

WR/RSH

# LAVAL DAVIS

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**HOMETOWN:** Jacksonville, Fla.

**RESIDENCE:** Jacksonville, Fla.

**AGE:** 32

**HEIGHT:** 5-11

**YEAR ON U.S. NATIONAL TEAM:** 4th

**PRONUNCIATION:**

LAVAL Davis (Luh-VAL;  
rhymes with 'pal')



## NEED FOR SPEED

Davis grew up following the career of former star receiver Randy Moss, his favorite athlete. The explosive NFL record-breaker's speed was known and feared throughout the league, even into his thirties. It's not a coincidence that Davis has similarly developed into one of the U.S. National Team's fastest players and best deep threats.

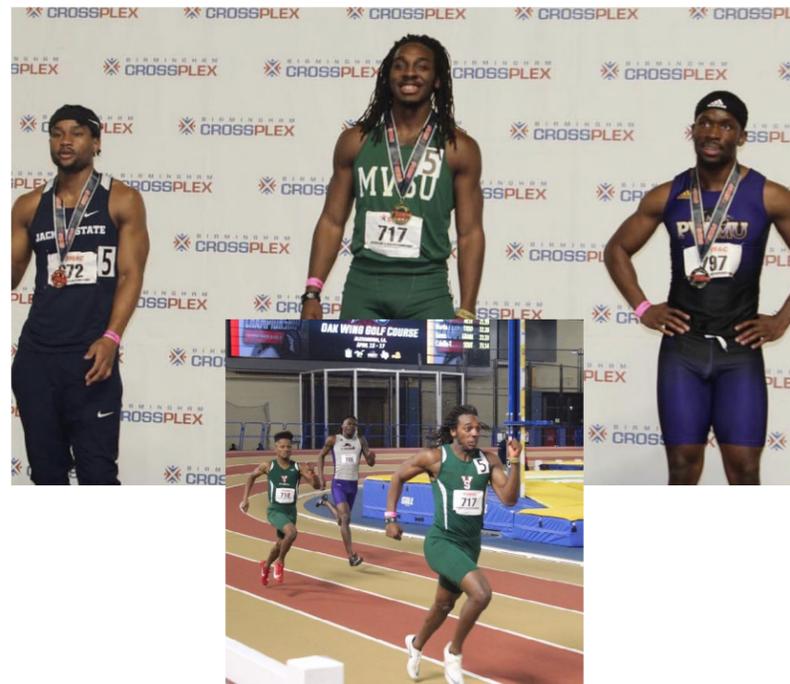
The Jacksonville native rotated through baseball, basketball and football in high school in addition to running track. He earned All-Conference honors in outdoor track at Sandalwood High School before taking his talents to Mississippi Valley State University. While in college, Davis claimed multiple Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) titles, including the 200 and 400-meter indoor dashes and the 400-meter outdoor championships in 2019.

Davis gravitated toward track because he enjoyed the thrill of racing opponents at his top speed. His current favorite athlete, Olympian Noah Lyles, probably understands the feeling.

Flag football caught Davis' attention roughly six years ago while he was home on spring break from college. A few of his friends invited him to play in a game, and the sensation stuck.

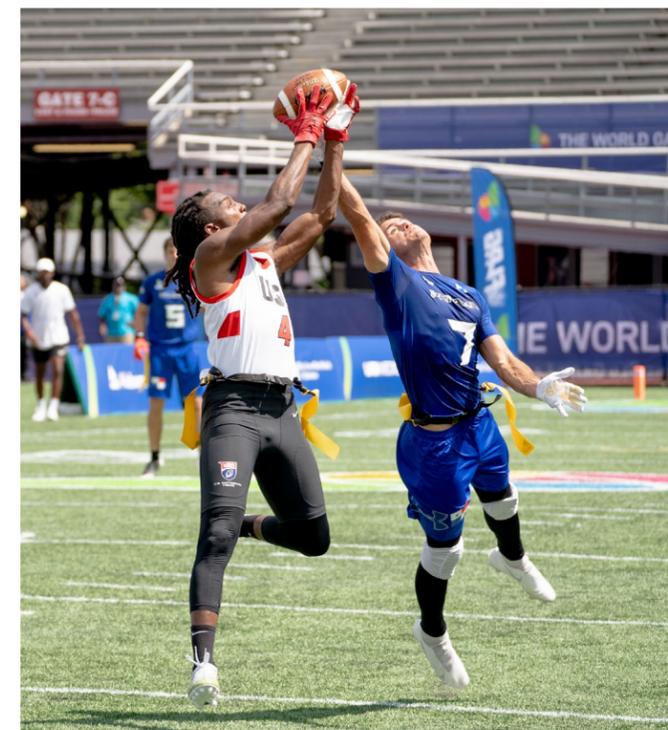
Davis' background in track has served him well as a member of the U.S. National Team.

