

**Maroon Dragons Season XII Preseason
Roster Nov. 8, 2016**



1	Q	Clavell		2-1-5im	23	51	C	Jarrell	LS	1-4-2m	27
4	S	Wylie		4-0-5	25-cSG6	52	C	Messina		3-2^	25
5	K	Karon	A+2	1/1	24	53	MLB	Mailer		1-3-4\$	23
7	P	Hannecourt	A+2	1/3	25	55	G	Daniel		4-3	35
11	Q	Conrad		3-1-5	22R 3 rd	56	C	Ilobasco		3-3	23R2
13	Q	More		4-2-4	38	57	OLB	Etherege	KK	2-3-5	29
15	W	Crestedibis	VWR	4-0-5f	29	59	OLB	Hugo		4-3-3	27
17	Q	Wycherley	H	3-1-5	28	60	G	Hemmingway		3-4	24
19	Q	Poe	H	3-1-4	24R2	61	T	Hobgoblin	gc	1-3-3mo	24
21	B	Swift	KR	2-3-5!	30	63	MLB	Wollenstonecraft		2-5	23R 7 th
22	H	Rhys		2-1-5#	23R 8 th	64	G	Chekov		3-4o	28
24	CB	Coventry	VWRPR	3-1-5	29	65	OLB	Sackville		3-3-5^	30
27	H	Zilchko	WR	3-1-6^	27	66	G	Equiano		4-3	23R 2 nd
28	CB	Vonnegut	pc	3-0-5	24	68	OLB	Wroth		1-2-5	23R 5 th
30	DH*	VanGogh		2-2-5	37	69	DT	Quintilian		4-3!	30
31	S	Jackson		2-2-5\$	23	70	T	Tobiah		1-4-3	27
34	CB	Coppens		2-3-4	26	72	T	Joyce		4-2	27
35	B	Congreve		3-3-4	30	74	T	Thurber		1-4-2pc	26
36	S	Muhammad		2-0-6	29	75	DT	Burroughs	im	3-4!	23
37	S	Edwards		4-1-5	36	80	TE	Verne		3-2-4	23
39	S	Piles		5-2-5	30 -cP2	81	W	Woodhouse	pc	3-1-5#	24
41	TE	Beaumont		1-3-4	26	84	TE	Gainsborough	KR	2-3-4	25
42	F	Fitzgerald		4-3	22R2	85	E	Milton		3-3-5	31
43	CB	Steinbeck		2-0-6	24	86	DT	Trelawny		5-1o	32
45	CB	Cornwell		3-1-5^	26	87	W	Hyde		4-0-5	29
46	H	Kernodle		1-3-5	25	88	TE	Maupassent		3-4-3!^	28
48	CB	Kempe		2-1-5\$	22R 4 th	89	DE	Axethrower		3-3	23R2
49	MLB	Collier		0-4-3^	28	91	MLB	Wallace		2-5	22
						92	DT	Tegu		3-3!^	23R2
						93	DE	Untermeyer		4-3	27
						94	OLB	Wilde		1-2-5	22R 9 th
						95	DT	MacLeish		3-4o	25
						97	MLB	Loammi	pc	2-3-4	26
						98	OLB	Lousebeard	pc	4-4o	27

Physically Unable to perform:

54 C Kyrre LS 2-3-1 26 (-s)

Training Camp Injured Reserve:

67 DT Mummy 3-3 24 seasS
62 G DeFoe 4-4 32-sSG5

71 DT Marvell 1-4-3 24R-cSG31st
83 DE Pteriapsis 5-2 26-cSG5
38 S Burgess 2-1-5pc23R-cP16th

Cuts to 62:

58 C Munro 3-1 23R rfa
73 DE Dobie 3-3 26

50 C Coetzee im 1-3-2! 23R 10th
76 T Haywood 3-3! 23R rfa

Maroon Dragons – Season XII

Maroon started season XI with difficulty, 2-3 in the first five games, but rallied to reach the playoffs with a dramatic win at the White Knights, only to fall to the Black Bandits in the division championship. Preparing for season XII, the big question concerned veteran quarterback More: would he be fit for another season at age 37? Maroon has been trying to prepare for his succession, but the old man seems to want to keep playing, and that's a good thing. His recovery from a nagging injury coincided with maroon's resurgence to get into the playoffs; that was no accident. With More seemingly ready to go again this season, Maroon has reason for high hopes. While the draft and camp showed no dramatic improvement, Maroon's trajectory at the end of season XI, with 5 wins in a row prior to the playoff loss gives reason for optimism for the upcoming campaign.

