL 2009

ATLANTA CAMPUS

Web Page: www.osuatl.com

E-mail: gobucks@osuatl.com

Message From The Club President

For nearly sixteen years, it has been my unique pleasure to serve as President of our Atlanta Club. During this time, I have met many, many Buckeyes and made numerous new friendships. The most lasting impression of this period for me is the amount of love for Ohio State shown by Atlanta Buckeyes. This affection reinforces one of my favorite statements: "ATLANTA BUCKEYES ARE THE BEST."

However, the time has come for me to move on, and for the Club to elect a new President. An election will be held at halftime of this year's Michigan game. Please contact me if you are interested in running for the office of President of the Ohio State Alumni Club of Atlanta.

It has been a wonderful experience for me, and I thank each and every one of you for your help and support. And remember, **"FOLKS LIKE YOU MAKE ME PROUD TO A BUCKEYE."**

Go Bucks!

Bill Gue

OHIO STATE FOOTBALL 2009 SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER			DONATION
5	Navy	12:00 pm	Non-Perishable Food
12	USC	8:00 pm	Non-Perishable Food
19	Toledo	12:00 pm	Non-Perishable Food
26	Illinois	TBA	Non-Perishable Food
OCTOBER			
3	Indiana	7:00 pm	Non-Perishable Food
10	Wisconsin	TBA	Student Care Package
17	Purdue	TBA	Student Care Package
24	Minnesota	12:00 pm	Toys
31	New Mexico State	TBA	Toys
NOVEMBER			
7	Penn State	TBA	Toys
14	Iowa	TBA	Toys
21	Michigan	TBA	Toys

Useful Links to The Ohio State University:

The Ohio State Alumni Association www.ohiostatealumni.org

Join the Alumni Association

www.ohiostatealumni.org/membershipservices/joinnow.php

Career Exploration Office www.careers.ohiostatealumni.org/

Student-Alumni Council www.sac.ohiostatealumni.org/

The Ohio State University www.osu.edu

The Ohio State University Department of Athletics

www.ohiostatebuckeyes.com

The Lantern [/www.thelatern.com](http://www.thelatern.com)

Big Ten Conference www.bigten.org

Ohio State Points of Pride www.osu.edu/pop/

**NEW Home of the
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CLUB NEWS

New Home for Game Watches:

Cocktail Cove, 5840 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, will be our new home for game watches this year. You will be familiar with it as it is at the location of our former home American Pie. Children are welcome to attend our game watches at Cocktail Cove.

Cocktail Cove has invited us to return with our group for game watches this fall and will provide the club with financial support for our scholarship program.

Reception for Gordon Gee:

Dr. Gordon Gee, President of The Ohio State University, will be in Atlanta for an hors d'oeuvres reception on September 29 from 6 - 8 pm at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 6345 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta. The cost is \$30. Please RSVP to Bill Gue, 7585 Chaparral Dr, Atlanta, Ga. 30350 with a check made out to The Ohio State Alumni Club of Atlanta. Reservations are required and the reservation deadline is September 22.

Atlanta Club Spring Dinner:

Fifty Atlanta Buckeyes attended the spring dinner featuring current defensive coach, Paul Haynes. Coach Haynes shared with us some behind the scenes insight of Ohio State Football Spring practice. Cocktail Cove representatives attended and met many of our enthusiastic Atlanta Buckeyes. It was another great Buckeye experience.

Alumni Association Identification Number:

The Ohio State Alumni Association has recently requested that clubs provide Alumni Association Identification Numbers of their members. If you can not locate your identification card, please contact Columbus at membership@ohiostatealumni.org.

Facebook:

Please join our club on Facebook. We will be announcing all upcoming events on Facebook this year. Just search for Ohio State Alumni Club of Atlanta and join our group to get the latest information.

