



NORTH ALABAMA VS ARKANSAS



31

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

DONALD W. REYNOLDS RAZORBACK STADIUM

14

GAME NOTES

- » **Ryan Silverfield** earned a win in his first game leading the Razorbacks. He is now 6-1 in season openers as an FBS head coach and 2-0 in his inaugural game leading a new program. Silverfield became the 25th head coach in program history to earn a win in his debut. Arkansas head coaches have a 25-8-2 record all-time in their head coaching debuts (interim head coaches not included).
- » **QB KJ Jackson** became the first Arkansas left-handed QB to start a season opener since Barry Lunney Jr. accomplished the feat on Sept. 2, 1995, at SMU. Jackson and Lunney Jr. are the only two left-handed quarterbacks to start a season opener for Arkansas since at least 1950.
- » **TE Matt Adcock** and **TE Jaden Platt** became the first pair of Arkansas tight ends to record touchdown receptions in the same game since Luke Hasz and Andreas Paaske accomplished the feat during a 58-25 win at Mississippi State on Oct. 26, 2024.
- » Arkansas has scored in 59 consecutive games, which is the sixth-longest streak in program history and the longest since a 64-game streak from Nov. 14, 1987, to Nov. 11, 1995. Arkansas was last shut out on Oct. 2, 2021, in a loss to No. 2 Georgia.
- » The Arkansas defense allowed 0 yards in the first quarter. It marked the first time the Hogs allowed 0 or fewer yards in the first quarter since Nov. 15, 2014, when they yielded -1 yards during a 17-0 win over No. 20 LSU. It also marked the Razorbacks' first shutout in the first quarter since Sept. 7, 2024, when they accomplished the feat in a loss at Oklahoma State.
- » The Razorbacks' 231 consecutive extra-points made streak, which began on Dec. 5, 2020, is the longest streak nationally by date.
- » Arkansas registered its first first-half shutout since Nov. 23, 2024 against Louisiana Tech.
- » The kickoff temperature of 101 degrees marked the hottest Arkansas season opener in program history. It eclipsed the previous record of 100 degrees during a 38-17 win over Louisiana on Sept. 5, 1998, in Houston Nutt's inaugural game at the helm of the Hogs. It also marked the hottest game temperature in Ryan Silverfield's collegiate head coaching career. Additionally, Silverfield is now 3-0 all-time in games with a kickoff temperature of 90+ degrees.
- » Arkansas touts an all-time record of 109-22-2 in home openers in Fayetteville, including a 73-16 mark at Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium since its opening in 1938. The Razorbacks are 105-24-4 all-time in season openers.
- » **LB Charlie Collins** registered his first career sack and forced fumble at the 5:04 mark in the second quarter.
- » Arkansas had 12 different players catch a pass in today's game, the most since 12 Hogs accomplished the feat in a 56-13 win over Western Carolina on Sept. 2, 2023, in Little Rock.
- » Arkansas registered 41:25 minutes of possession time in the victory, the most by an Arkansas team since Sept. 30, 2017, during a 42-24 win over New Mexico State, when the Razorbacks held possession for 41:35.
- » **Ryan Silverfield** is now 31-12 as an FBS head coach when winning the time of possession margin. Silverfield-coached teams also holds records of 45-10 when scoring 30+ points, and is 29-0 when allowing to 21 points or less.

STARTERS

ARKANSAS

QB KJ JACKSON
RB SUTTON SMITH
WR CHRIS MARSHALL
WR ISMAEL CISSE
WR CJ BROWN
TE JADEN PLATT
LT KAVION BROUSSARD
LG MALACHI BREELAND
C CADEN KITLER
RG KOBE BRANHAM
RT BRYANT WILLIAMS

NORTH ALABAMA

QB DESTIN WADE
RB RODERICK TAYLOR JR.
WR SNAP REED
WR NOAH GREGG
WR XAVIER JOHNSON
TE ELI SISSON
LT LEAVY JOHNSON
LG COLLIN WRIGHT
C WILL FRENCH III
RG CARSON WHEELER
RT JAYDEN SIMMONS
DL AVERY HOWARD
DL JYHEAM INGRAM
DL COLE MOAD
DL KAMORE HARRIS
LB NOLAN FORSHA
LB RAEON SIMS
LB TAE MARTIN
DB TAVION BUTLER
FS LEO GLOVER
SS DJ DIXON
CB DALLAS JOHNSON

WEATHER

101°
SUNNY

GAME INFO

CAPTAINS

KJ Jackson, Caden Kitler, Bradley Shaw

COIN TOSS

North Alabama won the toss and elected to defer

UNIFORMS

ARK - Red Helmet, Red Jersey, White Pants
UNA - Purple Helmet, White Jersey, Purple Pants

