

KELLY JENNINGS
Cornerback
University of Miami Hurricanes
#22
5:10.7-178
Live Oak, Florida
Suwanee High School

OVERVIEW

Overshadowed by more heralded former teammate Antrell Rolle the last three years, Kelly emerged as one of the top shutdown pass defenders in college football. The speedy, yet slightly built athlete did not allow a reception in three games during the 2004 season. Midway through the 2005 campaign, Jennings has already matched those totals.

The Suwanee High School product started on both offense and defense for one of the top programs in North Florida. He led the team to a 9-4 season and a berth in the state Class 3A playoffs as a senior. He was listed as the fourth-best cornerback on the Florida Times-Union Super 75 list. Jennings also won his school's Scholar-Athlete Award as a junior with a 3.42 grade-point average.

An excellent receiver on offense, Kelly caught 43 passes for 720 yards and five touch-downs in 2000. Also one of the top defensive backs in the state, Jennings had 41 tackles and one interception at cornerback that season. He snared 26 passes for 386 yards and four touchdowns as a junior in 1999, adding 35 tackles, two interceptions and seven pass deflections.

Heavily recruited by most of the major programs, Kelly chose Miami for its deep defensive tradition. He redshirted in 2001 and then became a fixture in the secondary in 2002 at right cornerback. Jennings produced 25 tackles (21 solos) with six pass deflections and an interception that year.

In 2003, Jennings shifted to nickel back, starting five contests. He collected 18 tackles (12 solos) with six pass break-ups and 1.5 stops for losses. Kelly shifted to left cornerback in 2004, starting every game. He finished with 30 tackles (19 solos) with an assisted sack. He also batted away six passes and intercepted two others.

Jennings continued to man the left cornerback slot in 2005. The All-American and All-Atlantic Conference pick ranked third in the nation with sixteen pass deflections. He made 43 tackles (30 solos) with three stops for losses and two forced fumbles. He also picked off three passes.

In 49 games with the Hurricanes, Kelly started 41 times. He recorded 116 tackles (82 solos) with 1.5 sacks for minus 8 yards and five stops for losses of 18 yards. Jennings added four quarterback pressures and caused two fumbles. He deflected 34 passes and intercepted six others for 37 yards in returned.

CAREER NOTES

The most experienced member of the secondary and a team leader, Kelly began his career at right cornerback, moving to nickel back as a sophomore before finding a home at left corner during his junior season...Graduated in December 2004 with a degree in finance and is now pursuing a second degree in business management...Did not allow an opponent to catch a pass in three games during the 2004 season, surpassing that total with four shutouts in 2005.

2005 SEASON

All-American first-team choice by Sports Illustrated, adding second-team honors from The NFL Draft Report and Associated Press...All-Atlantic Coast Conference first-team pick and the team's nominee for the Draddy Award, the "Academic Heisman"...One of only two defenders who started every game, lining up at left cornerback...Paced a secondary that led the nation in pass defense (152.17 ypg) and pass efficiency defense (89.48 rating) and ranked fourth in total defense (270.08 ypg)...Recorded 43 tackles (30 solos) with three stops for losses of 8 yards...Caused two fumbles and intercepted three passes for 36 yards in returns...Ranked third in the nation with sixteen pass deflections... Did not allow an opponent to catch any passes in the Florida State, South Florida, Duke and Virginia Tech...Ten of his tackles resulted in third-down stops, with another coming on a fourth-down play...Served as one of the team's four captains.

2004 SEASON

Started all year at left cornerback...Recorded 30 tackles (19 solos) with an assisted sack for a 3-yard loss...Deflected six passes and intercepted two others...Did not allow an opponent to catch any passes in the Louisiana Tech, Louisville and Virginia contests... Twelve of his stops came on third-down plays and another on fourth down...Gave up only twelve receptions for 264 yards and two touchdowns.

2003 SEASON

Started four games at nickel back and the Tennessee clash at left cornerback...Made 18 tackles (12 solos) with six pass deflections and one quarterback pressure...Added a 5-yard sack and 1.5 stops for losses of 6 yards.

2002 SEASON

Was a key member of a Miami secondary that had to replace five key players from 2001, yet led the nation in pass defense...Played much of the season with a cast on his left hand following surgery to repair a torn thumb ligament in August...Performed only once (vs. Virginia Tech) without a full cast on the hand...Recorded 25 tackles (21 solos), three quarterback pressures, six pass deflections and had one interception while starting twelve games at right cornerback.

2001 SEASON

Redshirted, playing on the Hurricanes' scout team as a cornerback.

CAMPUS AGILITY TESTS

4.4 in the 40-yard dash...285-pound bench press...385-pound squat...296-pound power clean...35-inch vertical jump...31 1/8-inch arm length...9-inch hands.

COMBINES AGILITY TESTS

4.45 in the 40-yard dash...2.6 20-yard dash...1.55 10-yard dash...Bench presses 225 pounds 17 times...40-inch vertical jump...10'0" broad jump...4.0 20-yard shuttle...31-inch arm length...8 3/4-inch hands.

HIGH SCHOOL

Attended Suwanee (Live Oak, Fla.) High School, playing football for head coach Jay Rawls...Started on both offense and defense for one of the top programs in North Florida, as he led the team to a 9-4 season and a berth in the state Class 3A playoffs as a senior... Listed as the fourth-best cornerback on the Florida Times-Union Super 75 list...Also won his school's Scholar-Athlete Award as a junior with a 3.42 grade-point average...An excellent receiver on offense, Kelly caught 43 passes for 720 yards and five touchdowns in 2000...Also one of the top defensive backs in the state, Jennings had 41 tackles and one interception at cornerback that season...Snared 26 passes for 386 yards and four touch-downs as a junior in 1999, adding 35 tackles, two interceptions and seven pass deflections.

PERSONAL

Graduated in December 2004 with a degree in Finance and is now pursuing a second degree in Business Management...Son of Ruby and Roy Jennings...Born Kelly Jarrod Jennings on 11/30/82...Resides in Live Oak, Florida.

PLAYER STATISTICS

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS												
STATS	GP	GS	TK	SO	AS	FR	FC	INT	TFL	PBU	SACK	PRES
2002	12	12	25	21	4	0	0	1	0.0- 0	6	0.0-0	3
2003	13	05	18	12	6	0	0	0	1.5- 6	6	1.0-5	1
2004	12	12	30	19	11	0	0	2	0.5- 3	6	0.5-3	0
2005	12	12	43	30	13	0	2	3	3.0- 8	16	0.0-0	0
TOTAL	49	41	116	82	34	0	2	6	4.5-17	34	1.5-8	4

INTERCEPTION RETURNS						PUNT RETURNS				
STATS	NO	YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG	NO	YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2002	1	0	0.0	0	0					
2003						1	3	3.0	0	3
2004	2	1	0.5	0	1					
2005	3	36	12.0	0	36					
TOTAL	6	37	6.2	0	36	1	3	3.0	0	3