Scholarship Winner – Kelly Williams

I want to thank everyone involved in the Alumni Society for their support and generosity. I am so honored and grateful to be a student at The Ohio State University; the atmosphere is incredible! I could not have attended Ohio State without the scholarship that so many alumni have made possible. My experience at Ohio State over the past year was more fulfilling than I could have ever imagined and I am ecstatic to return this fall! -*Kelly Williams*

Club Secretary:

John Kerns, long-time club secretary, has resigned his position. John has served the Club well for many years and we greatly appreciate his efforts. We wish John and his family the best!

In order to maintain continuity of the duties of that office, Dick Brand has been appointed to fill the Club secretary position. Dick Brand is a two time graduate of The Ohio State University with a MBA and Ph.D. in Marketing.

Big 10 Picnic:

Twenty four Buckeyes attended the Big 10 picnic August 1 at Lake Alatoona. There was great food, great drinks, and great Big 10 people in attendance. Additionally, a very special guest was the Heisman Trophy which was available for photo opportunities. Many thanks go out to Cocktail Cove for donating items to support the picnic.

Big 10 Golf Tournament: Golf! Food! Prizes! Fun!

Date: Monday Sept 28th, 2009

Time: Registration at 10:00am, 11:00am Shotgun Start

Cost: \$85.00 before Sept. 20th, \$95.00 after Sept. 20th.

Location: St Marlo Country Club, 7755 St. Marlo Country Club Pkwy, Duluth, Georgia 30097 • (770) 495-7725

Format: Four person "Scramble" golf. Bring your own foursome or we can put you with other golfers if you prefer.

Contact: Dan Lindsay 404-321-5019

Student Recruitment and Scholarship:

The Ohio State Alumni Club of Atlanta is proud to represent the university at a number of local high school recruiting events and college fairs throughout the year. Our club strives to support the university and to raise its profile here in the Atlanta area, and a primary vehicle for doing that is having great alumni like you spend time with prospective students while they are deciding which school is the best fit for them. By sharing our experience, knowledge and enthusiasm for Ohio State, we help bring a more geographically diverse student body to Columbus.

The time commitment for being a recruiting volunteer is only a few hours a year. It is a rewarding experience and a great way to "pay forward." If you are interested in becoming a recruiting volunteer, please contact Recruiting Coordinator Shawn Murnahan at murnahan.1@osu.edu.

In addition, our club is very proud to be able to sponsor one Atlanta student through the club's full-tuition scholarship. It is a four-year award based solely on academic merit. This tremendous scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of club members like you, and by President Bill Gue's leadership. When Bill became president fifteen years ago, our scholarship fund balance was \$5,000. The Ohio State Alumni Club of Atlanta scholarship fund is now more than \$350,000. Great job Bill! Great job Buckeyes!

Club Elections:

Every two years, our club holds elections during halftime of the Michigan game. If you are interested in running for an office or a board member position, please contact Bill Gue.

Club Secretary:

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Community Service:

Please continue to support our club's community service efforts. You've done a great job in the past and we're sure you'll continue with your generosity. The following is a schedule for donations. Please bring your items to Cocktail Cove and leave them in the designated locations. Our club donated over 200 pounds of food to the Community Action Center and a whole truckload of toys to Toys for Tots. This year we are adding an event where we will try to collect some items or funds to send care packages to some of the Atlanta students at Ohio State.



Welcomes...

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O BOMBS



GO BUCKEYES!

Mon. & Wed. - Texas Hold'em @ 7:00pm

Tuesdays - All You Can Eat Crab Legs \$19.99

Thursdays - 80's for the Ladies w/ Jammin Jim

Saturday Day - Ohio State Games

Saturday Night - 95.5 the Beat Live!!

Sunday - Legendary Sundays &

Live Music on our Deck!!



