

Saleh backs Ward after late pick drops Titans to 0-3

BY TERESA M. WALKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Another season, another new coach, another 0-3 start for Tennessee.

And now questions are growing about whether Cam Ward is the quarterback the Titans believe he is.

Ward threw his first interception this season at the worst possible time. The Titans had first-and-goal at the New York Giants 7 with 24 seconds left, turning a possible signature comeback win by the quarterback into a 12-7 loss.

Coach Robert Saleh dismissed the idea of sitting Ward to watch veteran Mitchell Trubisky after the latest loss. Saleh made clear Monday that Ward has to be exposed to more of these opportunities to produce when it matters most.

“This team’s going to learn how to win these football games,” Saleh said. “We’re right there. Unfortunately, it’s the NFL, we’re two plays from being 2-1, but we stand here 0-3. And so you are who you are.”

The No. 1 pick overall in the 2025 draft had to learn a new offensive with yet another coordinator in Brian Daboll going into his second season. Ward now is just 3-17 as a starter.

Ward ranks 25th among qualifying quarterbacks with 504 yards passing, is tied with Baker Mayfield and Caleb Williams with two touchdown passes and ranks 21st with a 80.9 passer rating. That’s better than four qualifying quarterbacks, including Daniel Jones with the Colts and Bo Nix of Denver.

Protection has improved with Ward sacked only five times through three games after 55 as a rookie.

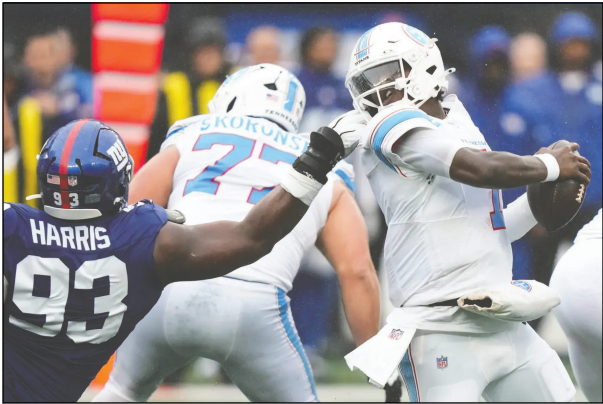
“It’s unfortunate that one of his critical mistakes came on the last play of the game,” Saleh said.

WHAT’S WORKING
The defense. The Titans rank 11th in the NFL, allowing 315.3 yards per game and ninth in points allowed



Adam Hunger/Associated Press

Tennessee Titans quarterback Cam Ward (1) yells to his teammates during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants in East Rutherford, N. J. on Sunday, Sept. 27.



Frank Franklin II/Associated Press

New York Giants defensive tackle Shelby Harris (93) grabs the face mask of Tennessee Titans quarterback Cam Ward (1) during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants in East Rutherford, N. J. on Sunday, Sept. 27.



Frank Franklin II/Associated Press

Tennessee Titans head coach Robert Saleh reacts on the sidelines during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants in East Rutherford, N. J. on Sunday, Sept. 27.

with opponents averaging 19.7 points a game. That’s with the Titans on the field more than any other defense with Tennessee last in time of possession.

WHAT NEEDS HELP
The offense. The Titans have failed to gain more than 96 yards in any first half this season. Worse, they’ve been held to 55 and 54 yards by halftime of two games. Against the Giants, the 54 total yards for the first half was the franchise’s worst since managing 54 on Nov. 28, 2010,

against Houston. Against the Giants, the Titans went three-and-out on their first five drives. They managed only one first down for their fewest in a half since the first half of a Dec. 28, 2008, game against Indianapolis. Only Miami and New England are scoring fewer points (12) per game than Tennessee (12.3). Saleh called it an

“abysmal” first half with the Titans and yes, needing Ward to throw better passes.

“Obviously dropped balls have kind of hindered us in the beginning of the games in all three of our games,” Saleh said. “I feel like we’re just, from an efficiency standpoint, not where we need to be.”

STOCK UP
Jeffery Simmons. The All-Pro defensive tackle had 10 tackles with two for losses and a sack and playing 63 of the 64 defensive snaps against the Giants. Simmons had seven tackles by halftime for a career best for any single half, and the seven also were the most by a defensive tackle in the league this season.