ATTENDANCE

69,178

ARK SCORING

TOUCHDOWN | 1Q | 0:36

Jackson to Cisse 20-yard pass

TOUCHDOWN | 2Q | 8:41

Jackson to Adcock 2-yard pass

TOUCHDOWN | 3Q | 6:49

Jackson to Platt 10-yard pass

TOUCHDOWN | 4Q | 11:58

Braylen Russell 3-yard run

FIELD GOAL | 4Q | 2:59

Max Gilbert 33-yard field goal



NORTH ALABAMA VS ARKANSAS



31

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

DONALD W. REYNOLDS RAZORBACK STADIUM

14

ARKANSAS QUOTES

Ryan Silverfield, Arkansas Head Coach

Opening Statement:

"First off, I want to thank our fans, especially the students that showed up on this record-setting heat day. They made a difference. We're grateful for our fans, and the students were absolutely phenomenal. Listen, we're 1-0, and I understand what that means, but today's performance certainly wasn't to the standard and the expectations that we all want and expect, especially in this new regime. I think the defense played lights out in the first half, quite pleased with the way they played. I want our fans to know that's a Razorback defense that they can come to expect and to love. To start off the game with four 3-and-outs. (They) ran to the football and did some really good things defensively in the first half. Second half defensively - gave up an explosive play and a couple of penalties. Offensively - not good, not good by any stretch of the imagination, especially the first half. It's probably one of the worst offensive performances that I've been a part of. That's on me and I've got to get it fixed. Didn't do a good enough job running the football. Obviously, a turnover before halftime cannot happen. Absolutely inexcusable. The offensive line's got to play better and see the run-throughs, but that's everybody. And then ultimately, not being able to take care of the football. We said we want to play clean, disciplined football and take care of the ball. We didn't do that. So, I've got to find a way to get my message across. I've got to find a way really, really quickly to get that done. Our players understand this. We tell them to take care of their bodies, but we got a quick turnaround and must get ready for a heck of a challenge on the road versus Utah. Excited to watch this film and learn from it, but so many, so many opportunities that we can improve upon. We better do it very, very quickly."

On the play of KJ Jackson and the offense:

"They tried to take away the run game, and we saw a different look than they had shown. We were watching some of (their defensive coordinator film) from Oklahoma State the year before when he called the last three games. I had actually coached against him when he was at Kansas a long time ago, so I went back and studied that. Hopefully we weren't chasing ghosts in preparation for this. We saw the three high look last week versus Samford. They played more quarters, so we've got to do a better job putting KJ in the right opportunities throughout the week of practice in order to correct those. Prior to half, you certainly can't make that decision to throw the ball in the end zone when you already have points. There were plenty of check-downs that are available. You saw what happened when we threw the ball to the running back out of the backfield, good things happen. At halftime I said, 'Defense, keep your foot on the throat. Offense, take a deep breath.' Three penalties on our left tackle - it can't happen, it can't happen. Our right tackle got beat across the face a few times just by not taking the proper footwork, things that we've been working on since January. Take a deep breath, be calm, cool and collected. Go out there and do what you need to. The turnover, that didn't help us in the second half, but I thought KJ at least settled a little bit in the second half and played the way we think he's capable of playing."

On the play of the defense:

"I'll say this, I think you got to see the relentless effort by the defense. We must have played 36 different defensive players. There was just constant rotation. I looked out there one time and guys that probably weren't even on our depth chart. You guys are probably looking out there saying, 'Who the heck is that?' So, a lot of guys got a lot of reps, especially in the first half. What I was proud of with the defense, a sudden change. Those are so hard to replicate in practice. I can say, 'Okay, everybody's getting water, put the ball down, sudden change,' but it's hard to replicate. The defense obviously went out there and got the takeaway. Then on the next sudden change, we got two penalties and we didn't do what we needed to do, but that play was huge. Any time you can get a takeaway, we'll take it."

On maintaining confidence after mistakes:

"Here's the deal, if they're physical mismatches, I can't fix that, right? But right now, we love our roster, we love what we got. I've got great confidence in every single person, all 121 guys. They're fixable things. Taking care of the football is a controllable. I told you guys all along, we want to be the best in the country at the controllables. Owning the football is a controllable thing, right? Making great decisions with the football. That's something we can get fixed. The penalties, right? That's something we can get fixed. If we can knock those penalties in half, we're probably in a completely different mood right now. Those are things that could easily get cleaned up. There were drive killers, self-inflicted wounds, and then some of those things that we saw offensively by what they did defensively. We're just trying to understand, this is the adjustment we have to make, or this is what we have to do. Then, defensively, if we can play like we did in the first half, we're going to have a lot of success this year. I've got great confidence. It's my job to instill that in them, to make them believers, to practice it the right way and to continue to trust in the process. There was one game that maybe wasn't as clean as we need it to be. I'll be the first to say that, right? I'm not sitting here with a smile on my face. It's my job ultimately to get these guys to believe and get it cleaned up, to trust this process. We're not going to derail everything we believe in that we've fought so hard for the last 8 months to do. We've just got to improve upon it and do it in a rapid manner."