Buckets

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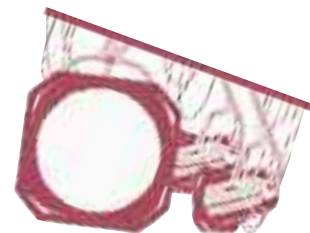
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www.cocktailcovebar.com

ATLANTA BUCKEYE SPOTLIGHT

Kimberly Gates



Kimberly Gates, Ph.D is from Toledo, a 1993 Finance graduate, and was a recipient of a full academic scholarship from the Office of Minority Affairs, Minority Scholars Program. After several years of utilizing her OSU degree, Kimberly earned a masters and doctorate in education and changed careers. She has lived in the Atlanta area for 14 years where she currently teaches kindergarten. Of course she teaches her students all the important things in life, colors scarlet and gray, how to spell words like, O-H-I-O; how to find Georgia on the map by first finding Ohio; and the only important thing on TV in the fall is Buckeye football. If her students come to school knowing the score of the OSU game, they get a prize out of the treasure box. Kimberly visited a student at his home one Spring Break, just before the two of them put together a puzzle of the United States, the student said "Wait!" he took Michigan and Florida and put them on the other side of the room then proceeded, "OK! We don't need them; they are out of our country now!" This same student learned his 7s times table by keeping up with OSU football scores.

Dr. Gates participates in OSU recruiting, teacher recruiting for her school district, mentoring high school girls at a local high school, and on her own time speaks nationally to teachers about how to incorporate character education into the curriculum Character education is helping students to develop into productive assets to society by demonstrating respect, responsibility, and integrating in and out of the classroom. Dr. Gates strongly believes in the quote by Theodore Roosevelt, "To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."

CLUB OFFICERS

OFFICERS

President	Bill Gue	770-394-4284
1st Vice President	Cheryl Hampton Bohm	678-587-0830
2nd Vice President	Craig Looney	770-814-9959
Secretary	Dick Brand	404-842-1482
Treasurer	John Noble	404-303-8551

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gene Ferraro	Carol Gue	Shawn Murnaham
Jeff Kamin	Jackie Oleski	Ray Shoup
	Betty Thornton	

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Shawn Murnahan	Kenny Pugh	Nguyen Allen
Kimberly Gates	Matt Good	Kathy Murray
Chuck Hawkins	Ray & Jackie Oleski	Adam Herndon
Ray Persons	Jeff Kamin	Valerie King
Steve Ferguson	Betty Thornton	Gary Dudley
Kisha McClure	Doug Radman	

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**Don't forget to pay your
Atlanta Club Dues!**

ATLANTA ALUMNI CLUB POLICIES

1. The Buckeye Bulletin will be mailed to Atlanta Club Dues paying members only.
2. Football, bowl game, and other event tickets will be provided for Atlanta Club Dues paying members only.
3. A \$10 surcharge is added to all ticket prices and goes to the Atlanta Scholarship Fund.



UNIVERSITY NEWS



Ohio State recognized as “Great College to Work For”

Ohio State has been recognized for the second year in a row as one of the Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges to Work For." The university ranked among the top 10 large four-year universities (over 10,000 enrollment) in three categories: "Overall Satisfaction with Benefits," "Health Insurance," and "Disability Insurance."

Tuition to remain the same for 2009-10 academic year

The Ohio State University Board of Trustees today (6/5) agreed that tuition for Ohio resident undergraduates will remain frozen at the 2006-2007 annual level of \$8,406 for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year, in accordance with the state of Ohio budget requirements. This will be the third year running for 0 percent increase.

"This will be the first time in more than 50 years – since 1955 – that resident undergraduate tuition had stayed at zero percent growth for more than two years," said William J. Shkurti, senior vice president for business and finance.

Room and board for three academic quarters, will increase by 4.6 percent, or \$372, to an average of \$8,409 depending on room type and meal plan.

The non-resident undergraduate surcharge at the Columbus campus will increase 2.5 percent to \$13,572, increasing annual cost for a non-resident undergraduate to \$22,278.

Ohio State University Medical Center named to ‘Honor Roll’

Ohio State University Medical Center named to magazine’s ‘Honor Roll.’ The Ohio State University Medical Center leads the region with 10 specialties named as among the best in America in the latest U.S. News & World Report magazine. OSU Medical Center is among only 21 hospitals in the country named to the magazine’s elite Honor Roll, which demonstrates a hospital’s excellence in at least six specialties. This is the 17th consecutive year the magazine has named OSU Medical Center one of “America’s Best Hospitals.” Ohio State’s Ross Heart Hospital is recognized as a leader in heart care, ranking 37 out of 4,861 hospitals from around the country. The James Cancer Hospital is ranked 18th in the nation for cancer treatment.