Asked if how Simmons ranks among the linemen he has coached, Saleh said the Titans tackle is just “nuts.”

“His stat numbers look like something out of Madden,” Saleh said.

STOCK DOWN
WR Calvin Ridley. The veteran who took a pay cut to stick around was targeted once in the latest loss without a catch. Ridley has two catches for 35 yards through three games, and seven Titans have more receptions than the veteran.

INJURIES
The Titans are running tests on right guard Fernando Carmona Jr.’s ankle. Saleh said Carmona’s replacement Jackson Slater is being evaluated for a “pretty significant” foot injury, though Slater finished the game.

KEY NUMBER
19-52. The Titans’ record since their most recent winning season in 2021 as the AFC’s No. 1 seed. Or 6-31 since firing Mike Vrabel after the 2023 season.

NEXT STEPS
The Titans finish a two-game road swing by visiting Baltimore (2-1), then home to host Houston (0-3) before a trip to Indianapolis (1-2).



Frank Franklin II/Associated Press

Tennessee Titans guard Fernando Carmona (66) is helped off the field after being injured during the first half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants in East Rutherford, N.J. on Sunday, Sept. 27.

Titans lose 2 offensive linemen to injured reserve

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee Titans placed starting right guard Fernando Carmona Jr. and backup offensive lineman Jackson Slater on injured reserve Tuesday.

Carmona won the starting job in training camp after being a fifth-round pick out of Arkansas. He started the first three games before going down on the opening series with an injured ankle and being carted off the

sideline to the locker room in a 12-7 loss to the New York Giants.

Slater had what coach Robert Saleh called a “pretty significant foot” injury.

Tennessee (0-3) visits Baltimore (2-1) on Sunday.

The Titans signed running back Michael Carter and guard Garrett Dellinger off the practice squad. They also signed guard Nick Broeker, linebacker Owen Pappoe and defensive back Jakob Robinson to the practice squad.

YOUR CUSTOMER
JUST READ THIS AD.
ADVERTISE WITH US.



LEGAL NOTICE

MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE
BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE OF THE LOGAN CIRCUIT COURT, the Master Commissioner will sell at public auction the real property in the following actions on **Monday, October 12, 2026, about the hour of 1:30 p.m., on the steps of the Logan County Court of Justice Building, Russellville, Kentucky, 42276.** Said property shall be sold to collect the amounts due in the court judgments.

A. The purchasers will be required to pay the full purchase price or a minimum of ten percent (10%) down the day of sale and post bond on the remainder with the balance due in thirty (30) days. Said bond will bear interest at the judgment rate per annum upon the unpaid balance from the date of sale until paid in full.

The Master Commissioner will retain a lien on the property sold to secure the sale price. **If the purchaser does not pay cash in full the day of the sale, he/she will be required to post bond and provide sufficient surety thereon at the sale. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the sale with questions regarding approved surety at (270) 717-1110.**

B. The property is sold subject to the following: a) State, county, city, and school taxes payable for the entire year of 2026 and all taxes due thereafter; b) easements, restrictions, and covenants of record; c) assessments for public improvements levied against the property; d) any facts which an inspection or accurate survey of the property may disclose.

C. The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any and all right, title, and interest of the parties to this action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon except such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendants.

D. It is further provided that when the property sold includes insurable improvements, the successful bidder at the sale, at bidder's own expense, shall carry fire and extended coverage insurance on said improvements from the date of sale until the purchase price is fully paid, to the extent of the court appraised value of said improvements or the unpaid balance of the purchase price, whichever is less, at a minimum, with a loss payable clause to the Master Commissioner of the Logan Circuit Court, or to the Plaintiff. Failure of the purchaser to effect such insurance shall not affect the validity of the sale or the purchaser's liability thereof, but shall entitle, but not require, the Plaintiff to effect said insurance and furnish the policy or evidence thereof to the Master Commissioner of the Logan Circuit Court if she so desires, and the premium thereon, or proper portion thereof shall be charged to the purchaser at purchaser's costs.