Season XI record:

1. Jade 23 at Maroon 21
2. Maroon 21 at Gold 10
3. White 7 at Maroon 45
4. Maroon 7 at Electrum 28
5. Black 38 at Maroon 34
6. Maroon 20 at Jade 15
7. Maroon 28 at Chartreuse 17
8. Violet 21 at Maroon 41
9. Gold 3 at Maroon 44
10. Maroon 47 at White 44
11. Division playoff: Maroon 13 at Black 31

Overall record: Maroon 7-3 (308-206) regular season

Standing: 4th in league, 2nd in the division behind Black

Looking forward:

Season XII ushers in several new players who we hope will contribute to Maroon's success. But it's the veteran core of players that give Maroon the character that, hopefully, will take them to greater success in Season XII. Veterans More, Milton, and Edwards have been with Maroon from Season I, and their leadership will be critical if Maroon is to meet success. But, here's a look at the newcomers:

The draft:

1 st DT	Marvell	1-4-3	24	As the best defensive lineman in the draft, Maroon took Marvell in the first round expecting that he would be a superhero at the team's point of greatest weakness. Unfortunately, Marvell was injured in camp and will miss the season.
2 nd G	Equiano	4-3	23	Guard was both a position of strength but a position of concern; Equiano will be needed with the loss of all-pro Defoe to injury for the season.

3 rd Q	Conrad	2-1-5	22	With More's age and last season's injury a concern, Maroon took a quarterback in the third as a development project after taking a quarterback in the first round last season. He will likely be on practice squad, but may compete with Wycherley and Poe for playing time.
4 th CB	Kempe	2-1-5\$	22	Maroon's secondary has a weakness at cornerback. Maybe Kempe will help, but he's a bit more of a project than a likely contributor. Expect him to be on the practice squad most of the time.
5 th OLB	Wroth	2-5	23	Wroth seems an attempt to add quality depth behind outstanding OLB's Sackville and Etheredge. It's a pretty big drop-off. He should get on the field for special teams and contribute there.
6 th S	Burgess	2-1-5pc	23	Another project player for the secondary, where Maroon has injury and age problems. Likely to be on practice squad all season.
7 th MLB	Wollenstonecraft	2-5	23	MLB is a position of need for Maroon, but this guy may be too late in the draft to meet expectations. A special teams player most likely.
8 th H	Rhys	1-2-5#	23	Decent halfbacks have tended to be scarce in the league when injuries hit; Rhys gives Maroon a decent backup and project for the future.
9 th OLB	Wilde	1-2-5o	22	Another OLB project and a potential special teams player, who might make the final roster.
10 th C	Coetzee	1-3-2im	23	A project at center who didn't make the cut.
Free agents:				
rfaC	Munro	3-2#	23	Another project at center who was cut.
rfaT	Haywood	3-3!	23	Candidate for backup tackle, but cut.
52 C	Messina	3-2^	24	Center project, still on the roster going into preseason, and he might make the final roster due to the injury to Kyrre, the Season XI backup center.
41 F	Beaumont	1-3-4	25	Moving to tight end, but will he survive?
89 DE	Axethrower	3-3	22R	Likely to make the final roster due to injuries to other players, making DE a weakness.
92 DT	Tegu	3-3!^	22R	Also might make the final roster due to injuries to others; DT remains a team problem.
67 DT	Mummy	3-3	23R2	Project player lost to injury for the season.
61 T	Hobgoblin	1-3-3mo	23R2	Still on the preseason roster.

Summary: The injury to DT Marvell was quite disappointing. Of all these players, only the second round pick G Equaino is likely to be a starter, and that's due to the injury to DeFoe. While Q Conrad had a good camp, he still will play behind More, and will need seasoning before

being ready to contribute. None of the others are likely to contribute significantly this season except perhaps on special teams.