Ohio State moving to semesters

This autumn’s incoming class of freshmen will be the first to graduate from Ohio State under a new academic calendar based on semesters rather than quarters. Autumn semester classes will begin Aug. 22, 2012 and spring commencement will be on May 5, 2013. This move was done in part for consistency across the Ohio 4 year university system. A more important aspect according to Tim Gerber, chair of the senate’s Faculty Council, was “students clearly are more advantaged by a semester system, so if we really are going to put students first, semesters are the way to go.”

Thompson Library Opens

The William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library opens its doors to the public today after a three-year renovation. The library features a second entrance on the Neil Avenue (west) side of the building, spaces for individual and group study, a restored Grand Reading Room, a massive, glass enclosed new study room facing west campus, the ground-level Berry Cafe and the Campus Reading Room on the 11th floor of the Stacks Tower.

Career Help

The Career Exploration Office (CEO) provides individualized career assistance to continuing education students and members of The Ohio State University community (alumni, staff, faculty, community members.) Services include: self-assessments, occupational information, resume and cover letter assistance, interview preparation, and job search strategies. Assistance is provided in one-on-one meetings or by phone or e-mail.

Last Year’s Freshman Class Enjoyed Highest Admissions Statistics Ever

The class that enrolled at Ohio State in Fall 2008 demonstrated the highest scores and achievement in high school of any class to ever enroll at the university. Of the 6,041 students comprising the class, 54% were in the top 10% of their graduating class in high school, and a whopping 91% were in the top 25% of their high school class. The average SAT score for the group was 1224 and the average ACT score was a 27.3. The class also boasted 135 National Merit, Achievement and Hispanic Scholars. This outstanding collection of new Buckeyes is part of a thirteen year trend dating back to 1995 in which each year’s freshman class generally had scores and grades higher than the class before.

Although final statistics for this year’s incoming class are not yet available, preliminary indications from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience are that this year’s group will be just as strong.

FREE TRIP

Iowa Game

November 14, 2009

Round Trip Airfare for Two

Two Night Hotel Stay for Two

Two Iowa Game Tickets

Car Rental

Drawing at Cocktail Cove, on November 14, 2009 (Penn State game)
Must be an up-to-date member of the Atlanta Club to participate.



The Official Airline of the Ohio State Club of Atlanta

2009 Ohio State Football Outlook

What You Need to Know



The OSU offense took a left turn last season when Terrelle Pryor took over the attack with less deep passing and more running, but things should be more balanced this year. Pryor worked hard this offseason to become a more polished passer, and now there should be more long balls and more chances taking after he dinked and dunked with safe passes throughout the second half of last season. While much will be made about the major losses at running back and receiver, there's more than enough speed and talent to step in and produce. There's no power in the running game, but Dan "Boom" Herron and Brandon "Zoom" Saine can fly. The receiving corps might turn out to be a strength with DeVier Posey about to become a superstar and with Dane Sanzenbacher, Ray Small, and incoming freshman Duron Carter all good enough to put up big numbers. The key to the offense should be the line, which wasn't bad for the ground game last year but struggled mightily in pass protection and didn't have a nasty enough attitude. The addition of Michigan transfer Justin Boren at left guard should make a big difference for a group that should emerge as the Big Ten's best with a little time.

Quarterbacks

Projected Starter: The pressure put on **Terrelle Pryor** was unfair. It was like everyone forgot he was a true freshman, but he came through. The super-recruit who kept Michigan, Penn State, and Ohio State fans waiting on the edge of their seats was the team's best quarterback from the moment he arrived on campus, but the coaching staff still went with Todd Boeckman early on and gave Pryor a few drives here and there to throw defenses a curve ball. He completed 7-of-9 passes against USC, and ran for 40 yards, and he threw four touchdown passes in a win over Troy, but his era truly arrived late in an early October game against Wisconsin. He only ran for 20 yards on the day and he completed 13-of-19 passes for 144 yards with an interception, but when he had to, he came up with a tremendous late scoring drive for the 20-17 win.