Sale No. 1: Guild Mortgage Company, LLC v. Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Legatees of William E. Varble et al.; pending in Logan Circuit Court Civil Action No. 26-CI-00100.
218 Kings Road, Lewisburg, KY 42256
Tax Map Number: 002-06-00-048-00
NOTE: SUCCESSFUL BIDDER TO PAY 2026 AD VALOREM TAXES
Submitted this 8th day of September, 2026.

/s/ Ami L. Brooks
AMI L. BROOKS, MASTER COMMISSIONER

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing was this 8th day of September, 2026, mailed by U.S. Mail, faxed, e-mailed, or hand delivered to the following:

Hon. Maria T. Williams Attorney for the Plaintiff PO Box 721638 Newport, KY 41072	Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Legatees of William Varble 281 Kings Road Lewisburg, KY 42256
Unknown Spouse of William Varble 281 Kings Road Lewisburg, KY 42256	Unknown Occupants 281 Kings Road Lewisburg, KY 42256
Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Legatees of William Varble 281 Kings Road Lewisburg, KY 42256	Hon. Joseph Ross Logan County Attorney PO Box 905 Russellville, KY 42276

/s/ Ami L. Brooks
AMI L. BROOKS
Master Commissioner, Logan Circuit Court



LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE IN SUMMARY
CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, KENTUCKY
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05

AN ORDINANCE ASSESSING AND LEVYING THE 2026 ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES HAVING A SITUS IN THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, KENTUCKY

In accordance with KRS 83A.060(9), the undersigned, a licensed, practicing attorney in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, summarizes this Ordinance as follows:

- 1) This Ordinance assesses and levies an Ad Valorem Tax of \$0.22 on every \$100.00 assessed valuation of all motor vehicles having a taxable situs within the City of Russellville as of January 1, 2026 per the Tax Assessment Ledger compiled by the Logan County Property Valuation Administrator.
- 2) The monies collected from tax levied by this Ordinance shall be paid into the General Fund of the City and shall be assessed and collected under the centralized tax system by the Clerk of Logan County.
- 3) The full text of this Ordinance is available for copying and inspection at the office of Jennifer Maudlin, Russellville City Clerk, 168 South Main Street, Russellville, during normal business hours.
- 4) The City Council of Russellville, Kentucky enacted this Ordinance after a first reading conducted on September 22, 2026, and a second reading and passage on the 23rd day of September, 2026.

CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL: The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that the foregoing is an accurate summary of City of Russellville Ordinance No. 2026-05.

Elizabeth Teel, Esq.
Attorney for the City of Russellville
200 W. 4th Street
P. O. Box 905
Russellville, Kentucky 42276
Telephone: (270) 726-7800



LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE IN SUMMARY
CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, KENTUCKY
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE ASSESSING AND LEVYING THE 2026 ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX ON REAL PROPERTY AND TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, KENTUCKY

In accordance with KRS 83A.060(9), the undersigned, a licensed, practicing attorney in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, summarizes this Ordinance as follows:

- 1) This Ordinance assesses and levies an Ad Valorem Tax of \$0.255 per \$100.00 assessed valuation of all taxable real property within the City of Russellville and an Ad Valorem Tax of \$0.329 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all taxable tangible personal property within the City of Russellville.
- 2) This Ordinance levies a tax of \$0.255 per \$100.00 on Franchise-Real Estate and \$0.329 per \$100.00 on Franchise-Personal Property for all public service corporations as certified by the Kentucky Department of Revenue, located and/or doing business within the city limits of Russellville as of January 1, 2026.
- 3) This Ordinance requires that any taxes remaining unpaid on the first day of the month following when they are due, shall be deemed delinquent and bear interest at a rate of 6% per annum from the due date until paid, and a penalty of 6% per annum on the taxes so delinquent shall also be paid.
- 4) The full text of this Ordinance and its attachments is available for copying and inspection at the office of Jennifer Maudlin, Russellville City Clerk, 168 South Main Street, Russellville, during normal business hours.
- 5) The City Council of Russellville, Kentucky enacted this Ordinance after a first reading conducted on September 22, 2026, and a second reading and passage on the 23rd day of September, 2026.

CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL: The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that the foregoing is an accurate summary of City of Russellville Ordinance No. 2026-04.

Elizabeth Teel, Esq.
Attorney for the City of Russellville
200 W. 4th Street
P. O. Box 905
Russellville, Kentucky 42276
Telephone: (270) 726-7800