49ers Clips - May 12, 2017

Local Media

49ers' offseason revamp features turnover of more than half the roster

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/_/id/24990/49ers-offseason-revamp-featuresturnover-of-more-than-half-the-roster

Cardinals, 49ers added impact players in late rounds

By Staff, ESPN.com http://www.espn.com/blog/nfcwest/post/ /id/126131/cardinals-49ers-added-impact-players-in-late-rounds

49ers deny report they're trying to trade NaVorro Bowman By Darin Gantt, ProFootballTalk.com <u>http://profootballtalk.nbcsports.com/2017/05/11/49ers-deny-report-theyre-trying-to-trade-navorro-</u> bowman/

Niners say they aren't shopping NaVorro Bowman

By Conor Orr, NFL.com http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap300000808046/article/niners-say-they-arent-shopping-navorrobowman

National Media

Here are 3 things to watch at Seahawks' rookie minicamp this weekend By Bob Condotta, The Seattle Times

http://www.seattletimes.com/sports/seahawks/heres-three-things-to-watch-at-seahawks-rookie-minicamp-this-weekend/

Draftees Gerald Everett and Cooper Kupp can raise their profiles at Rams' rookie camp

By Gary Klein, Los Angeles Times http://www.latimes.com/sports/rams/la-sp-rams-rookie-camp-20170511-story.html

Bickley: Cardinals wise to gamble on Blaine Gabbert By Dan Bickley, The Arizona Republic <u>http://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/nfl/cardinals/2017/05/12/bickley-cardinals-wise-gamble-blaine-gabbert/319121001/</u>

Bears release Eddie Royal; waive Will Sutton, others ahead of rookie minicamp By Rich Campbell, Chicago Tribune http://www.chicagotribune.com/sports/football/bears/ct-eddie-royal-will-sutton-bears-20170511-story.html

Pats, center David Andrews agree to 3-year extension

By Conor Orr, NFL.com http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap300000808300/article/patriots-center-david-andrews-agree-to-3yearextension

Local Clips – Full Version

49ers' offseason revamp features turnover of more than half the roster

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

Upon hiring a new coach in Kyle Shanahan and general manager in John Lynch, the San Francisco 49ers were basically guaranteed to begin a massive makeover of their roster. The only question was just how big that makeover would be?

Now that free agency, the NFL draft and undrafted free agency are over, we have a chance to put into context just how big those changes were. As of this week, the Niners' 90-man roster features 50 players that have been drafted or signed since Shanahan and Lynch took over. That's good for a 55.5 percent turnover of the roster.

To be sure, Lynch and Shanahan's work is far from over, but here's a look at who the Niners have added this offseason as well as how they've positioned themselves for 2018:

Salary-cap space: \$72,397,252 (only includes top 51 contracts)

2018 draft picks: Nine total -- First round (own), second round (own), second round (from New Orleans), third round (own), third round (from Chicago), fifth round (own), sixth round (own), seventh round (own), seventh round (from Kansas City).

Unrestricted free agents added (18): QB Matt Barkley, C Tim Barnes, WR DeAndre Carter, LB Brock Coyle, OL Brandon Fusco, WR Pierre Garcon, WR Marquise Goodwin, K Robbie Gould, RB Tim Hightower, QB Brian Hoyer, S Don Jones, FB Kyle Juszczyk, DT Earl Mitchell, TE Logan Paulsen, WR Aldrick Robinson, LB Malcolm Smith, LB Dekoda Watson, CB K'Waun Williams.

Restricted free agents added (1): OL Garry Gilliam (from Seattle)

Acquired via trade (2): RB Kapri Bibbs (from Denver), OL Jeremy Zuttah (from Baltimore).

Drafted rookies (10): QB C.J. Beathard, CB Adrian Colbert, LB Reuben Foster, DT D.J. Jones, TE George Kittle, DL Pita Taumoepenu, WR Trent Taylor, DL Solomon Thomas, RB Joe Williams, DB Ahkello Witherspoon.