Running Backs

Projected Starters: There was some question marks over the last few years about **Dan Herron's** toughness. Only 5-10 and 193 pounds, he was seen as a pure scatback with blinding speed, but no ability to pound the ball inside. He changed that up this offseason running harder between the tackles while showing off tremendous cutback ability into daylight. "Boom" ran for 439 yards and six touchdowns last season, but he didn't do enough in the passing game catching just six passes for 29 yards. Now he'll be a far bigger part of the attack.

6-1, 240-pound redshirt freshman **James Georgiades** appeared to be on the fast track to the starting fullback job, but he got hurt this offseason and has to come back and be consistent. He'll never run the ball, but he's consistent for his age as a blocker and showed off decent hands in the passing game. He'll be part of a fullback rotation.

Projected Top Reserves: There are speedsters on the OSU roster, but **Brandon Saine** is one of the team's fastest players. Not only is the junior 6-1 and 217 pounds, but he has 4.35 wheels and the hands to be used as a receiver. The major problem has been staying healthy, but he had a great spring and he appears ready to finally blossom.

True freshman **Jaamal Berry** was a nice get for the program, stealing him out of Miami. The 5-11, 195-pounder goes from zero to 60 in a hiccup and has nice hands. While he's not huge, he has workhorse ability and could find a niche as a third down back early on.

Receivers

Projected Starters: Is it possible to lose Brian Robiskie and Brian Hartline and upgrade the receiving corps? Not right away, but with the emergence of **DeVier Posey**, the offense has a more dangerous No. 1 target. The 6-3, 205-pound sophomore only made 11 grabs last year for 117 yards and a score, but he showed this offseason that he's ready to blossom into yet another superstar Buckeye receiver. He has tremendous athleticism, the ability to hit the home run from anywhere on the field, and a willingness to catch the ball in traffic. A next-level athlete with a 33-inch vertical and 21.5 in the 200, to go along with the smarts and consistency to be a solid route runner, he's a flawless prospect ... outside of his blocking. It's nitpicking, but he's a mediocre blocker, which is a big deal in the OSU offense.

On the other side, at least at the moment, is **Dane Sanzenbacher**, a serviceable target who wasn't able to do much this spring thanks to an ankle sprain. While the junior is only 5-11 and 175 pounds, he's a sharp route runner and he doesn't drop a pass. He pales in comparison to the rest of the tremendous athletes in the Buckeye receiving corps, but he always produces in practices when he gets the chance, and he tied for second on the team with 21 catches for 272 yards with a touchdown last season.

Senior **Jake Ballard** returns at tight end after combining forces with Rory Nicol last year and making five catches for 73 yards. The 6-6, 256-pounder is hardly an elite receiver, but he can make plays on short to midrange pass plays and is a fantastic blocker. He'll be at his best in two tight end sets.

Offensive Linemen

Projected Starters: The line was talented but soft last season, and it's in desperate need of an attitude upgrade. Enter **Justin Boren**, the one-time Michigan Wolverine who famously left the program because it didn't have a family atmosphere under Rich Rodriguez. The 6-3, 315-pound junior is just plain nasty, and he's exactly what the line needs. A bear of a run blocker, he was dominant throughout the offseason and should immediately be the one the offense works behind at left guard. He'll be making a ton of money very soon at the next level.

Taking over for Alex Boone, who was overhyped and underperformed despite all the all-star accolades, will be **Mike Adams**, a 6-8, 322-pound sophomore who has a world of talent and the long, lean tackle-body, but he needs a ton of work at left tackle. He's a fantastic athlete, but he needs work on getting his hands locked on or he'll get blown past by speed rushers early on, but he's expected to grow into the job.