"My track and field background helps me build up my speed, but it also helps me maintain my speed for a longer time than everybody else," Davis explained. "I'm still running at a high speed while everybody else is slowing down after 20 or 30 yards."



## INTERNATIONAL DEBUT

Davis made his first U.S. National Team roster at an exciting time for the sport. In 2022, flag football made its debut at The World Games in Birmingham, Ala., sharing the stage with more than 30 events spotlighting 3,600 athletes from upwards of 100 countries.



Taking the field for the first time in Birmingham was a surreal experience for Davis.

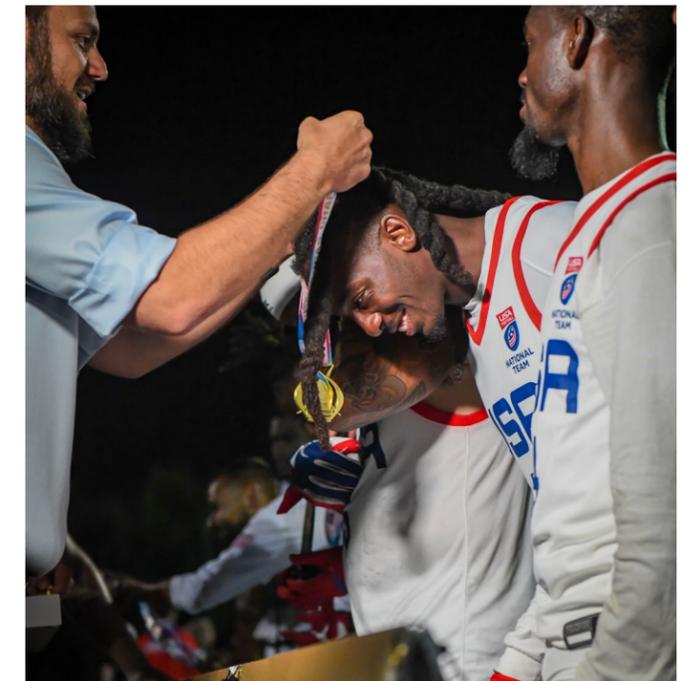
"The moment that stood out to me the most was the very first game I was out there and realized I was playing for a U.S. National Team," Davis said.

The U.S. won a hard-fought 46-36 game against Italy in the gold medal match to become the first men's flag football team to win gold since The World Games debuted in 1981.

"The World Games were amazing. I couldn't believe that I was really winning a gold medal for the U.S. National Team. It was an unbelievable experience to win a gold medal while representing the USA."

## U.S. VS. THE WORLD

Davis followed up his success in Birmingham with a gold medal in Charlotte the following summer at the first-ever IFAF Americas Continental Flag Football Championship.



The two championship games stand out to him as some of the most memorable competitions of his lifetime. "It's really two games. It's the time we played Italy in The World Games and when we played Mexico in Continentals," said Davis. "Both of those teams really tried their hardest to win and kept the games close, so we gave everything we had to fight for the wins."

The U.S. National Team defeated Mexico 40-36 in IFAF's Americas Continental Flag Football Championship, which USA Football hosted, continuing the long-running rivalry between the two programs.

Davis expected international flag football to be highly competitive, but even he was surprised by the number of quality programs competing for titles around the world.

In 2024, Davis contributed on both sides of the ball as the U.S. National Team won gold at the IFAF Flag Football World Championships, notching 14 catches for 188 yards, an extra point and two two-point conversions, and adding 4 flag pulls and one pass defended.

The number of elite National Teams only promise to multiply as the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles draw closer.