Training Camp Report:

Player changes:			remarks
#1 Q Clavell	+im	to Q 2-1-5im 23	Lack of maturity in an already marginal player.
#42 F Fitzgerald	+C-S	to F 4-3 22R2	Bulked up but slower, may still be useful.
#73 DE Dobie	-C	to DE 3-3 26	Significant decline; cut at end of camp.
#86 DT Trelawny	+o	to DT 5-1o 32	Becoming error prone hurts. Still badly needed.
#11 3 rd Q Conrad	+P	to 3-1-5 22R	Looks good; may edge out Poe, Wycherly for #2.
#68 5 th OLB Wroth	+P	to OLB 1-2-5 23R	Better at pass defense helps a bit
#22 8 th H Rhys	+P-C	to H 2-1-5 23R	A significant decline, likely won't make final cut.
#94 OLB Wilde	-o	to OLB 1-2-5 22R	Marginally better, may survive final cut.
#50 C Coetzee	+!	to C 3-2! im 23R	Being penalty prone means being cut in this case.
#58 C Munro	-S	to C 3-1 23R	Simply not mobile enough. An easy cut.
#41 F Beaumont	TE	to TE 1-3-4 26	Might make the team at TE, but still to be seen.
#61 T Hobgoblin	+gc	to T 1-3-3o gc 24	Might make team if Maroon keeps four tackles

Injuries:

- #53 MLB Mailer 1-3-4\$ 23 recovered from (-s).
- #54 C Kyrre 2-3-2 did not recover from “-s”, now C 2-3-1 26 (-s), to PUP.
- #4 S Wylie injured, -C season, out 8 games, can play as S 4-0-5 25 -c, starting Game 6.
- #39 S Piles injured, -c 2g, will be OK for preseason game 2.
- #62 G DeFoe, -s season, out 7 games. Could play in game 5 as 4-3 at -s, but placed on TIR.
- #83 DE Pteriapsis, -c season, out 7g. Could play as 4-2 starting game 6, but placed on TIR.
- #71 1st DT Marvell, -c season, out 5g. Could play in Game 4 as 1-3-3, but placed on TIR.
- #38 6th S Burgess 2-1-5pc, -c 1g, will be OK, has been stashed on TIR, will get chance next year.
- #67 Mummy out season (s).

Summary: Training camp leaves Maroon's offense pretty much the same as last year, but with the loss of standout guard DeFoe, who will be greatly missed. Veterans More, Milton, Zilchko, Hyde, and Crestedibis will make the passing game credible, and Swift and Zilchko will be ready to carry the ball, although without DeFoe leading the way. But on defense, injuries devastated Maroon's attempt to improve. They were weak in the middle at DT and MLB last season. This season the defensive line is a catastrophe, and the MLB position is not improved. With Dobie regressing and Pteriapsis injured, both starting defensive ends from last year are lost.

Untermeyer will fill in capably enough, but the other end is up in the air. Axethrower does not inspire confidence. OLB Lousebeard and DT Tegu will both be tried at DE, and Maroon is likely to be interested in free agents. At DT, Marvell went down leaving the same crew as last year, but with Trelawny somewhat regressing. The secondary is hurt by starter Wylie's injury and no improvement by others, but at least Edwards is more than capable of stepping into that vacancy, albeit this still means lack of depth and weakness in nickel and dime packages. Very fortunately, the injury to S Piles proved to be minor; he'll be back for the regular season. All in all, Maroon has not improved and is not as competitive as last season. But, with More and the rest of the veteran leadership, this team may still compete for the crown. We'll just have to see.

Comments:

The most important reason for Maroon to have optimism is that veteran standout More is back, he's healthy, and he's providing leadership. Maroon was hit hard by injuries, and it remains to be seen whether the defense can be patched together well enough to be competitive.

On offense, the emergence of Hyde as a viable wideout coincided with Maroon's run to the playoffs. Maroon started the season with Swift or Kernodle starting in the backfield along with Zilchko. With Hyde mastering the wideout position after slimming down and moving outside from tight end, Maroon shifted to starting just Zilchko in the backfield, moving Milton in tight, and putting in Hyde. This more pass oriented offense seemed to do the trick, and we can expect Maroon to continue that next season.

The pass defense still remains weak at the corners compared to the rest of the league, and the defensive line is a big problem. Excellent outside linebackers may prevent other teams from running outside consistently, but they are likely to pound maroon badly between the tackles. We know where that's most likely to come from, the Black Bandits, the dominant team in the division right now. Can Maroon hold up in the middle? Last season even with Trelawny hurt Maroon did manage to pull off a five game winning streak. Can they keep that up? The final regular season game is indicative – Maroon won 47-44 at White. A win, but not a game that inspires confidence in the defense.

So, with Maroon not seeming to make any progress, and meeting some significant setbacks to the defense with injuries, much depends on where other teams come out of camp. Jade will no doubt rebound from their post championship doldrums. White seems competitive. Black is a force to be reckoned with, but they have weaknesses too. Let the season begin!