**GO
BUCKEYES!**

**BEAT
MICHIGAN**

Michael Brewster was arguably the team's second best recruit last year behind Pryor, and he showed signs of becoming a mainstay on the All-Big Ten team. The 6-5, 296-pound sophomore is versatile enough to play either guard position, but he's too valuable in the middle where he's smart enough at his young age to be able to make all the right line calls and he still hasn't reached his potential after improving game by game last year. He started in ten games, taking over for Jim Cordle, and he'll be the leader of the line for the next three years.

Junior **Bryant Browning** started every game last year at right tackle and was a turnstyle in pass protection. The 6-4, 312-pounder has the basics as a tackle, but he's too slow against the better pass rushers and wasn't great at getting down the field in a hurry. He should blossom at right guard as he appeared to be more of a natural this spring. He's better in a phone booth.



6-4, 297-pound senior **Jim Cordle** has been tried out at center, starting the first three games last year, and worked the rest of the way at left guard, and now he'll be moved to right tackle. He's a bit of a square peg being forced into a round hole, and while he doesn't appear to have a natural position, he's a leader, a tough veteran, and will get every chance to keep the starting spot.

Defense

What you need to know: It's hard to call the nation's 14th best defense a disappointment, but it wasn't quite the killer it was supposed to be. However, the Buckeyes allowed a mere 13.92 points per game and gave up more than 21 points to two teams, USC and Texas. This year's D loses all the star power at linebacker, and All-America corner Malcolm Jenkins, but it comes back loaded on the defensive front, especially on the ends. Thaddeus Gibson is about to blossom into a superstar pass rusher on one end, while Cameron Heyward has first round draft pick potential on the other side. Three starters return to the secondary led by corner Chimdi Chekwa, who should be the star now that Jenkins is gone. The spotlight will be on the linebacking corps that loses James Laurinaitis and Marcus Freeman, and while there aren't any stars, Austin Spiller and Ross Homan lead a rock-solid group that should be more than fine.

Defensive Line

Projected Starters: OSU is loaded on the outside with the best of the bunch likely to be **Thaddeus Gibson**, a 6-2, 240-pound junior who's a blur into the backfield and polished enough to be the team's breakout star. The former linebacker doesn't have the freakish skills of a Vernon Gholston, but he showed just a glimpse of his potential last season with a team-leading five sacks and nine tackles for loss to go along with 26 tackles. Now that he knows what he's doing, he's a legitimate threat for double-digit sacks.

Working on the other side will be **Cameron Heyward**, a 6-6, 287-pound junior who started the

first three games of last year but didn't end up taking a big step forward. The son of the late NFL star Craig "Ironhead" Heyward had a good first season with 33 tackles with 2.5 sacks and ten tackles for loss, and while he was fine last year making 36 tackles with three sacks, he wasn't quite as strong into the backfield. He has the tools and the potential to be special either inside or out, and he could get a long look from the NFL types as a 3-4 end if he can come up with a better junior campaign.

It takes something special to be singled out by head coach Jim Tressel as a phenomenal prospect on the defensive line, and 6-2, 300-pound junior **Dexter Larimore** has the ability to back up his coach's praise. With the quickness and speed of a much smaller player, Larimore moves extremely well and, as a former state champion wrestler, has the toughness to maul offensive linemen. However, the light hasn't gone on yet making a mere 15 stops last year with two sacks and three tackles for loss. He has way too much talent to not be in the backfield more.

Senior **Doug Worthington** is a true plugger. He's not a big stat-sheet filler at tackle, even though he came up with a solid 34 tackles with five tackles for loss last season, but he has the potential to do far more. With 4.75 speed in the 40, the 6-6, 276-pounder is a big end playing inside, and he can move around wherever he's needed. Unless something crazy happens, he'll spend his year only on the inside and will be one of the keys to the run defense. He's not exactly an anchor, but he doesn't get shoved around.

Linebackers

Projected Starters: All **Austin Spitzer** has to do is step in and become James Laurinaitis, but there's no pressure there. The 6-3, 234-pound senior has been the understudy to Laurinaitis over the last few years and now will get the start in the middle after making 11 tackles in a reserve. He's not going to make a ton of big plays, and there's absolutely nothing flashy about him, but he'll make every stop that comes his way and he knows what he's doing. He has spent years preparing for this season, and he's ready to become one of the team's leading tacklers.