Undrafted rookies (19): WR Victor Bolden, WR Kendrick Bourne, RB Matt Breida, OL John Flynn, CB Zach Franklin, LB Jimmie Gilbert, S Malik Golden, OL Evan Goodman, TE Cole Hikutini, S Chanceller James, S Lorenzo Jerome, WR BJ Johnson III, OL Richard Levy, OL Erik Magnuson, FB Tyler McCloskey, QB Nick Mullens, LB Donavin Newsom, DL Noble Nwachukwu, OL Darrell Williams Jr.

Cardinals, 49ers added impact players in late rounds By Staff, ESPN.com

Nick Wagoner, San Francisco 49ers reporter: The 49ers might have found their future starting running back in Joe Williams from Utah in the fourth round. Coach Kyle Shanahan (and his father before him) has a history of making these types of picks and turning them into major contributors at the NFL level. Williams has the speed and cutting ability to fit perfectly in Shanahan's outside zone running scheme and should get opportunities right away considering starter Carlos Hyde's injury history.

Sheil Kapadia, Seattle Seahawks reporter: Tight end George Kittle. The Rams used the 44th pick (second round) on TE Gerald Everett. The 49ers got Kittle in the fifth (No. 146). And it would be no surprise if Kittle ended up having a bigger impact in 2017. The 6-foot-4, 247-pound tight end from Iowa tested better

athletically than anyone at the position in this year's class. Kittle is a well-rounded player who can block in the run game and stretch the field in the passing game for new 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan.

49ers deny report they're trying to trade NaVorro Bowman

By Darin Gantt, ProFootballTalk.com

Any time a team changes leadership, you can expect plenty of changes.

But the 49ers took an unusual step to make it clear they weren't trying to get rid of veteran linebacker Navorro Bowman.

It all started when former league executive Mike Lombardi said on a podcast the 49ers were trying to move Bowman, who signed an extension last year which binds him to the 49ers through 2022.

That prompted 49ers General Manager John Lynch and Kyle Shanahan to issue a joint statement to NBC Sports Bay Area denying the report.

"The report that we have been shopping NaVorro Bowman is completely false," the statement read. "From the time we joined the organization, NaVorro has been the consummate professional. It is evident he has been working very hard to prepare for the upcoming season and we have been impressed by what we have already seen on the field. We are looking forward to NaVorro's future contributions to this team."

There are valid reasons to think Bowman might not be part of their long-term plans. He's an older player (turns 29 next month) on a team getting younger, he makes a lot of money (\$7.5 million this year, \$9.45 million next year) and suffered a torn Achilles last year and has a history of knee problems.

But the response suggests that they still see value there.

Niners say they aren't shopping NaVorro Bowman By Conor Orr, NFL.com

Given the frequency and varying weight of offseason reports, most teams let news about themselves go by unaddressed.

On Thursday, the 49ers wanted to put an end to a report that they might be interested in trading star linebacker NaVorro Bowman.

"The report that we have been shopping NaVorro Bowman is completely false," a joint statement from general manager John Lynch and head coach Kyle Shanahan read. "From the time we joined the organization, NaVorro has been the consummate professional. It is evident he has been working very hard to prepare for the upcoming season and we have been impressed by what we have already seen on the field. We are looking forward to NaVorro's future contributions to this team."

The report came from longtime NFL personnel man Michael Lombardi via The Ringer.

Bowman, when healthy, is far and away the 49ers' best defensive player. His play during the absolutely dismal Jim Tomsula era was inspiring, as were his four games of 2016 before a torn Achilles tendon.

As Tomsula and Shanahan likely know, installing a culture change requires a buy-in from amenable veterans who like to lead by example. At the Pro Bowl two years ago, Bowman told me about his

openness with then-coach Chip Kelly -- an opinion that was not popular among defensive players at the time.

Now that they have a rookie first-rounder in Reuben Foster who they hope becomes the future centerpiece of their defense, Bowman's presence becomes increasingly important so long as they can come to an agreement about his future salary. Bowman will make \$8.7 million next year and is on the books for \$6.7 million this year (according to contract site Spotrac, this is the remaining guaranteed money on Bowman's deal).

That might be why Shanahan and Lynch wanted to nip this one in the bud. Flustering a player who might end up being your biggest asset in Year 1 is never a wise business decision.