NORTH ALABAMA VS ARKANSAS



31

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

DONALD W. REYNOLDS RAZORBACK STADIUM

14

ARKANSAS QUOTES

KJ Jackson, Arkansas QB

On his performance:

"It didn't start how I wanted it to, but there were bright spots too. I made some plays and I was happy to see the offense make some plays. Sutton (Smith) had an amazing play on a little check down. He made the linebacker miss and it turned into a big play. Of course we have a lot to fix but at the end of the day a win is a win."

On making plays as a runner:

"If Coach Cramsey draws it up for me to pull the ball down and make a play then that's what I'm going to do. Whatever to keep the chains moving to get first downs."

On first game jitters:

"I wouldn't say we're concerned. There were good plays, and there were bad plays. We'll get in there tomorrow and we'll watch it. We'll fix it to get ready for Utah."

On the first touchdown:

"I'm so proud of Is (Ismael Cisse). He's been through it. He broke his wrist in July before fall camp and was looking to have a big year last year. I was able to see him just grind it out all last fall and see him step it up, and be a guy in the receivers room all spring and fall camp. So I was really happy to see him get one."

Sutton Smith, Arkansas RB

On the turnovers:

"It was very disappointing. I feel like I cost the defense 7 points in my opinion. So, that's very disappointing."

Getting the running game going:

"I have trust in the coaches. They'll scheme up for teams we play that are pretty good. We kept it kind of basic today, but we'll get it going. I'm not worried about it. It's a long season."

On Jasper Parker:

"I was real happy (on his performance). He's a guy who stayed down, put in the work and showed up every day. So, I'm real happy to see his success. I feel like he'll have a great season. He's a real asset to the running back room."

Khmori House, Arkansas DB

Biggest key to the defense in the first half:

"Just doing our job. I think our coaches put a great game plan in for us. I think we did a great job throughout the week preparing for North Alabama. Practice was intense, hard. Just going out there and staying composed, doing our job."

On the pass rush:

"Those are two good dogs, two great jacks. They are like the speed and power duo. Those dudes work hard every day. That's just a testament to their work."

On practicing in the heat preparing them for today:

"It paid off a lot. We practiced in that heat, so going hard for however many months, however many practices; it paid off. Once you're out there, it's like another day at practice. I could appreciate him now for putting us out there and preparing us."

Bradley Shaw, Arkansas LB

On the defensive success in the first half:

"Really what he said, preparation. I feel like we prepared well, and (coach) put us in the right calls to stop them."

On LB Ben Bogle:

"No sir, not surprising at all. I feel like Ben Bogle is a great guy. In practice he makes those plays. I have nothing but complete and utter faith in Bogle."

On the defensive performance overall:

"Any time the Razorbacks win, it's a good defensive performance. I feel like there's always things you can improve on; offensive, defense, and special teams. We just come in the next day and have a mindset of we are going to fix those things."



NORTH ALABAMA VS ARKANSAS



31

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

DONALD W. REYNOLDS RAZORBACK STADIUM

14

ARKANSAS QUOTES

Brent Dearmon, North Alabama Head Coach

Opening Statement:

"We just wrapped up our meeting after the game. We never like to celebrate losing, but to come into Fayetteville, Arkansas, to play an SEC opponent, we watched our guys live up to our motto of 'Pound the Stone.' Even though it might not break on the first hit, keep hold of the handle and keep swinging. I watched a group tonight that kept swinging. I watched a defensive line, a box, that kept Arkansas from running the ball at times. It is exciting to see. We finally caught a rhythm at times in our offense, but Arkansas' defense did a good job with us early. This game means a lot to me with my time in this state and the connections I have. I read a few of y'all's articles this week, didn't give us much of a chance. I love the state, I love what all the state has meant to me in my profession. I'm sure not a lot of other people saw him, but my mentor (Gus Malzahn). That meant a lot to me. I have tons of respect for Coach Silverfield."

On stopping Arkansas' run game:

"I think we've got one of the best defensive coordinators in college football in Clint Bowen with the looks he gives, the way he gets his guys to play the game. I think we had a couple of D-Linemen that had a little extra in this game, being Memphis guys and they didn't play much at Memphis. They probably showed up a little more fired up."

On building from this game:

"There's progress being made. You've got continue moving forward. We're not celebrating this, but we're going to learn from this and carry it into FCS play."

On QB Destin Wade:

"Arkansas did a great job. They did a good job triggering us on mouse screens and causing us some problems in the backfield with it. We were trying to get Destin in rhythm a little bit earlier instead of getting straight to play actions. We tried to get him some easy catch and throws. Then they made good tackles."