The other big hole loss is Marcus Freeman, who made 84 stops in an all-star season. **Ross Homan** has been a killer on special teams and a nice spot starter making 67 tackles with a sack and six tackles for loss as the third linebacker in the mix throughout last year. His problem is staying healthy after missing most of 2007 with a turf toe problem and having problems with a hamstring this offseason. When he's in, he makes every play possible without a lot of fanfare. The 6-0, 229-pound junior is a good, sound defender who does what he needs to.

Assuming Tyler Moeller is out for the season, on the outside it'll be **Brian Rolle**, a 5-11, 221-pound junior who came up with a tremendous spring. While there isn't a whole bunch of bells and whistles in the OSU linebacking corps, Rolle is the one who'll provide the spark with an aggressive style who loves to come up with the big hit. He made 21 tackles last year and should push for time in the middle and on the weakside. He'll find a spot somewhere.

Defensive Backs

Projected Starters: The secondary is loaded with one major hole: Malcolm Jenkins. The first round draft pick will be tough to replace, but senior **Andre Amos** will give it a shot. With 6-1, 183-pound size and time in the system, he knows what he's doing and he has the look of a good cover corner. However, bad knees have kept him off the field for long stretches and limited him to one game of action last year. When he's healthy, he's a good one.

The team's new top cover-corner is **Chimdi Chekwa**, a nice all-around defender who had a nice 30-tackles season with a pick and four broken up passes, but he didn't get any of the spotlight with Jenkins on the other side. Phenomenal in the open field, he doesn't miss tackles and has proven he can handle himself well without much safety help. The 6-0, 188-pound junior should be an All-Big Ten performer who'll make teams pay for testing him.

Senior **Kurt Coleman** is the leading returning tackler making 78 stops with a team-leading four interceptions and five broken up passes at strong safety. While he's not huge at 5-11 and 188 pounds, he has linebacker strength and is good at getting into the backfield when sent. The knock on him last year was that he wasn't good enough against the pass, and he made himself a better pass defender. He'll work to correct his problems and he'll make several plays just by outthrusting everyone else.

6-0, 205-pound senior **Anderson Russell** is a good veteran free safety who's versatile enough to play either safety spot and could be a superstar as a nickel back. Along with his size he has 4.5 speed, but he appeared to have lost a half-step after suffering a knee injury two years ago. While he made 67 tackles with two picks and three tackles for loss, and was a big enough hitter to force three fumbles, but he has average ball skills and would be far better suited to strong safety where he could spend more of his time stopping the run.

Special Teams

Projected Starters: Senior **Aaron Pettrey** was supposed to be the next superstar Buckeye kicker, but Ryan Pretorius took over and was phenomenal over the last two years. Pettrey got his chances to show off his cannon leg hitting 7-of-9 field goals including a 54-yarder against Youngstown State. He also handled the kickoff duties. While he's not consistent, he'll be more than fine.

Senior **John Thoma** will get the first shot at taking over the punting duties from A.J. Trapasso, who averaged 41.2 yards per kick and put 21 inside the 20. After coming to Ohio State as a walk-on, the job is now his showing consistency and good blast throughout the offseason.

Lightning fast **Lamaar Thomas** had a nice, solid year as the main kickoff returner averaging 21.5 yards per try. He has the wheels to do far more. Assuming he's eligible, **Ray Small** is an elite punt returner who averaged 15.2 yards per try and saved the day against Ohio with a return for a score.

Source: CollegeFootballNews.com

The Ohio State Alumni & Booster Club of Atlanta Membership Form

Name _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (Work) _____

Ohio State Alumni Association Identification Number _____

**YES! I would like to join or renew my membership in the Atlanta
Alumni and Booster Club!**

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Single Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |

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GO BUCKEYES!



The Ohio State Alumni and Booster Club of Atlanta
c/o Bill Gue, President
7585 Chaparral Drive
Atlanta, GA 30350

