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Daniels Continues to Move Chains for KSU

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Preston Daniels, who played his first game at Kennesaw State in 2019, remains a key part of the Owls' offense. Special - Anthony Stalcup, file

Few people have played as many games for Kennesaw State's football team as Preston Daniels.

The 5-foot-11, 250-pound tight end has been a part of the Owls' program for more than half of its existence, playing his sixth year for the program that played its first game 2015.

Daniels, who came in as a freshman in 2019 and redshirted that season, has played both fullback and tight end, amassing more than 1,000 total yards and seven touchdowns.

Last season, Daniels made the move to tight end, and he said the position change has not been too bad.

“I feel like I’m pretty versatile, so I wouldn’t really say it was a challenge,” Daniels said. “Because, at the end of the day, I feel football is a kids game, so no matter what position I’m playing, I feel like I’ll be great.”

Kennesaw State coach Brian Bohanon had high praise for Daniels’ versatility.

“Preston Daniels is kind of that Swiss army knife that could do a little bit of everything,” Bohannon said. “He’s the running back. He’s the H-back. We call him the ‘T.’ He can get in line and be a tight end.”

Daniels, a product of Washington County High School in Sandersville, continued to prove his versatility last week in Kennesaw State’s season opener at UTSA.

While he did not catch a pass, Daniels lined up in the backfield as a blocking fullback, and when the team needed to convert on short yardage, it was Daniels who picked up the first down. He was handed the ball five times — three on third-and-short — and picked up the first down to extend a drive each time.

“He’s a guy we have to get involved in the football game,” Bohannon said. “He’s a veteran. He’s a leader and he’s a good football player. Preston’s a guy we’re going to have to count on all year.”

Daniels and his teammates will host the first Football Bowl Subdivision game to be played at Fifth Third Stadium on Saturday when they welcome Louisiana for a 7 p.m. kickoff.

Daniels said he is excited to live out his dreams of playing in the biggest division of college football. He also has big goals for the team’s first season in the FBS.

“One of the biggest goals for the team is to always win,” Daniels said, “so it’s win every play-by-play, day-by-day and game-by-game.